



# **New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation**

## **National 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 U18 (Men), U20, Ice Blacks, and Ice Fernz National Teams.
- 1.3. This policy does not apply to the New Zealand U16 and U18 Womens Development Teams, but its implementation will impact upon them. See the separate National Development 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 Woman National Team. 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. All age eligible players will be invited to submit an expression of interest for a position in a NZ National Team:
  - 4.1.1. U18: Players turning 15, 16, 17, and 18 in the year of the tournament.
  - 4.1.2. U20: Players turning 19 and 20 in the year of the tournament as given by the IIHF (December tournaments are for the following year).
  - 4.1.3. Ice Blacks: all players who are playing for a NZIHL team will be invited.
  - 4.1.4. Ice Fernz: all players who are playing for a NZWIHL team will be invited.
  - 4.1.5. Coaches may invite other eligible players.



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- 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.
- 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 for the 2018 Ice Fernz by July 2017, and Expressions of Interest due back by 1 October 2017.
- 4.5. Invitations will include this policy, an event calendar, other team specific information, and contact information for team coaches and managers.
- 4.6. Players and Parents then have to confirm their availability to the team manager / Coach by sending the signed application form back.
- 4.7. Any player who withdraws their application at least a fortnight before any trials will receive any deposit back, minus any individual costs associated with their application (flights etc). Any withdrawal after that date will receive no refund.
- 4.8. Selection camps are not required, but are recommended where 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.
- 4.9. If selection camps are not held, the coach must consult with regional coaches about selections and seek their input.
- 4.10. Coaches may consult with other people as they see fit about applicants for selection.
- 4.11. Coaches of the respective national teams make the final decision on selection for all players.
- 4.12. 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. Performance of the player at any selection camps.
- 5.3. The performance of the player in current and previous national and international championships and competitions.
- 5.4. 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.
- 5.5. Information about the player provided to the coaches by regional or national coaches and other suitable people.
- 5.6. 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.



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- 5.7. 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.
- 5.8. Other factors that the coaches and the NZIHF deem relevant.

### **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. Application for Selection

## Expression of Interest

I, \_\_\_\_\_ ( name)

apply for selection in the:

- ☐ Ice Fernz - Senior Women's National Ice Hockey Team

At the time of signing this form I acknowledge that:

1. I have been provided with a copy of the NZIHF Selection Policy, which I have read and understood.
2. I agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the 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.
5. I have provided to NZIHF a deposit (as determined by the Team) which may be refunded in part or whole in the event I am not selected.

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline: 1 October 2017.