**SELECTION POLICY**

**OLYMPIC GAMES 12 to 21 AUGUST 2016**

**Introduction**

This policy is drawn up with the purpose of setting out clearly how Athletics PNG will select its Athletes for the Games. Based on our experience and knowledge of the athletes, it is considered that more than one female athlete has the potential to reach the qualifying standard in their respective events. Whilst this has never happened before, and may not occur this year, it is nonetheless considered prudent to address the matter through this policy and be prepared to deal with such a situation if it arises.

Being realistic , and again based on experience, it is not expected that any male athlete will qualify by running the qualifying time. Hence we will consider the selection of male and female athletes separately.

It is important to note that the term “selection” in this document refers to an athlete being selected by Athletics PNG and being nominated for endorsement by the PNG Olympic Committee.

The PNGOC has the final say on selection matters and all athletes are advised to familiarise themselves with the Team PNG Selection Policy . Any athlete who wishes to be considered for selection must acknowledge that they have read both this Policy and the Team PNG Selection Policy.

**Universality Principle**

Under this long accepted IOC policy , all countries are allowed to select one male and one female athlete, regardless of whether any athlete qualifies.Hence if we do not have any qualified male athletes we may select one male athlete in accordance with this policy. If we do not have any qualified female athletes we are obliged to first select the athlete who is currently being funded under an Olympic Scholarship.

**Selection of Male Athlete**

Athletics PNG will select one male athlete for the Games. That athlete will be the one who has the best performance during the qualifying period , which will run from February 1 to June 19. Best performance will be determined by reference to the latest edition of the IAAF scoring tables. For the 200m event, wind assisted performances will not be accepted for this purpose.

Use of the Scoring Tables is illustrated in the Appendix to this document

For example a time of 51.50 seconds in the 400m hurdles is worth 1054 points. An equivalent performance in the 200m is 21.09 and in the 400m it is 46.94

Athletics PNG will select the athlete whose best performance in the period 1 February to 19 June has the highest points score.

**Selection of Female Athlete**

Any athlete who runs the qualifying time in their respective event before the final qualifying deadline set by the PNG Olympic Committee, will be selected. Olympic Scholarship rules dictate that in the event that we have no qualified female athlete then we are obliged to select the scholarship holder. This means that Toea Wisil will be our representative in Rio unless another athlete qualifies. It means that if Toea does not run a qualifying time and another female athlete has a better performance according to the scoring tables, we still have to select Toea. This is a ruling from the IOC as a condition of PNG accepting an Olympic Scholarship and something which athletes need to be aware of.

If a female athlete other than Toea were to qualify , then Toea will not be selected automatically. She herself would also need to qualify in order to be selected and she would be given up to the final deadline of July 11 to do so.

Given the need to arrange travel, uniforms , etc Athletics PNG is aware that the final qualifying deadline set by the IAAF and IOC (July 11) would be too late to make a change to our team. In other words if Toea were nominated as an unqualified athlete and another athlete ran a qualifying time on say July 9 this would be too late to displace Toea from the team. Hence Athletics PNG will agree its own final qualifying deadline in conjunction with the PNGOC and this will be communicated to the athletes. Our proposed date is June 19.

**Squad Members**

The following athletes are considered by Athletics PNG to have the potential to earn selection for the Team by meeting the criteria set out in this policy:

Toea Wisil Donna Koniel

Betty Burua Sharon Kwarula

Mowen Boino Nelson Stone Theo Piniau

Based on recent performances , these are the athletes considered to have the potential to meet the selection criteria. For the purpose of planning for the Games by PNGOC it is necessary for us to ask each athlete named above to provide bio data , photos , submit to a medical exam and provide periodic training reports.

Any athlete not included in the list above who believes that they should be considered, has a right of appeal under the Team PNG Selection Policy and must follow the appeals procedure laid out in that document.