

2008 AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC TEAM

AUSTRALIAN BASEBALL FEDERATION POLICY FOR ASSISTING & COUNSELLING ATHLETES SEEKING NOMINATION & SELECTION

1. Background

- 1.1 Clause 5.5 of the Australian Olympic Committee's (AOC's) Olympic Team Selection By-Law ("AOC Selection By-Law") requires that:

"Each National Federation (NF) must promptly develop and submit to the AOC for its approval its policy for assisting and counselling Athletes seeking nomination and selection and must not alter or amend this policy without the prior written approval of the AOC. The NF's policy in this regard must conform to best practice and, without limiting this in any way, must require the NF to:

- (1) regularly advise Athletes seeking nomination and selection as to their individual performances and progress against all applicable criteria; and
- (2) counsel unsuccessful aspirants for nomination and selection; and
- (3) require the NF to fully co-operate with and assist the Tribunal and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in any appeal pursuant clause 11."

In accordance with the AOC Selection By-Law, Australian Baseball Federation has adopted this policy for assisting and counselling athletes seeking nomination to the AOC for selection to the 2008 Australian Olympic Team.

2. Information on Nomination & Selection to Athletes

- 2.1 All athletes chosen or recognised as members of the Shadow Team will be provided with an informative précis of the AOC Selection By-Law, a copy of the AOC Selection Criteria and the Australian Baseball Federation Nomination Criteria, and on request, a copy of the AOC Selection By-Law and the Participation Criteria.
- 2.2 Australian Baseball Federation will provide the documents listed at 2.1 by way of email.
- 2.3 Any enquiries from athletes or other interested parties are to be directed to Brett Pickett at the Australian Baseball Federation on (07) 55 094113 or brett.pickett@baseball.org.au.

2.4 Athletes will be advised of any changes to the documents listed at 2.1 by Brett Pickett by way of email within 48 hours of such changes being effected.

3. Australian Baseball Federation Selection Panel & Appeals Tribunal

3.1 Australian Baseball Federation will advise athletes of the following by no later than 14 December 2007 by email:

(1) the names of its Selection Panel members, including the contact details of the Chairman; and

(2) the names of its Appeals Tribunal members, including the contact details of the Chairman.

3.2 Should there be any changes of personnel on either the Selection Panel or the Appeals Tribunal, Australian Baseball Federation will advise athletes by way of email within 48 hours of such a change being effected.

4. Olympic Appeals Consultant

4.1 The AOC has appointed Mr Brian Collis QC of Melbourne and Mr Bruce Collins QC of Sydney as the Olympic Appeals Consultants for the 2008 Australian Olympic Team. The Olympic Appeals Consultants will be available to discuss with athletes contemplating an appeal the reasons for their non-nomination by the Australian Baseball Federation to the AOC or non-selection by the AOC.

4.2 Olympic Appeals Consultants will not provide legal advice to athletes but will be directed by the AOC to ensure that the athlete fully understands the reasons for the decision in question and to facilitate a consultative process between the athlete and Australian Baseball Federation or the AOC as the case may be. The AOC and Australian Baseball Federation will fully co-operate with each Olympic Appeals Consultant.

4.3 Australian Baseball Federation will promptly advise any athlete contemplating an appeal that the names and contact details for the Olympic Appeals Consultants are available on the AOC website – olympics.com.au.

5. Information Regarding Progress through Nomination Process

- 5.1 Australian Baseball Federation acknowledges that it is important to keep athletes seeking nomination advised at all times of the nomination requirements and of their progress against these requirements.
- 5.2 Australian Baseball Federation will keep athletes informed on at least a quarterly basis of their progress through the nomination process, giving particular regard to the specific performance requirements listed in the Nomination Criteria. Athletes will be advised of their progress through the nomination process by Brett Pickett, General Manager – Baseball Operations.
- 5.3 Athletes will be given the opportunity to enquire about their progress through the nomination process. Enquiries are to be directed to Brett Pickett, General Manager - Baseball Operations and can be in person or via telephone or email at the contact details provided at clause 2.3. An enquiry by an athlete will be addressed within 72 hours of the enquiry being received.
- 5.4 Australian Baseball Federation will require all Shadow Team members to provide up to date contact information on a regular basis so that Australian Baseball Federation can keep them informed about any developments in relation to nomination.

6. Advice to Athletes Regarding Nomination and Non-nomination

- 6.1 Athletes chosen by Australian Baseball Federation to be nominated to the AOC for selection to the 2008 Australian Olympic Team will be notified by Brett Pickett, General Manager – Baseball Operations by no later than the 1st of July 2008. Notification will be by letter, sent by email.
- 6.2 As soon as practicable, and before any public announcement of nominations, those members of the Shadow Team who are not chosen for nomination will be advised by Brett Pickett, General Manager – Baseball Operations of their non-nomination. Notification of non-nomination will be by letter, sent by email.
- 6.3 Immediately following notification to athletes of their non-nomination, Australian Baseball Federation will provide, in writing, to the non-nominated athlete:
 - (1) the contact details for Geoff Pearce, Selection Panel Chairman who is responsible for counselling athletes as to the reasons why they were not chosen for nomination;
 - (2) information about the lodgement of appeals, as per the requirements of the AOC Selection By-Law; and
 - (3) on request, the names and contact details of the Olympic Appeals Consultants.

7. **Post Nomination (& Non-nomination) Support Services**

- 7.1 Australian Baseball Federation acknowledges that it is important that athletes who strive for Olympic selection benefit from this challenge and that this becomes a positive part of their life. This is important because:
- (1) the athlete's sport experience should be an overall positive experience and influence on their life;
 - (2) the athlete is more likely to produce their personal best and be successful over a longer period if their sport experience is positive; and
 - (3) Australian Baseball Federation values the contribution that the athlete makes to their sport and would like them to continue their involvement as an athlete, coach or official in the future.
- 7.2 Australian Baseball Federation will advise the national Athlete Career and Education (ACE) program as to which athletes have been nominated for selection in the 2008 Olympic Team of the names of Shadow Team members and which athletes have not been nominated.
- 7.3 The national ACE program has an established network of counselling service providers to assist all athletes managing the challenges of nomination, non nomination, selection and non selection. This service is coordinated through the network of State/Territory Institutes and Academies of Sport throughout Australia and the Australian Institute of Sport. Australian Baseball Federation will provide the contact details of the ACE personnel in each state and territory to Shadow Team members as soon as practicable after the determination of nominations.
- 7.4 Australian Baseball Federation acknowledges that consultation with ACE personnel is at the discretion of the individual athlete, however, Australian Baseball Federation will encourage non-nominated athletes to avail themselves of the counselling services provided.
- 7.5 Australian Baseball Federation will notify the national ACE program in each state and territory of the names of Shadow Team members who have not been chosen for nomination as soon as practicable after the determination of nominations.