AUSTRALIAN ATHLETICS

AUSTRALIAN ATHLETICS SELECTION POLICY 2027

WORLD ATHLETICS ROAD RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIPS

YANGZHOU, CHINA

28 March 2027

Version of 7 November 2026

1 Overview

1.1 This Selection Policy sets out the basis on which the Australian Athletics Selection Committee will select its Team for the 2027 World Athletics Road Running Championships in Yangzhou, China to be held on 28 March 2027.

1.2 This Selection Policy constitutes the Selection Criteria in respect of the selection of individuals for the Competition.

1.3 Australian Athletics and the Selection Committee are bound by the Qualification System, Entry Standards and Qualification Periods as defined by World Athletics in their rules for the Competition.

1.4 The Chair of the Selection Committee is the sole authority authorised to provide guidance on the content of this Selection Policy. Any guidance regarding selection matters received from other AA personnel or external parties, whether verbal or written, will not be considered valid.

1.5 Athletes and coaches should familiarise themselves with the content of the Selection Policy and check the AA website for further information which may be of assistance to them.

2 Definitions and Interpretation

2.1 In this Selection Policy the following words have the corresponding meaning:

AA means Australian Athletics, the Governing body for Athletics in Australia.

Appeal means an appeal, however described against non-selection to the Team.

Athlete means an individual registered to an AA Member Association in accordance with clause 3.2 of the AA By-Laws.

Australian Domestic Season means the period of competition during which Australian domestic athletics competitions, selection events, training camps and associated high performance activities are conducted in Australia, commencing on 1 October 2026 and ending on 4 April 2027.

CMO means the Chief Medical Officer who is a medical practitioner appointed by AA and responsible for clinical leadership and oversight of medical services for the Team.

Competition means the 2027 World Athletics Road Running Championships in Yangzhou, China to be held on 28 March 2027.

Competition Rules means the rules set by the governing body of the Competition, World Athletics, which can be read in full here at the WA website and here at C1.2 of the WA Series Regulations.

Entry Standard means the performance standards set by Australian Athletics for each event.

Key Australian Athletics Competitions means the AA Summer Series meets and includes Zatopek 10 for 10,000m, Race Walking Supernova, Adelaide Invitational, Maurie Plant Meet, Sydney Track Classic and Hobart Track Classic (specific meet names could change).

Member Association means a State or Territory athletics governing body that is affiliated with AA and recognised as a member of AA.

Qualifying Period means the defined period which performances or results may be achieved and recognised for the purpose of selection and as specified in clause 5.5.

Selection Committee means the committee comprised of individuals appointed by the AA Board responsible for the selection of Athletes to representative teams, under clause 4 of the AA By-Laws.

Selection Criteria means criteria imposed from time to time upon AA by each or any of the World Athletics, World Para Athletics, Board, Australian Olympic Committee, Paralympics Australia and Commonwealth Games Australia for the nomination or selection of an individual or team, as defined in the AA By-Laws and approved by the AA Board.

Selection Policy means this Selection Policy which describes the aims, general principles and sets the eligibility and selection criteria that apply to the selection of Athletes to the Team for the Competition, as amended from time to time by AA.

Team means the eligible Athletes selected by AA for the Competition.

WA means World Athletics, the governing body for the Competition and international athletics governing body.

Withdrawal means an Athlete who was selected to the Team but later withdrawn or replaced as set out in clause 7 Athlete Withdrawal and Replacement.

2.2 Interpretation

a) Unless the context otherwise requires, reference to:
   i. a clause is to a clause of this Policy;
   ii. the singular includes the plural and the converse also applies.

b) Where a word or expression is given a particular meaning, other parts of speech and grammatical forms of that word or expression have a corresponding meaning.

c) Headings are for convenience only and do not form part of this Policy or affect its interpretation.

3 Selection Policy Aims

3.1 The Selection Committee will select Athletes for the Competition who will contribute to the following aims:

a) Select athletes with the realistic potential to win a medal or finish in the top eight at the Competition;

b) Select Athletes who have demonstrated they have the realistic potential to win a medal or achieve a top 8 placing at future World Athletics Championships and Olympic Games;

c) Select the Team that provides Australia with the greatest opportunity for competitive success at the Competition.

3.2 The World Athletics Road Running Championships is not a first priority competition for Australian Athletics but aims encourage leading athletes where this supports preparation and development for benchmark events.

3.3 Athletics Australia will select a team in accordance with this policy providing opportunities for eligible athletes to compete at the highest level.

3.4 This team is largely self-funded although Australian Athletics will pass on the support from World Athletics for the athletes who fall within the World Athletics quota.

4 Athlete Eligibility Criteria

As a condition of selection for the Competition in an individual event an Athlete must:

4.1 Be a citizen of Australia. For the avoidance of doubt, Australian permanent residency is not acceptable. Athletes must hold or be eligible for an Australian passport;

4.2 Be a registered member of AA through their Member Association;

4.3 Satisfy all WA eligibility and qualification rules of the Competition as required by the Competition Rules;

4.4 Submit the online expression of interest form for each event in which the Athlete is seeking selection. The form must be submitted no later than 5:00pm AEDT on 5 February 2027. The date for submission may be extended at the discretion of the Chair of the Selection Committee on the recommendation of the General Manager - High Performance. Contact the Chair of the Selection Committee on selectors@athletics.org.au for further information;

4.5 Be and remain in 'good standing' with AA, comply with the AA National Integrity Framework and Code of Conduct, and conduct themselves in a way that does not bring themselves, their sport or AA into disrepute;

4.6 Commit to abiding by any AA Team Agreement, Code of Conduct and other relevant AA or WA policies and procedures as reasonably directed from time to time; and

4.7 Commit to completing all AA integrity education as set out in the AA Integrity Education Plan, and any other integrity education requirements AA or WA sets from time to time.

5 Selection Procedure

5.1 The Selection Committee will consider Athletes for selection under this Selection Policy who have satisfied the eligibility criteria of clause 4.

5.2 In accordance with the Competition Rules, the Selection Committee may select:

a) Two (2) athletes in each of the 5km events;

b) Four (4) athletes in each of the half marathon events.

5.3 All performances must be achieved during official competitions sanctioned by WA. A complete list of sanctioned competitions is available online here.

5.4 The Selection Committee will only consider performances accepted by WA that appear on WA lists as valid performances.

5.5 Performance Standard to be eligible for Selection (set by Australian Athletics):

Event	Qualification Period	Men's Standard	Women's Standard
5km	1 Aug 2026 - 5 Feb 2027	5000m - 13:25	5000m - 15:00
Half Marathon	1 Jan 2026 - 5 Feb 2027	1:04:00	1:13:00

Selection Timeframe

5.6 The Selection Committee will meet to determine the Athletes who will be selected in the Team for the Competition as follows:

a) As soon as possible after 5 February.

Automatic Selection

5.7 Subject to meeting the eligibility criteria of clause 4, an Athlete will be automatically selected if they have the best time in the applicable period (provided they have met the selection policy standard). For the purposes of this clause the time used for automatic selection for the 5km event will be 5000m outdoor track times to allow appropriate comparison for automatic selection purposes.

Selection at the Discretion of the Selection Committee

5.8 The Selection Committee may exercise discretion to select further Athletes to the Team or if more than the maximum number of permitted Athletes have Qualified to participate in the Competition in a single event, the Selection Committee may exercise discretion to identify the Athletes for selection in that event. This discretion will be exercised in line with the aims of this Policy. This discretion is absolute and need not be exercised.

5.9 An Athlete may be selected if they have achieved the Entry Standard by the end of the Qualifying Period.

5.10 For discretionary selections, the Selection Committee will consider the following discretionary factors. These factors are in no particular order of priority and will be considered in conjunction with the aims of this Policy:

a) an Athlete's ability to finish in the top 8 for their specified event(s) at the Competition;
b) an Athlete's results during the Qualifying Period;
c) an Athlete's demonstrated ability to meet or exceed Entry Standard-level performances at international competitions;
d) an Athlete's demonstrated ability to be competitive at the highest international championship competitions;
e) an Athlete's demonstrated ability to peak at major championships;
f) current form;
g) any factor, or combination of factors that the Selection Committee, in consultation with the General Manger – High Performance, considers relevant.

5.11 An Athlete who has repeatedly not met or exceeded the levels they achieved to gain selection when previously given international opportunities cannot assume to be selected solely by being Qualified per clause 5.9.

Financial Conditions

5.12 Australian Athletics will not provide financial support for the 2027 World Athletics Road Running Championships and therefore participating athletes, selected according to the terms of this policy, may be required to cover costs in addition to any assistance provided by World Athletics and the local organising committee.

5.13 Australian Athletics will pass on all funding received via quota places to the athletes ranked in those places.

5.14 Quota places provided by World Athletics are:

Event	Women	Men
5km	2	1
Half Marathon	3	2

Quota places are by Member Federation, not by named athlete. Australian Athletics will determine the athletes to receive support.

6 Obligations after Selection

6.1 Athletes selected in the Team for the Competition must:

a) Remain eligible to compete in the Competition per clause 4;
b) Prove their fitness to compete in the Competition by the achievement of pre departure standards to be set by the General Manager - High Performance if requested to do so;
c) Undertake any medical assessments and testing if requested by the AA CMO;
d) Disclose to the AA CMO, any relevant medical history and known medical condition or issue that may be or become relevant to participation in the Competition;
e) Complete and submit medical information and assessment forms to the AA CMO, and/or any mandatory vaccinations required for travel;
f) Adhere to all anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by applicable anti-doping rules, including the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy and the anti-doping rules of the governing body of the Competition; and
g) Sign an AA Team Agreement.

6.2 Failure to meet the obligations of clause 6.1 after selection to the Team may, at the discretion of the General Manager - High Performance, result in an Athlete being withdrawn from the Team.

7 Athlete Withdrawal and Replacement

7.1 A selected Athlete may be withdrawn from the Team if they:

a) Elect to withdraw and notify AA in writing;
b) Are unable to compete due to injury or illness as confirmed by the AA CMO or a medical practitioner approved by AA;
c) Breach the AA Team Agreement or refuse to sign the agreement;
d) Breach the AA Code of Conduct or other relevant policy;
e) Do not comply with clause 4 of the Selection Policy;
f) Do not comply with the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy;
g) Become ineligible to compete in the Competition; or
h) Are entered into an event that is removed from the Competition.

7.2 An Athlete who is withdrawn from the Team may appeal their Withdrawal in accordance with the Appeals process.

7.3 Replacement Athletes will be determined in accordance with the following process:

a) Before Team selections are submitted to WA, a replacement Athlete may be selected in accordance with this Selection Policy; or
b) After Team selections have been submitted to WA, any replacement Athlete will be selected subject to the eligibility and selection rules of the Competition Rules and in accordance with this Selection Policy.

8 Extenuating Circumstances

8.1 In considering an Athlete's performances, participation in Key Australian Athletics Competitions or other events and competitions that may provide a basis for selection, the Selection Committee may, at their discretion, give weight to extenuating circumstances.

8.2 Extenuating circumstances are those that are beyond an Athlete's control and may have compromised an Athlete's ability to participate or make relevant attendances. Extenuating circumstances may include but are not limited to:

a) injury or illness;
b) travel delays;
c) equipment failure;
d) bereavement or personal misfortune; or
e) force majeure event

8.3 If an Athlete is affected by extenuating circumstances, as soon as practicable they must advise the Chair of the Selection Committee in writing via the online form and provide the reasons and any relevant supporting material or evidence.

8.4 The Selection Committee will consider any notification of extenuating circumstances on an individual basis and based only on the information provided directly to the Chair of the Selection Committee.

9 Selection Appeal Process

9.1 The non-selection appeal process is available as a separate document.

10 Amendment to Policy

10.1 AA reserves the right to amend this Selection Policy and will provide as much notice as practical to affected people.

11 Approval and Change log

Date	Summary of Changes	Approved by
29 October 2026	First Version	AA Board
7 November 2026	Quota allocation added	CEO