

# ATHLETE CATEGORISATION GUIDELINES

## BACKGROUND

This document outlines the minimum performance required for the respective athlete categories for which athletes will be considered, together with the process and timeframe for the allocation of athletes to these categories.

As per the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), athlete categorisation is a national framework to identify athletes with the greatest potential to contribute to the Australia's high-performance targets. Athlete Categorisation will be used to inform the prioritisation of support to athletes in support of these targets.

The support provided to athletes as a result of the categorisation process enables athletes to pursue a commitment to performance excellence. Importantly to be prioritised for support, an athlete must demonstrate potential for future success – past results alone will not ensure support.

## TALENT PATHWAY

Modern Pentathlon's Talent Pathway approaches the talent pipeline with a broad focus to include all aspects of athlete development. The Pathway aims to ensure athletes and coaches are exposed and supported through the full continuum of development along the FTEM Talent Pathway Model

To support our athletes within the Pathway, we want to tailor the assistance appropriately to the athlete's local environment. The pathway programs are delivered through multiple mechanisms that are development focused. These include collaboration and education with local coaches, and NIM's. The primary delivery mechanism for athletes is via coordinated collaboration, online, remote means.

## PRE-ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

In order to be considered for categorisation, and thus in turn receive support, athletes must comply with the following;

- Be and Australian citizen and eligible and available to represent Modern Pentathlon Australia (MPA) at international events.
- Be a registered member of a State Modern Pentathlon association
- Be actively training towards seeking selection for the relevant benchmark event (BME), and participating in national training camp, time trials and competitions.
- Comply with all anti-doping and other policy requirements of MPA and Sport Australia
- Maintain a lifestyle conducive to sporting excellence
- Maintain a high standard of personal behaviour expected of an athlete representing Australia or seeking to represent Australia



- Not bring the sport of Modern Pentathlon, MPA or Sport Australia into disrepute.

## **ATHLETE SUPPORT**

In order to ensure appropriate support is directed to categorised athletes, as well as ensuring maximisation of medal performances at BME's, consideration will be given to the number of athletes that can be supported within the Athlete Categorisation process

The number of positions available is generally a fixed number Priority will be determined based upon athletes' current performance level and/or assessed future potential.

The provision of services is subject to the available resources. The memberships of a particular category does not automatically entitle an athlete to receive support, and athletes within the same category may not receive the same level of support.

## **CATEGORISATION REVIEW PERIODS**

The categorisation of athletes will be subject to ongoing reviews. Members of the program will be formally reviewed twice yearly. At which time athletes may be added, removed or moved to a different category.

The first review is conducted so as to ensure a commencement of the domestic preparation of athletes in any given year. This review is based on performance in a BME (October).

The second review is considered following the National Championships (March).

Ongoing performance monitoring – Athletes will be assessed against their individual learning and performance plan within their daily training environment. If following a review an athlete is deemed not to be progressing, they will be provided an opportunity to address any concerns within a 3-month period. Failure to address concerns in an appropriate manner may result in the level of support being changed or an athlete removed completely from the support program.

Any athlete who at any point fails to meet the pre-eligibility requirements may also be subject to review of support.

## **EXPECTED PROGRESSION**

Behind the inclusion of an athlete in categorisation is the expected progression of the athlete. In reviewing athletes' inclusion, significant weight will be given to the progression of an athlete in their individual disciplines and overall performances over time together with their progress against other factors addressed in their ILPP

## **SPECIAL CONSIDERATION**



Should an exceptional circumstance prevent an athlete from achieving the required benchmark event result and there is compelling evidence that the athlete should be included in one of the categories, the circumstances of such athletes can be taken into consideration.

