



Climbing New Zealand

Youth Team Selection Process 2016

Climbing New Zealand Youth Team Selection Process

This document outlines the Climbing New Zealand (CNZ) Youth Team Selection Calendar and Process for 2016.

This document has been created to communicate the National Standard used to select future CNZ Youth Team members. It is through the development of such systems that CNZ can continue to build the infrastructure whereby it can support its aspiring youth climbers on an International stage.

2016 CNZ Youth Team Selection Timeline:

August 2015	<p>CNZ Secretary contacts Regional Clubs.</p> <p>It is requested that the regional clubs notify its members, that those wanting to be considered for the CNZ Development Squad, should compete in the National Championship event in September 2015. Please note that athletes who don't compete may still be considered.</p>
October 2015	<p>CNZ Selectors confirm with Climbing New Zealand a provisional list of names for the CNZ Development Squad.</p>
20 th December	<p>Deadline for Club Coaches / Secretaries to notify CNZ of any athletes that may have had their performance effected and / or missed competition due to injury or other events.</p>
22 nd December	<p>CNZ Team Manager emails invites for the CNZ Development Squad to named athletes and their parent / guardian (if applicable). This will include the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CNZ Development Squad Letter Home• CNZ Development Squad Contract• CNZ Youth Team Athlete Application• CNZ Youth Team Selection Process Document
Beginning of February 2016	<p>CNZ Team Manager emails out Ministry of Education Information to named athletes and their families. This information is applicable to those eligible for and selected to, the 2016 CNZ Youth Team that will compete at the World Youth Climbing Championships in Guangzhou, China. For details visit: http://www.ifsc-climbing.org/index.php/world-competition/world-championships).</p>
15 th February	<p>Deadline for return of Development Squad Contract.</p>

29 th February	<p>Deadline for return of Athlete Application. Please note that this only applies to those who are eligible and aspiring to be considered for the CNZ Youth Team.</p> <p>The CNZ Youth Team will be selected from the CNZ Development Squad. However, members of the CNZ Development Squad do not need to apply for a place on the CNZ Youth Team.</p> <p>All CNZ Youth Team applications will be reviewed at the Selection Meeting. This will be according to the Selection Criteria outlined in this document. Athletes' coaches will be expected to provide feedback by a questionnaire prior to the selection meeting.</p>
3 rd April	<p>2016 CNZ Youth Team Selection Meeting.</p> <p>All applications are reviewed and athletes are selected.</p>
4 th April	<p>All applicants notified of the outcome.</p> <p>CNZ Team Manager will send CNZ Youth Team Contract and supporting documents to successful applicants.</p>
10 th April	<p>Cut off date for acceptance via email.</p>
15 th April	<p>Cut off date for CNZ Youth Team Contract and supporting documents via post.</p> <p>First payment instalment due.</p>
18 th April	<p>2016 CNZ Youth Team announced.</p>

1. Eligibility

1.1 Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the CNZ Youth Team, all athletes must:

- Compete in a minimum of two Climbing New Zealand competitions in the year previous to the selection year
- Commit to competing in a minimum of two Climbing New Zealand competitions during the selection year
- Be eligible to hold a New Zealand Passport

It is the responsibility of the athlete and their respective parent / guardian (if applicable) to ensure that the athlete in question meets the eligibility criteria outlined above.

2. Selection

2.1 Selection Committee

A Selection Committee comprising of the Head Coach, the Assistant Coach and one additional nominated Selection Official will make selection for the CNZ Development Squad and CNZ Youth Team.

The Team Manager and a CNZ Representative will also be invited to attend the Selection Meeting.

The CNZ Representative is a non-voting observer. The CNZ rep will be neutral, and as such will not be a parent or coach of any athlete that is being considered for selection. In the instance whereby this is unavoidable, the CNZ rep will need to leave the room when the particular athlete in question is being discussed. The CNZ Representative's role is to observe what takes place at the Selection Meeting and challenge any process that appears unfair. Following the meeting, a brief report is given to the CNZ Committee.

Any parent, whatever position they hold on the Selection Committee, cannot vote for their child and is required to leave the room if their child is being discussed.

2.2 Selection Events

Selection to the CNZ Youth Team is gained by entering selection events. In order to be eligible to be selected for Lead, one must enter Lead Selection events. Likewise, selection for Bouldering is gained by entering Bouldering selection events.

Although there will be Youth C & D categories at selection events, the CNZ Youth Team will only be selected from Youth B, Youth A and Junior. There are no IFSC competitions for Youth C & D athletes.

Should a CNZ Youth Team competitor be selected for both the Lead Climbing and the Bouldering disciplines during the same year, the CNZ Head Coach or Assistant Coach will liaise and discuss the situation with the competitor, their parent(s)/guardian and their coach to find the best solution that safeguards the competitor from risk of injury through over-training and competing.

In the case of selecting for the CNZ Development Squad, Youth C, Youth B, Youth A and Junior, will be eligible. The aim of this is to provide additional support to promising athletes earlier on in their progression.

Lead Climbing & Bouldering Team Selection

In a typical year there are four to five Climbing New Zealand National events that CNZ Youth Team members are expected to attend; and it is advisable that those wishing to be considered for selection (for the following year) also attend these events. It is important to be aware that a review of the athletes' performance is taken from each of these events. The events in question are:

- 1st Round National Cup
- Additional National Cup Competitions
- National Championships

Another important point to understand is that a competitor can be selected for the CNZ Development Squad or CNZ Youth Team at any of the events listed above if their performance meets the required levels. These levels are set out in detail below.

2.3 Selection of Team Members

2.3.1 Automatic selection of Team members

Those CNZ Youth Team members that have made it into the Top 20 (single or combined placing) at the World Youth Climbing Championship in the previous year will automatically be selected for the CNZ Development Squad and CNZ Youth Team for the following year. This is based on their exceptional performance and will apply even where a climber will be competing in a different age category the following year.

Automatic selection is both a reward for good performance and an incentive to encourage others to improve their performance. Those selected by this process, unless they are injured, will still be expected to compete in the National Cup Series and National Championship with everyone else so their current performance levels can be monitored, developed and also used as a measure for other aspiring CNZ Youth Team members.

2.3.2 Selection of Team Members not selected automatically

Selection to the CNZ Youth Team, for those not selected automatically, is based on consideration of a combination of four elements:

- (a) Performance at selection events throughout the previous year including the 1st round of the 2016 National Cup.
- (b) An analysis of a climber's historic results at selection events.
- (c) Consideration of performance levels and results in other events.
- (d) An evaluation of an athlete's commitment to training & development observed during training and competition events e.g. Development Squad events, previous National and WYch Competitions.

2.3.2.a

Selection Events (see 1.2 above) are key events in the selection process and anyone aspiring to make the CNZ Development Squad or CNZ Youth Team for the following year should attend a minimum of two of these. These are clearly identified as the CNZ National Cup Series and Championship events.

2.3.2.b

Analysis of climbers' results over time helps the selection committee to understand whether someone is improving or not. It is based on the climbers' history of placings at National Cup and Championship events. It is also useful in the case of assessing an athlete's suitability that may have suffered from injury the previous year.

2.3.2.c

The Selection Committee will also consider performances in other events, such as the NZAC National Indoor Bouldering Series, Regional Competitions, Oceania's and the World Youth Climbing Championships (WYch).

2.3.2.d

The Selection Committee will also bear in mind commitment to continued training and will require evidence in the form of:

- Athlete Application
- Training programme and log (diary)
- Commitment and attitude to competing at a National and International level reported by their coach and other associated bodies

3. World Youth Climbing Championship Guidelines

To compete at this prestigious event, as a CNZ Youth Team member, a climber has to be committed to reaching a high benchmark. The Selection Committee will select based upon the aforementioned elements combined with the WYch Guidelines.

To compete Internationally, CNZ will consider lead climbers and boulderers that are achieving, or are genuinely working towards achieving, regular on-sight ascents of routes or boulders that are a grade or two below the international qualifier standard for their IFSC category. Please note that the Selection Committee will also consider an athlete's commitment to training and to improving performance (regardless of current grades), both in the short and long term.

The CNZ Youth Team will be made up of dedicated athletes who are firmly focused on lifting their own standard & the New Zealand standard on an international stage.

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International Grade Indicators

Below are examples of the grades that an aspiring CNZ Youth Team athlete can use as a guide to lifting their performance to an International level. Can they on-sight, at least 50% of the time:

Lead Climbing Grades:

- Youth B Females: 25 - 26
- Youth B Males: 26 - 27
- Youth A Females: 26 - 27
- Youth A Males: 28 - 29
- Junior Females: 27 - 28
- Junior Males: 29 - 30

Bouldering Grades:

- Youth B Females: V4 / V5
- Youth B Males: V6 / V7
- Youth A Females: V6
- Youth A Males: V7 / V8
- Junior Females: V7 / V8
- Junior Males: V8+

Whilst selection to the CNZ Youth Team is limited to a team of hard working and committed athletes, the CNZ Team Officials will aim to support regional coaching through the CNZ Development Squad and other such initiatives. To coach young people and improve their climbing ability so that they might one day make selection.