

## **2008 AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC TEAM**

### **ROWING AUSTRALIA (RA)** **POLICY FOR ASSISTING & COUNSELLING ATHLETES** **SEEKING NOMINATION & SELECTION**

#### **1. Background**

- 1.1 Clause 5.5 of the Australian Olympic Committee's (AOC's) Olympic Team Selection By-Law ("AOC Selection By-Law") requires that:

"Each National Federation (NF) must promptly develop and submit to the AOC for its approval its policy for assisting and counselling Athletes seeking nomination and selection and must not alter or amend this policy without the prior written approval of the AOC. The NF's policy in this regard must conform to best practice and, without limiting this in any way, must require the NF to:

- (1) regularly advise Athletes seeking nomination and selection as to their individual performances and progress against all applicable criteria; and
  - (2) counsel unsuccessful aspirants for nomination and selection; and
  - (3) require the NF to fully co-operate with and assist the Tribunal and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in any appeal pursuant clause 11."
- 1.2 In accordance with the AOC Selection By-Law, Rowing Australia has adopted this policy for assisting and counselling athletes seeking nomination to the AOC for selection to the 2008 Australian Olympic Team.

#### **2. Information on Nomination & Selection to Athletes**

- 2.1 All athletes chosen or recognised as members of the Shadow Team will be provided with an informative précis of the AOC Selection By-Law, a copy of the AOC Selection Criteria and the Rowing Australia Nomination Criteria, and on request, a copy of the AOC Selection By-Law and the Participation Criteria.
- 2.2 The informative précis of the AOC Selection By-Law, the AOC Selection Criteria and the Rowing Australia Nomination Criteria can be found in the 2008 Selection Policy Handbook, which is available on the RA and AOC Website. Rowing Australia will provide (if requested) a copy of the AOC Selection By-Law and the Participation Criteria by e-mail or post.
- 2.3 Any enquiries from athletes or other interested parties are to be directed to the Rowing Australia Elite Program Manager, Matt Draper on (02) 6256 5999.

- 2.4 Athletes will be advised of any changes to the documents listed at 2.1 by via the Rowing Australia website within 48 hours of such changes being effected and in accordance with clause 8.3 of the Selection Policy Handbook.

### **3. Rowing Australia Selection Panel & Appeals Tribunal**

- 3.1 Rowing Australia will advise athletes of the following by no later than Friday 15 February 2008 by email and posting on the Rowing Australia website:

(1) the names of its Selection Panel members, including the contact details of the High Performance Director; and

(2) the names of its Appeals Tribunal members including the chairperson.

- 3.2 Should there be any changes of personnel on the Selection Panel, Rowing Australia will advise athletes by email and posting on the Rowing Australia website within 48 hours of such a change being effected.

### **4. Olympic Appeals Consultant**

- 4.1 The AOC has appointed Mr Brian Collis QC of Melbourne and Mr Bruce Collins QC of Sydney as the Olympic Appeals Consultants for the 2008 Australian Olympic Team. The Olympic Appeals Consultants will be available to discuss with athletes contemplating an appeal the reasons for their non-nomination by Rowing Australia to the AOC or non-selection by the AOC.

- 4.2 Olympic Appeals Consultants will not provide legal advice to athletes but will be directed by the AOC to ensure that the athlete fully understands the reasons for the decision in question and to facilitate a consultative process between the athlete and Rowing Australia or the AOC as the case may be. The AOC and Rowing Australia will fully co-operate with each Olympic Appeals Consultant.

- 4.3 Rowing Australia will promptly advise any athlete contemplating an appeal that the names and contact details for the Olympic Appeals Consultants are available on the AOC website – olympics.com.au.

### **5. Information Regarding Progress through Nomination Process**

- 5.1 Rowing Australia acknowledges that it is important to keep athletes seeking nomination advised at all times of the nomination requirements and of their progress against these requirements.
- 5.2 Rowing Australia will keep athletes informed on at least a monthly basis of their progress through the nomination process, giving particular regard to the specific performance requirements listed in the Nomination Criteria. Athletes will be

advised of their progress through the nomination process by Noel Donaldson, Rowing Australia - High Performance Director.

- 5.3 Athletes will be given the opportunity to enquire about their progress through the nomination process. Enquiries are to be direct to Noel Donaldson, Rowing Australia High Performance Director and can be in person or via telephone or email on 02 6256 5999 or 0418 357 750 or [hp@rowingaustralia.com.au](mailto:hp@rowingaustralia.com.au) . An enquiry by athletes will be addressed within 36 hours of the enquiry being received.
- 5.4 Rowing Australia will require all Shadow Team members to provide up to date contact information on a regular basis so that Rowing Australia can keep them informed about any developments in relation to nomination.

## **6. Advice to Athletes Regarding Nomination and Non-nomination**

- 6.1 Athletes chosen by Rowing Australia to be nominated to the AOC for selection to the 2008 Australian Olympic Team will be notified by the Rowing Australia Elite Program, Manager, Matt Draper, on or before 25 June 2008. Notification will be by email and posting on the Rowing Australia website in accordance with page 48 of the Selection Policy Handbook.
- 6.2 As soon as practicable, and before any public announcement of nominations, those members of the Shadow Team who are not chosen for nomination will be advised by the Rowing Australia Elite Program Manager of their non-nomination. Notification of non-nomination will be by verbal advice and email.
- 6.3 Immediately following notification to athletes of their non-nomination, Rowing Australia will provide, in writing, to the non-nominated athlete:
- (1) the contact details for Noel Donaldson (Rowing Australia High Performance Director) who is responsible for counselling athletes as to the reasons why they were not chosen for nomination;
  - (2) information about the lodgement of appeals, as per the requirements of the AOC Selection By-Law; and
  - (3) on request, the names and contact details of the Olympic Appeals Consultants.

## **7. Post Nomination (& Non-nomination) Support Services**

- 7.1 Rowing Australia acknowledges that it is important that athletes who strive for Olympic selection benefit from this challenge and that this becomes a positive part of their life. This is important because:
- (1) the athlete's sport experience should be an overall positive experience and influence on their life;

- (2) the athlete is more likely to produce their personal best and be successful over a longer period if their sport experience is positive; and
  - (3) Rowing Australia values the contribution that the athlete makes to their sport and would like them to continue their involvement as an athlete, coach or official in the future.
  
- 7.2 On or before the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2008 Rowing Australia will announce final athletes and crew combinations to be nominated to the AOC for selection to the 2008 Australian Olympic Team. Rowing Australia will advise the national Athlete Career and Education (ACE) program as to which athletes have been nominated for selection in the 2008 Olympic Team of the names of Shadow Team members and which athletes have not been nominated.
  
- 7.3 The national ACE program has an established network of counselling service providers to assist all athletes managing the challenges of nomination, non nomination, selection and non selection. This service is coordinated through the network of State/Territory Institutes and Academies of Sport throughout Australia and the Australian Institute of Sport. Rowing Australia will provide the contact details of the ACE personnel in each state and territory to Shadow Team members as soon as practicable after the determination of nominations.
  
- 7.4 Rowing Australia acknowledges that consultation with ACE personnel is at the discretion of the individual athlete, however, Rowing Australia will encourage non-nominated athletes to avail themselves of the counselling services provided.
  
- 7.5 Rowing Australia will notify the national ACE program in each state and territory of the names of Shadow Team members who have not been chosen for nomination as soon as practicable after the determination of nominations.

## **Further Information for athletes and coaches**

### **2008 Senior A & Olympic Selection Panel**

Noel Donaldson, High Performance Director  
Dr. David Yates  
Matt Draper

Contact email:

[ndonaldson@rowingaustralia.com.au](mailto:ndonaldson@rowingaustralia.com.au)

### **2008 Appeals Panel**

An Appeals Panel of three (3) members, will be appointed from the following people:

Justice Paul Guest, Chairman  
Ms. Gina Peele  
Mr. Sam Golding  
Mr. Michael McKay  
Mr. James Galloway

Contact email:

[adee@rowingaustralia.com.au](mailto:adee@rowingaustralia.com.au)