



NZWP SQUAD GUIDELINES (Sept 2022)

Principles:

NZWP recognises that inclusion in Squads is an important matter for Athletes. As such, NZWP is committed to the following principles:

- (a) to make the Squad selection process as transparent as possible;
- (b) to base decisions, as far as possible, on objective data (whilst recognising that NZWP must exercise a degree of subjective discretion in applying the Criteria) and
- (c) to communicate as openly as possible with Athletes about:
 - (i) what Athletes need to do to be included in a Squad; and
 - (ii) if Athletes are at risk of de-selection, what they need to do (if anything) to increase their chances of remaining in a Squad.

Purpose in general:

- (a) to target NZWP resources (coaching, funding and support) towards the Athletes with the best performances and the greatest potential; and
- (b) In the case of squads based with NZWP training hubs, to provide Athletes with a high quality training environment to help their development and increase their chances of succeeding on the World stage
- (c) To perform with distinction at the FINA pinnacle events. Should any athlete be included in multiple Squads the priority is their age Squad – if selected for a travelling team in their age Squad they will be expected to compete unless there are exceptional circumstances. This is to give NZ teams the best chance of performance at the FINA events and best develop all NZ athletes.

Squad	Purpose	Criteria for entry (metrics)	Indicative Performance Standards and Squad Goals	Programme and support (Funding TBC)
Under 18 National Youth	To provide support that helps athletes develop and progress towards high performance.	<p>Female Athletes: <i>100m Freestyle - under 1.15</i> <i>200m Freestyle - under 2.40</i></p> <p>Male Athletes: <i>100m Freestyle - under 1.08</i> <i>200m Freestyle - under 2.34</i></p>	Perform with distinction on International stage in age group. Demonstrate professional behaviour. Have developed and follow IPP.	Series of national camps International training opportunities. International events.
Under 20 National Junior	To provide support that facilitates continued development towards World Class Performance.	<p>Female: <i>400m Time - under 5.20</i> <i>100m Time - under 1.08</i></p> <p>Male: <i>400m Time - under 5 minutes</i> <i>100m Time - under 1 minute</i></p>	Perform with distinction on International stage in age group. Demonstrate professional behaviour. Have developed and follow IPP,	Series of national camps. International training opportunities. International events.
NZ Senior	To provide all support possible to enable athletes to perform with distinction on the international stage.	TBC	Top 10 performances at international pinnacle events.	Series of national camps. International training opportunities. International events.

It is important to highlight that the indicative performance standards set out in the Guidelines are intended as a guide for NZWP and for Athletes, and are not binding on NZWP.

From time to time, there may be some flexibility in Squad selections, support and expectations to accommodate athletes whose circumstances may be slightly different to the norm, or who follow an atypical entry and/or progression in our sport. We acknowledge that some athletes develop earlier than others, some athletes progress faster than others, and some athletes don't even come into water polo until a later age. As such, the NZWP Pathway may not describe the performance journey with perfect accuracy for all athletes, however, it does provide a general indication of the NZWP Performance system and associated opportunities and expectations for the majority.