

2010 AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC WINTER TEAM

Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc 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;
- (2) counsel unsuccessful aspirants for nomination and selection; and
- (3) fully co-operate with and assist the Tribunal and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in any appeal pursuant to clause 11."

- 1.2 In accordance with the AOC Selection By-Law, Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc has adopted this policy for assisting and counselling Athletes seeking nomination to the AOC for selection to the 2010 Australian Olympic Winter 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 the Guide to Selection, the AOC Selection Criteria and the Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc Nomination Criteria.
- 2.2 Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc will provide the documents listed at 2.1 by email and posted on the AVBA website: www.biathlon.asn.au

The AOC Selection By-Law and the Qualification System are available on the AOC's website (www.olympics.com.au).

- 2.3 Any enquiries from Athletes or other interested parties are to be directed to Paul Connor, Executive Officer, AVBA on 0413 189 958 or aus_biathlon@bigpond.com.au

- 2.4 Athletes will be advised of any changes to the documents listed at 2.1 by Paul Connor via email and AVBA website update within 48 hours of such changes being effected.

3. Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc Selection Panel & Appeals Tribunal

- 3.1 Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc will advise Athletes of the following by no later than 25 November 2009 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/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc will advise Athletes by email and website update within 48 hours of such a change being effected.

4. Olympic Appeals Consultant

- 4.1 The AOC has appointed Mr Bruce Collins QC of Sydney as the Olympic Appeals Consultant for the 2010 Australian Olympic Winter Team. The Olympic Appeals Consultant will be available to discuss with Athletes who may have appealed or may wish to appeal the reasons for their non-nomination by Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc to the AOC or non-selection by the AOC, after the Athlete has discussed the reasons with those responsible for counselling referred to in paragraph 7 below.
- 4.2 Olympic Appeals Consultant will not provide legal advice to Athletes concerning the prospects of success of any appeal but will ensure that the Athlete fully understands the reasons for the decision in question and the process of any appeal and will facilitate a consultative process between the Athlete and Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc or the AOC as the case may be. The AOC and Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc will fully co-operate with the Olympic Appeals Consultant.
- 4.3 Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc will promptly advise any Athlete who may have appealed or may wish to appeal that the names and contact details for the Olympic Appeals Consultant are available on the AOC's website – www.olympics.com.au.

5. Information Regarding Progress through Nomination Process

- 5.1 Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc 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/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc will keep Athletes informed on at least a monthly 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 the Executive Officer Mr Paul Connor.
- 5.3 Athletes will be given the opportunity to enquire about their progress through the nomination process. Enquiries are to be direct to Paul Connor and can be in person or via telephone, email or letter at the contact details provided at 2.3. An enquiry by an Athletes will be addressed within 48 hours of the enquiry being received.
- 5.4 Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc will require all Shadow Team members to provide up to date contact information on a regular basis so that Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc 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/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc to be nominated to the AOC for selection to the 2010 Australian Olympic Winter Team will be notified by Mr Paul Connor-Executive Officer by no later than 18 January 2010 (ESTA) Notification will be verbal (by phone or in person) then supported by written notification within 24 hours.
- 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 Paul Connor –Executive Officer of their non-nomination. Notification of non-nomination will be verbal (by phone or in person) then supported by written notification within 24 hours.
- 6.3 Immediately following notification to Athletes of their non-nomination, Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc will provide, in writing, to the non-nominated Athlete:
 - (1) the contact details for Greg Anderson-President Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc 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/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc 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/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc 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/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc will advise the national Athlete Career and Education (ACE) program as to which Athletes have been nominated for selection in the 2010 Australian Olympic Winter Team and the names of Shadow Team members that 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/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc 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/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc acknowledges that consultation with ACE personnel is at the discretion of the individual Athlete, however, Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc will encourage non-nominated Athletes to avail themselves of the counselling services provided.

7.5 Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc 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.