

NZIFSA Selection Policy

Version 20.0 (12 Aug 2025)

1 Policy Aims

This policy aims to:

- support skaters to understand the criteria on which they will be selected to international representative teams.
- set out the criteria and process for selection to ensure fairness, consistency and transparency in the selection process.

2 Representative Levels

Skaters will be selected into the following representative levels:

International A Team Representative

Skaters selected to this grade are those who are performing at a level consistent with international competition standards for their grade. The International A Team includes Novice Advanced, Junior and Senior skaters. The criteria for selection are specified in Section 6.

International B Team Representative

The B Team provides opportunity for skaters who are approaching, but not yet at a level at which they would be competitive internationally, to be exposed to international competitions. A Team skaters will have priority over B team skaters for selection for any competitions. International B team representatives are not eligible for funding to attend international competitions. The criteria for selection are specified in Section 6.

3 Opportunities for Selection and Prioritising of Skaters

3.1 The following competitions will serve as Selection Competitions in order to:

- provide skaters who have been selected to one of the representative levels at the New Zealand National Championships with additional opportunities to make higher International Representative teams,
- ensure we send our most competition ready skaters to competitions,
- to provide an opportunity for those representative skaters who have moved up a grade to be selected at a higher grade, and,
- provide an opportunity for skaters not selected at New Zealand National Championships to gain selection for the International B Team, and
- provide an opportunity for Synchronized Skating teams that no longer have 75% of the team members that were listed for the New Zealand National Championships to gain selection to the International B Team, provided they have retained 50% of the team that were listed for the New Zealand National Championships.

Selection Competition	Representative Level selected	Priority for assignment
New Zealand National Championships	International A Team Rep International B Team Rep	to competitions whose entries close before 7 July the following year
Nominated Selection Competition*	International A Team Rep** International B Team Rep	to competitions whose entries close between 7 July and 1 week after the completion of the New Zealand National Championships

* The Nominated Selection Competition will be held between 1 and 30 June each year with the dates and location confirmed by 31 January prior to the competition. Officials panels to be of similar level to panels for New Zealand Nationals.

** Skaters can only be selected to the International A Team at the Nominated Selection Competition if they had already been selected at a representative level at the most recent New Zealand National Championships.

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- 3.2 Priority for assignment to international competitions will be based on the skater's placings at the Selection Competitions with the following provisos or exceptions:
- Members of the A Team (no matter which Selection Competition they met the criteria at) will have priority for assignment over the members of the B Team for international competitions.
 - Where skaters selected to a representative level at the New Zealand National Championships are unable to attend the Nominated Selection Competition, or do not re-attain the Total Element Score (TES) for selection the Nominated Selection Competition, their order of priority for assignment will be a) after those who meet the selection criteria at the Nominated Selection Competition and b) in order of placings at the most recent New Zealand National Championships.
 - For Junior Grand Prix the Board may limit the number of events a skater may attend.

- 3.3 Skaters in Under 12 grades selected for NZ representation at international competitions will be entered in appropriate Girls'/Women's and Men's grades as defined by ISU rules and regulations respectively.

Priority order for assignment for Girls/Women and female Under 12 skaters in a given grade will be based on the skater's Total Score.

Selection for male Under 12 skaters in a given grade will be based on them meeting the relevant Selection TES for Men with their Total Score adjusted to reflect the element requirements for the Men's grade (See Appendix A). Priority order for assignment for Men and male Under 12 skaters in a given grade will be based on the skater's Total Score, adjusted to reflect the element requirements and programme component factoring for the Men's grade (See Appendix A).

- 3.4 Senior skaters who are age eligible to compete in Junior grade of international competition, who compete at a Selection Competition and meet the international selection criteria for Senior, will also be named to Junior grade. Skaters in grades below Senior who are age eligible to compete in more than one grade of international competition, who compete at a Selection Competition and meet the international selection criteria for the grade competed, may apply to the Board for consideration to compete in any lower grades they are age eligible for. The order of priority for assignment to the lower grade will be based on the skater's Total Score, adjusted to reflect the element requirements and programme component factoring for the lower grade (See Appendix B).
- 3.5 For a Synchronized Skating team to retain their selection, 75% of the team going to an international competition must have been listed for the team that was selected at the previous New Zealand National Championships or Nominated Selection Competition and meet requirements for that grade for that competition.

4 Publication of Minimum Technical Element Scores

The minimum required points total for Technical Element Scores for each level and for each grade will be reviewed on an annual basis to take into account changing standards of skating, elements required to be performed and rule changes that affects the Scale of Values for elements, the level of the elements that can be achieved and the number and level of the skaters in the grade. The minimum TES scores will be published by 31 July each year. This allows for minimum TES scores to be adjusted due to changes at ISU Congress and/or through ISU Communications for the next ISU skating season.

5 Announcement of Representative Teams

A provisional announcement of those skaters named as representative skaters will be made within 48 hours of the conclusion of Selection Competitions. Selections will be confirmed within one week of the end of the Selection Competition. Any corrections to the provisional announcement will be discussed with the skater(s) concerned prior to publication.

6 Selection Criteria for International Representatives

Inclusion is based on results at the Selection Competitions specified in Section 3 and will be open to those skaters who

- a) have competed at the New Zealand National Championships for that skating season. ***see NOTE**
- b) have the required NZIFSA test to compete in that grade. For synchronized grades see Appendix C for test requirements.
- c) meet the minimum Total Element Score (TES) for either the International A Team (see Appendix D), or the International B Team (see Appendix E).
- d) meet ISU requirements for that grade and/or discipline.
- e) meet any additional requirements outlined below.

NOTE: Any skater currently named to a Development Squad, as per the Skater Development Policy, who is unable to compete at the New Zealand National Championships due to illness, injury, bereavement or other exceptional circumstances, may apply for an exemption in order to be considered for selection to International Competitions (refer Section 7).

Those selected to compete at an International event will receive confirmation no later than one month prior to the event except where the timing of events precludes such notice. The NZIFSA shall, however, endeavour to provide any skaters nominated to compete at an International event with as much notice in advance of the event as is reasonably possible.

Those nominated for International representation at Junior Grand Prix events must submit their choices of events to attend by 1 July each year to the General Secretary.

For other ISU Championships, selected skaters must confirm their intention to compete at the events for which they have been selected no later than one month following confirmation of their selection for that event. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in loss of selection opportunity and NZIFSA funding for that event.

For any International or ISU event, if injury occurs after selection, a medical clearance is required before departure. The medical clearance is to be sent to the NZIFSA Secretary.

In the event of the selected skater(s) being unavailable or ineligible to compete the NZIFSA Board may give consideration to other skaters who meet the criteria as set out above.

i) Selection of skaters for Novice (Basic, Intermediate and Advanced), Junior and Senior International Events

No additional selection criteria required other than those specified above.

ii) Selection of Skaters for Four Continents Championship

In addition to the selection requirements specified above, skaters must also have competed in an ISU recognised international competition during the ongoing or immediately preceding season and reached the applicable minimum ISU Total Element Scores (points) for the short and the long programme. The applicable minimum Total Technical Scores shall be announced for each season and published in an ISU Communication. See current ISU Rules for further clarification.

iii) Selection of Skaters for Junior and Senior Worlds

In addition to the selection requirements specified above, skaters must also have competed in an ISU recognised international competition during the ongoing or immediately preceding season and reached the applicable minimum ISU Total Element Scores (points) for the short and the long programme. The applicable minimum Total Technical Scores shall be announced for each season and published in an ISU Communication. See current ISU Rules for further clarification.

iv) Substitutes will be named for International Competitions (where appropriate), the Four Continents Championships, Junior Worlds and Senior Worlds. The skaters named as substitutes will be the next prioritised skater/couple for that grade who meet all the other requirements for selection.

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v) Selection of team(s) for Junior Synchronized Worlds or Senior Synchronized Worlds

Team(s) who meet the following criteria will be eligible for selection to Junior or Senior Synchronized Skating Worlds.

- a) Having competed at the New Zealand National Championships for that skating season.
- b) Having met the minimum qualifying test requirements (see Appendix C) and TES for International A Team (see Appendix D).

In the event of a team not meeting the above criteria, consideration may be given to forming a national Synchronized Skating team. Skaters who meet the following criteria will be eligible for selection to the National New Zealand Team:

- a) Having been a member of a Synchronized Skating team in the previous 36 months and actively training.
- b) Having auditioned for the National Team and met the points total according to a rubric set and published prior to the audition.
- c) Having passed the required test by the date of the audition:
 - Senior – Silver Stroking Test or Silver Pattern Dance Test
 - Junior/Novice – Inter Silver Stroking Test or Inter Silver Pattern Dance Test
- d) In the case of injury or illness, a medical certificate is required. The medical certificate must be issued on the stationery of the Medical Professional and duly signed by the Medical Professional.

The medical certificate must include:

- i. The date of the injury or date of onset of illness.
- ii. The expected date of return to full activity.

7 To Apply for an Exemption:

Where a skater who has been named to a Development Squad, as per the Skater Development Policy, is unable to compete at the New Zealand National Championships due to illness, injury, bereavement or other exceptional circumstances, they may apply for an exemption in order to be considered for selection for International Competitions, provided they meet the following criteria:

- a) The skater must have entered the New Zealand National Championship (submitted an entry form with accompanying fee) for that year in the grade and discipline they wish to be considered for.
- b) The skater must submit to the NZIFSA Secretary within 72 hours of the notice of withdrawal from the New Zealand National Championships:
 - i. Notice to apply for exemption to maintain nomination to International Competitions, and;
 - ii. In the case of injury or illness, a medical certificate is required.
- c) The medical certificate must be issued on the stationery of a Medical Professional and duly signed by the Medical Professional.
- d) The medical certificate must include:
 - i. The date of the injury or date of onset of illness.
 - ii. The expected date of return to full activity.

Once the skater is cleared for return to full activity, the skater must undergo a monitoring session or sessions as directed by the High Performance Officer or an NZIFSA nominated representative. Selection for International Competitions will only be considered based on satisfactory performance at such monitoring session(s). The skater granted selection under exceptional circumstances will be named as the substitute for that grade.

8 Appeals

Appeals on selection may be made only on the basis that the score for a skater or skaters at the New Zealand National Championships or at the Nominated Selection Competition was not correctly calculated and that the error would have otherwise resulted in the skater's selection. Appeals on other grounds will not be considered including appeals on the basis that an element or its level was incorrectly called or that GOEs or programme components fell outside of any guidelines or rules. Appeals must be lodged within 7 days of the announcement of selections. Selections will be considered provisional until all appeals have been heard and decided.

9 Requirements and Responsibilities of Selected Skaters

Skaters must observe the following requirements in order to ensure that they retain their selections:

- a) All skaters competing in International events must complete and sign a Representative's Agreement at the time they submit their entry forms. Failure to adhere to this requirement will result in their entries not being accepted.
- b) If an injury occurs after selection, of a nature which would prevent the skater from undertaking regular training, a medical clearance is required before departure to ensure that the skater complies with ISU Rules. The medical clearance is to be sent to the NZIFSA Secretary.
- c) All skaters representing New Zealand at International competitions must wear the designated New Zealand uniform while travelling to and from the competition, and at official functions. The NZIFSA may provide representatives with a suitable New Zealand uniform or tracksuit.
- d) Selected skaters are responsible for completing the entry forms, travel forms, hotel forms, planned programme content sheets, declarations, press/music information forms, and other relevant documentation and forwarding it to the NZIFSA Test & Competition Secretary at least one week prior to the closing date.
- e) A skater competing at an overseas International competition is required to have medical insurance to cover medical costs and transportation back to New Zealand for injuries or illness while attending overseas competitions.
- f) Any skaters being awarded Prize money due to their placing at an International/ISU competition shall be entitled to keep these monies, less up to 10% payable to NZIFSA as per ISU Rules.

10 Requirements and Responsibilities of Coaches, Chaperones, Team Leaders, Officials and other representatives attending International competitions

- a) Any person attending a competition in an official capacity or travelling or staying officially with the team, including but not limited to coaches, chaperones, team leaders, judges, officials, administrators, and the Board and Technical Director, must complete and sign a Representative's Agreement by the closing date of entries for that competition(s).

APPENDICES:

APPENDIX A – ADJUSTMENTS FOR DETERMINING

- 1) TOTAL ELEMENT SCORE FOR SELECTION OF MALE UNDER 12 SKATERS AND
- 2) TOTAL SCORE FOR PRIORITY ORDER FOR MEN AND MALE UNDER 12 SKATERS

Any further ISU updates to programme requirements need to be taken into account when determining the adjustments to be made to the TES or Programme Components.

	Adjustment to SP TES	Adjustment to SP PCS	Adjustment to FS TES	Adjustment to FS PCS
Basic Novice	n/a	n/a	Nil	NIL
Intermediate Novice	n/a	n/a	Nil	Refactor according to Men's factor (change from 1.7 to 2.0)
Advanced Novice	The spin without a change of foot is recalculated using the scale of values for the corresponding spin with change of foot. The level awarded will remain the same. For example CSp3 becomes CSp3. Where a layback/sideways leaning spin is awarded, this shall be adjusted to a CSp of the same level.	Refactor according to Men's factor (change from 1.07 to 1.20)	Nil	Refactor according to Men's factor (change from 2.13 to 2.40)
Junior	Where the jump combo performed consists of two double jumps, the least valuable jump will be marked invalid, and the GOE's will be recalculated using -5. The layback/sideways leaning spin or sit spin without change of foot shall be adjusted to a CSp of the same level.	Refactor according to Men's factor (change from 1.33 to 1.67)	Nil	Refactor according to Men's factor (change from 2.67 to 3.33)

APPENDIX B – ADJUSTMENT OF TOTAL SCORES FOR SINGLES

	Adjustment to SP TES	Adjustment to SP PCS	Adjustment to FS TES	Adjustment to FS PCS
Senior to Junior	Nil	Nil	Remove the step sequence	Nil
Junior to Advanced Novice	Remove the flying spin Level 4 spins/steps will be altered to Level 3 Remove the 1.1 highlight distribution bonus Add applicable jump bonuses If a triple-triple jump combination is performed, substitute a double for the jump with lowest value.	Re-factor according to Advanced Novice factors	Remove the spin that is invalid in Advanced Novice (usually a FCCoSp) and the lowest value jump element and where three jump combinations/sequences are executed, the jump with the lowest base value from those elements Level 4 spins/steps will be altered to Level 3 Remove the 1.1 highlight distribution bonus Add applicable jump bonuses	Re-factor according to Advanced Novice factors
Advanced Novice to Intermediate Novice	Remove SP scores	Remove SP scores	Remove the lowest value jump element and where a three-jump combination/sequence is executed, the jump with the lowest base value from that element. Level 3 spins/steps will be altered to Level 2. Remove any jump bonuses.	Re-factor according to Intermediate Novice factors.
Intermediate Novice to Basic Novice	N/A	N/A	Remove change of foot and levels from spin in one position.	Re-factor according to Basic Novice factors.

APPENDIX C – Test Requirements for International A and B Team Synchronized Representatives

International A Team Representatives

Seventy five percent of team members, including substitutes, must have the following NZIFSA test attainments by the conclusion of their event at the Selection Competition.

Senior Worlds and International	Silver Stroking or Pattern Dance Test
Senior Elite 12 International	Silver Stroking or Pattern Dance Test
Junior Worlds and International	Inter Silver Stroking or Pattern Dance Test
Advanced Novice International	Bronze Stroking or Pattern Dance Test

The remaining team members may hold one test level lower.

International B Team Representatives

All Team members, including substitutes, must have the following NZIFSA test attainments by the conclusion of their event at the Selection Competition.

Senior International	Inter Silver Stroking or Pattern Dance Test
Senior Elite 12 International	Inter Silver Stroking or Pattern Dance Test
Junior International	Bronze Stroking or Pattern Dance Test
Advanced Novice International	Inter Bronze Stroking or Pattern Dance Test

APPENDIX D - TES FOR INTERNATIONAL A TEAM SELECTION

		2025-2026 Minimum TES
Singles	Grade	Combined SP & FS TES
	Advanced Novice Girls	33.50
	Advanced Novice Boys	37.25
	Junior Women	42.50
	Junior Men	57.00
	Senior Women	52.50
	Senior Men	76.75
Pairs	Grade	Combined SP & FS TES
	Advanced Novice	27.25
	Junior	54.50
	Senior	73.75
Dance	Grade	Combined SD & FD TES
	Advanced Novice	53.25 (PD1+PD2+FD)
	Junior	60.50
	Senior	79.75
Synchronized Skating	Grade	Combined SP & FS TES
	Advanced Novice	25.25 (FS only)
	Junior	51.25
	Senior	70.75
	Senior Elite 12	53.00

These minimum scores are derived from International competition results for the preceding season and are based on the marks of those skaters who finished at the 20th percentile point for the grade. For Junior and Senior, ISU Championship results are not included in the calculation of scores.

The 2025/2026 TES will be applied at Selection Competitions held on or after 1 July 2025 and before 1 July 2026.

APPENDIX E – TES FOR INTERNATIONAL B TEAM SELECTION

		2025-2026 Minimum TES
Singles	Grade	Combined SP & FS TES
	Basic Novice	9.50 (FS only)
	Intermediate Novice Girls	12.25 (FS only)
	Intermediate Novice Boys	12.50 (FS only)
	Advanced Novice Girls	28.50
	Advanced Novice Boys	31.75
	Junior Women	36.25
	Junior Men	48.25
	Senior Women	44.75
	Senior Men	65.25
Pairs	Grade	Combined SP & FS TES
	Basic Novice	9.00 (FS only)
	Advanced Novice	23.00
	Junior	46.25
	Senior	62.75
Dance	Grade	Combined SD & FD TES
	Basic Novice	14.75 (0.5x (PD1+PD2) +FD)
	Intermediate Novice	25.50 (0.75x (PD1+PD2) +FD)
	Advanced Novice	45.25 (PD1+PD2+FD)
	Junior	51.50
	Senior	67.75
Synchronized Skating	Grade	Combined SP and FS TES
	Basic Novice	13.50 (FS only)
	Advanced Novice	21.50 (FS only)
	Junior	43.50
	Senior	60.00
	Senior Elite 12	45.00

These minimum scores are derived from the international results for the preceding season and are based on 85% of the marks for selection to the International A Team.

The 2025-2026 TES will be applied at Selection Competitions held on or after 1 July 2025 and before 1 July 2026.