

AUTRA International Team Selection Policy

Adopted: 6 January 2026

Approved by: AUTRA Committee

Revision History

| Date | Version | Author | Description |
|------------------|---------|--------------------|---|
| 30 November 2025 | 3.0 | Governance Officer | Comprehensive redraft of International Team Selection Policy (3.1), aligning with updated WA/IAU/ITRA/WMRA regulations, AUTRA governance framework, and new policy structure. |

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set out a clear, transparent, and equitable framework for the selection of Australian national teams representing Australia. This policy ensures that team selection processes uphold high standards of fairness, integrity, and athlete welfare, and align with the requirements of international governing bodies such as the IAU, ITRA, World Athletics, and WMRA.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all athletes seeking selection to represent Australia at all running championships under AUTRA's authority, as well as to selection committee members, team officials, and others involved in the selection process. The policy covers elements including application procedures, eligibility, selection criteria and processes, team member responsibilities, appeals process, and associated administrative and compliance requirements for AUTRA-sanctioned international competitions.

3. Statement of Commitment

AUTRA is committed to upholding integrity, equity, and transparency in all selection decisions, in accordance with the Sport Integrity Australia National Integrity Framework, relevant competition rules, and best practice governance standards.

4. Definitions

- **Athlete:** Any competitor seeking selection.
- **Crew/Support Personnel:** Individuals providing direct team support.
- **Event:** Any international competition approved by AUTRA.

5. Roles & Responsibilities

- **AUTRA Committee:** Endorses all international team selections and reviews policy application annually.
- **Selection Committee:** Ensures fair and compliant selection in accordance with stated criteria.
- **Members, Athletes, Crew:** Expected to abide by all selection policy requirements and report any procedural concerns.

6. Governance and Review

AUTRA reserves the right to:

- Request additional information or clarification before confirming any team selection.
- Decline to select or to remove an athlete, crew member, or official where selection criteria, eligibility, or behavioural standards are not met.
- Review and, where appropriate, amend or revoke a previous selection decision where credible evidence of error, non-compliance, or misconduct emerges.

This policy will be reviewed every two (2) years, or sooner if required due to changes to AUTRA's governing rules, relevant laws, or integrity frameworks, or changes to international competition regulations.

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1. Overview

1.1 AUTRA is endorsed by the IAU, ITRA, World Athletics and WMRA to select Australian teams for international ultra-distance, trail and mountain running championships, including but not limited to 24-hour, road ultra, and trail/mountain events.

2. Citizenship

2.1 Applicants must be citizens of Australia at the time of submitting their application, and throughout any Championship period.

3. Application Process

3.1 Applicants must be a current financial member in good standing of the Australian Ultra & Trail Runners' Association (AUTRA) prior to applying for selection and throughout the Championship period.

3.2 Successful applicants will be required to pay a \$350 Championship participation levy, to be paid on notification of being successful, but before any official team announcement is released to AUTRA members and public.

3.3 The Championship participation levy will apply and be payable by all selected athletes on the team.

3.4 Unless specified in the event specific selection policy, the following time frames apply:

3.4.1 Applications will open approximately 4 months prior to the scheduled Championship date (where possible).

3.4.2 Applications will remain open for a minimum 2 weeks (where possible).

3.4.3 Application period will close with sufficient time for:

3.4.3.1 The selection process to be undertaken and completed.

3.4.3.2A team announcement to be made a minimum of 4 months prior to the scheduled Championship date.

3.5 Athletes who are selected, and subject to undertaking a fitness/performance test, qualifying race and/or required to provide a Sports Medical Physician report will be named in the initial team announcement as "pending" with their fitness/performance test, qualifying race and/or awaiting medical clearance noted.

3.6 As a condition of selection, all provisionally selected athletes must sign the 3.2 AUTRA Athletes Agreement – International Competition (current version) by the deadline set by AUTRA; failure to do so may result in removal from the team and replacement under Sections 11–12 of this policy.

4. Representation Eligibility

4.1 AUTRA has adopted World Athletics Policy C3.2 'Eligibility to Represent a Member Rules in force from 1 November 2019' which states:

4.1.1 1.4 'An athlete who has competed on behalf of the Country or Territory of a Member in a National Representative Competition or in any Other Relevant Competition shall not be eligible to represent another Member in a National Representative Competition.

4.1.2 1.4.2 'Alternatively, an athlete may represent another Member with the approval of World Athletics, which approval shall be conditional upon:

4.1.2.1 The athlete observing a waiting period of three years from the date that application for approval is made to World Athletics (during which period the athlete must not represent any other Member in National Representative Competition or compete in any Other relevant Competition) and;

4.1.2.2 The athlete demonstrating that as at the end of the three year waiting period:

4.1.2.2.1 They are or will be ages twenty or over; and

4.1.2.2.2 They are or will be a Citizen of the Country or of the parent Country of the Territory which the Member represents; and

4.1.2.2.3 They are or will have a genuine, close, credible and established link to that Country or Territory (e.g. through Residence there)

4.2 Therefore, as per World Athletics Policy C3.2: If an athlete has represented another country in a World and/or Asian Championship, then the athlete is NOT eligible to apply to represent Australia (unless approval from World Athletics has been granted and/or a three year waiting period is applied).

4.3 Applicants can only be representative of the country/Federation they are competing for at the time of application, up to and throughout the Championship period.

5. Team Member Responsibilities

All selected team members are required to:

5.1 Prioritise their preparation for the Championship, demonstrating commitment to high performance and the reputation of Australia.

5.2 Comply at all times with the following AUTRA agreements, as a condition of team selection and ongoing participation:

5.2.1 3.2 AUTRA Athletes Agreement – International Competition (for selected athletes)

5.2.2 3.3 Crew Agreement – International Competition (for appointed Official Crew)

5.2.3 3.9 Code of Conduct – Interaction Competition (for all Athletes, Official Crew and AUTRA appointed officials)

5.2.4 Any other agreements or policies set down by AUTRA that are identified as conditions of selection or appointment.

5.3 Team members must ensure they have read, understood, and signed all required agreements and declarations prior to team confirmation. Breaches of these or any other relevant AUTRA or event-specific policies may result in disciplinary action, including removal from the team, pursuant to the 2.5 Complaints, Disputes & Discipline Policy and other applicable procedures.

5.4 Selected athletes are also expected to promptly communicate any factors (e.g., injury, change in eligibility) that may affect their availability or compliance with AUTRA or Championship requirements.

6. Qualifying Criteria

6.1 AUTRA will set primary qualifying standards (e.g. National A/B/C or equivalent) and may consider secondary criteria at the Selection Committee's discretion, as specified in each event policy.

6.2 Where selection is conducted by another national body (e.g. Australian Athletics), AUTRA will provide information but does not control selection.

6.3 Event-specific performance criteria (e.g. ITRA scores) will be set out in each event's selection policy.

7. Benchmark Qualifying Tables

7.1 Benchmark Qualifying details for each Championship will be published in the relevant event-specific selection policy or on the AUTRA website.

8. Selection Criteria

8.1 Achievement of a qualifier does not entitle an athlete to automatic selection.

8.2 Achieving a qualifier is only one of numerous prerequisites to be considered for selection by the Selection Committee and/or AUTRA Committee. Other factors considered, but not limited to include:

8.2.1 Recent performance

8.2.2 Previous representation performance

8.2.3 Adherence to AUTRA's policies whilst an AUTRA member and during any previous international representation, including (as applicable) the 3.2 Athletes Agreement – International Competition, 3.3 Crew Agreement – International Competition, and 3.9 Code of Conduct – International Competition.

8.2.4 Any other matter or items deemed relevant by the Selection Committee and/or AUTRA Committee.

8.3 A fitness/performance test and/or supplementary 'qualifying' race may be required upon request.

8.4 A Sports Medical Physician report may be required upon request. (Note: Reports/letters from Physiotherapists, Chiropractors and Coaches etc. do/will not suffice).

8.5 Unless otherwise specified in an event-specific selection policy:

8.5.1 A performance which achieves a benchmark qualifier will only be valid where it is achieved within the time period listed below, for the World or Asian Championship in question:

8.5.1.1 24 months for 24hr events,

8.5.1.2 20 months for 50km & 100km events,

8.5.1.3 Current ITRA index score for Asian Trail (Short and Long course) events,

8.5.1.4 For WTMRC, refer to the Australian Athletics website for all information on valid qualifying periods (www.athletics.com.au)

8.5.2 The qualifying period (24 months or 20 months) is fixed to the date of the World or Asian Championship event in question.

8.5.3 For 24hr, 50km & 100km events, in addition to the above qualifying period, results from World and Asian Championships held in the preceding 2 calendar years will be considered as primary qualifiers, even if they fall outside the 24 month (for 24hr) or 20 month (for 50km & 100km) period.

8.6 Automatic or priority selection provisions

8.6.1 Event-specific selection policies may, where appropriate, specify automatic or priority selection opportunities (for example, linked to National Championship results or series rankings).

8.6.2 Any such automatic or priority selection opportunities are conditional on the athlete meeting all other eligibility, behavioural and selection requirements under this Policy, the relevant event-specific selection policy, and any applicable LOC or international federation regulations by the deadlines specified in that event-specific policy.

9. Championship Team Allocations

9.1 Maximum team sizes and athlete allocations will be determined in accordance with the LOC General Information Sheet for each Championship and will be confirmed in the event-specific selection policy.

9.2 In line with the current selection criteria and selection process contained within this Selection Policy, the Australian Ultra & Trail Runners' Association (AUTRA) may elect to select and send a team smaller than the maximum available number of positions available per country.

9.3 An athlete may only be considered for selection in an event that they have nominated for as part of the team nomination process.

9.4 Subject to the rules of the LOC relating to the number of athletes who may be selected for each event and for the Team overall, the Selection Committee may exercise discretion to select further athletes to the Team. This discretion will be exercised in line with the AUTRA Selection Policy. This discretion is absolute and need not be exercised by the selection committee.

9.5 To be eligible for discretionary selection, athletes must still meet the qualifying criteria set out in the event specific policy.

9.6 Without limiting its discretion, the Selection Committee may consider any factor, or combination of factors that, in its opinion, is relevant for consideration when selecting discretionary athletes for the Team, that is outlined in this Selection Policy to identify priority athletes.

10. Selection Process

10.1 The AUTRA Committee will forward all applications to the Selection Committee as soon as possible after the selection period closes.

10.2 The Selection Committee will deliberate and provide their final team selection via the Selection Committee Chairperson to the AUTRA Committee as soon as possible.

10.3 The Delegate (AUTRA President) will:

10.3.1 Attempt to contact all athletes who applied, a minimum 24 hours prior to the team announcement on social media (e.g. Facebook)

10.3.2 Notify applicant/s where their submission has been successful.

10.3.3 Notify applicant/s where their submission has been unsuccessful.

10.3.4 Notify applicant/s where their submission is pending and will be reviewed if they are required to:

10.3.4.1 Undertake a fitness/performance test, qualifying race and/or provide a Sports Medical Physician report.

10.4 All selections are made on a provisional basis only and, at the discretion of the AUTRA Committee, can be revoked at any time.

10.5 Any disputes from athletes regarding the selection process and/or selection outcome/s are to contact the Delegate (AUTRA President) in the first instance.

10.6 For any Selection Appeals Application resulting from the selection and/or selection outcome/s, refer to Section 13, of this document for further information.

10.7 Athletes are not permitted at any time to contact any member of the Selection Committee.

10.8 All enquiries over team selection are to be addressed in writing to the Delegate (AUTRA President).

10.9 Key dates for each Championship (nomination open/close, provisional and final team announcements) will be set out in the event-specific selection policy.

11. Removal of Athlete

11.1 A selected athlete may be removed from the Team for any of the following reasons:

11.1.1 A voluntary withdrawal notified in writing by the athlete to the Australian Ultra & Trail Runners' Association (AUTRA) Delegate (President) or Committee

11.1.2 Injury or illness certified by a medical practitioner and approved by the Australian Ultra & Trail Runners' Association (AUTRA)

11.1.3 A violation of any applicable or relevant AUTRA Policy e.g. Athlete's Agreement International Competition, AUTRA Athlete's Code of Conduct International Competition

11.1.4 The athlete's eligibility status changes so that the athlete is ineligible to participate in the Championship Event as per Section 2 to 4 of this policy

11.1.5 The athlete's event is removed from the Event program

11.1.6 Failure to pay any applicable fees and/or charges related to their participation in the Championships prior to the FEF submission.

11.2 An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to an appeal in accordance with Section 13 of this policy, the *2.5 Complaints, Disputes & Discipline Policy (Version 1, 14 August 2025)*, and Division 3 – Grievance Procedures (Rules 25 to 29) of the Australian Ultra & Trail Runners' Association Incorporated Rules.

11.3 Any Athlete who has withdrawn from the Team, as outlined in Section 11.1 of this policy will forfeit and not have refunded any or all of the Athlete Participation fee payable in Section 3.2 of this policy

12. Replacement of Athlete

12.1 Replacement athletes will be determined in accordance with the following process:

12.1.1 If the replacement athlete is to be determined prior to the announcement of the Team names, the replacement athlete will be selected by the AUTRA Selection Committee based on the selection procedure set out in Section 6 to 10 of this policy

12.1.2 If the replacement athlete is to be determined after the announcement of the Team names to the Local Organising Committee (LOC) of the Championship Event, the replacement athlete will be selected subject to the eligibility rules set out by the LOC of the Event and based on the selection procedures set out in Section 6 to 10 of this policy

12.2 Australian Ultra & Trail Runners' Association (AUTRA) reserves its right, at its absolute discretion, not to replace any withdrawn athletes.

13. Selection Appeals Process

13.1 The selection appeal process will be conducted in accordance with Part 3, Division 3 – Grievance Procedures (Rules 25 to 29) of the Australian Ultra & Trail Runners' Association Incorporated Rules and the *2.5 Complaints, Disputes & Discipline Policy (Version 1, 14 August 2025)*.

13.2 Where an eligible selection appeal has been referred to the AUTRA Delegate (President) or AUTRA Committee and cannot be resolved between the athlete and the AUTRA Committee, the matter will proceed to appeals mediation in accordance with Section 13.1 of this policy and the *2.5 Complaints, Disputes & Discipline Policy (Version 1, 14 August 2025)*. All parties agree to abide by the outcome of the mediation process.

13.3 Appeal deadlines for each Championship will be specified in the event-specific selection policy.

14. Team Funding

14.1 Effective 01 January 2025, all International Championship teams will be self-funded, with team and selected individual athletes to pay any applicable fees and charges relating to their participation in the event, which can include, but not limited to airfares, ground transport, accommodation, entry fees, extra uniforms and insurance. A Championship participation levy (as noted in section 3 of the policy, if applicable) will also apply, to be payable by all athletes upon selection and prior to being announced on the team.

14.2 Athletes are responsible for all costs associated with their representation at the Championship, with some notable exceptions:

14.2.1 IAU and/or LOC funded accommodation provisions for athletes as per the General Information Sheet (GIS) relating to the event

14.2.2 IAU and/or LOC funding provisions for individuals and teams as per the Championship General Information Sheet (GIS)

14.3 All IAU and/or LOC provisions (noted in above 2 points) whether individual or team will be pooled to support or assist the cost of team members.

14.4 The allocation and duration of any possible AUTRA funding support can and will vary depending on the Championship.

14.5 If the AUTRA budget has been fully allocated, team members that meet the criteria can be selected on the basis they pay any short fall in board provisions.

14.6 Performance bonus payments, if any, will be published on the AUTRA website or in a separate schedule for the relevant Championship.

14.7 Athletes invited by the Selection Committee and/or Committee to attend in addition to the already selected team may not share in the IAU/LOC or AUTRA funding, however, will be eligible for performance bonuses.

14.8 Athletes choosing not to utilise the IAU and/or LOC accommodation options may not be eligible for any individual or team IAU and/or LOC grant funding or subsequent AUTRA performance bonus payments (where their performance may have otherwise achieved this).

14.9 AUTRA will make the following payments, subject to review, to individuals who are selected to serve as official Team Manager and fulfill this duty for the entirety of the Championship:

14.9.1 For International 24H, 100km, 50km & Trail Championships: \$1,500

14.9.2 For Domestic 24H, 100km, 50km & Trail Championships: \$750

14.9.3 The Team Manager's accommodation costs at the team hotel for the allocated nights will be paid for by AUTRA in full.

14.10 No changes can be made to athlete and/or crew/supporter accommodation once the Final Entry Form (FEF) has been submitted to the Championship Organisers.

14.11 **Note: Do not commit to accommodation booking/s unless you are 100% certain all parties can and will attend.**

14.12 In the event that an athlete withdraws or is withdrawn by the AUTRA Committee or Selection Committee from the team and does not attend for any reason, including but not limited to:

14.12.1 Injury/illness

14.12.2 Voluntary Withdrawal

14.12.3 Disciplinary Action

14.13 The Athlete will still be liable for all costs including, but not limited to accommodation, team uniforms or any other costs associated with the team's participation in the championships. These costs must be paid in full by the Athlete, notwithstanding their withdrawal or non-attendance.

14.14 To be eligible to participate in an AUTRA endorsed Australian Team representing in Championships, Athletes must pay all outstanding costs and fees owed to AUTRA in full prior to submitting their application.

15. Team Uniform

15.1 For first-time athletes, a uniform will be provided at no cost, comprising:

15.2 Team jacket

15.3 Team pants

15.4 Team polo shirt

15.5 Choice of either a race shirt or race singlet

15.2 Uniform items that remain in good condition are expected to be reused for future international representation.

15.3 For returning athletes, one uniform item will be supplied at no cost, limited to the choice of either a team polo shirt, race shirt, or race singlet.

15.4 Additional uniform items may be purchased at the time of order at the athlete's own expense.

15.5 The cost of the team polo shirt, which must be worn by all selected official crew during the event, is to be covered by the nominating team athletes.

16. Official Crew

- 16.1** An application process will be available for Athletes to nominate individuals as official crew.
- 16.2** Adherence to AUTRA's Policies during any previous international representation, including any other factors AUTRA may deem relevant will be considered when selecting crew.
- 16.3** Crew are expected to assist a minimum of two and maximum of three athletes in any given Championship event.
- 16.4** Crew must be available for the entire duration of the Championship.
- 16.5** Crew may also be required to assist up to six hours prior and post championship race due to organisational requirements.
- 16.6** Where possible, crew members may also be utilised in support roles (e.g. ferry between accommodation/event, provision of meals for crew, photography/video, etc.)
- 16.7** The number of official crew for each Championship will be determined by LOC limits and team needs. Event-specific selection policies will outline the maximum number of crew and any allocation principles.
- 16.8** All Crew will need to sign and comply with the AUTRA Athletes Agreement and AUTRA Crew Agreement.

17. Selection Committee

- 17.1** The Selection Committee will be made of a minimum five current AUTRA members.
- 17.2** Applications for the Selection Committee will be sought at the discretion of the AUTRA Committee, which is usually either annually or biannually in June.
- 17.3** The AUTRA Committee will make appointments after the nominations have been open for one week.
- 17.4** Successful applicants will be notified of the appointment via email.
- 17.5** Selection Committee appointments will be for either one or two years, with no split rotation.
- 17.6** It is at the discretion of the AUTRA Committee as to whether the Selection Committee appointments are for one or two years.
- 17.7** The AUTRA Committee has the right to appoint members to the Selection Committee for a two year period and at any time alter that appointment to a one year period.
- 17.8** Notwithstanding that a member has been appointed to the Selection Committee, the AUTRA Committee may at any time remove that member at its discretion.
- 17.9** Immediately after each selection process and subsequent appointments, the minimum five selectors will appoint one of their members as the Selection Committee Chairperson for the same one year or two year period.
- 17.10** Any selector that has a vested interest in any athlete applying for selection (e.g. coach – running coach, mindset coach, mentor, physio, specialist, etc.) must step aside for the selection in question due to a conflict of interest.
- 17.11** Any selector applying as an athlete to a Championship Team, must step aside for the selection in question due to a conflict of interest.

18. Selection Committee Chairperson

18.1 Will liaise with the AUTRA President or their delegate regarding selection processes and guidelines.

18.2 Will co-ordinate with the other members of the Selection Committee to select the National Teams.

18.3 Ensure the selection process is conducted in a timely manner and communicated to the AUTRA Committee including the Delegate (AUTRA President) by the required deadline.

19. Team Manager

19.1 For each Championship, AUTRA may choose to appoint a person in the role of Team Manager.

19.2 The Team Manager will be selected and/or appointed by the AUTRA Committee after the team application process and announcement has been made.

19.3 Upon selection, the Team Manager's role will be to work with the AUTRA President or delegate in supporting the team and runners in the lead up to and during the Championships.

20. Delegate

20.1 The Delegate for International World & Asian Oceania Selections is the AUTRA President.

20.2 In the event of the President's absence or unavailability, the Delegation will fall to the AUTRA Vice President.

20.3 In the event of the President applying as an athlete to a Championship Team, the Delegation will fall to the AUTRA Vice President.

20.4 Communicate with all athletes who have applied for team selection, including advice of successful selection and unsuccessful selection.

20.5 It is at the discretion of the Delegate if advice of international selection is provided to the athlete via phone and/or email.

20.6 The first point of contact for any athlete disputes regarding all team selections.

21. Amendments to Policy

21.1 This Agreement is subject to review and amendment in accordance with the AUTRA Rules of Association and the 1.6 Policy Review & Amendment Procedure.

21.2 AUTRA reserves the right to amend this Agreement at any time in response to changes in law, integrity frameworks, international competition regulations, or organisational needs. Any updated version will apply to new selections from the effective date notified by AUTRA, while earlier versions will continue to govern events for which they were executed.

21.3 This Agreement will be reviewed at least every two (2) years or sooner if required by changes to AUTRA's governing rules, relevant laws, or integrity frameworks.

22. Related Documents

- AUTRA Rules of Association
- 1.2 Conflict of Interest Policy
- 1.3 Document Retention & Recordkeeping Policy
- 1.6 Policy Review & Amendment Procedure
- 2.2 Child Safeguarding Policy
- 2.5 Complaints, Disputes & Discipline Policy
- 2.7 Whistleblower Policy
- 3.2 Athletes Agreement – International Competition
- 3.3 Crew Agreement – International Competition
- 3.8 Records – Criteria and Applications Policy
- 3.9 Code of Conduct – International Competition
- 5.4 Privacy and Data Protection Policy

Compliance Note:

This policy is aligned with:

- AUTRA Rules of Association
- Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)
- Sport Integrity Australia National Integrity Framework
- World Athletics, IAU, ITRA and WMRA competition rules (as applicable)
- Sport Australia Governance Principles
- AUTRA Child Safeguarding, Member Protection, and related integrity policies

Contact: For questions or feedback regarding this agreement, contact the AUTRA Committee Secretary at

secretary@autra.asn.au