

Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc.

European Cup, Youth & Junior World Championship and Open European Championships U26

Selection Policy 2010-2012

Adopted by resolution of the AVBA Committee on 18 June 2010.

The Australia/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc. (AVBA) has adopted this Selection Policy for the purposes of selection of athletes for entry into the following IBU recognised Regional Cups events.

1. Eligibility for selection

In order to be selected for entry into European Cup, Youth & Junior World Championship and Open European Championships each athlete must:

- (1) have signed the AVBA Team Agreement;
- (2) have observed and continue to observe the provisions of the ABA's Constitution, its by-laws and all resolutions made by the Committee of the AVBA; and
- (3) at all times have acted in such a manner so as not to bring the athlete, the sport of biathlon or the AVBA into disrepute.

2. Making of nominations

- (1) Each athlete, 15 years of age and older (youth onwards) who wishes to be considered for entry into the above IBU sanctioned events (Euro Cups, YJWCH & OECH u26) must have firstly satisfied any current AVBA criteria and then provide written notice to the Executive Officer of the ABA by 30 September in the year preceding the relevant IBU events. For athletes qualifying during the European Season at an IBU Sanctioned event of Alpen Cup European Cup, OECH U26 or BYJWCH), then notice must be provided to the Executive Officer at the earliest opportunity.
- (2) Athletes who have not demonstrated their capacity and proficiency in carrying a rifle in a biathlon distance event must do so prior to any final selection. This proficiency can be demonstrated through training events or competitions in club races within Europe or North America.

This requirement will be withdrawn at the earliest opportunity when Legislation within Victoria is amended to enable all class of competitors to carry a rifle for the purpose of Biathlon events.

- (3) The written notice referred to in sub-clause (1) must set out:
 - (a) the IBU sanctioned events(s) for which the athlete wishes to be considered for entry into; and
 - (b) in respect of each event, whether they wish to be considered for entry into the sprint event, individual event, relay event or team event.

1. Selection Criteria

Sprint and Individual events at Euro Cups, YJWCH, OECH U26

The AVBA will enter into each IBU sprint or individual events those Nominated Athletes for participation in the respective events subject to one the following two criteria listed below.

- a) Must have raced at the Biathlon Championships events (both Sprint & Distance) in Australia prior to the respective IBU race season and achieved a result within 10% of the overall winner of the collective race grouping.

and

- b) Raced a Championship Cross Country Distance race in the skate discipline (State or National Title events) and recorded a result within 10% of the winner of their respective age group they have raced.

or

- c) Have raced at a Regional Cup or Greater event in the Northern Hemisphere and finish within 15% of the average of the top three finishers for their age group.

Sprint and individual events at World Cup and World Championships (WC, & WCH) (Subject to change by way of IBU Congress)

- 1) As of 8 September 2008, rule 1.4.4.2 & 1.4.4.3 of the IBU Event and Competition Rules provides that:

1.4.4.2 World Championships (WCH)

To gain the right to participate in WCH events a competitor must fulfil one of the following criteria during the current or previous season (2009-10 season or 2008-09 season)

- a) *One results at an IBU Cup, OECH U26, WC or OWG in the sprint or individual that is a max 20% behind the average time of the top three competitors, or*
b) *One placing in the top half at the JWCH (not youth).*

1.4.4.3 World Cup (WC)

The World Cup season consists of three trimesters generally made up of three WC events usually WC1-3, WC4-6 & WC7-9.

To gain the right to participate in WC events a competitor must fulfil one of the following criteria during the current or preceding trimester,

- a) *One result at an IBU Cup, OECH U26, WCH or OWG in the sprint or individual that is a max 20% behind the average time of the top three competitors, or*
b) *One placing in the top half at the JWCH (not youth).*

The qualification criteria achieved at the IBU Cup/OECH U 26 for the WC are valid only for the trimester in which the competitor begins competing at the WC.

To retain the right to participate in the next WC Trimester in which a competitor chooses to start, the competitor must achieve one result that is max 20% behind the average time of the top three competitors, in the current WC trimester in a sprint or individual competition.

All members of Relay teams must have met this individual qualification requirement. The following standards must be met in a WC trimester competition for competitors to remain qualified for the following WC trimester competition."

Mens and Womens Sprint & Individual 20%.

For participation at OWG this requirement must be reached twice in the current and/or in the last season before the event. I.e.2009-10 season or 2008-09 season.

This rule is subject to change by the IBU from time to time and is not within the control of the AVBA.

- d) In the event that the number of Nominated Athletes exceeds the number of start places available to Australia in a particular event, the AVBA will enter the highest ranked Nominated Athletes, determined as follows:
- (a) In order to be considered for ranking a Nominated Athlete must have completed at least two Selection Races.
 - (b) Nominated Athletes will be ranked by taking the average of each Nominated Athlete's best two percentage results behind the winner in Selection Races and listing them from lowest average percentage to highest average percentage.
 - (c) A Nominated Athlete may achieve their best two percentage results behind the winner in any type of event.
 - (d) In the event that two Nominated Athletes have the same average percentage:
 - (i) the athlete with the best third percentage result behind the winner in a Selection Race will be ranked higher than the other athlete;
 - (ii) in the event that one athlete who shares the same average percentage has not completed a third Selection Race ("**First Athlete**") and the other athlete who shares the same average percentage has completed a third Selection Race ("**Second Athlete**"), the Second Athlete will be ranked above the First Athlete; and
 - (iii) in the event that both athletes who share the same average percentage have not completed a third Selection Race, the athlete with the lowest shooting percentage will be ranked above the other athlete. An athlete's shooting percentage is calculated by dividing the athlete's total number of penalties in both events by the total number of shots permitted in both events and multiplying the result by 100.
 - (e) In the event that a Nominated Athlete withdraws from selection by notice in writing to the Executive Officer of the AVBA, that athlete will be withdrawn from the rankings and all athletes ranked below will be moved up one place.
 - (f) Selection Races will be determined as follows:
 - (i) before each Australian competition season the AVBA will deem at least four Australian biathlon events to be Selection Races;

- (ii) In the event that less than four events deemed to be Selection Races are held in the current competition season, the AVBA may:
 - (A) hold one or more further events and deem those events to be Selection Races; or
 - (B) deem one or more Regional Cups to be Selection Races.
- (iii) The AVBA has sole and absolute discretion to deem events to be Selection Races.

Relay and Team events

- a) In the event that there are enough Nominated Athletes who wish to be entered into a relay event or team event in any IBU sanctioned event, the AVBA will enter an Australian team in that event.
- b) In the event that the number of Nominated Athletes exceeds the number of places available in an Australian team for a relay event or team event, the AVBA will enter the highest ranked Nominated Athletes in that team, determined in accordance with sub-clause (3).

3. Selection

The AVBA has sole and absolute discretion to determine whether athletes have met the requirements of this Selection Policy.

4. No extenuating circumstances

For the purposes of determining whether an athlete has met the requirements of this Selection Policy, the AVBA will not have regard to any extenuating circumstances.

5. Amendments

The AVBA may amend this Selection Policy at any time.

6. Interpretation

The following definitions apply for the purposes of this Selection Policy:

- (1) "**Nominated Athlete**" means, in respect of each event in a World Cup Season, an athlete who has provided written notice in accordance with clause 2 that they wish to be considered for entry into that event; and
- (2) "**Selection Races**" means those events deemed by the AVBA to be Selection Races in accordance with clause 2 (f) of a particular season.