



ATHLETICS SELECTION CRITERIA



2017-2018 NSWIS SELECTION GUIDELINES TRACK AND FIELD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

NSWIS Aim

The NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS) will work in partnership with sport to deliver programs that will develop and assist identified high performance NSW athletes and coaches to achieve excellence and success at international level.

NSWIS will be a major player in the delivery of internationally recognised programs, coaching and services to achieve world-class performance as a part of an effective, nationally coordinated, high performance sport network.

Program Purpose

The **NSWIS Track & Field Program** will work in partnership with Athletics Australia (AA) and Athletics NSW (ANSW) to deliver AA's National Athletes Support Structure (NASS). The NASS aims to "provide a world best approach to identification and preparation of athletes (including Para athletes) to achieve World Class standards". The NASS program is designed to contribute to the Australia's Winning Edge aims of top 5 nations at the Olympics and Paralympics; top nation at the Commonwealth Games and 20+ World Champions each year.

Therefore the aims of the NASS program are:

- To achieve medals, supported by additional top eight places, at the Olympic Games and IAAF World Athletics Championships; and
- To achieve gold medals, supported by additional silver and bronze medals, at the Paralympic Games and IPC World Athletics Championships; and
- To finish the top nation on the Commonwealth Games athletics medal table.

The NSWIS Track & Field Program will support the daily training needs of these identified NASS athletes in NSW and the network of personal coaches to achieve NASS aims.

Selection Aim

The aim of selection is to ensure the best and most suitable athletes available are included in NSWIS programs, according to program description, selection processes and criteria as agreed.

Track and Field Scholarship Program Description

Target Athlete Group

The NSWIS program caters for the two main NASS groups:

- **Enhanced NASS:** This program is targeted at athletes with the most realistic chance to meet the aims of the NASS programs; now or in the future. Ultimately the program is targeted at winning medals and so normally, below the **World Class**, no more than three athletes will be supported at any one level in the same individual event.
- **Team NASS:** This program is targeted at athletes who do not meet the membership criteria of the Enhanced NASS program but who, nevertheless, are selected to represent Australia in major global Championships.

NB: All athletes must be Australian citizens and current financial paying members of Athletics NSW to be nominated for NSWIS Squad scholarship.

NB: An athlete who does not reside in NSW but is eligible to represent NSW at National Championships may be selected, but only after referral to and authorisation by the Program Partners.





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Structure

The NSWIS Track and Field Program is a decentralised program supports NASS athletes from NSW and a network of their personal coaches operating from the identified venues.

Selection Criteria

Athletes will be eligible for inclusion into the NSWIS Track and Field Squad based on their classification within the NASS structure as determined by Athletics Australia.

For full details on the NASS Program and selection guidelines please see Athletics Australia's website, click on [link](#) for NASS Policy.

NB: 'Eligibility' does not necessarily guarantee an NSWIS scholarship offer. This will be dependent on the number of scholarships available and athletes will be ranked by performance accordingly and will need to gain approval by the Program Partners.

NSWIS Scholarship Categories

There are **8** scholarship categories within the NSWIS Track and Field Program, with an additional **3** within the Team category:

	AIS Category	AA Category	Criteria
ENHANCED (1)	Podium	1.Gold	Gold medallist at the most recent Podium Benchmark Event with the capacity to realistically sustain this level of performance at the next Podium Benchmark Event
		2.Medal	Silver or Bronze medallist at the most recent Podium Benchmark Event with the capacity to realistically sustain this level of performance at the next Podium Benchmark Event .
	Podium Potential	1.Podium Ready	Fourth to eighth place at the most recent Podium Benchmark Event with the realistic capacity to reach the Podium level within two years .
		2.World Class	Athletes with the realistic capacity to reach the Finalist level in an individual event within two years .
		3.International	Athletes with the realistic capacity to reach the World Class level in an individual event within two years .
	Commonwealth	Commonwealth GOLD	Athletes who do not satisfy the criteria above but who have the realistic capacity to win a gold medal at the 2018 Commonwealth Games. Note: the Commonwealth level will be reviewed after the 2018 Commonwealth Games.
	Development	Development	Athletes with the realistic capacity to reach the International level in an individual event within two years .
	Emerging	U19 Talent Squad	Under 19 age group (able bodied) athletes showing the potential to perform at IAAF World U20 Championships top sixteen level within a year and to progress to the Development level. Note: AA is currently undertaking a "Pathways" review which may result in changes related to the U19 Talent Squad for the 2018/19 NASS year.



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TEAM	Senior	Athletes selected to represent Australia in identified senior championships.
	Junior	Athletes selected to represent Australia in identified U20 championships.
	Squad	Identified athletes with the potential to represent Australia in 2017/18.

NB: Athlete training schedules and support will vary between scholarship categories

Selection Timeframes

The NSWIS program year runs from 1 October to 30 September of the following year, with a review immediately after the senior National Championships (April). The athlete's status within the program will be subject to ongoing performances.

Team Selection Timeframes

Athletes will be added to the NSWIS scholarship program following advisement from AA and subject to approval by the Program Partners

General Selection of NSWIS Athletes

Scholarships will be filled by athletes identified in Athletics Australia's NASS program.

Athlete Support

Athlete training schedules and support will vary between scholarship categories, and will be confirmed based on an athlete's individual performance plan and NSWIS's consultation with Athletics Australia's Head Coach / or other designated representative.

NSWIS Selection Guidelines

Squad Selection Ratification

The Program Coordinator will nominate potential scholarship holders to the key program partners, including the nominated Program Partners signatories from the State and National sporting organisations (ANSW & AA), based on the NASS program membership. The nominated Scholarship athletes must be approved by the Program Partners prior to athlete notification and induction.

NB: Selection criteria will be reviewed annually by the Program Partners.

Athletes are under no obligation to accept a NSWIS scholarship offer.

Accepting and Maintaining a NSWIS Scholarship

NSWIS Scholarship athletes must first have completed and signed paperwork from AA. Following this, athletes must sign and abide by a NSWIS Athlete Agreement and Athlete Code of Conduct for the term of the scholarship. It is the responsibility of the athlete to ensure all conditions of the Agreement are met at all times, including maintenance of a healthy lifestyle and fitness.

The composition of the squad may be amended by the Program Partners where a non-scholarship athlete meets selection criteria during the course of a scholarship year or an athlete's scholarship is withdrawn based on the athlete's performance review which generally take place in April and September.

Following each review, NSWIS athletes will either remain at their current scholarship level or be nominated elevated or demoted to another scholarship level based on their NASS status. Athletes who perform below expectation and do not meet expected performance indicators may have their scholarship withdrawn.





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Athlete Withdrawal from NSWIS Sport Squad Scholarship

An athlete wishing to withdraw from their NSWIS Scholarship may do so by informing the NSWIS Program Coordinator in writing at any time.

Any equipment loaned to an athlete through the NSWIS Program must be returned to the Program Coordinator upon withdrawal of a scholarship. Athletes who do not return equipment will be liable for the cost of all outstanding equipment.

Scholarship Suspension / Termination

An athlete's scholarship may be suspended or terminated where s/he breaches the NSWIS Athlete Agreement, Code of Conduct, Sport Code of Conduct (or equivalent) and / or brings the Institute and / or the Sport into disrepute.

In this instance the NSWIS CEO, in consultation with the Program Partners will recommend to the NSWIS Board, the suspension or termination of the athletes scholarship.

The NSWIS Board is the only body that has the power to terminate or suspend an athlete scholarship. The athlete, Program Coordinator and Program Partners will be advised in writing of the outcome.

Athlete Appeals Process Relating to Non Selection of NSWIS Scholarship

As NSWIS scholarships are based on AA's NASS memberships, athletes may appeal to the NASS Selection Panel as outlined in NASS Selection Policy.