



AUSTRALIAN ICE RACING



AUSTRALIAN ICE RACING

2025-2026

NATIONAL SELECTION POLICY

Speed Skating

**Version Rev 1
Effective May 2025**



olympic**winter**institute
OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Ice Racing's High Performance Partner

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PURPOSE.....	3
INTERPRETATION.....	3
SELECTION GUIDELINES.....	3
SELECTION PROCEDURE.....	5
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.....	6
PROCESS STEPS – GUIDE	6
AUSTRALIAN RACING SUIT	7
FUNDING SUPPORT	7
PANDEMIC CONSIDERATIONS	7
ATTACHMENT A.....	8
2025-2026 AUSTRALIAN WORLD CUP SPEED SKATING AND SPEED SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA	8
ATTACHMENT B.....	9
2025-2026 AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR WORLD CUP SPEED SKATING AND JUNIOR SPEED SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA	9
ATHLETE NOMINATION FORM.....	10
ATHLETE CONTACT DETAILS.....	11

Purpose

The objective of the Australian Ice Racing Limited (AIR) 2025-2026 National Selection Policy is to ensure the selection of the best possible teams and athletes to represent Australia at designated ISU events. This requires AIR to establish qualification standards that support the movement towards results required under the Australian Sports Commission High Performance Strategy, and the current AIR Strategic Plan.

This selection policy applies to athletes seeking selection to the following teams:

- a. Australian World Cup Speed Skating Team
- b. Australian Junior World Cup Speed Skating Team
- c. Australian World Championships Speed Skating Team
- d. Australian World Junior Championships Speed Skating Team

Speed skaters will earn quotas for their National Olympic Committees through the **Special Olympic Qualification Classifications (SOQCS)** based on results from ISU World Cup Competitions during the 2025/2026 season.

AOC Nomination Criteria to follow.

The Olympic Nomination criteria is outside of this policy. Refer to the following: [Milano-Cortina-2026 Qualification System for Speed Skating](#)

Only coaches, team officials and team support members approved by the Board of AIR will be appointed in any capacity to an Australian Team.

All officials will be required to sign an Australian Team Official Agreement at the commencement of each international season, or prior to the first event in which they will conduct duties and this will stay in effect until the final event of the season in which Australia will be represented. All team officials will be subject to the AIR policies relating to conduct and discipline upon signing of the agreement, regardless of membership status with AIR.

This Selection Policy remains in force until amended or revoked by the AIR Board in compliance with the AIR's Constitution in relation to policies.

Interpretation

1. Unless the context otherwise requires, terms used in this Selection Policy shall have the same meaning as in AIR's Constitution and Regulations.
2. No particular selection criteria will be weighted more or less significantly by reason of the order in which that criterion appears in this Selection Policy.

Selection Guidelines

1. AIR will appoint a Selection Panel whose task will be, in consultation with any designated coaches and other technical persons, to nominate a team for each event. The Selection Panel will make recommendations regarding team selections to the AIR Board for approval.
2. This selection policy covers the period from the effective date, through to the completion of the 2025/2026 ISU international racing season and any other relevant dates indicated within the policy.

3. To be eligible for selection, all athletes must comply with ISU Rule 109 'Participation in ISU Championships, ISU Events and International Competitions' and any other rule(s) set down by the ISU from time to time.
4. All Speed Skating qualification time paperwork must be forwarded to the General Secretary within 14-days of the time being recorded **or** no later than the ISU cut-off date and time required for any qualification standard, whichever is the lesser time period.
5. Any time submitted must have been completed in accordance with ISU guidelines and can be verified independently on <https://speedskatingresults.com/> or official protocol of the event.
6. Selectors will take into consideration the relevant qualification times, formats and criteria for each AIR Team set out in **Attachment A & Attachment B**
7. All athletes selected into any AIR team must:
 - a. sign and comply with the AIR's Athletes' Code of Conduct;
 - b. sign and comply with AIR Team Agreement; and
 - c. Register with Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) and complete the SIA e-learning module on Anti-Doping [SIA e-Learning Portal](#).
8. Once selected, athletes must maintain the level of fitness with which they attained selection into a particular team.
9. An athlete selected for any team (as indicated in this policy) has an obligation to advise the AIR Board of any illness or injury that may affect their performance. The AIR Board and relevant support staff will subsequently, assess each situation and create a return-to play plan as required.
10. If a member of the team suffers a loss of fitness or an injury or illness that prevents them from competing at the standard required at international competitions, the Selection Panel in conjunction with other designated persons appointed by the AIR board, may make a recommendation to the AIR Board that the athlete be removed from the respective AIR team or not entered to the event. For injury or illness greater than 3 days and less than 3 weeks a medical clearance will be required. For injury or illness beyond 3 weeks the athlete will need to implement a return to performance plan to the satisfaction of Selection Panel.
11. If, after an athlete has been selected, they are unable to compete the Selection Panel may recommend to and seek approval from the AIR Board to replace the athlete at the event.
12. If a selected athlete, through their actions or deeds, brings AIR or the sport of ice speed skating into disrepute, they may be immediately removed from an AIR Team and sanctions may be imposed on that athlete in accordance with the AIR's Code of Conduct and AIR policies.
13. This Selection Policy will be made available on AIR's website at www.australianiceracing.org. AIR reserves the right to change the Selection Policy at any time. Affiliated State bodies will be notified by email 14-days prior to any changes coming into effect. The state members will be responsible to ensure that all affected athletes are notified of any relevant changes forthwith.
14. In addition to the requirements and criteria set out elsewhere in this Selection Policy, the Selectors may consider:

- Consistency in standards of behaviour conducive to supporting the goals of the team and overall objectives of AIR;
- Demonstrated and/or potential ability to work with AIR/OWIA/AIS high performance coaching staff, team officials and other competitors or any other program facilitator engaged by AIR;
- Demonstrated attitude and commitment to AIR Athlete Development Programs (or any other program) and the promotion of AIR and, but not only, national representation;
- Past national and international performances in events and over such periods as determined by the AIR Board;
- Current national and international performances including performance over the preceding ISU international competition season;
- Current Australian ranking (if any);
- Current international ranking (if any);
- The athlete's current level of skill and physical fitness;
- Any current injury or condition which will impair, inhibit or prevent the athletes' performance to the requisite level;
- The potential of the athlete to successfully achieve the objectives of this Selection Policy and of AIR under its Constitution; and
- Any other factor they consider relevant in the circumstances.

15. Any athlete who:

- Breaches or fails to observe this Selection Policy, the AIR Constitution or its regulations/by-laws;
- By reason of illness or injury is unable to perform to the required standard in the opinion of the Selectors (after having received advice from a medical practitioner);
- Breaches or fails to fulfil a requirement of the AIR Anti-Doping Policy;
- Breaches or fails to comply, fulfil or observe the requirements in the AIR Team Agreement or any other agreement between AIR and an athlete,

will become ineligible for selection to or continued membership of the relevant AIR Team and may be withdrawn from any event.

16. If the Selection Panel deems that an athlete has failed to sustain his or her performance to a satisfactory level, the Selection Panel will discuss this with the athlete and the athlete may be given the opportunity to re-attain the standards. The Selection Panel will be responsible for advising the AIR Board who may review the and ratify the decision.

Selection Procedure

1. All athletes wishing to be considered for selection into an AIR Speed Skating Team must submit a completed Athlete Contact Details form (Form 2) to the General Secretary **no later than 30 July 2025**. Failure to do so could result in ineligibility for selection. Any change to an athlete's personal contact details must be conveyed to the General Secretary not later than 14 days from the date of change.
2. All athletes wishing to be selected in an AIR Squad/Team must submit a completed **Athlete Nomination Form (Form 1)** to the General Secretary **no later than 30 July 2025**. The athlete does not need to achieve these times prior to nominating, however they must achieve the required time standards by the final date indicated for qualification times in the relevant attachment or as set by the ISU.
3. The Selection Panel may from time to time in their discretion select an athlete who is not otherwise eligible or under consideration. This may occur for a variety of reasons, but not limited to illness or injury to an athlete at a relevant time, newly obtained citizenship or

where extenuating circumstances align themselves with Paragraph 1 of this policy in that it may restrict Australian international results to not include an athlete. Where selectors include an athlete into a representative team in this manner, the Head Selector is to document the reasons why the athlete is included in the team and provide this to the AIR General Secretary for recording purposes.

4. The Selection Panel may consider extenuating circumstances in reviewing their selection decision(s). The athlete must outline the extenuating circumstances and notify the General Secretary in writing via email no later than 2 days following the selection announcements or selection trials. In the case that trials were not held no later than 2 days following the announcement of the team for the event in which they have nominated. The email should be accompanied by supporting documentation of the extenuating circumstances that they are claiming. Once notified, the Selection Panel will make a final recommendation to the AIR Board who will notify the athlete of their decision within 72 hours.
5. The AIR Board will be notified of selected teams by the Selection Panel within 24 hours for Board ratification. The General Secretary will inform all athletes of their selection or otherwise via email, public announcement, letter or otherwise.
6. Any appeal in relation to non-selection by an athlete is to be submitted in writing to the Selection Panel Chair within 2 days of an athlete being notified of their non-selection.
7. Once notified of the appeal, the Selection Panel will refer a final determination to the AIR Board within 72 hours for ratification and communication to the athlete.
8. Responsibility of the Selection Panel ceases immediately prior to the commencement of the event for which a team has been selected.
9. All qualifying times for speed skating must be attained at ISU approved events, or in a manner that is approved by the AIR Board and must be submitted to the General Secretary within 14-days of being achieved. All qualification standards as set by the ISU must also be met for entry in any event.
10. Athletes who are eligible for selection into an Australian speed skating team must achieve the qualifying times as set by the ISU and at events as designated by the ISU as qualifying events. The ISU Communication of qualifying times and events are usually published in August prior to season on the ISU website www.isu.org. This information can also be obtained by contacting the General Secretary and will be published on www.australianiceracing.org when available.
11. For the 'Team Pursuit' events, athletes must qualify as per the ISU qualifying standards established for those events, and meet minimum 3k (ladies) or 5k (men) times specified in **Attachment A**
12. All parties involved in the selection of athletes are to abide by this policy.

Additional information

Process Steps – Guide

1. Athlete completes and submits Form 1, nominating for intended events by 30 July 2025.
2. If times have not been achieved, achieve required times for qualification (ISU).
3. Individual coach liaises with Selection Panel for nomination of athletes for event to AIR.
4. AIR Board review nominations and endorse or conduct selection review.
5. AIR submit preliminary and final team entry to ISU.

Australian Racing Suit

Athletes selected into any Australian team will be supplied with at least one Australian racing suit for the competition for which they are selected. Suits will be the uniform for all Australian athletes in accordance with ISU rules.

The suit will remain the property of Australian Ice Racing and/or the AIR Sport Partner and may be requested to be returned at any time. Athletes may purchase an extra suit for their own retention.

Due to the high costs of protective racing suits, AIR will not be obligated to supply a suit for retention by athletes and newly selected athletes may be provided with a previously used suit. Athletes will be required to accept this condition as part of being a member of any Australian team.

Funding Support

Athletes who have been selected for the Australian Team may not necessarily receive direct funding support. The AIR Board has total discretion in determining the international events for which it will provide funding support and the level of support per athlete on the Australian Team.

The AIR Board will take into consideration, but not limited to, the following:

- The athlete's current and emerging podium potential,
- The AIR budget,
- The level of funding available via grants or sponsorship from Australian Government, International Skating Union and corporate sponsors,
- The number of international events to be attended,
- The athlete's individual support from other sources; and
- The level of support shown for Australian Ice Racing by the athlete in past seasons and current season.

Where the AIR Board considers an athlete is of a level such to achieve the objectives of this policy, AIR will have absolute discretion to award funding as they see fit.

Pandemic Considerations

AIR retains the right to decide, due to factors affected by global events (travel bans, travel restrictions, lockdown rules, costs associated with travel and insurance of the team along with the health and safety of the team) to withdraw or cancel Australia's attendance at any event.

Attachment A

2025-2026 Australian World Cup Speed Skating and Speed Skating Championships Team Selection Criteria

Planned Events

- World Cup #1
- World Cup #2
- World Cup #3
- World Cup #4
- World Cup #5
- World Cup #6
- Single Distances Championships

Locations and dates: [ISU Event Calendar](#)

All members of State Members affiliated to AIR who have met the selection criteria in the Selection Policy and the criteria set out in this attachment may apply to be considered for selection to an Australian Speed Skating Team.

Any athlete seeking to represent Australia at an ISU Speed Skating World Cup or Championships event must have achieved the qualifying time set by the ISU in accordance with the qualification system in place. Qualifying times must be achieved within the time periods indicated by the ISU to qualify for specific events.

Any athlete seeking to represent Australia at an ISU Speed Skating World Cup or Championships event:

- a. Must have reached the age of 16 before 1st July 2025 (ISU Rule 108(2)(a)(ii).
- b. All times must be achieved in accordance with the ISU requirements.
- c. Must have achieved the ISU qualifying time at an ISU approved event and must be submitted to the General Secretary within 14-days of being achieved.
- d. Team pursuit members must achieve a 3k time (Ladies) and 5k time (Men) that falls within the top 200 ranks for the prior season, for 2025/26
Men qualification 5k is under 6.24.67 and Women 3k under 4.11.29.

The Selection Panel must notify the General Secretary or any other nominated AIR Official of the selected team (including officials and support staff) no less than 14-days prior to the final entry cut-off for any World Cup for which athletes have been selected.

If there are more athletes nominated to compete at a World Cup, World Championship, Junior World Cup or Junior World Championship than skaters allowed by ISU quota places and all have achieved the ISU qualifying time, the largest differential to qualification will be selected. Absolute time differential measured from ISU qualification, either at (low altitude in brackets) or high altitude rinks of Calgary, Salt Lake City and Urumqi to achieved time. For example, if ISU 500m qualification is 36.2 or (36.6) and athlete A achieves 36.1 at sea level and athlete B achieves 36.0 at an altitude rink, athlete A has a 0.5 differential, athlete B has a 0.2 differential (athlete A would be selected).

Attachment B

2025-2026 Australian Junior World Cup Speed Skating and Junior Speed Skating Championships Team Selection Criteria

Planned Events

World Cup #1
World Cup #2
World Cup #3
World Junior Championships

Locations and date: [ISU Event Calendar](#)

All members of State Members affiliated to AIR who have met the selection criteria in the Selection Policy and the criteria set out in this attachment may apply to be considered for selection to an Australian Junior World Cup Speed Skating Team.

Any athlete seeking to represent Australia at an ISU Junior World Cup Speed Skating must have achieved the qualifying time set by the ISU in accordance with the qualification system in place. Qualifying times must be achieved within the time periods indicated by the ISU to qualify for specific events.

Any athlete seeking to represent Australia at an ISU Junior World Cup Speed Skating:

- a. Must have reached the age of 15 before 1 July 2025 and must not reach the age of 19 before 1 July 2025 per ISU Rule 108(2)(b) and (d).
- b. All times must be achieved in accordance with the ISU requirements.
- c. Must have achieved the ISU qualifying time at an ISU approved event and must be submitted to the General Secretary within 14-days of being achieved.

If more athletes nominate to compete at a Junior World Cup than skaters allowed by ISU nation quotas and have achieved the ISU qualifying time, the largest differential to qualification will be selected. Absolute time differential measured from ISU qualification, either at (low altitude in brackets) or high altitude rinks of Calgary, Salt Lake City and Urumqi to achieved time. For example, if ISU 500m qualification is 36.2 or (36.6) and athlete A achieves 36.1 at sea level and athlete B achieves 36.0 at an altitude rink, athlete A has a 0.5 differential, athlete B has a 0.2 differential (athlete A would be selected).

Form 1

ATHLETE NOMINATION FORM

I [Insert name]

Of [Insert address]

am nominating for the following AIR Team (*please tick*):

SPEED SKATING

- ☐ World Cups (SS)
- ☐ World Single Distances Championships (SS)
- ☐ World Junior Championships (SS)
- ☐ Junior World Cup (SS)

By signing this document I agree and acknowledge that:

1. I have been provided access to a copy of the Selection Policy, which I have read and understood.
2. I agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the Selection Policy, the AIR Constitution and regulations/by-laws and the AIR Codes of Conduct.
3. If selected I will sign the AIR Team Agreement and will agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of the AIR Team Agreement.
4. By signing this form I warrant that I am eligible for selection in accordance with the eligibility criteria set out in this Selection Policy.
5. If I am selected to an AIR Squad/Team I understand I may not receive any individual funding from AIR.
6. I will advise AIR now, and at all times in the future, of any injury or illness that may affect my selection or impair, inhibit or prevent my performance at the requisite level or fulfilling the terms and conditions of this agreement or this Selection Policy and I agree to abide by all anti-doping policies of AIR, the ISU and Sport Integrity Australia and any other anti-doping agency empowered to monitor the sport of Ice Speed Skating.
7. If I am selected to a representative team, I undertake to meet all team-training requirements as set by the Selection Panel whilst at any event. I accept that a failure to attend all training sessions may see me removed from future Squads/Teams.
8. Should I be successful in gaining a position on an AIR Team or Squad, I accept that I will be liable for meeting all associated costs of attending any of the listed events.

Name.....

Date.....

Signature.....

If athlete is under 18 his/her parent or guardian must also sign below

Name.....

Date.....

Signature.....

Please email to [General Secretary](#)

Form 2

ATHLETE CONTACT DETAILS

NAME: As appears in Passport PARENT's NAME : (if under 18)	
AGE as at the 1 st July 2025	
DOB:	
Passport No:	
ADDRESS:	
MOBILE:	
EMAIL ADDRESS: Parent's Email (If under 18) <small>A current email address must be submitted as the main mode of information is likely to be via email.</small>	
MAIN TRAINING VENUE:	
CURRENT COACH'S NAME	
CURRENT COACH'S EMAIL	

Best Times at time the of submitting form (relevant season as per policy)	Time	Date	Rank	Competition skated and link to speedskatingresults.com
500m Time				
1000m Time				
1500m Time				
3000m Time				
5000m Time				

Please email to [General Secretary](#)

Amendment Certificate

Version	Date Issued	Amendment Details	Amended By
Draft	April 2025	Draft	AIR
Rev 1	May 2025	Board Release	AIR