



KNZAM1

Karate New Zealand

National Senior Athlete Management Pool

1. Introduction:

With a view to working towards the KNZ Strategic Plan 2016-2020's commitment to Athlete Career Support, Karate New Zealand are introducing a new support mechanism for senior KNZ athletes (WKF definition for senior kata and kumite athletes with the addition of athletes that will become senior within 6 months). An annually reviewed Senior Athlete Management Pool will be established.

The National Senior Management Pool is intended for KNZ national level athletes to work towards elite status and increase their competitiveness on the world stage. It is envisaged that athletes under this support mechanism will optimize their chances of becoming medalists at World Championships.

2. Access to the Senior Athlete Management Pool:

Senior Athletes who represented New Zealand at the previous World Championships or Oceania Championships (junior if turning senior within 6 months or Senior) will automatically be added to the pool as long as they meet criteria set out below once joined. A discretionary selection will occur annually and will be based on the athlete's activities in the 12-month period prior to considering the athlete for the pool.

The High-Performance Manager will be the Athlete Pool Manager. The Athlete Pool Manager with a panel of KNZ Selectors (KNZCC1) will have the prerogative to select, add or remove senior KNZ athletes to/from the National Senior Athlete Management Pool. An athlete may opt out of being a member of this pool, however, this means that they will not have access to the support mechanisms that will be put in place, and that they will not be eligible for selection to national teams. The discretionary selection will be based on the following criteria:

- Adherence to KNZCC2;
- Cooperation with the Athlete Pool Manager to date (if applicable);
- National/International Competition;
- Breakthrough potential.

Note that once players are duly selected for National Teams, they will automatically be added to the pool.

3. Requirements of Members:

Athletes that are a member of this pool will liaise with the National High-Performance Manager on:

- Evidence of training as stipulated in KNZCC2;
- Evidence of competition as stipulated in KNZCC2;
- Evidence of fitness testing as stipulated in KNZCC2;
- Planned participation in K1 and other international events;
- Goals for the year; and
- Training, development, exposure requirements.

This will allow the National High-Performance Manager to work with the athlete in planning and managing their development throughout that year. Personal needs can be discussed and avenues can be facilitated.

The High-Performance Manager will monitor the athlete's activities throughout the year and, in consultation with the athlete and his/her coaches, identify avenues for further development. In order for this new mechanism to be successful, there is a need for honest communication between all parties involved. Senior athletes seeking to become National Team members for WKF recognized and Olympic events are expected to be part of this pool.

Upon becoming members of the pool, the athletes will be asked to go into a contractual agreement with KNZ which may amongst other things outline mandatory attendance at a minimum number of regional, national and international competitions, and a minimum number of regional and national training sessions which may be higher than those set out in KNZCC2, and promotional appearances for KNZ and sponsors.