



SWIMMING SELECTION CRITERIA



2019/20 NSWIS SELECTION GUIDELINES – SWIMMING

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 Swimming Program will provide world-class coaching, training and competition, facilities and support services to improve athlete development with a view to:

- Maximise coach and athlete representation on the Australian Swimming Team
- Produce swimmers who achieve medal winning performances at bench mark events and major international competitions
- Produce coaches who have the expertise to develop athletes to achieve medal winning performance at major international competitions.

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.

Program Description

Target Athlete Group

NSW based athletes selected in the National Open Team or who show the potential to develop towards National Team selection.

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

Structure

The NSWIS Swimming program is a decentralised program delivered via:

- SAL Supported High Performance Centres (NSW Technical Hub, NSW Northern Metro Hub & ACTAS Hub)
- Supporting SAL categorised athletes funded directly by SAL or through the Georgina Hope Foundation Swimmers Support Scheme (GHFSSS) who are not currently training at a SAL supported High Performance Centre.
- Talent development program funded and administered by SNSW

Maximum no. of scholarships

There will be a maximum of 35 athletes selected in the NSWIS Swimming Program.





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Selection Criteria

Consideration for NSWIS full scholarships will only be given to athletes who:

- have competed at the Australian Open Long Course Championships
- are in full-time training under the guidance of an accredited coach

Non-attendance at the Australian Open Long Course Championships for medical reasons must be supported with documentation from a recognised NSWIS medical provider that has been supplied to the NSWIS Medical Director, Dr Cory Cunningham.

Scholarships may be offered to athletes who meet the criteria below. Final selection is subject to athletes signing the Athlete Agreement. Attainment of the selection criteria is not necessarily a guarantee of a scholarship offer.

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

NSWIS Scholarship Categories

There are 6 scholarship categories within the NSWIS Swimming Program, in line with SAL athlete categorisation policy.

Component	Detail
Podium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athlete who had a medal performance in an individual Olympic or Paralympic event, at a World Championship, Olympics or Paralympics in the previous 24 months (inclusive of 2 benchmark events). • Finalist member of a relay team who had a medal performance in Olympic or Paralympic events, at a World Championship, Olympics or Paralympics at the most recent benchmark event. <p>And considered capable of a medal performance at the next international benchmark event (Olympic/ Paralympic Games or World Championships)</p>
Podium Ready	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual or finalist member of a relay team, who placed 4th – 8th in Olympic or Paralympic events, at a World Championship, Olympics or Paralympics in the previous 12 months (most recent benchmark event). • For years where there has not been an Olympic / Paralympic Games or World Championships within the last 12 months (2018), the following rankings for Pool and Para athlete based off the Virtual World Championships will be relevant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Individual swimmer ranked 1st – 8th – Finalist member of a relay team ranked 1st – 8th <p>Note: For years where there has not been an Olympic / Paralympic Games or World Championships within the last 12 months (2018), Open Water athletes cannot attain a category higher than Podium Potential A5 (based on qualification for the benchmark team in an Olympic events) as there is no 'world' event and no way to rank the athlete performances at events such as World Cups.</p> <p>And considered capable of progressing to Podium in the next two years.</p>





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Podium Potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Pool, Open Water or Para athlete who is a member of the current benchmark team (selected in an Olympic or Paralympic event), who also qualified for their first benchmark team within the last 24 months (two most recent benchmark teams) • A Pool, Open Water or Para athlete who did not qualify for the most recent benchmark team but who was a member of the previous benchmark team (selected in an Olympic or Paralympic event) and is still deemed as having potential to progress to Podium Ready level. A Pool or Para athlete who did not qualify for the most recent benchmark team but who has achieved a time in the current calendar year at the Australian Championships or a designated international meet that is ranked top 8 in the world (based on previous year 2/nation world rankings) for a Pool athlete, or top 5 in the world (based on previous year 3/nation world rankings) for a Para athlete. <p>And considered capable of progressing to Podium Ready in the next two years</p>
Developing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Pool athlete who is a current member of the SAL Youth Transition Squad. • The highest placed male and female finishers in the 10km event at the annual Open Water benchmark qualifier event that did not qualify for the benchmark team. • A Para athlete that is a member of current SAL National Para Development Squad. <p>And considered capable of progressing to at least Podium Potential in the next two years.</p>
Emerging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Pool or Open Water athlete who is a current member of the SAL Junior International Benchmark Team (Olympic event athlete selected on the Junior Benchmark Team have achieved a qualifying standard equal to or better than 8th in to the final at the most recent Senior World Championships + 5%), and is considered capable of progressing to at least Developing in the next two years. • Para athlete, domestically, but not yet internationally classified, whose performance is ranked in the Top 10 in the world (Paralympic events) 3/nation based on the previous year's world rankings. <p>And is considered capable of progressing to at least Developing in the next two years.</p>
Training Agreement	<p>Athletes not identified above, that achieve the following criteria;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved a performance equal to or faster than top 8 plus 3% of the 2019 Swimming Australia benchmark time for female athletes 20 years and above. • Achieved a performance equal to or faster than top 8 plus 3% of the 2019 Swimming Australia benchmark time for male athletes 21 years and above. • Achieved a performance equal to or faster than top 8 plus 5% of the 2019 Swimming Australia benchmark time for female athletes 19 years and under. • Achieved a performance equal to or faster than top 8 plus 5% of the 2019 Swimming Australia benchmark time for male athletes 20 years and under. <p>*Athletes who have potential to progress to the above categories or positively contribute to the training environment may be invited to train at an NSWIS partnered training Hub (NSW Technical Hub, Northern Metro Hub & ACT) at the discretion of the relevant Hub coach, NSW Technical Lead and relevant HP Managers.</p>
Talent (NSWIS / SNSW Partnership)	<p>Talent program is administered by SNSW which NSWIS supports with services at identified camps.</p>



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Selection Timeframes

The NSWIS squad will be selected in June each year. Athlete scholarships will commence 1st July to 30th June of the following year.

Athlete scholarships will be reviewed and recommended to NSWIS from SAL each six months.

NSWIS Selection Guidelines

Squad Selection Ratification

Swimming Australia will nominate potential scholarship holders to a selection panel based on results from the identified selection events. The selection panel will comprise of the key program partners including the nominated Program Partners Management Group (PPMG) signatories from NSWIS, Swimming NSW and Swimming Australia.

The nominated scholarship athletes must be approved by the PPMG prior to athlete notification and induction.

Where a conflict of interest exists with any member of the panel (eg. when a member has a personal involvement with an athlete under consideration), that member will exclude themselves from any decisions relating to identified athlete/s.

Ratification of any proposed changes to the squad is required by all members of the PPMG and confirmation of the NSWIS CEO's approval of the squad must be given prior to athlete notification.

Selection criteria will be reviewed annually by the PPMG.

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

Accepting and Maintaining a NSWIS Scholarship

NSWIS Scholarship 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 PPMG at any time where an athlete's scholarship is withdrawn based on an athlete's performance review, or an athlete meets selection criteria during the course of a scholarship year.

As a general principle, athletes must demonstrate a consistent improvement in times during the scholarship period to retain their scholarship status.

Following each review, NSWIS athletes will either remain on their current scholarship level or be nominated by the PPMG to be elevated or demoted to another level or terminated.

Network Coaches

The personal coach of a selected athlete will be offered recognition and inclusion as an NSWIS Network Coach. All NSWIS network coaches will be required to consult with the designated NSW Technical Lead or relevant National Coach about their training and competition plan for the scholarship year. The plan should include





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athlete attendance at the following meets and training camps:

- NSW State Championships – Open & Age; Metro & Country (Long Course & Short Course)
- Australian Open Championships – Long Course & Short Course
- Australian Age Championships
- Identified NSWIS and SAL Meets
- Swimming Australia Camps (where selected) – Senior and Youth Camps
- NSWIS combined training camps and nominated testing days

Athlete Withdrawal from NSWIS Sport Squad Scholarship

An athlete wishing to withdraw their NSWIS Scholarship may do so by informing the NSWIS CEO and SAL High Performance Director in writing at any time.

The NSW Technical Lead may recommend withdrawal of an athlete's scholarship to the PPMG, after a mid-year review, based on the athlete's performance relative to selection criteria.

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

An athlete's scholarship may be suspended or terminated where he/she breaches the NSWIS code of conduct, or brings the NSWIS into disrepute. In this instance, The NSWIS CEO, in consultation with the Sport, will recommend an athlete to the Board for suspension or termination of their scholarship as per NSWIS Termination/Suspension of Athletes Scholarship document. The NSWIS Board is the only body that has the power to terminate or suspend an athlete scholarship.

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 athlete's scholarship.

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

Athlete Appeals Process Relating to Non Selection of NSWIS Athlete Scholarship

Athletes may appeal non-selection to the NSWIS or withdrawal of a scholarship by contacting the Coordinator of the NSWIS Appeals Panel in writing within two weeks of withdrawal or non-selection. The NSWIS Appeals Panel will hear all appeals within two weeks of notification and will consist of the Coordinator and PPMG. The Coordinator may appoint an independent to the Appeals Panel where deemed necessary or at an athletes request. A full report of the Appeals Panel's decision will be forwarded to the athlete and NSWIS CEO within one week of the Appeals hearing.

Athletes may be accompanied by a support person of their choice at all times during the Appeals process.

