



2012 London Olympics

16th May 2012

Olympic Nomination Update

New Zealand has a proud history in Badminton at Commonwealth Games and Olympic level.

Badminton New Zealand is therefore disappointed to confirm today that the organisation will not be making any nominations to the New Zealand Olympic Committee for player inclusion in the 2012 Olympic Games.

Two athletes, Michelle Chan and James Eunson, were working towards the Badminton New Zealand and New Zealand Olympic Committee Olympic selection standard which included a top 24 placing on the BWF Olympic Qualification list and a top 16 finish in the Super Series or World Championships within the qualifying period.

While the athletes had qualified Olympic spots for New Zealand according to more flexible BWF criteria, neither athlete met the tough New Zealand standard. All New Zealand Olympic athletes, regardless of sport, must have the demonstrated ability to finish within the top 16 at the 2012 London Olympic Games, with the potential to win an Olympic Diploma (top eight finish).

At the end of the Qualifying Period Michelle was ranked 46 in the world and placed 28th on the Olympic Qualifying list. James held a world ranking of 121 and claimed the Oceania Continental place.

Badminton New Zealand commends both Michelle and James for their hard work and recognises their commitment to the sport. Much of their efforts have been at their own cost and we understand how disappointed the athletes must be.

We look forward to continuing a proud tradition within Badminton New Zealand and on-going improvements in results as we look forward to Thomas Cup Finals in China next week and to the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Nicki Martin

Chief Executive