

# Tennis New Zealand Seniors Selection Policy



## 1. Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to set out the process and conditions for the eligibility and selection of Tennis New Zealand Seniors (TNZS) teams, squads and players to represent New Zealand at a range of national and international events.

## 2. Selection Eligibility

2.1. To be eligible for selection under this policy, all players must meet the following criteria:

- a) Players must be **New Zealand citizens and/or hold a New Zealand Passport**. Recent citizens must have lived in New Zealand for 24 consecutive months at some time and have not represented another country during the period of 36 months immediately preceding the event. The New Zealand Seniors Committee may apply to the International Seniors Committee to nominate a player who is not eligible under the above regulations. Such applications must be received by the ITF at least six months prior to the event for which the player wishes to be nominated.
- b) Players must be an affiliated member of Tennis New Zealand and registered as a financial member of a TNZ Senior Tennis Club.
- c) To be eligible to play in any age group, a player shall have reached 35 years of age or minimum age limit by 31<sup>st</sup> December of the year in which the ITF's Championships are held and must provide acceptable evidence of their Date of Birth.
- d) Players nominating for selection should have played in the TNZS National Individual Championships prior to the elected world championships. Any recent TNZ or TNZS open events not shown in Configure Ranking results will also provide performance evidence to assist selection decisions.
- e) Consideration may be given to players who are unable to compete in the National Championships if there are significant circumstances that would prevent participation. Players seeking dispensation must apply in writing to the TNZS National Administrator for due consideration by the TNZS Executive prior to the staging of the Championships.
- f) Consideration will only be given to singles players who compete in their Age Group of the TNZS Individual Seniors Championships for which they are eligible. Any results of players competing outside of their Age Group may not be considered. For doubles events players may play in their Age Group or any younger Age Group.
- g) All players seeking selection must be recorded in the TNZ Configure Ranking system so their current national ranking and past tennis matches history can be sourced.
- h) All players seeking selection for ITF Worlds Teams must have a current IPIN. (International Player Identification Number).

2.2. The decision of the selection panel in selecting or seeding players shall be final.

### **3. Selection Criteria**

3.1. Players shall nominate for teams selection only in their Age Group. Nominees should complete the Application for Selection Form providing player's recent history of participation and should reflect an ongoing support for seniors tennis.

3.2 The selection panel will consider the following factors in selecting players:

(a) Selections will be based upon a player's previous performances in the following events:

- Results in recent and past TNZ Seniors Individual and Team Championships.
- Results in NZ sanctioned Seniors/Super-Seniors Tournaments.
- Results in ITF Seniors/Super-Seniors Cups, sanctioned Tournaments and World Championships.
- Results in National/Regional/Club New Zealand Events.

(b) Nominees should provide any information they consider relevant including any outstanding doubles results with another player; details of current local interclub or grade status; results against players of note and/or those who may be potential nominees.

(c) Other factors including positive attitude, fitness, conditioning, commitment and teamwork will be taken into account.

3.3 Non Resident New Zealand players who live overseas may be considered for selection if they comply with Para 2. Selection Eligibility and Selection Criteria on providing supporting documentation.

3.4 Teams shall consists of the following number of players: Seniors (age groups 35 to 55) three players unless a very good case can be made to include a fourth player; Super-senior (age groups 60 to 80) four players.

3.5 Should there be a lack of nominations to form a team in any Age Group; any surplus player of an appropriate quality may be selected for the next younger Age Group.

3.6 Where considered appropriate, selectors may choose to select reserve players, who will not be a team member. Outstanding performances as a doubles player will be taken into consideration.

3.7 If the selectors consider that there is insufficient standard within the nominations for a particular team, they reserve the right to seek non selection ratification of a team in that event.

3.8 Nominations close on a date fixed by the Executive of Tennis New Zealand Seniors.

### **4. Selection Ratification**

4.1. Selected teams will be ratified by the TNZS Management Committee and will be announced by the TNZS Chairperson at the pre agreed time through the pre agreed media to the pre agreed audience.

### **5. Selection Notification**

5.1 Player applicants will be notified in writing within 7 days of the team announcement by the TNZS National Administrator.

- 5.2 The announced teams, once approved by the TNZS Committee, are final, and no appeal process is available.
- 5.3 Withdrawals – if a selected player withdraws from the announced team, the selectors will be responsible for nominating a replacement. If the withdrawal makes the viability of the whole team not able to meet the criteria set out in 3.7 above, then the criteria of that clause will be sought.
- 5.4 Removal from team – then TNZS Management committee reserves the right to remove a selected player from the team if, in it's opinion, the selected player breaches any of the following conditions:
- any of the eligibility criteria are not met.
  - he or she fails any drug testing by a recognised drug testing authority
  - he or she fails to maintain a designated level of fitness and standard of competitiveness prior to the event for which they have been selected, as required by the Team Captain.

## **6. Selected Player Requirements**

- 6.1 Selected players will be required to wear the approved TNZS uniform as advised in their notification information and must seek to purchase the necessary articles of clothing in order to comply. For players selected for the first time TNZS will provide a National tracksuit top in recognition of their achievement.
- 6.2 Selected players are required to present themselves on court or at formal ceremonies in the uniform instructed by organising officials and/or the Team Manager.
- 6.3 Selected players attendance and participation (flag bearers, NZ dinners) at formal events will be pre planned by the Team Manager/Team Captains to meet event or greater team requirements.
- 6.4 Selected players are ambassadors for New Zealand and are expected to behave in an exemplary fashion, to meet and maintain standards as set out in the "rules of tennis", the Policies of Tennis NZ and the Tennis NZ Code of Conduct;
- 6.5 Selected players are responsible for all costs and any exceptions will be advised in their notification information. The Team Manager/Team captains will be responsible for co-coordinating all arrangements for the teams under their control.
- 6.6 Selected players will be required to register for events through the TNZ Seniors National Administrator, or according to the entry rules of an event, by the due date. If necessary a copy of a birth certificate may be necessary to confirm Date of Birth for administration purposes. (ITF Individual and Australian Individual Events are entered directly by the players.)
- 6.7 Players may seek financial assistance for travel and accommodation costs through the John Mickell Trust.
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