



## **AURA Policy PL001 – International Team Selection World Championships**

The Australian Ultra Runners' Association (AURA) is officially endorsed by the International Association of Ultramarathons (IAU) to select teams to represent Australia at World ultra-distance events for:

- 24 hour,
- 100km, 50km
- Trail.

24 hour and 100km World Championships (WC) are organised by the IAU biannually, trail and 50km World Championships annually.

It is AURA's objective to send both strong and large teams to represent Australia at these events.

### **Selection Process:**

The selection process for 24hr, 100km and 50km WC events is two-fold, as follows:

- 1 The three highest achieving male and female applicants (subject to meeting qualifying standards as detailed below) will gain automatic selection to WC teams,
- 2 Fourth place will be allocated, provided that the applicants have achieved a minimum "B" qualifying standard.
- 3 Any remaining places will then be considered by a specially convened Selection Committee when required (e.g., if further applications have been received but "B" standards have not been achieved). The Selection Committee will consider recent and past performances in its assessment. In some cases a fitness test and/or supplementary "qualifying" race may need to be completed by prospective team members.

The selection process for Trail WC events, as follows:

- 1 The winners of the two AURA trail national championships (subject to the winning time) will be selected for the World championships teams,
- 2 Three more places will be selected. AURA will take in to account all races that applicants have submitted, overseas and Australia.
- 3 Any remaining places will then be considered by the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will consider recent and past performances in its assessment. In some cases a fitness test and/or supplementary "qualifying" race may need to be completed by prospective team members.
  - a. Team size is at AURA's sole discretion
  - b. "A" qualifier times or distances will be selected to the IAU team limit
  - c. AURA may invite addition selections (see team funding)



**Primary Qualifying Criteria:**

- 1 Achievement of National “A” qualifier time or distance,
- 2 Achievement of National “B” qualifier time or distance,
- 3 Achievement of National “C” qualifier time or distance.

The timeframe for qualifying is 24 months for 24 hour events and 20 months for 100km, 50 km and trail events. In each case, the qualifying period (24 months or 20 months) is fixed to the date of the WC event in question.

In addition, results from WC events held in the preceding two calendar years will be considered as primary qualifiers, even if they fall outside the 24 or 20 month periods specified above.

**Benchmarks:**

	24 Hour Men	24 Hour Women	100km Men	100km Women	50 km Men	50 km Women	Trail
National “A”	240km	220km	< 7:00	< 8:30	<3:00	<3.30	Winning National championships
National “B”	230km	210km	< 7:20	< 8.50	<3:05	<3.40	Committee discretion
National “C”	220km	200km	< 7:40	< 9:10	<3.10	<3.50	Committee discretion

**Secondary Qualifying Criteria:**

Athletes who have not met the primary qualification criteria will still be considered for selection (pending team places being available). Where athletes believe they have shown strong recent results in road, trail, or track events or have previously met qualifying criteria, they are urged to apply.

The selection committee will be convened to discuss the relative merits of all non-automatic qualifiers. The selection committee chairman will then do one of the following:

- 1 Notify applicants that their application has been successful,
- 2 Notify applicants that their application will be successful if they achieve an agreed performance result at a near-term event (performance standard and event to be considered at the discretion of the selection committee),
- 3 Notify applicants that their application has been unsuccessful.

**Citizenship:**

Applicants must be citizens of Australia and must have not represented a foreign country for at least 12 months prior to the date of competition.



### **Application Process:**

Applications will open at least 5 months prior to the scheduled WC event date where possible. Applications will remain open for a minimum 4 week period but will always close with sufficient time for the selection process to be undertaken and a team announcement to be made a minimum of 3 months prior to the scheduled event date.

Non-automatic qualifying athletes who agree to undertake a fitness test or similar will be named in the initial team announcement as “pending” with their event and performance requirements noted.

AURA will attempt to contact all unsuccessful applicants within 24 hours of the initial team announcement being made.

### **Team Funding:**

Team members are responsible for all costs associated with their representation at the event, with some notable exceptions:

- 1 The IAU accommodation provisions as stated in the General Information Sheet (GIS) relating to the event (usually full board for three male and three female athletes, this may change from 2016 onwards to only two male and female athletes).
- 2 The IAU funding provisions for individuals and teams as stated in the GIS relating to the event.
  - a. All IAU provisions at 1 & 2 above whether individual or team will be pooled to cover cost other team members.
  - b. AURA will then supplement the IAU provisions to ensure that a minimum of 4 four team members and the team manager receive full board provisions.
  - c. The duration of AURA funding support will vary with the duration of the particular event as follows: 50K: 3 nights; 100K: 4 nights; 24 Hour: 5 nights
  - d. Up to nine team members may receive bed and breakfast, half board or full board if AURA’s budget funding permits.
  - e. if the AURA budget has been fully allotted, team members that meet the criteria can be selected on the basis they meet any short fall in board provisions.
- 3 AURA will make a payment of \$200 to each selected athlete who starts the event, to assist with the costs associated with the event. This payment will be made after the event and in conjunction with any bonus placing or performance payments earned by the athlete.



- 4 AURA will also make a payment of \$200 to individuals who are selected to serve as dedicated crew for the team for the whole race.
  - a. An application process will be available for individuals to nominate as crew.
  - b. Crew are expected to assist a minimum of two and maximum of three athletes in any given event and remain available for the duration of the event.
  - c. Crew may also be required to assist in a 6 hour period prior to and immediately after the actual event. This will be subject to discussion and reasonable needs.
  - d. Where possible, crew members may also be utilised in support roles such as a ferry between accommodation/event, provision of meals for crew, photography/video, etc.
    - For 24 hour events, a maximum of nine crew may be selected. However, the total crew requirements will normally be less than this.
    - For 100km and trail events, a maximum of three crew will be selected due to reduced needs and access to athletes on the course.
  
- 5 A uniform will be provided at no cost to the athlete.
  - a. Where uniforms are in good condition they are expected to be utilised for future international representation.
  - b. Some basic team gear will be supplied to crew for use during the event.
  
- 6 Performance bonus payments will be made after the event should significant distances or times be achieved, per the following table:

	<b>\$150</b>	<b>\$300</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$750</b>
<b>50km event</b>				
Men	<3:10	<3:05	<2:55	<2:45
Women	<3:40	<3:30	<3:20	<3:10
<b>100km event</b>				
Men	<7:30	<7:10	<6:50	<6:30
Women	<8:30	<8:10	<7:50	<7:30
<b>24hr event</b>				
Men	>220km	>235km	>250km	>265km
Women	>200km	>215km	>230km	>245km
<b>Trail event</b>				
Men	Top 30 (WC)	Top 8 (WC)	Top 4 (WC)	Top 2 (WC)
Women	Top 24 (WC)	Top 6 (WC)	Top 3 (WC)	Top 2 (WC)



- 7 Athletes invited by the selection committee to attend in addition to the selected team may not share in the upfront funding and accommodation assistance from AURA and the Organising Committee, but will be eligible for performance bonus's as we do want to encourage high performance.

Athletes choosing not to utilise IAU / AURA provided accommodation options may not be eligible for any individual or team grant funding or subsequent performance bonuses where their performance may have otherwise achieved this.

### **Team Member Responsibilities**

AURA expects that selected team members will give priority to preparing for the representative event. No major ultramarathon events should be considered within a 6-week period prior to the event without the team manager's approval. Furthermore, any injuries or illnesses that occur in the 6 weeks prior to departure must be reported to the team manager (however the decision to continue with representation rests solely with the athlete). Athletes are to arrive to the event in enough time to acclimatize to the conditions; holidays are to be taken after the event. Failure to adhere to these rules may jeopardise future selection to the national team.

### **Selection Committee:**

The Selection Committee will be made up of (1) the national team manager\* (appointed by the Executive Committee) and (2) four other current AURA members.

- Applications for the committee will be sought annually and the Executive Committee will make appointments after the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- Selection Committee appointments will be for a two-year period. Thus, only some appointments will expire each year (appointment years being in line with the AGM), such that appointments are staggered.

\*The team manager role requires significant time and other resource inputs. To help ensure a suitably skilled person is charged with this role, the Executive Committee makes this appointment directly and at its discretion. Duties for various appointments / positions within AURA may be found in other policies / documentation.