Volleyball Australia

Criteria for the Nomination & Selection to
2026 Australian Youth Olympic Team

Volleyball - Beach Volleyball

1 / INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document contains the criteria for nomination and selection of athletes to the Australian Youth Olympic Team for the 2026 Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal (***2026 YOG***). This document also contains general information about the nomination and selection process.

1.2 For ease of reference and simplicity, this document combines the Nomination Criteria set by the National Federation and the Selection Criteria set by the AOC (at Appendix 1).

1.3 This document is governed by the AOC Nomination and Selection By-Law (***By-Law***), a copy of which can be accessed on the AOC website at https://www.olympics.com.au/the-aoc/athlete-guidelines/. In the event of any inconsistency between this document and the By-Law, the By-Law will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

2 / DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise defined below, capitalised terms in this Nomination Criteria (including Appendix 1) have the meaning given to them in the By-Law, certain of which have been reproduced below for the sake of convenience:

2026 Australian Junior Beach Volleyball Tour means the:

- Australian Junior Beach Volleyball Tour (U19/U21) - Caloundra, Qld – 20-21 January 2026
- Australian Junior Beach Volleyball Tour (U19/U21) – Glenelg, SA – 23-24 February 2026
- Australian Junior Beach Volleyball Tour (U19/U21) – Cobram, Vic – 13-14 April 2026

2026 Australian Beach Volleyball Tour means the:

- Australian Beach Volleyball Tour – Glenelg, SA – 20-22 February 2026
- Australian Beach Volleyball Championships - Coolangatta, Qld – 6-8 March 2026
- Australian Beach Volleyball Tour – Cobram, Vic – 10-12 April 2026

2026 U18 Beach Volleyball International Events means the:

- 2026 U18 Asian Beach Volleyball Championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan on 6-10 May 2026; and
- 2026 FIVB Beach Volleyball U18 World Championships in The Hague, Netherlands on 8-12 July 2026.

2026 YOG means the 2026 Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal.

AOC means the Australian Olympic Committee Inc and any of its officers, employees or agents and any committee it convenes including the AOC Selection Committee.

AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law means the document adopted by the Executive which governs, among other things, the nomination and selection of Athletes to a Team

for an Olympic Games, Olympic Winter Games, Youth Olympic Games or Winter Youth Olympic Games and which is available at https://www.olympics.com.au/the-aoc/athlete-guidelines/.

AOC Selection Committee means the committee established by the AOC to select Athletes to the Team for the Games.

AOC Selection Criteria means the criteria adopted by the AOC in respect of the 2026 YOG which outlines the requirements for an Athlete to be selected by the AOC to participate in the 2026 YOG and which appears at Appendix 1 of this Nomination Criteria.

Athlete means an athlete who:

(a) participates in the Sport; and

(b) is recognised by the National Federation or AOC as eligible for nomination to the AOC for selection to the Team pursuant to this Nomination Criteria.

Closing Ceremony means the closing ceremony of the Games, scheduled for 13 November 2026.

Executive means the Executive of the AOC.

Extenuating Circumstances means:

(a) injury or illness;

(b) equipment failure;

(c) travel delays;

(d) bereavement or disability arising from death or serious illness of an immediate family member, which means a spouse, de facto partner, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild or sibling; or

(e) any other factors considered by the National Federation to constitute extenuating circumstances.

Games means the 2026 Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal.

Games Period means 31 October to 13 November 2026 (inclusive).

International Federation means Federation Internationale de Volleyball (**FIVB**).

IOC means International Olympic Committee.

National Federation means Volleyball Australia.

NF Selection Panel means the panel as appointed by the National Federation to identify Athletes to be nominated to the AOC for selection to the Team. The NF Selection Panel is made up of the following:

- the National Performance Director (Chair);
- the respective gender's National Beach Volleyball Coach; and
- up to three (3) persons with international Beach Volleyball experience who do not have any actual or perceived conflict of interest in relation to the teams or athletes eligible for nomination to the AOC for selection to the Team.

NOC means National Olympic Committee.

Nominated Athlete(s) means an Athlete who is nominated by their National Federation to the AOC for selection to the Team.

Nomination Date means on or before 17 August 2026.

Organising Committee means the committee commissioned by the IOC which is charged with organising the 2026 YOG.

Participation Principles means Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026 – Participation Principles in respect of the 2026 YOG issued by the IOC, available here: YOG Dakar 2026 Participation Principles.

Qualification Period means 1 January 2026 – 13 July 2026.

Short List has the meaning given in clause 6.2.

Sport means Beach Volleyball.

Sport Entries Deadline means the date on which entries to the Games must be submitted by the AOC, being 25 September 2026.

Team means the team of Athletes selected and officials appointed by the AOC to participate in the Sport at the Games.

3 / INTERPRETATION

In this Nomination Criteria (and Appendix 1):

(a) The singular includes the plural and the converse also applies.

(b) A reference to an agreement or document (including a reference to this document) is to the agreement or document as amended, supplemented, novated or replaced, except to the extent prohibited by this document or that other agreement or document, and includes the recitals and schedules to that agreement or document.

(c) A reference to a party to an agreement includes the party's successors, permitted substitutes and permitted assigns (and, where applicable, the party's legal personal representatives).

(d) A reference to conduct includes an omission, statement or undertaking, whether or not in writing.

(e) A reference to time is to Sydney time, unless otherwise stated.

4 / GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The *Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026 – Participation Principles* (**Participation Principles**) set by the IOC (available here: YOG Dakar 2026 Participation Principles) is the overarching document which outlines the maximum number of quota places that can be allocated to an NOC per event at the 2026 YOG. It also sets out the principles for how those quota places will be allocated among NOCs.

All entries will be managed directly by the IOC in collaboration with NOCs, International Federations and the Organising Committee to ensure that the quota places are allocated in accordance with the Participation Principles. For clarity, the International Federation will not have a separate qualification system, although minimum sporting and eligibility criteria will still apply in their respective events, as outlined in clause 6.4.

5 / NOMINATION AND SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE 2026 AUSTRALIAN YOUTH OLYMPIC TEAM

The process for the nomination and selection of Athletes for the Team is as follows:

(a) **Qualification**: the National Federation or the AOC, as Australia's NOC, may be allocated a quota place for an event on the 2026 YOG programme by the IOC, in accordance with the Participation Principles. The AOC will determine whether or not to use any quota place allocated to the National Federation or the AOC;

(b) **Nomination:** Where a quota place for an event has been allocated to the National Federation or the AOC, and the AOC determines to utilise that quota place, the National

Federation must nominate Athletes to the AOC for selection to the Team, in accordance with this Nomination Criteria.

(c) **Selection:** The AOC is responsible for determining whether to select a Nominated Athlete to the Team, in accordance with the Selection Criteria.

6 / NOMINATION BY VOLLEYBALL AUSTRALIA

6.1 General

(a) This Nomination Criteria is issued by the board of the National Federation. The National Federation must provide, or otherwise make available, this Nomination Criteria (and any amendments to it) to all Athletes, including by publishing this Nomination Criteria on the National Federation's website.

(b) The National Federation may only nominate Athletes to the AOC in accordance with this Nomination Criteria.

(c) This Nomination Criteria will take effect on and from the date of approval by the AOC and will cease to have effect at the conclusion of the Games.

(d) This Nomination Criteria applies to:

(i) all Athletes;

(ii) the National Federation; and

(iii) the AOC.

(e) The terms of the By-Law are incorporated by reference to this Nomination Criteria. The National Federation must provide, or otherwise make available to all Athletes the By-Law (and any amendments to it), including by publishing the By-Law (or a link to it) on the National Federation's website.

6.2 Short List

(a) For the purpose only of identifying prospective members of the Team, the National Federation and/or the AOC may maintain a short list of Athletes (**Short List**).

(b) For the avoidance of doubt, membership of the National Federation's or AOC's Short List does not increase, decrease or otherwise affect an Athlete's prospects of being nominated by the National Federation, or being selected by the AOC, to the Team.

6.3 Quota Places

(a) The National Federation may only nominate Athletes to the AOC for selection to the Team where, pursuant to the Participation Principles, the IOC has awarded the AOC or the National Federation quota places.

(b) The National Federation may not nominate more Athletes than the number of quota places awarded to the AOC or the National Federation under the Participation Principles.

(c) For the avoidance of doubt, the fact that the results/performance of an Athlete has secured a quota place for the National Federation or the AOC under the Participation Principles does not ensure nomination of that Athlete by the National Federation to the AOC for selection to the Team.

6.4 Eligibility criteria

The National Federation will not nominate an Athlete unless, as at the Nomination Date, the

National Federation is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the Athlete:

(a) is an Australian citizen;

(b) is a member of the National Federation;

(c) satisfies the Participation Principles, including that the Athlete respects and complies with the Olympic Charter, the World Anti-Doping Code and the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions;

(d) does, and will continue to, satisfy the AOC Selection Criteria set out at Appendix 1 of this Nomination Criteria;

(e) has not breached the AOC Anti-Doping By-Law, unless the Athlete has been sanctioned for the breach and has completed the sanction imposed;

(f) does not, and is not likely to in the foreseeable future, suffer from any physical or mental impairment that would prevent the Athlete from competing at the 2026 YOG to the highest possible standard for that Athlete; and

(g) in accordance with the Participation Principles satisfies the International Federation's minimum sporting and eligibility criteria, including:

(i) born on or after 1 January 2009;

(ii) comply with the requirements set out in Chapter (Status of Players) of the FIVB Beach Volleyball Sport Regulations and Article 5 FIVB volleyball Sports regulations;

(iii) registered in the FIVB database;

(iv) demonstrate availability to participate in the Games Beach Volleyball competition; and

(v) field depth and competition strength:

(A) international, regional and national competition results including strength of competition and consistency of performance;

(B) widely and regularly practicing national Beach Volleyball athletes; and

(C) among top ranked national Beach Volleyball athletes.

6.5 Nomination Criteria

(a) If the AOC obtains quota places in accordance with the Participation Principles, the National Federation will nominate two (2) Athletes of the relevant gender, identified by the NF Selection Panel. The NF Selection Panel will nominate those Athletes who, in its absolute discretion, will be most likely to achieve the best possible results at the Games.

(b) In making its determination under clause 6.5(a) with respect to the two (2) Athletes of the relevant gender, the NF Selection Panel will consider the following primary factor:

(i) the relative contribution of each Athlete to the results and performances achieved by the Australian teams at the 2026 U18 Beach Volleyball International Events.

(c) If the NF Selection Panel is unable to make a decision based on the primary factor in clause 6.5(b) above, then the NF Selection Panel may also have regard to some, none or all of the following secondary considerations, in its absolute discretion:

(i) the individual Athlete results and team results on the 2026 Australian Beach Volleyball Tour;

(ii) the individual Athlete results and team results on the 2026 Australian Junior Beach Volleyball Tour;

(iii) the perceived physical, mental and technical ability of the Athlete to achieve the best result in the Games;

(iv) the Athlete's potential for development for future Olympic Games teams and future senior National Team representation, as determined by the NF Selection Panel;

(v) the Athlete's attendance at national camps as notified by the National Performance Director and relevant Beach Volleyball National Coach;

(vi) the Athlete's physical form, health, fitness, injury status including any prognosis, and competition readiness for the Games, as informed by a medical professional advising the National Federation;

(vii) the benefit or detriment of the Athlete's membership on the Beach Volleyball team for the Games with respect to team dynamics, team behaviour and team performance; and

(viii) the extent to which the Athlete has demonstrated, during the Qualification Period:

(A) discipline;

(B) motivation; and

(C) commitment to the Sport and to the Team

The secondary considerations in this clause 6.5(c) are not arranged in any order of priority or importance.

6.6 Extenuating Circumstances

(a) In determining whether an Athlete has satisfied the criteria set out in clause 6.5, the National Federation may have regard to Extenuating Circumstances.

(b) In the event that an Athlete determines that he or she is unable to attend a required national team, competition, camp, training session or other event (***Nomination Event***) that Athlete must notify the National Federation of his or her non-attendance in writing as soon as practicable.

(c) The National Federation may consider an Athlete's non-attendance at a Nomination Event to be an Extenuating Circumstance in its absolute discretion. The National Federation may require an Athlete to undergo a medical examination and/or seek additional information or documentation, as a condition of treating the Athlete's non-attendance at a Nomination Event as an Extenuating Circumstance.

6.7 Submission of Nominations

(a) The National Federation must notify Athletes of the Nomination Date in writing.

(b) The AOC may, in its absolute discretion extend the Nomination Date for the National Federation for any reason.

(c) The National Federation must nominate Athletes to the AOC by the Nomination Date. The National Federation must inform Athletes of their nomination or non-nomination by no later than 48 hours prior to the Nomination Date or such later date as the AOC advises the National Federation.

(d) Nominations submitted to the AOC must be in the form prescribed by the AOC or in a form that is otherwise acceptable to the AOC and include any such information that is required pursuant to the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law.

(e) The AOC may, in its absolute discretion, accept a nomination submitted after the Nomination Date or the Sport Entries Deadline.

6.8 Amendments

(a) This document may only be amended with the written consent of the AOC Selection Committee.

(b) The AOC may amend the AOC Selection Criteria from time to time in its absolute discretion. Where the AOC forms a reasonable opinion that this Nomination Criteria requires amendment, the AOC must notify the National Federation of the required amendments. The National Federation must work collaboratively with the AOC in good faith to amend this Nomination Criteria to the satisfaction of the AOC.

(c) The National Federation must provide, and make available on National Federation's website, any updates to the Nomination Criteria (including any updates to the AOC Selection Criteria), to all Athletes.

6.9 Governing law

This Nomination Criteria is governed by the laws of the State of New South Wales.

6.10 Priority of Documents

To the extent of any inconsistency, the following documents shall be given the following descending order of precedence:

(a) the AOC Constitution;

(b) the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law (including AOC Selection Criteria); and

(c) this Nomination Criteria.

APPENDIX 1 - AOC SELECTION CRITERIA

[*Attached separately*]

APPENDIX 1 - AOC SELECTION CRITERIA

DAKAR 2026

The AOC has adopted this Selection Criteria pursuant to the **AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law**. This criteria governs the selection of Athletes to the Team by the AOC.

1. Eligibility for Selection

In order to be selected by the AOC to the Team, a Nominated Athlete must satisfy the following selection criteria. As all Nominated Athletes are under the age of 18 years, the Nominated Athlete's parent or legal guardian must also execute the documents specified below:

(a) have **met the requirements of the Participation Principles** applying to the Sport;

(b) have **satisfied the Nomination Criteria** adopted by the National Federation;

(c) have been **nominated** to the AOC by the National Federation;

(d) have respected and complied, and continue to respect and comply, with the **Olympic Charter**, the **World Anti-Doping Code** and the **Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions** as well as the rules of the relevant **International Federation** of their sport;

(e) have met and continue to meet the eligibility requirements for **Australian competitors** outlined in the Olympic Charter;

(f) have signed the **2026 Australian Youth Team Membership Agreement** for Athletes and agree to comply with its terms, and agree to sign any entry form required by the International Olympic Committee, AOC or the Organising Committee;

(g) have signed a consent to consideration of nomination form or any equivalent document prescribed by the AOC;

(h) have provided to the AOC a signed parent or guardian consent and acknowledgement form in respect of the Nominated Athlete's participation in the 2026 YOG;

(i) comply with the **AOC Constitution** and its by-laws, including the **By-Law**, **AOC Anti-Doping By-Law** and **AOC Ethical Behaviour By-Law** and **AOC Safeguarding Children, Young and Vulnerable Persons Policy**;

(j) not have breached the **AOC Anti-Doping By-Law, AOC Ethical Behaviour By-Law** or **any other AOC By-Law** adopted by the AOC from time to time as applicable to the Nominated Athlete, unless the Nominated Athlete has been sanctioned for the breach and has completed the sanction imposed;

(k) not have breached the **National Federation's National Integrity Policy**, unless the Nominated Athlete has been sanctioned for the breach and has completed the sanction imposed;

(l) have been available for sample collection for the purpose of conducting anti-doping testing and have provided accurate and up-to-date whereabouts information (as applicable);

(m) not at any time have engaged in conduct (whether publicly known or not), in or outside of Australia, which:

ii. has **brought, brings or would have the tendency to bring the Nominated Athlete or their sport into disrepute or censure**; or

iii. is or would have the tendency to be **inconsistent with, contrary to or prejudicial to the best interests, reputation or values of the AOC or Team**

sponsors, or as a result of which, the Nominated Athlete's continued membership would not be or would not likely be in the **best interests of the Team**;

(n) not at any time been **charged with any offence, in or outside of Australia** involving violence, Abuse of a Child or Vulnerable Person, Grooming, alcohol or drugs, any sex offence, or any offence relating to any betting or gambling activities on sport, or any offence which is punishable by imprisonment (unless such charges have subsequently been withdrawn or the offences have been found to be not proven);

(o) not at any time been **convicted of any offence, in or outside of Australia** involving violence, Abuse of a Child or Vulnerable Person, Grooming, alcohol or drugs, or any sex offence, or any offence relating to any betting or gambling activities on sport, or any offence which is punishable by imprisonment;

(p) have **disclosed any criminal offence** of whatever nature, in or outside of Australia, with which the Nominated Athlete has been charged, or of which the Nominated Athlete has been convicted, and has consented to the National Federation and the AOC making enquiries to relevant authorities for any details of the Nominated Athlete's criminal record (if any), including details of any charges pending or any spent convictions disclosable by law, and consents to those authorities providing that information in answer to those enquiries;

(q) have and must continue to **honestly and fully disclose to their National Federation and AOC** until the end of the Games Period information concerning any conduct that would cause an actual or potential breach of clauses 1(A) - 1(N), including any unresolved allegation of any breach of the **Olympic Charter**, the **World Anti-Doping Code** and the **Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions**, any Sport Integrity Australia (**SIA**) integrity matter, any of a **National Federation's National Integrity Policies**, any **AOC By-Law** or the **AOC Safeguarding Children, Young and Vulnerable Persons Policy** as applicable to the Nominated Athlete;

(r) have, if required, assisted SIA or a National Federation in any anti-doping or sport integrity matter or investigation and will continue to do so if required, including by fully and truthfully answering questions, attending interviews, disclosing information and producing documents;

(s) consent to:

i. their National Federation and the AOC making enquiries with SIA or other relevant authorities regarding any disclosures; and

ii. consent to SIA or other relevant authorities providing information to their National Federation and the AOC in relation to those enquiries; and

(t) have completed or will complete medical assessments to the satisfaction of the AOC, if required.

A breach of, or a failure by a Nominated Athlete to comply with clauses 1(a) – (v) above may render that Nominated Athlete ineligible for selection to the Team, at the complete and absolute discretion of the AOC.

2. Other Requirements

Except where the AOC has otherwise agreed in writing, the AOC will not select a Nominated Athlete unless the Nominated Athlete has provided an undertaking that he or she will attend:

(a) the 2026 YOG for the entire Games Period, or such other mandatory period during the Games Period stipulated by the AOC;

(b) any education sessions organised by the Organising Committee; and

(c) if required, any training and preparation camp convened and facilitated by the AOC.

3. Selection

The AOC has the sole and absolute discretion to determine:

(a) whether a Nominated Athlete has met the requirements of this Selection Criteria;

(b) whether a Nominated Athlete is eligible for selection to the Team, having regard to the requirements of this Selection Criteria and any other circumstances or criteria the AOC considers appropriate;

(c) that a Nominated Athlete is ineligible for selection to the Team for any reason (irrespective of whether the Nominated Athlete has met some or all of the requirements of this Selection Criteria); and

(d) whether it will select the maximum number of athletes (or teams, where applicable) permitted for selection by the AOC, regardless of how many Nominated Athletes meet the standards required under the Participation Principles.

4. No Extenuating Circumstances

(a) In determining whether an Athlete has satisfied the criteria set out in clause 1 of this Selection Criteria, the AOC will not have regard to Extenuating Circumstances.

(a) For the purposes of this clause, ***Extenuating Circumstances*** means:

(i) injury or illness;

(ii) equipment failure;

(iii) travel delays;

(iv) bereavement or disability arising from death or serious illness of an immediate family member, which means a spouse, de facto partner, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild or sibling; or

(v) any other factors.

5. Amendments

This Selection Criteria may be amended by the AOC from time to time.