

**Athletics South Africa Selection Criteria
Paris 2024 Olympic Games**



2024 Olympic Games
Paris, FRANCE
01-11 AUGUST 2024

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1. Overview

These Selection Criteria (“Criteria”) set out Athletics South Africa’s Selection processes for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games team along with the eligibility and qualification requirements that an athlete must satisfy in order to be considered for Selection. Nomination does not guarantee selection. Selection is subject to approval of the SASCO.

Entries to Paris 2024 Olympic Games are limited by the bylaws, rules and regulations of the following Governing Bodies:

- Athletics South Africa (ASA);
- The Paris 2024 Olympic Games Local Organizing Committee (“LOC”);
- The International Olympic Committee (“IOC”);
- World Athletics (“WA”); and
- South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SASCO).

2. Key Dates

| Date | Milestones |
|--------------------|--|
| 1 November 2022: | Start of the qualification and ranking period for Marathon |
| December 2022: | World Athletics to confirm the entry standards for all events. The standards will be distributed to all NOCs and NFs. |
| 31 December 2022: | Start of the qualification and ranking period for 10,000m, Combined Events, Race Walks and Relays |
| 1 July 2023: | Start of the qualification and ranking period for all individual events (except 10,000m, Marathon, Combined Events and Race Walks) |
| 27 January 2024 | ASA Elite Athletes /Coaches Meeting. |
| 30 January 2024: | End of qualification and ranking period for Marathon (80% of quota) |
| 19-23 March 2024 | All Africa Games |
| 18-21 April 2024 | ASA Senior Track and Field Championships |
| 21 April 2024 | World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships |
| 23 April 2024: | Deadline for NOCs with no qualified athletes to apply for unqualified entries in Marathon |
| 26 April 2024 | ASA Track and Field Preliminary Team Announcement |
| 28 April 2024 | ASA Marathon Championships |
| 30 April 2024: | End of qualification and ranking period for Marathon (remaining 20% of quota) |
| 1 May 2024: | World Athletics to (only for Marathon) |
| | confirm the list of approved Unqualified athletes |
| | confirm the list of athletes qualified by Entry Standard |
| | publish the World Athletics World Rankings and qualified athletes |
| 3 May 2024: | Deadline to decline a quota place for Marathon. |
| 4-6 May 2024: | World Athletics to reallocate unused quota places in the Marathon |
| 8 May 2024: | World Athletics shall publish the last edition of the Road to Paris for Marathon with the final list of all athletes eligible for final entry. |
| 4-5 May 2024 | <i>World Athletics Relays</i> |
| 31 May 2024: | Deadline for NOCs with no qualified athletes to apply for unqualified entries in 100m or 800m |
| 30 June 2024: | End of qualification and ranking period for all events (except Marathon) |
| 2 July 2024: | World Athletics to: |
| | confirm the list of approved Unqualified athletes |
| | confirm the list of athletes qualified by Entry Standard |
| | publish the World Athletics World Rankings and qualified athletes |
| | publish the list of qualified Relay Teams |
| 3 July 2024 | ASA Olympic Games Final Team Announcement |
| 4 July 2024: | Deadline to decline a quota place for all events (except Marathon) |
| 5-6 July 2024: | World Athletics to reallocate unused quota places in all events (except Marathon) |
| 7 July 2024: | World Athletics shall publish the last edition of the Road to Paris for all events (except Marathon) with the final list of all athletes and relay teams eligible for final entry. |
| 8 July 2024: | Paris 2024 Sport Entries deadline |
| 22nd July 2024 | Start of Olympic games Training Camp |
| 01-11 AUGUST 2024: | Paris 2024 Olympic Games |

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3. Team Objectives

This nomination process is designed to align with ASA's Strategic Plan 2028. As such, it seeks to prioritize the nomination of athletes who have demonstrated an ability to contribute to the following performance targets at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, presented in priority order:

- i. Total number of medals;
- ii. Total number of top 8 finishes;
- iii. Total number of athletes finishing in the top half of their field;
- iv. Total number of athletes beating their pre-event ranking;
- v. Total number of athletes setting personal bests; and
- vi. Total number of athletes setting season's bests.

4. Maximum Entries per Event

- I. **Individual Events:** up to three (3) athletes may be nominated per Event.
- II. **Relay Events:**
 - Relay Squad: For each qualified relay team up to six (6) athletes may be nominated, forming the Relay Squad;
 - The Relay Squad may include athletes also nominated for individual events;
 - Athletes entered into the individual 100m must be nominated in the 4x100m Relay Squad;
 - Athletes entered into the individual 400m must be nominated into the 4x400m Relay Squad and/or the mixed 4x400m Relay Squad.
 - Athletes only entered into an individual event may contest the relays, even if they were not specifically nominated as Relay Squad members.
- iii. **Team Events:** Up to two (2) teams for the Marathon Race Walk Mixed Relay may be nominated. A total of two (2) athletes, one (1) woman and one (1) man may be entered per Team.

5. Selection Process

- a. The Selection Panel will make decisions in person or electronically, guided by these Criteria, on the Selection Meeting Date[s]
- b. The "WA Tracking List" refers to the "Road to Paris 24" list maintained by World Athletics, which includes the World Rankings List and current qualification status of all athletes. The WA Tracking List will be published in autumn, 2023.
- c. The "Final WA Tracking List" refers to the final WA Tracking List published on May 8, 2024 for the Marathon and the final WA Tracking List published on July 7, 2024 for all other events.
- d. Athletes are included on the WA Tracking List by virtue of:
 - Achieving an Entry Standard (see Appendix A);
 - Their WA World Ranking score.
 - Achieving one of following:
 1. A top five (5) finish at a Platinum Label Marathon held during the qualification period.
 2. The top 8 from the World Cross Country Ranking not directly qualified through entry standard or World 10,000m Ranking, will be considered as having achieved the entry standard.
- e. A Qualified Athlete is an Eligible Athlete who has achieved one or more of the following criteria:
 - An Eligible Performances listed on the WA Tracking List as:
 - "Qualified By Entry Standard",
 - "Qualified by World Rankings",
 - "Qualified by Designated Competition", or
 - "Next best by World Rankings",

Note: that the World Athletics Qualification System for the marathon allows for the possibility to reallocate quota places to otherwise unqualified athletes who have achieved at least a 2:11:30 (men) / 2:29:30 (women) within the qualification period. For the avoidance of doubt, ASA will not utilize this possibility.

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6. Additional Places

- i. WA/IOC/LOC may offer ASA/SASCOC additional Places at the Olympic Games, typically when one or more athletes or relay teams decline their place at the Games. In these cases, WA offers the place to the next eligible athlete or relay team on the WA Final Tracking List shown as “Next best by World Rankings”.
- ii. ASA will accept Additional Places offered within the timelines published by WA. ASA will decline any Additional Places offered after the published WA timeline.
- iii. An athlete qualified via an “Additional Place” cannot displace an athlete on the team who is qualified by any other means. For athletes qualified in more than one event. Depending upon the Selection Panel’s decisions about athlete entries in multiple events, an athlete qualified via an “Additional Place” could be nominated for an event in which there is a vacant quota position.

7. Individual Event Selection Process

Automatic Selections

- a. Athletes will be automatically selected under the following two scenarios, provided they achieve the necessary Qualifying Standard (see Appendix A) within the Qualifying Period and meet the eligibility requirements.
 - I. National Champions: The top 2 at the National championships with the qualifying standard during the qualifying period will automatically be selected.
 - II. Marathon: The Winner at the National Marathon Championships 2024 with the qualifying standard or “Road to Paris 24” ranking list will automatically be nominated.

NOTE: For the purposes of selection, ties at the Nationals will be broken in the following priority order:

- Best performance within the Qualifying Period
- Head-to-head results within the Qualifying Period
- Most recently achieved standard

8. Relay Event Selection Process

- i. Team Qualification Relay teams can qualify in one of two ways:
 - a. First fourteen (14) placed teams at the World Athletics Relays 2024.
 - b. Be one of the best ranked teams at the end of the qualification period to fill the two remaining places. For the purpose of being ranked, the results of relay races will be valid only on the condition that they are part of a competition staged in compliance with World Athletics Rules and that at least two different international teams, representing at least two countries, compete in the race.

ii. Nominations of Squad Members

- a. Automatic Nominations All athletes nominated to the Olympic Games Team for the individual 100m (4x100m) or individual 400m (4x400m) will be automatically nominated for the relevant relay squad [World Athletics rule].
- b. Discretionary Nominations For each qualified relay team the Head Coach will nominate “Additional Relay Athletes” to the Selection Panel to complete the most competitive relay squads. Typically each squad will consist of five (5) athletes, but in circumstances where a sixth squad member is likely to be required, for example due to known timetable challenges, the Head Coach may nominate an additional sixth (6th) squad member who will be accepted at the discretion of the Selection Panel.

iii. Team Event Nomination Process

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Marathon Race Walk Mixed Relay Teams can qualify in one of two ways:

- a. First twenty-two (22) placed teams at the 2024 World Racing Walking Team Championships. Up to five of these 22 teams can be from a second team of the same country.
- b. Three additional teams (which cannot be from a country already qualified from the 2024 World Race Walking Team Championships) will qualify through the Marathon Race Walk Mixed Relay top performance lists in the qualification period (Dec 31, 2022 to June 30, 2024).
- c. Nominations of Team Members The athletes who competed on the Team which earned ASA qualification (either via the 2024 World Racing Walking Team Championships or the top performance list), will be nominated to the Olympic Games team.

9. Eligible Athletes

- a. Eligibility to Represent South Africa:

- Athletes must hold South African Citizenship.
- Athletes must hold a South African passport valid until at least 6-months after the end of 2024 Olympic Games Paris.

Membership Requirements:

- Athletes must be a registered ASA member at the time of qualification and through the 2024 Olympic Games Paris.

Age Restrictions

- Under 20 Athletes – Athletes aged 18 or 19 years on 31 December 2024 (born in 2005 or 2006) may compete in any event except the Marathon and 35km Race Walk.
- Under 18 Athletes – Athletes aged 16 or 17 years on 31 December 2024 (born in 2006 or 2007), may compete in any event except the throwing events, the Combined Events, 10,000m, Marathon and the Race Walks.
- Athletes younger than 16 – No athlete younger than 16 years of age on 31 December 2024 (born in 2009 or later) may be entered.

- c. **Anti-doping Compliance**

- Athletes must comply with the anti-doping rules of WA, ASA, SAIDS, WADA and any other anti-doping organization with authority over the athlete.
- Athletes must complete any anti-doping eLearning courses as required. See link See Adel link <https://adel.wada-ama.org/learn>

- d. **Good Standing**

Athletes must be in good standing with National federation

- e. **Relays**

- To be nominated for a Relay Team, athletes must sign the National Relay Team Athlete Agreement by the Final Declaration Deadline.
- Note that if circumstances dictate that an athletics team member who is not part of a nominated Relay Team is selected to run a relay at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games (if allowed by competition rules) then the athlete must sign the National Relay Team Athlete Agreement before competing. In these circumstances, the Head Coach can waive the deadline above.

- f. **Forms and Agreements**

Athletes must sign, submit and comply with all required forms and agreements, including:

- SASCOC Athlete Agreement
- ASA Relay Agreement
- International Travel Waiver
- Health Questionnaire (Electronic Pre-Participation Questionnaire)
- Paris 2024 Conditions of Participation Form

- h. **Athletics South Africa Championships Requirement**

- i. Athletes must compete at a National Championships (NC) or Trials in the event for which they are seeking nomination, or in a related event.

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- ii. For the Marathon, since there it is not compulsory to participate at Marathon Championships, as an alternate, athlete must participate at another appropriate competition no later than June 30, 2024. The alternate competition will be of, at least, the following distance: Marathon 10,000m (track) or Half-Marathon (road). Note that an athlete nominated for the Marathon who has met these National Championships requirements will also be considered as having met the National Championships requirements for any second event (for example the 10,000m).
- iii. Athletes can be excused this requirement if they receive a written medical exemption from the ASA approved Medical Doctor. The Medical Doctor will only grant medical exemptions from competing at the National Championships on the basis that the athlete has sustained an injury or illness which prevents them from competing at the Championships.

10. Final Phase Preparation Requirements

- a. Athletes are expected to demonstrate final phase preparation and be able to deliver a peak performance at the Olympic Games. An athlete's nomination will not be confirmed until they complete the process outlined below and they will be deselected if the process is not completed.
- b. **Training and Competition Plan** Nominated athletes (and/or their coaches) selected at the Initial Nomination Meetings are required to present a training and competition plan for the period between nomination and the start of Olympic competition to Hezekiel@athleticss.co.za within two weeks of being notified of their nomination. All plans must address the following:
 - The schedule and list of planned competitions, travel and training locations.
 - Present a training cycle for the final phase showing patterns of training load and recovery on a weekly basis.
 - Injury prevention and medical intervention strategies if applicable.
- c. Athletes must notify ASA in **WRITING** of any proposed changes to their plans. Changes will be made in consultation with the ASA High Performance.

11. Eligible Performances

- a. An Eligible Performance will be a competition result that:
 - I. Was achieved within the Qualification Period and
 - II. Was achieved by an Eligible Athlete and
 - III. Was achieved at an Eligible Competition and
 - IV. Is listed on an Official Ranking List prior to the relevant Selection Meeting
 - V. To qualify for the Olympic Games, all performances must be achieved during competitions organised or authorised by WA, its Area Associations or its National Federations in conformity with WA Rules and published on the WA Global Calendar (available here).
<https://worldathletics.org/competition/calendar-results?>
 - VI. Otherwise met all of the Performance Conditions
- c. **Eligible Competitions**
 - I. Performance results must be achieved at competitions organized or authorized by the WA, their Area Associations or National Member Federations, and must be conducted under WA rules.
 - II. Performance results must have been achieved at competitions listed on a WA National Member Federation fixture list.
 - III. Official Ranking Lists: The WA World Rankings Points Lists are published on the WA website.
<https://worldathletics.org/stats-zone/road-to/7153115>

12. Team Travel Obligations

Athletes who wish to participate on a National Team are required to comply with ASA travel plans (including participation in pre-competition and pre-target-event training camps and competitions) as they pertain to training schedules, travel and accommodation schedules.

By declaring interest for consideration for this team, athletes agree to fully participate in both the final preparation camp.

By accepting a position on this team, athletes also agree to travel on the official traveling dates.

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In extraordinary circumstances, exceptions to these Team Travel Obligations may be granted at ASA's sole discretion. The request for an exemption must be made in writing to the ASA attention Hezekiel@athletics.co.za in advance of travel dates,

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| Men | Event | Women |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 10.00 | 100m | 11.07 |
| 20.16 | 200m | 22.57 |
| 45.00 | 400m | 50.95 |
| 1:44.70 | 800m | 1:59.30 |
| 3:33.50 (3:50.40) | 1500m (Mile) | 4:02.50 (4:20.90) |
| 13:05.00 | 5000m | 14:52.00 |
| 27:00.00 | 10,000m | 30:40.00 |
| 13.27 | 110m Hurdles / 100m Hurdles | 12.77 |
| 48.70 | 400m Hurdles | 54.85 |
| 8:15.00 | 3000m Steeplechase | 9:23.00 |
| 2.33 | High Jump | 1.97 |
| 5.82 | Pole Vault | 4.73 |
| 8.27 | Long Jump | 6.86 |
| 17.22 | Triple Jump | 14.55 |
| 21.50 | Shot Put | 18.80 |
| 67.20 | Discus Throw | 64.50 |
| 78.20 | Hammer Throw | 74.00 |
| 85.50 | Javelin Throw | 64.00 |
| 8,460 | Decathlon / Heptathlon | 6,480 |
| 1:20:10 | 20km Race Walk | 1:29:20 |
| 2:08:10 | Marathon | 2:26:50 |