

New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation

National Development Teams Player Selection Policy

1. Scope

- 1.1. This Policy applies to all registered members of the NZIHF as well all eligible players who are playing overseas and fulfil the IIHF requirements to play for their National Team.
- 1.2. This policy applies to the New Zealand U16 and U18 Womens National Teams.
- 1.3. This policy does not apply to the New Zealand U18, U20, Ice Blacks, and Ice Fernz National Teams, but its implementation will impact upon them. See the separate National Teams Player Selection Policy.

2. Purpose

- 2.1. To establish an agreed process for coaches and the NZIHF on selection of players for the above teams.
- 2.2. To achieve at the highest level at the senior (Ice Blacks and Ice Fernz) grades.
- 2.3. To prevent conflicts over player selection between coaches and teams.
- 2.4. To be transparent to players, parents, and the wider ice hockey community about the team selection process and its purpose.

3. Policy

- 3.1. The purpose of our senior National teams is to achieve at the highest level.
- 3.2. The main purpose of our youth National teams is to develop as many players as possible for the Men's and Women's National Teams. Winning is a secondary purpose.
- 3.3. Players are normally to be discouraged from playing for more than one team in any one year as this will take away a development spot for another player.
- 3.4. Coaches will balance the above with their considerations for team balance, skill levels in various positions and leadership needs.

4. Process

- 4.1. Coaches should set a team size each year dependent on the programme. A national tour or series of games will require less players than a development camp.
- 4.2. All age eligible players will be invited to submit an expression of interest for a position in a NZ National Team:
 - 4.1.1. U16: Players that are members of a NZMIHL squad.
 - 4.1.2. U18 Womens: all age eligible female players registered with the NZIHF.
 - 4.1.3. Coaches may invite other eligible players.
- 4.2. National team coaches will together identify players who are eligible for one team but who should be invited to apply for a position in a higher team because this will suit their development and level of play better.

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- 4.3. Players who are being invited to more than one team should receive both invitations at the same time.
- 4.4. All invitations should be sent by the 30th June.
- 4.5. Invitations will include this policy, an event calendar, other team specific information, and contact information for team coaches and managers.
- 4.6. Selection camps are not required, but may be used when the number of applicants exceeds the number of positions available by a significant number. Not all players who submit an expression of interest will be invited to attend selection camps.
- 4.7. If selection camps are not held, the coach must consult with regional coaches about selections and seek their input.
- 4.8. Coaches may consult with other people as they see fit about applicants for selection.
- 4.9. Coaches of the respective national teams make the final decision on selection for all players.
- 4.10. Teams should be publicly announced via communication with all players who have applied and by posting on the NZIHF web site.

5. Selection Criteria

- 5.1. The player is eligible under IIHF Rules to participate in an international competition representing New Zealand, or will be eligible at the time of the competition. For players not born in New Zealand to New Zealand parents this includes:
 - 5.1.1. New Zealand citizenship.
 - 5.1.2. A valid ITC or LOA transfer completed at least two years ago.
 - 5.1.3. Playing ice hockey in New Zealand exclusively for at least two years.
- 5.2. Players that are not eligible to participate in an international competition representing New Zealand may be selected for a New Zealand Development Team, with the leave of the NZIHF Management Committee. These will normally be players who will be eligible in the future to represent New Zealand.
- 5.3. Performance of the player at any selection camps.
- 5.4. The performance of the player in current and previous national and international championships and competitions.
- 5.5. The player's current level of skill and physical fitness, including any current or potential injury or condition which will impair, inhibit or prevent the participant's performance to the requisite level.
- 5.6. Information about the player provided to the coaches by regional or national coaches and other suitable people.
- 5.7. The attitude and behaviour of the player both on and off the ice being consistent with the IIHF policy of "Fair Play and Respect " and with the objectives and policies of the NZIHF.
- 5.8. The player having no financial obligations to the NZIHF. Players with debts from previous seasons and without prior arrangement with the NZIHF, will be deemed ineligible.
- 5.9. Other factors that the coaches and the NZIHF deem relevant.
- 5.10. At least associate membership of the NZIHF through a region.

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6. Removal from a Team

- 6.1. Any player may be removed from a team by the team coach or team manager or NZIHF if they:
 - 6.1.1. Breach or fail to observe this Policy, the NZIHF Constitution or the Regulations;
 - 6.1.2. By reason of illness or injury are unable to perform to the required standard in the opinion of the national coach (after having received advice from a medical practitioner);
 - 6.1.3. Breaches or fails to fulfil a requirement of the NZIHF Anti-Doping Policy; or
 - 6.1.4. Breaches or fails to comply, fulfil and observe the requirements in the national team agreement;
 - 6.1.5. Is ineligible for selection to or continued membership of the national team;
 - 6.1.6. Fail to sustain their performance and attitude to a satisfactory level, provided that the required performance levels had first been discussed with the participant and the participant had been given the opportunity to attain those performance levels.
- 6.2. In the event of a dispute between the parties named in 6.1 (above) the NZIHF Management Committee will have the final say.

7. Appeal

- 7.1. An aggrieved person may appeal against a failure of the NZIHF or its appointed team staff to comply with the procedures set down in this policy. That is, an appeal may only be made on procedural grounds not on the merits of a particular selection decision.
- 7.2. All appeals must be in writing and lodged with the NZIHF International Vice-President setting out the grounds for the appeal.
- 7.3. All appeals must be accompanied by a non-refundable appeal fee of \$500.
- 7.4. The International Vice-President will seek any other information as required.
- 7.5. The appeal will be considered by the NZIHF Management Committee whose decision is final.

8. Appendices

- 8.1. A: Invitation to Apply for Selection
- 8.2. B: Application for Selection
- 8.3. C: Team Announcement



DATE

To all New Zealand GENDER Players Born LIST YEARS

Invitation to apply for the GRADE National Team from DATE - DATE MONTH YEAR

Dear Player,

The New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation would like to invite you to the GRADE National Team Selection for YEAR which will be held in CITY, COUNTRY DATE – DATE MONTH YEAR. Attached you will find the schedule for the GRADE Team leading up to the tournament.

You will also find attached the New Zealand Development Team Selection Policy. Please read this document carefully. If you want to make yourself available for selection please sign the Expression of Interest form and send it back to us by the 30 June YEAR either by post or via e-mail to EMAIL ADDRESS.

The Coaching staff would expect from every player who is available for selection in the GRADE National Team to strive for a position in your regional GRADE REP team in this year's GRADE, as this league will be a platform for the build-up to the team's activities.

The committee will confirm your selection to the team squad by beginning of MONTH YEAR.

Yours in Ice Hockey

NAME

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Expression of Interest

I, _____ (name)

apply for selection in the:

- U16 Development
- U18 Womens Development

At the time of signing this form I acknowledge that:

1. I have been provided with a copy of the NZIHF Development Teams Selection Policy, which I have read and understood.
2. I agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the Development Teams Selection Policy, the NZIHF Constitution and Regulations.
3. I specifically agree that in the case of any appeal I will follow the appeals procedure in the Policy and will not pursue any action in the civil courts in relation to selection.
4. In the event I am selected I will sign the Team Agreement and will agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of the Team Agreement.

By signing this form I am warranting that I am eligible for selection.

Signed: _____

(participant)

Signed: _____

(by parent/legal guardian where participant under 18 years of age)

Parent/legal guardian name: _____

Date: _____



DATE

YEAR New Zealand GRADE Team Announcement

It is with great pleasure that the Management Team of the New Zealand GRADE Team announces the YEAR New Zealand GRADE Team for YEAR in CITY, COUNTRY DATE – DATE MONTH YEAR.

The announced squad contains X skaters and Y goaltenders as well as Reserve players.

Goaltender

NAME - TEAM

Defence

NAME - TEAM

Forwards

NAME - TEAM

Reserves

NAME - TEAM

(O) Overseas

Please note that the coaching staff can select additional players based on availability/injuries.

Congratulations to those named onto the YEAR GRADE Team.

NAME

NAME

Head Coach

Team Manager

GRADE

GRADE