

RCCC/Scottish Curling: International Selection Policy 2026 - 2030



This Policy sets out the procedures and rationale for selection of Teams to represent Scotland at International championships between September 2026 and May 2030. It is a policy of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, trading as Scottish Curling ("SC/RCCC"). The policy has been developed in partnership with Sport Org (formerly British Curling) ("BC/SO") as the organisation leading and managing the performance programme that prepares Scottish curling athletes and teams to compete on the world stage. The policy is owned by SC/RCCC and approved by its Board of Directors (the "RCCC Board"). BC/SO provides performance expertise and operational support in its application.

Purpose

This selection policy outlines the process to select teams to represent Scotland at International Competitions organised by World Curling.

The publication of the policy in advance of the first season in consideration is designed to ensure clarity and transparency across the whole 4 year Olympic/Paralympic cycle (subject to such amendment as may be made in accordance with the 'Changes to this Policy' section).

Definitions

In this policy:

"Alternate Selector" - a person nominated and approved in accordance with Appendix 3 to take the place of a voting member of the Selection Panel.

"Appellant" and "Parties" - have the meanings given in Appendix 1.

"BC/SO" - Sport Org (formerly British Curling).

"Championship" - an International Championship listed in section 1 or section 9 to which this policy applies.

"Competitive match" - has the meaning given in criterion (c) of section 5.

"RCCC Board" - the Board of Directors of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club.

"SC/RCCC" - the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, trading as Scottish Curling.

"Selection Decision Record" - the formal record of each selection meeting, kept by the Performance Operations Manager, including the decision, the reasons for it, and any conflicts declared and how they were managed.

"Selection Panel" - the panel described in section 8 (Olympic pathway) or section 15 (Paralympic pathway).

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“Sport Resolutions” or “SR” - Sport Resolutions, a trading name of The Sports Dispute Resolution Panel Ltd.

“Working day” - a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in Scotland.

The nature of selection decisions

The SC/RCCC does not consider it desirable to select teams based purely on performance data as the sole criterion. Selection will also take account of relevant contextual factors such as team dynamics, readiness to perform, potential performance or any injury or illness that may have prevented or affected performance at one or more events.

The SC/RCCC recognises that selection decisions should be made taking into account a variety of factors. The selection criteria are set out below.

The selection process is ultimately an exercise of judgement by the selectors, who will apply their discretion reasonably and by reference to the selection criteria in this policy and the contextual factors described above. Selection decisions may also require expert technical opinion, provided by the respective Head Coach with input from BC/SO support personnel.

Athletes returning from pregnancy, maternity or long-term injury will be assessed with reference to evidence prior to their absence and their current readiness to perform.

From this point onwards, the document separates events on the Olympic and Paralympic pathway.

A: Olympic Pathway Events

1. Applicable Events

This selection policy applies to the following events leading to the Olympic Games, including both A and B should a qualifier become necessary.

- World Women's Curling Championships (WWCC)
- World Men's Curling Championships (WMCC)
- World Mixed Doubles Curling Championships (WMDCC)

This policy does not apply to the European Curling Championships.

This policy supplements the rules regarding selection of Scottish teams as described in the RCCC Rule Book: Sections S1, S2, S3, S4.

2. Eligibility and Availability

To be eligible for selection, athletes must:

- Be a member of the SC/RCCC.
- Be either born in Scotland, have a Scottish parent or have been domiciled in Scotland for two consecutive years at the point of consideration for selection.
- Be a named member of a team which has competed in that season's relevant Scottish Championship.
- Be eligible and available to compete in World Curling championships in the category for which they are being considered for selection.
- Be of a level of fitness and health to be able to compete to the best of their ability, having regard to the opinion of medical staff appointed by BC/SO.
- Not be subject to any pending anti-doping rule violation proceedings, a provisional suspension or a period of ineligibility under the UK Anti-Doping Rules, the World Anti-Doping Code or the anti-doping rules of World Curling.
- Be prepared to sign the Scottish Curling Team Agreement if selected.
- Comply with any other eligibility requirements which may be imposed by the SC/RCCC and World Curling.

3. Team Criteria

Scotland may only select one team per event. The number of athletes is as follows:

- Men's and Women's teams will consist of a maximum of 5 athletes.
- Mixed Doubles teams will consist of two athletes, one male and one female.

4. Performance Objectives

The selection policy has the aim of achieving one or more of the overarching objectives:

- To finish in a position to qualify Scotland for a place at the next World Championships.
- To earn maximum qualification points to count towards securing Team GB qualification for the 2030 Olympic Games
- To achieve the highest possible result.

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- To achieve the highest possible result and/or contribute to preparing teams towards the 2034 Olympic Games

The objectives that apply for each event in each year are listed below:

World Women's Curling Championships

WWCC 2027

Objective: To achieve the highest possible result.

WWCC 2028 & 2029

Objective: To earn maximum qualification points to count towards the 2030 Olympic Games by achieving the highest possible result.

WWCC 2030

Objective: To achieve the highest possible result and contribute to preparing teams towards the 2034 Olympic Games

World Men's Curling Championships

WMCC 2027

Objective: To achieve the highest possible result.

WMCC 2028 & 2029

Objective: To earn maximum qualification points to count towards the 2030 Olympic Games by achieving the highest possible result.

WMCC 2030

Objective: To achieve the highest possible result and contribute to preparing teams towards the 2034 Olympic Games.

World Mixed Doubles Curling Championships

WMDCC 2027

Objective: To achieve the highest possible result.

WMDCC 2028 & 2029

Objective: To earn maximum qualification points to count towards the 2030 Olympic Games by achieving the highest possible result.

WMDCC 2030

Objective: To achieve the highest possible result and contribute to preparing teams towards the 2034 Olympic Games

5. Selection Criteria

The Selection Panel will convene to consider the following criteria when making the selection of any team:

- a. Results and performance data from the most recent relevant Scottish Championship.
- b. Results and performance data from World Curling Team Ranking System (WCTRS) eligible events held in the past 12 months from the selection meeting date. For 4-person curling, greater emphasis will be placed on Champion Series events than Elite Series and Challenger Series events as defined by World Curling*.
- c. Results and performance data from any competitive matches held at the National Curling Academy as part of BC/SO's performance programme, where identified in advance to allow teams to prepare. For this purpose, a "competitive match" is a match that: (i) has been designated in advance by BC/SO as a competitive match for selection purposes and notified to all teams under consideration for selection; (ii) is played in full under World Curling competition rules and standard game format; and (iii) has its result and performance data formally recorded and shared with the teams involved. Competitive matches will be played under conditions that are consistent for all participating teams.
- d. WCTRS data and performance trends*. Where available this will be complemented by data and analysis from the Elo Ranking System, as detailed in Appendix 2.
- e. Performance record against likely championship opponents over the previous 3 years.
- f. Results at previous major championships (Olympic Games, World Championships & European Championship) in which anyone considered for selection has competed over the previous 3 years, together with analysis of those performances.
- g. Assessment against key performance indicators within tactical execution, shot making capability & overall readiness to perform as a team.

*The SC/RCCC reserves the right to adjust wording within criteria (b) and (d) at any time to align with changes or new implementations at World Curling level with a view to keeping this policy current and relevant to the landscape it exists within, but any substantive changes of policy are subject to final approval of the RCCC Board.

6. Selection Timelines

The timeline for selection will be published annually.

Meetings of the Selection Panels will be called by the Chair of the selection panel and arranged and administered by BC/SO, in consultation with the selection panel members.

Selection meetings may be held in person, by video or telephone conference or a blended approach.

Selection meetings will normally be held a minimum of three weeks before the International Championship for which it applies. It will be dependent on conclusion of the respective Scottish Championship where appropriate (or other competitions from which information will be analysed and used for selection decisions) and confirmation of the date and location of the International Championship that a team is being selected for.

Each member of the selected teams, and the skips of the non-selected teams will be notified by the Olympic Head Coach or the Performance Director of the Selection Panel's decision within 24 hours of the selection meeting, along with any relevant information in relation to that decision. The Selection Panel will record the reasons for its decision against the selection criteria in the Selection Decision Record, and any athlete not selected will receive written reasons on request. The selection decision is provisional until any appeal process has concluded.

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The appeals policy is provided for teams to appeal non-selection on the grounds that the policy has not been adhered to, or the limited other grounds noted. Teams are not able to appeal against selection decisions on any other grounds including disagreement with a selector's judgement. A process whereby a team can request an appeal of decisions is provided in Appendix 1.

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After an initial team of 4 is selected, the respective Head Coach will consult with the 4 selected players on potential 5th players and be responsible for the final selection decision and communication of that decision. The 5th player will be selected on their compatibility and ability to compete with the selected 4-person team and cover appropriate team roles. An appeal against the 5th player selection may be made only on the grounds that the correct selection process was not followed or that the decision maker was biased, in accordance with Appendix 1. The Head Coach's decision is subject to the Conflict of Interest Protocol at Appendix 3.

Prior to the relevant Championship, the SC/RCCC (in conjunction with BC/SO) retains the right to deselect an athlete on the following grounds:

- (a) loss of form, illness or injury (such that the Selection Panel, in their reasonable opinion based on objective evidence, consider that the athlete in question will not be able to compete to the best of their ability at the International Championship);
- (b) failure to adhere to the Scottish Curling Team Agreement or British Curling Performance Programme Athlete Agreement;
- (c) Any failure to adhere to the terms of this selection policy;
- (d) Any intervening event occurring since selection which in the reasonable opinion of the Selection Panel or the SC/RCCC, based on objective evidence, would make it undesirable for the athlete to continue to be selected and to represent SC/RCCC.

Before a deselection decision is made, the athlete will be informed of the reasons and given a reasonable opportunity to respond. A deselection decision may be appealed under Appendix 1.

7. Team Announcement

All athletes notified of a selection decision agree to keep it strictly confidential and not to make any public announcement to the media or public in any form (including personal websites, social media, etc) regarding their selection until SC/RCCC have announced the Team.

8. Selection Panel

The selection decision will be the responsibility of the Selection Panel. The Selection Panel will consider criteria stated above, in making its decisions and may also consult other support staff specialists where appropriate, in relation to factors under consideration, to allow the three selectors to make the decisions.

Decisions of the Selection Panel are taken by a majority of the three voting members (or their Alternate Selectors). All three voting places must be filled for a decision to be valid.

All members of the panel will act in good faith, with integrity and transparency. Prior to each selection meeting, and once the athletes eligible for or under consideration for selection are known, each panel member shall review and declare any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest* relating to those athletes. Where such a conflict is declared or identified, the matter shall be considered in accordance with the Conflict of Interest Protocol at Appendix 3. The nature of the conflict, and any arrangements determined for its management, shall be recorded. The decision of the CEO / RCCC Board, where required under that protocol, shall be final.

**Conflict of interest includes family or business relationship or similar. It is accepted that due to the nature of curling, selectors may well know athletes under consideration and staff may be working with them on a day-to-day or regular basis. Those elements are not, of themselves, seen as a conflict of interest.*

Panel membership is as follows:

Panel Chair - appointed by the RCCC Board, non-voting member

Performance Director** - voting member

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Olympic Head Coach ** - voting member

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Scottish Curling Representative - voting member, nominated by the RCCC Board.

Head of Performance Services and/or Data Scientist **** - non-voting members

Role: To provide performance data, statistics and commentary / opinion on the same, as required.

British Elite Athletes Association Observer - non-voting member

Role: To observe and scrutinise the process, ensure the interests of athletes are prioritised, and hold the panel accountable to the policy and its criteria, and ensure the principles of fairness and acting without bias are upheld. This broad remit permits the Observer to provide commentary / opinion on any aspect of the selection. Any concern raised by the Observer will be recorded in the Selection Decision Record and addressed before a decision is finalised.

Performance Operations Manager** - non-voting member.

Role: Official record keeper.

(**denotes employees of BC/SO)

The British Elite Athletes Association (BEAA), provides independent, confidential advice and support to World Class Performance athletes and BEAA members, with selection processes, disputes and appeals.

The BEAA is always balanced and independent in its advice to athletes. The BEAA offers pastoral and emotional support throughout any process, as well as referring athletes to Sport Resolutions to request pro-bono legal advice if necessary.

The BEAA can be contacted at support@britisheliteathletes.org or call +44 203 924 4444

B. Paralympic Pathway Events

9. Applicable Events

This selection policy applies to the following events leading to the Paralympic Games including both A and B divisions should a qualifier become necessary.

- a. World Wheelchair Curling Championships (WWhCC)
- b. World Wheelchair Mixed Doubles Curling Championships (WWhMDCC)

10. Eligibility and Availability

To be eligible for selection, athletes must:

- a. Be a member of the SC/RCCC.
- b. Be either born in Scotland, have a Scottish parent or have been domiciled in Scotland for two consecutive years at the point of consideration for selection
- c. Be eligible and available to compete in World Curling Championship in the category for which they are being considered for selection.
- d. Be of a level of fitness and health to be able to compete to the best of their ability having regard to the opinion of medical staff appointed by BC/SO.
- e. Not be subject to any pending anti-doping rule violation proceedings, a provisional suspension or a period of ineligibility under the UK Anti-Doping Rules, the World Anti-Doping Code or the anti-doping rules of World Curling.
- f. Be prepared to sign the Scottish Curling Team Agreement if selected.
- g. Comply with any other eligibility requirements which may be imposed by the SC/RCCC and World Curling.

11. Team Criteria

Scotland may only select one team per event. The number of athletes is as follows:

- a. Wheelchair curling teams will consist of a maximum of 5 athletes.
- b. The Mixed Team must meet the mix of gender requirements.
- c. The Mixed Doubles team will consist of 2 athletes, one male and one female.

12. Performance Objectives

The selection policy has the aim of achieving the objectives:

- a. To finish top 8 progressing towards the 2030 Paralympic Games
- b. To earn maximum qualification points to count towards the 2030 Paralympic Games
- c. To provide opportunity for development of athletes towards the 2034 Paralympics

The objectives that apply for each event in each year are listed below:

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World Wheelchair Curling Championships

WWhCC 2027

Objective: To finish top 8, progressing towards the 2030 Paralympics or if IPC grants three years for qualification points: To earn maximum qualification points to count towards the 2030 Paralympic Games

WWhCC 2028 & 2029

Objective: To earn maximum qualification points to count towards the 2030 Paralympic Games

World Wheelchair Mixed Doubles Curling Championships

WWhMDCC 2027 (Wheelchair Mixed Doubles)

Objective: To finish top 8, progressing towards the 2030 Paralympics or if IPC grants three years for qualification points: To earn maximum qualification points to count towards the 2030 Paralympic Games.

WWhMDCC 2028 & 2029

Objective: To earn maximum qualification points to count towards the 2030 Paralympic Games

13. Selection Criteria

The Selection Panel will convene to consider the following criteria when making the selection of any team.

- a. Results and performance data from world tour & International competitions, events, and competitive matches held during the season to date. Such data may include competitions & matches held at the National Curling Academy as part of the BC/SO performance programme, provided they are competitive matches as defined in criterion (c) of Section A.
- b. Results at any previous Major Championships eg. World Championships, Paralympic Games, in which anyone considered for selection has competed (together with analysis of the achievement of those results including team composition and any changes to the same).
- c. Assessment against the key performance criteria of tactical, shot making and readiness to perform as a team at the international championships.

14. Selection Timelines

The timeline for selection will be published annually.

Meetings of the Selection Panels will be called by the Chair of the selection panel and arranged and administered by BC/SO, in consultation with the selection panel members.

Selection meetings may be held in person, by video or telephone conference or a blended approach.

Selection meetings will normally be held a minimum of three weeks before the International Championship for which it applies.

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Each member of the selected teams and individual wheelchair athletes not selected will be notified by the Paralympic Head Coach or the Performance Director of the Selection Panel's decision within 24 hours of the selection meeting, along with any relevant information in relation to that decision. The Selection Panel will record the reasons for its decision against the selection criteria in the Selection Decision Record, and any athlete not selected will receive written reasons on request. The selection decision is provisional until any appeal process has concluded.

The appeals policy is provided for athletes/teams to appeal non-selection on the grounds that the policy has not been adhered to, or the limited other grounds noted. Athletes/teams are not able to appeal against selection decisions on any other grounds including disagreement with a selector's judgement. A process whereby an athlete/team can request an appeal of decisions is provided in Appendix 1.

After an initial team of 4 is selected, the respective Head Coach will consult with the 4 selected players on potential 5th players and be responsible for the final selection decision and communication of that decision. The 5th player will be selected on their compatibility and ability to compete with the selected 4-person team and cover appropriate team roles, while ensuring the team continues to meet the mixed gender requirements. An appeal against the 5th player selection may be made only on the grounds that the correct selection process was not followed or that the decision maker was biased, in accordance with Appendix 1. The Head Coach's decision is subject to the Conflict of Interest Protocol at Appendix 3.

Prior to the relevant Championship, the SC/RCCC (in conjunction with BC/SO) retains the right to deselect an athlete on the following grounds:

- (a) loss of form, illness or injury (such that the Selection Panel, in their reasonable opinion based on objective evidence, consider that the athlete in question will not be able to compete to the best of their ability at the International Championship);
- (b) failure to adhere to the Scottish Curling Team Agreement or British Curling Performance Programme Athlete Agreement;
- (c) Any failure to adhere to the terms of this selection policy.
- (d) Any intervening event occurring since selection which in the reasonable opinion of the Selection Panel or the SC/RCCC, based on objective evidence, would make it undesirable for the athlete to continue to be selected and to represent SC/RCCC.

Before a deselection decision is made, the athlete will be informed of the reasons and given a reasonable opportunity to respond. A deselection decision may be appealed under Appendix 1.

15. Selection Panel

The selection decision will be the responsibility of the Selection Panel. The Selection Panel will consider criteria stated above, in making its decisions and may also consult other support staff specialists where appropriate, in relation to factors under consideration, to allow the three selectors to make the decisions.

Decisions of the Selection Panel are taken by a majority of the three voting members (or their Alternate Selectors). All three voting places must be filled for a decision to be valid.

All members of the panel will act in good faith, with integrity and transparency. Prior to each selection meeting, and once the athletes eligible for or under consideration for selection are known, each panel member shall review and declare any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest* relating to those athletes. Where such a conflict is declared or identified, the matter shall be considered in accordance with the Conflict of Interest Protocol at Appendix 3. The nature of the conflict, and any arrangements determined for its management, shall be recorded. The decision of the CEO / RCCC Board, where required under that protocol, shall be final.

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**Conflict of interest includes family or business relationship or similar. It is accepted that due to the nature of curling, selectors may well know athletes under consideration and staff may be working with them on a day-to-day or regular basis. Those elements are not, of themselves, seen as a conflict of interest.*

Panel membership is as follows:

Panel Chair - appointed by the RCCC Board, non-voting member

Performance Director** - voting member

Paralympic Head Coach ** - voting member

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Scottish Curling Representative - voting member, nominated by the RCCC Board.

Head of Performance Services and/or Data Scientist **** - non-voting members

Role: To provide performance data, statistics and commentary / opinion on the same, as required.

British Elite Athletes Association Observer - non-voting member

Role: To observe and scrutinise the process, ensure the interests of athletes are prioritised, and hold the panel accountable to the policy and its criteria, and ensure the principles of fairness and acting without bias are upheld. This broad remit permits the Observer to provide commentary / opinion on any aspect of the selection. Any concern raised by the Observer will be recorded in the Selection Decision Record and addressed before a decision is finalised.

Performance Operations Manager** - non-voting member.

Role: Official record keeper.

(**denotes employees of BC/SO)

The British Elite Athletes Association (BEAA), provides independent, confidential advice and support to World Class Performance athletes and BEAA members, with selection processes, disputes and appeals.

The BEAA is always balanced and independent in its advice to athletes. The BEAA offers pastoral and emotional support throughout any process, as well as referring athletes to Sport Resolutions to request pro-bono legal advice if necessary.

The BEAA can be contacted at support@britisheliteathletes.org or call +44 203 924 4444.

16. Team Announcement

All athletes notified of a selection decision agree to keep it strictly confidential and not to make any public announcement to the media or public in any form (including personal websites, social media, etc) regarding their selection until SC/RCCC have announced the Team.

17. Changes to this Policy

This Selection Policy will be in place until the conclusion of the 2030 international curling events season. If changes are made by World Curling that affect the competitions listed above, or where the RCCC Board otherwise considers it necessary, then this Selection Policy may be revised by the Board of Directors of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club in consultation with BC/SO. Any revision will be published and notified to athletes before it is applied to a selection decision.

Appendix 1: Appeals Policy and Procedure

This document sets out the SC/RCCC Appeals Procedure where an Athlete or Team (“the Appellant”) wishes to appeal a decision taken in respect of International Championship selection, deselection or 5th player selection.

An Appellant seeking an appeal of a selection decision should be aware of the time limits contained in the Policy which are designed with the intention of resolving issues in a timely, fair and transparent manner. Where an Appellant considers lodging an appeal, they are recommended to seek advice from the British Elite Athletes Association (BEAA) before doing so.

This Procedure is the only applicable appeals procedure and forms the entire agreement between each athlete and team wishing to be selected for the International Championships and the SC/RCCC (together, “the Parties”). The Parties agree not to commence, continue, or maintain any legal challenge to any matter covered by this policy before any court of law or other dispute forum. The Parties will treat all decisions under this Procedure as final and binding upon them.

An external appeal will be convened by Sport Resolutions (“SR”) to consider the grounds and merits of the appeal, specific to an International Curling Championships listed in the Selection Policy.

All athletes should read this policy carefully and satisfy themselves that they are eligible to appeal in the first instance. Any appeals which do not satisfy the grounds of appeals will be dismissed automatically.

1. Grounds for Appeal

An Appellant may appeal against a selection/nomination, deselection or 5th player selection decision relating to the International Curling Championships on one or more of the following grounds:

- the correct selection process was not followed; or
- a decision maker was biased; or
- the decision was made on an error of fact.

2. Appeal Procedure

This Appeal Procedure begins when an Appellant submits a formal written appeal that identifies one of the permitted grounds of appeal (“the Notice of Appeal”) to both: the CEO of the SC/RCCC, ceo@scottishcurling.org and Sport Resolutions resolve@sportresolutions.com

The Notice of Appeal must be received by the SC/RCCC and SR within **3 working days** of the selection, deselection or 5th player selection decision being communicated in writing (usually via email).

Where a decision is communicated within 14 days of the relevant Championship, the Parties will ask Sport Resolutions to apply an expedited timetable, and the Sole Arbitrator may shorten any time limit in this Procedure.

The Notice of Appeal must be accompanied by a payment of £250 (payable to RCCC). The fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.

The Notice of Appeal must set out the full details of the Appellant’s ground(s) of appeal and include:

- details of the decision which the Appellant is appealing;
- details of the ground(s) of appeal upon which the Appellant relies, including the manner

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- in which the Appellant alleges that such ground(s) apply; AND
- any documents or written evidence upon which the Appellant relies in support of his or her appeal.

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Any “interested party” that may be affected by the process will be invited to submit evidence or information in support of their case, normally being the team, whose selection was being challenged, within 24 hours of the end of the appeal deadline.

3. Sport Resolutions Rules

Any Notice of Appeal shall be made within 3 working days of receipt of the decision under appeal to a sole arbitrator appointed in accordance with the Appeal Arbitration Rules of Sport Resolutions (a trading name of The Sports Dispute Resolution Panel Ltd - Company No. 3351039). The Appeal shall be governed by the Arbitration Act 1996 and Sport Resolutions’ Appeal Arbitration Rules, which Rules are deemed to be incorporated by reference to this clause. The decision of the sole arbitrator shall be binding on all concerned. The Appeal shall be conducted under Sport Resolutions’ Appeal Arbitration Rules, as amended by the provisions of this Procedure.

The Notice of Appeal must contain the information required under Sport Resolutions’ Appeal Arbitration Rules for the Statement of Appeal, no separate Statement of Appeal will be required or permitted. The SC/RCCC’s reply to SR will be filed within one working day of receipt by the SC/RCCC of the Notice of Appeal.

Neither Party will be entitled to proceed under the ‘Full Arbitration Procedure’ of SR. The Sole Arbitrator will seek to reach his or her decision within 3 days of receipt of the SC/RCCC’s reply to the Notice of Appeal. The matter will proceed on the basis of written submissions, unless otherwise ordered by the Sole Arbitrator.

Where it appears to Sport Resolutions or the SC/RCCC that the interests of any Third Party may be affected they will notify the Third Party of the Notice of Appeal, provide him/her with a copy of any appeal submissions (and any other relevant documents) and invite the Third Party to make any submissions within 24 hours of receiving the notification. SR will give the Appellant Athlete a copy of these submissions and a limited period of time to make any further submissions in response.

The Sole Arbitrator appointed by Sport Resolutions shall be entitled to:

- a. **dismiss** the appeal and confirm the original decision; OR
- b. **uphold** the appeal and remit the matter back to the original decision maker, setting out the errors they have identified in the conduct of the selection process, and requesting that a new decision is made within 48 hours; and/or
- c. take any **other step** considered appropriate having regard to the substantive merits and overall justice within the matter in question.

Sport Resolutions shall inform the Appellant(s) and the CEO of the SC/RCCC of their decision. The CEO is responsible for communicating the outcome to the Selection Panel.

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4. Appeal Procedure timetable

The table below summarises the process and timescales involved in appeals over selection decisions. Any changes to the timescales will be communicated to the interested parties.

Timing	Step
Day 0	Selection, deselection or 5th player selection decision communicated to athletes in writing.
Within 3 working days	Deadline for Notice of Appeal to SC/RCCC and Sport Resolutions. If no appeal is received, the selection is announced.
Within 1 working day of the Notice of Appeal	SC/RCCC reply filed with Sport Resolutions. Interested parties notified.
Within 24 hours of the appeal deadline	Deadline for interested parties' submissions.
Within 3 days of the SC/RCCC reply	Sole Arbitrator decides the appeal, on written submissions unless otherwise ordered.
On the Sole Arbitrator's decision	Appeal dismissed: original decision confirmed and announced. Appeal upheld: matter remitted to the original decision maker.
Within 48 hours of an upheld appeal	New decision made; affected athletes informed; final decision announced.

Timescales are indicative and, unless stated otherwise, in working days. Where this table and the text of Appendix 1 differ, the text prevails.

Appendix 2 - Elo Ranking

The Elo Ranking is a head-to-head rating system that measures team performance based on match results rather than points earned at designated World Ranking events. Following each game, rating points are exchanged between teams, with the number of points won or lost determined by the relative strength of the opponents.

As a result, defeating higher ranked teams has a greater positive impact than defeating lower ranked teams. The ranking is calculated using results held within the BC/SO database and therefore reflects a broader range of competitive matches than event-based ranking systems.

While it provides a valuable measure of competitive strength based on direct results against opponents, the ranking is dependent on the availability and completeness of match data within the database and should be considered alongside other sources of performance evidence.

Appendix 3: Conflict of Interest Protocol

Prior to each selection meeting, and once the athletes eligible for or under consideration for selection are known, each member of the Selection Panel shall review and declare any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest relating to those athletes.

Any declared conflict shall be considered by the Chair of the Selection Panel and, where appropriate or where the Chair is conflicted, the Chief Executive of SC/RCCC, prior to the selection meeting. The decision of the Chief Executive, or of the RCCC Board where the Chief Executive is conflicted, shall be final. The nature of the conflict and the arrangements determined for its management shall be recorded.

BC/SO may nominate, and SC/RCCC may approve, one or more suitably qualified Alternate Selectors to replace a BC/SO voting member, and the RCCC Board may nominate one or more suitably qualified Alternate Selectors to replace the Scottish Curling Representative, in advance of the selection process. An Alternate Selector may act as a voting member of the Selection Panel where a Panel member is unable to participate in all or part of a selection decision as a result of a declared conflict of interest, absence or other reason determined by BC/SO and SC/RCCC. An Alternate Selector may only replace a Panel member nominated by the same body.

Where a conflicted Panel member possesses technical or performance expertise considered necessary to inform the selection process, they may provide relevant information and professional assessment to the Panel. They shall not participate in the final deliberation or vote in respect of any decision which could reasonably have a direct bearing upon the selection or non-selection of the athlete with whom the conflict exists.

Where required, an Alternate Selector shall participate in the relevant decision so that the Panel retains an appropriate number of non-conflicted voting members.

All conflicts declared, arrangements implemented and changes to voting participation shall be recorded within the formal Selection Decision Record.

Where the Head Coach declares a conflict of interest in respect of a 5th player selection, that decision will be taken by the Performance Director or, where the Performance Director is also conflicted, by an Alternate Selector nominated by BC/SO.