



2026 Junior World Championships Selection Policy

**Tashkent April 2026 World
Taekwondo Junior Championships.**

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Policy last reviewed and updated by the AT Board:

2025

Next policy Review Date:

Not Applicable

Responsible Person:

CEO

1. Definitions

For the purposes of this Selection Policy:

- i. The “Team” means the 2026 Australian Junior World Championships Team.
- ii. The term ‘Team’ in this policy shall refer to any Athlete member that has been designated to the 2026 Australian Junior World Championships Team. in compliance with this Selection Policy.
- iii. “Selection Event” means 2026 World Junior Championships Selection for the World Taekwondo Junior Championships categories the “Competition”.
- iv. The “Selection Panel” means the Panel as appointed by Australian Taekwondo per Clause 5.
- v. “World Taekwondo” (WT) means World Taekwondo being the International Federation.
- vi. AT means Australian Taekwondo (AT) and shall be represented by the Chief Executive Officer of Australian Taekwondo.
- vii. the “Chief Executive Officer” (CEO) means the Chief Executive Officer of Australian Taekwondo and for the purposes of this policy shall mean Australian Taekwondo (AT)
- viii. The “Team Size” means the maximum number of team members as defined in Clause 2.
- ix. The “Selection Process and Criteria” means the requirements as defined in Clause 3.
- x. “Extenuating Circumstances” means the circumstances as defined in Clause 9.

2. Background

Australian Taekwondo (AT) is tasked with offering opportunities for athletes to enhance their potential for success with an opportunity to be selected for the Australian 2026 World Taekwondo World Junior Championships Team (the Team).

The Team will be selected via the 2026 World Juniors Selection Event (the Selection Event) February 7–8 2026 at Whitlam Leisure Centre, Liverpool NSW.

3. Composition and Selection

- 3.1 The Selection Event (referred to in Clause 1) is the selection event for the Team.
- 3.2 The final composition and size of the 2026 Team will be determined by AT.
- 3.3 The maximum quota of team members will be no more than that designated by WT in each of the Senior categories outlined below.

Male	Female
-45kg	-42kg
-48kg	-44kg
-51kg	-46kg
-55kg	-49kg
-59kg	-52kg
-63kg	-55kg
-68kg	-59kg
-73kg	-63kg
-78kg	-68kg
+78kg	+68kg

3.4 Only current registered members of AT, with no outstanding financial obligations, will be considered for selection.

3.5 Amendments to the Team/s may be made in accordance with this policy.

4. Selection of Athletes

4.1 Athletes born between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2011 are eligible to compete at the World Taekwondo Junior Championships.

4.2 The 2026 Team will be selected from members contesting the Selection Event as per the World Taekwondo (WT) divisions and requirements.

4.3 Athletes to the 2026 Team will be selected from current AT registered members who are Australian citizens and either be eligible to apply for, or hold, a valid Australian passport that will not expire for six months after the 2026 World Junior Championships.

4.4 Applicants for selection shall be a Kukkiwon Dan holder or have submitted an application for Kukkiwon Certification through AT as of the date of submitting their entry application to the Selection Event.

4.5 Athletes must be registered through their actual Club/Academy. Athletes found to be registering through proxy Clubs/Academies will face sanctions.

4.6 Athletes who have first placing results in their nominated division at the 2026 Selection Event shall be nominated for selection to the Team for the 2026 World Taekwondo World Junior Championships.

4.7 If a first-placed athlete withdraws from the team, the selection will be offered to the second-placed athlete. If the second-placed athlete also withdraws, the division will not be filled.

4.8 Athletes in uncontested divisions who request a refund will be deemed to have withdrawn from the competition and therefore will not be eligible for selection.

4.9 In the event that a selected athlete in a particular weight category is subsequently deemed ineligible under the conditions outlined in this Policy, the AT CEO will refer the matter to the Selection Panel for review and determination.

4.10 The Team list will be forwarded to the Australian Taekwondo CEO by the Chairperson of Selection panel as soon as is practicable.

4.11 Any matter that is not specifically stated in this Policy that affects the selection of an athlete will be referred to the Selection Panel.

4.12 In the event an athlete is uncontested, the athlete may be screened by the Selection Panel for international competition readiness. The Panel will assess attributes including, but not limited to: technical skills, fighting capabilities and prior competition record. Athletes and coaches will be

provided a time and place for any such screening. Such screening may be conducted live or through zoom or other communication technologies at the sole discretion of the Selection Panel.

5. Selection Panel

The Selection Panel appointed by Australian Taekwondo from time to time, which, where practicable will comprise of:

- i. The Australian Taekwondo Head of Performance (Panel Chairperson)
- ii. The Head of Team for the Junior World Championships Team
- iii. An independent coach from the Pathways Program who does not have any athletes on the team.

6. Expectations of team and squad athletes

- a. Attain a WT GAL via AT upon notice of selection
- b. Attendance at any required Team Training camp or competition prior to the 2026 World Junior Championships
- c. Notification to AT of any illness or injury that will affect preparation, including a Recovery Plan.
- d. Notification to AT of any other circumstances that will affect preparation.

7. Removal from Team

Any athlete may be removed who:

- a. By reason of illness or injury is unable to perform to the required standard in the opinion of the Selection Panel (after having received advice from a medical practitioner).
- b. Breaches or fails to fulfill a requirement of anti-doping requirements of the World Taekwondo (WT) and/or AT.
- c. Breaches or fails to observe the conditions described in the Application Form, Team Agreement or Code of Conduct.
- d. Fails to meet the Team expectations without reasonable explanation and failure to inform AT.
- e. In the consideration of the AT Selection Panel fails or breaches any rules of AT that at its sole discretion warrants removal from the Team.

Any athlete removed from the Team may be replaced in compliance with this Selection Policy. Athletes from the Team may be replaced with athletes from the Squad subject to them having met all of the Team and Squad expectations.

8. Funding

Selection to the Team does not guarantee funding to any events, camps or the World Championships. Funding will be available for athletes subject to the funding sources available to AT.

Costs to attend the event will be approximately \$4,000 to 5,000AUD.

9. Extenuating Circumstances

9.1 Notwithstanding anything contained within the Selection Policy, the Selection Panel may make a change to the athletes selected to the Team for any event, due to Extenuating Circumstances preventing an athlete from otherwise meeting the Performance Requirements or Required

Event/s.

9.2 Only Extenuating Circumstances that prevent an athlete from meeting the Performance Requirements or Required Event/s will be considered. In considering the performances of athletes at the Required Event/s, the Selection Panel at their absolute discretion, may give weight to Extenuating Circumstances, which shall include one or more of the following:

- 9.2.1 injury or illness.
- 9.2.2 equipment failure.
- 9.2.3 travel delays.
- 9.2.4 bereavement or disability arising from death or serious illness of an immediate family member.
- 9.2.5 an unanticipated event occurring at the Qualifying Event; or

9.3 Any other factors reasonably considered by the selection panel at their absolute discretion, to constitute Extenuating Circumstances.

A decision as to whether Extenuating Circumstances may apply to an athlete will be made by the Selection Panel on an individual case by case basis.

10. Amendments

- 10.1 This policy may be amended or supplemented by AT at its discretion in order to achieve the objective and specifically where matters arise which, in the sole opinion of AT have not been provided for in this policy or where the literal application of this policy would not achieve the objective.
- 10.2 This policy may be amended or supplemented by AT at its discretion where matters related to Covid effect the ability to implement the event or the policy in a manner that would not achieve the objectives set out in this policy. This includes but not limited to, changes to competition date, changes to competition location and or changes to selection method or criteria.
- 10.3 Any such variation or amendment must be advised in writing by the AT Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The AT CEO will endeavour to give as much notice as possible to all persons affected by any amendment or supplement to this Policy.

11. Appeals

- 11.1 Within [24] hours of the time that a Non-Selected Athlete receives notice of their non-selection, the Non-Selected Athlete must provide Written Notice to the CEO of Australian Taekwondo that the Non-Selected Athlete disputes their non-selection.
- 11.2 The Non-Selected Athlete must provide reasons to support their notice of dispute. The Written Notice must be accompanied by an AUD \$200 application fee, which will be refunded to the Athlete should the outcome of the dispute or appeal process result in their selection for the Team for the Event.
- 11.3 An appeal must follow the procedures as set out in the Australian Taekwondo Selection Appeals Policy. The full process for appeals is outlined in Clause 5 of the policy which can be viewed [here](#).