



## Netball NI Commonwealth Games Nomination Policy

Date Devised: 12 May 2021

Last Updated: 15 June 2021

Review Date: May 2023

### 1. Vision

To achieve a Top 8 finish at the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games

### 2. Aim

- 2.1. To provide a robust process to identify the netball players who will be nominated to CGNI to participate in the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games.
- 2.2. Final selection to the Northern Ireland team will be made by the NICGC based upon the nominations provided the NI Warriors Selection Panel.

### 3. Purpose and Scope of the Policy

- 3.1. This policy sets out:
- 3.2. How players are selected onto the NI Warriors Training and Competition squad, which is the pinnacle of the Netball NI Performance Pathway.
- 3.3. How players are nominated to Team NI for the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games (B2022 Games).
- 3.4. This policy is an add-on to the Netball NI Selection Policy and is specific only to the NI Warriors squad in preparation for the B2022 Commonwealth Games.
- 3.5. Appendix 1 contains the Glossary of Defined Terms. These Terms will be applied throughout this document.

### 4. Performance Mission

- 4.1. Develop an effective training and competition squad to compete and perform at the B2022 Games.
- 4.2. To achieve a Top 8 finish at the B2022 Games.

### 5. Selection Principles

- 5.1. Employ an open, transparent, and equitable process that gives all nominated players a fair chance to challenge for selection.
- 5.2. Selection will be based on merit and need to achieve the agreed objectives of the NI Warriors squad.
- 5.3. No player has the right or expectation to on-going selection at any time.



- 5.4. Players will be subject to deselection if they breach the code of conduct or other relevant Netball NI policies and regulations.
- 5.5. The Coach has the right to invite players from outside NI Warriors programme, to be observed and considered by the Selection Panel for inclusion in the NI Warriors squad, based upon Selection Criteria set out in Appendix 2.
- 5.6. Acknowledgement is made that in selecting for a team sport, factors including the combinations of Players in the Squad, the balance of the Squad and the ability of players to play in more than one position, alongside the player's individual skill level will all be taken into consideration to select the most competitive team for B2022.

## 6. Eligibility

- 6.1. To be eligible for nomination to the Team NI squad for Birmingham 2022 a player must
- 6.2. Meet Netball NI's eligibility criteria to represent NI internationally, demonstrating their eligibility as
  - (a) a citizen of Northern Ireland
  - (b) being born in Northern Ireland, or have at least one parent or grandparent born in NI
  - (c) having lived in NI for a period of 36 months prior to the B2022 Games
- 6.3. Be affiliated to Netball NI or a Netball NI club
- 6.4. Meet the requirements set out in the CGF Constitution and Byelaws (see Apx 2)  
Note: Where prospective team members do not automatically meet the eligibility criteria of the CGF above, they will only be nominated for final selection if they receive prior approval from NICG and/or the CGF.
- 6.5. Be clear of any ban under UK Anti-Doping Regulations
- 6.6. Meet the Netball NI Warriors Selection Criteria as set out in Appendix 3, and the commitments set out by the Coach.

## 7. The Selection Process

- 7.1. Player performance at designated Selection Events will be observed, live or via a Performance Analysis tool, and will be assessed independently and against the Selection Criteria. This is set out in Appendix 3 and agreed by the NI Warriors Selection Panel.
- 7.2. Following completion of the designated Selection Events listed in this Policy, the Coach might consult with other identified coaches and will consider any relevant input from the Sports Science & Medicine team deemed necessary to make informed decisions.
- 7.3. The Nominated Players will be those in the expert opinion of the Coach, most able to achieve the objectives.
- 7.4. The Coach will meet with the Selection Panel to discuss the nominations and provide the opportunity for them to check and challenge and ensure Selection Decisions are evidence based on the Selection Criteria.
- 7.5. Individual player's inclusion in the NI Warriors competition squad for B2022 is decided on a majority vote by all members of the Selection Panel.
- 7.6. In making final decisions, the Head Coach will have the final say over any disputed athletes.
- 7.7. Netball NI will submit this Team Nomination to CGNI for final Team Selection.



## 8. The Selectors

- 8.1. All Selectors, including the Chair, will be appointed based upon competency for the role.
- 8.2. Further detail on the make up of the Selection Panel can be found in Appendix 4.
- 8.3. Selection Panel members will be appointed by the Head of Performance and ratified by the Netball NI Board.
- 8.4. The Selector Panel members, through the Chair of Selectors, are accountable to the Head of Performance and ultimately the Board of Netball NI for ensuring that the Selection Policy and associated procedures are applied in a fair and appropriate manner.

## 9. Selection Appeal

- 9.1. Appeals can only be submitted by a non-selected Player on the grounds that
  - 9.1.1. the process outlined within this Policy has not been adhered; or
  - 9.1.2. the process failed to take into consideration relevant information; or
  - 9.1.3. the process failed to take into account relevant information, which was available at the time, which the Selection Panel did not consider.
- 9.2. Any Appeal shall be made in writing to the Head of Performance ([headofperformance@netballni.org](mailto:headofperformance@netballni.org)) within 36 hours of the announcement of the Squad nominated to CGNI.

## 10. Appeals Process

- 10.1. A player can apply in writing to the Chair of Selectors through the Head of Performance ([headofperformance@netballni.org](mailto:headofperformance@netballni.org)) to ask for her grades. No player is entitled to ask who graded her on her games.
- 10.2. To appeal the decision, a player should apply in writing to the Chair of Selectors through the Head of Performance outlining on what grounds they are appealing the decision and give further information on which they are basing the appeal. This request must be received within 36 hours of the announcement.
- 10.3. If the appeal is to have sight of grades only, the Chair of Selectors shall return these to the player within 36 hour of receipt of request. If the appeal is in relation to the decision made, the Chair of Selectors must immediately pass the appeal onto the NNI Selection Appeals Panel via the Executive Manager.
- 10.4. Decision appeals are subject to a £10 fee which should be received by the NNI Office before the appeal will be dealt with. If the appeal is successful, the £10 shall be returned to the player.
- 10.5. The Netball NI Selection Appeals Panel is made up of; the Head of Performance, Executive Manager plus one other suitably experienced person who has not been involved in the original decision.



- 10.6. The role of the Selection Appeals Panel is not to go over the selection process again, but to ensure that the selectors have followed the criteria laid down within the published policy. This should be completed and a decision returned to the player in writing within 5 days.
- 10.7. In the event of a player being unhappy with the outcome of an appeal, the matter will be referred to an independent, external agency; eg Sport Resolutions.

## 11. Designated Selection Events

- 11.1. Players are informed at least 4 weeks in advance of relevant Selection Events.
- 11.2. Specific details of these events which will be taking place are listed below:-
  - 11.2.1. An initial selection window will open from 26 June – 11 September for the Selector Panel to observe and select a Warriors Long Squad in preparation for B2022.
  - 11.2.2. Players will be invited to attend an open training session over this period, and after the session will be invited to join the group or advised if they have been unsuccessful. This communication will be via email from the Netball NI Performance Team within 48 hours of the end of the training session.
- 11.3. A final selection event will take place before 1 June prior to nominations being submitted to CGNI.
- 11.4. Players may be observed at events and these could be:
  - 11.4.1. Netball Europe competitions or other test matches during the preparation period; or
  - 11.4.2. Any preparation games and training sessions identified in the Warriors Training Calendar associated with preparation for B2022; or
  - 11.4.3. Netball NI's Club Competition or the Vitality Netball Superleague; or
  - 11.4.4. Any other competitions and events that the Selection Panel /Head Coach deem relevant; or
- 11.5. Potential players eligible for selection and identified by the Coach could be done via Performance Analysis tools.

## 12. Announcement & Notice

- 12.1. Announcement for any competition squad will be sent from the Chair of Selectors via email to the training group from Netball NI Head of Performance. This will be no later than 48 hours after the selection event.
- 12.2. Players selected to the NI Warriors squad for the B2022 Games agree not to make any announcement to the media or public in any form (including personal social media sites) regarding their selection until after Team NI and Netball NI have announced the Selection Decision on their social media channels.

## 13. Process Review

- 13.1. The Netball NI Head of Performance will review the Selection Policy biennially in consultation with the appropriate performance personnel.



- 13.2. Proposed changes to the Policy must be approved by the Netball NI Board and Commonwealth Games NI.
- 13.3. Any amendments must be given in writing to the players, Coach, Selection Panel Members and other key stakeholders.
- 13.4. This Policy (including any final variations or amendments) will be made available on the Netball NI website.



## Appendix 1 – Glossary of Terms

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Player	Netball player
B2022	Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games
CGNI	Commonwealth Games NI
Coach	The Head Coach [or age group Lead Coach for all age group academies and squads]
Performance pathway	Netball performed within the Netball NI Performance Pathway
NI Warriors	The Northern Ireland senior netball squad
Emerging Warriors	Group of NI based players with the potential to transition into the NI Warriors squad in the next 2-4 years
Underage National and Development Programme	The training and competition environment for U17, U19 or U21 Development or National squads of players
Academy Programme	This includes the training and competition environment for Academy Players
Competition Squads	Players selected for an identified competition
Selection Criteria	Statements relating to skills, attributes and characteristics used to select players into the Netball NI Performance Pathway and onto competition squads
Selection Panel	Personnel appointed by the Pathway Coach as described in Appendix 3, to make Selection Decisions.

## Appendix 2 – CGF Byelaw 17

<https://thecgf.com/sites/default/files/2018-03/constitution.pdf> Page 37



## Appendix 3 – Selection Criteria

Whenever selecting Players for the NI Warriors team to compete at the B2022 Games, the Selection Panel shall apply the following criteria:

Ability to demonstrate the following characteristics on a consistent basis :

Technical	Can execute skills related to their position consistently and under pressure to achieve a positive outcome
Tactical	Understands positional role in the wider team game plan to achieve a positive outcome and can adapt this to the opposition
Physiological	Demonstrates strong and powerful movements in a biomechanically efficient manner, and is consistently meeting, or tracking towards specific targets as detailed in the PDM
Personal	Demonstrates effective communication skills and respect for others, and uses a variety of skills to be a positive asset to the group
Psychological	Can use a variety of skills to ensure a consistent level of performance

Further detail on each of these areas can be found in the Netball NI Player Development Model (PDM)

### **Consideration when selecting may also be given to the following factors**

- 🕒 State of fitness and wellbeing
- 🕒 Succession planning
- 🕒 Positional balance within the squad
- 🕒 Coachability
- 🕒 Fit within the team
- 🕒 Balance of experience and youth
- 🕒 Whether extenuating circumstances have temporarily compromised a player's performance and/or recent contribution
- 🕒 Consideration may also be given to any other such factors that the selection panel considers in its sole discretion to be relevant and appropriate to the overall assessment of a particular player



## Appendix 4 – Membership of Selection Panel

### **NI Warriors**

- Chair of Selectors or their delegate appointed by the Netball NI Head of Performance
- Head Coach
- Assistant Coach
- One member of the Underage National Squad Selection Panel

An external observer will be appointed to observe proceedings and selection discussions.

Selectors should hold Level 2 or above UKCC or NNI Level 2 or above coach qualification with a minimum of 5 years' experience;

Selectors should have completed the Selector Training Programme;

Selectors at this level should have a minimum of five years current experience as a selector.

Selectors whose players are in attendance at trials will not normally be allowed to grade these players when they are on court.

### For 2021-22 season this panel shall be

<b>Chair of Selectors</b>	Denise Prue
<b>Head Coach</b>	Elaine Rice
<b>Assistant Coach</b>	Clare Winning
<b>Underage National Squad Selection Panel member</b>	Hannah Willis