

**Australian Para Powerlifting Team
Asia-Oceania Para Powerlifting Championships
7–12 April 2026, Bangkok, Thailand**

**Selection Policy
V 1.0 – December 2025**

Expressions of Interest close 16 February 2026

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The primary objective of this Selection Policy (**Policy**) is to enable the selection of Athlete(s) who have the greatest potential of achieving podium results in their respective bodyweight division at the Asia-Oceania Para Powerlifting Championships 2026 (**AO2026**) in Bangkok, Thailand.
- 1.2 The secondary objective of this Policy is to support athlete development pathways by considering categorised and pre-emerging athletes who demonstrate performance progression.
- 1.3 There are ten (10) Male and ten (10) Female weight divisions in Rookie (15-17yrs), Next Gen (18-20yrs), Elite (Open) and Legend (+45yrs) categories, respectively. Selection may require different considerations when considering Athletes under this Policy, whilst providing the greatest opportunity to achieve the primary objective for AO2026 in clause 1.1.

2. Process of Selection

- 2.1 Para Powerlifting Australia (**PPA**) will appoint a Panel which will be responsible for applying this Policy in respect of considering selections to the Team. The Panel will comprise of the following members:

- (a) General Manager, Performance and Pathways PPA (Chair);
- (b) Head Coach PPA;
- (c) Performance Pathways Manager PPA; and
- (d) Athlete Wellbeing and Engagement representative.

If a consensus is not reached, the General Manager will have the casting vote.

- 2.2 For Athletes to be considered for selection they must have:

- (a) Completed a Para Powerlifting Expression of Interest (**EOI**) Application which can be found on <https://www.paralympic.org.au/sports/para-powerlifting/> and signed the Participation Waiver; and
- (b) EOI Applications must be submitted to PPA by no later than 5pm 16 February 2026. EOI Applications will not be accepted past this date.
- (c) Athletes must keep the news of Team selection confidential until it's made public by PPA.
- (d) All athletes that are not Nationally categorised that are selected are required to cover all costs associated with competing at this event.
- (e) Selected Athletes are not members of the AO2026 Team until all required self - funded invoices (where applicable) and the criteria in this Policy have been met.

3 Selection Framework

3.1 In considering Athletes for selection, the Panel in its sole and absolute discretion may consider factors including but not limited to:

- (a) The overall World Para Powerlifting (**WPP**) World Rankings (period 1 January 2025 – 15 February 2026);
- (b) Results from WPP recognised competitions (January 2025 – February 2026);
- (c) Competition strength and consistency of performance;
- (d) Athlete availability for the full event period (3 April until 13 April 2026);
- (e) Medical clearance if recovering from injury or requested by the Panel; and
- (f) Any other factor deemed relevant to achieving team objectives.

4 Divisions

4.1 The standard bodyweight divisions for Elite (Open) and Legend (+45yrs) age categories are the same and listed below:

Males	Females
Up to 49kg	Up to 41kg
Up to 54kg	Up to 45kg
Up to 59kg	Up to 50kg
Up to 65kg	Up to 55kg
Up to 72kg	Up to 61kg
Up to 80kg	Up to 67kg
Up to 88kg	Up to 73kg
Up to 97kg	Up to 79kg
Up to 107kg	Up to 86kg
Over 107kg	Over 86kg

5 Athlete Eligibility

5.1 Irrespective of PPA receiving an EOI Application, to be eligible for consideration for selection to the AO2026 Team, all Athletes must:

- (a) Be an Australian citizen;
- (b) Be classified eligible with a status of either Confirmed (C), Review (R) or Fixed Review Date (FRD).
- (c) Hold an active WPP license for the 2026 season;

- (d) Not be currently under disqualification or suspension by the International Paralympic Committee (**IPC**), WPP or under the World Anti-Doping Agency (**WADA**) Code;
- (e) Have been available for sample collections as required by Sport Integrity Australia (**SIA**) and if requested by SIA, provided up to date information regarding their whereabouts on a regular basis;
- (f) Have complied with all applicable rules and regulations of the IPC, WPP and the WADA Code as may be modified and applied by the Federation to ensure that the overriding principles of WPP are observed. In the case of inconsistency, WPP rules and regulations will prevail;
- (g) Have complied with the minimum age regulations as stipulated by WPP;
- (h) Agree to submit to injury and medical assessment and examinations and fitness monitoring as determined by and when requested by PPA;
- (i) Have not breached the WPP Classification rules and regulations, or the IPC Athlete Classification Code, unless the Athlete has been sanctioned for the breach and has completed the sanction imposed;
- (j) Commit to Signing the Athlete Participation Waiver;
- (k) Agree to undertake all reasonably expected education courses, including but not limited to SIA e-learning modules: Anti-Doping Fundamentals and Anti-Doping Annual Update Courses, Match Fixing Awareness in Sport and Classification Modules; and
- (l) Have not by their actions or omissions brought themselves, PPA, PA, IPC or WPP into disrepute.

6 Classification

- 6.1 Athletes will abide by the WPP Classification rules and regulations, the IPC Athlete Classification Code and any relevant PA classification policies and requirements, including attending classification assessment as required.
- 6.2 Athletes will notify PPA and WPP if there is any change to assistive devices, or equipment used, which may impact their classification in any way, and agree to undergo further classification assessment if required.
- 6.3 Athletes will disclose previous classification documentation and/or medical diagnostic documentation from relevant specialists for classification which may include:
 - (a) Providing medical diagnostic information detailing the Athlete's underlying health condition and eligible impairment(s); and
 - (b) Undertaking any additional medical assessment or provide further medical diagnostic information as required by PPA/WPP for the purpose of classification.

- 6.4 If an Athlete has any medical intervention, or if changes occur to the Athlete's impairment which may impact on their classification, Athletes must notify and provide medical documentation to PPA as soon as possible.

7 Performance Standards

- 7.1 Athletes must meet one of the following:

Nationally Categorised Athlete

- (a) The athlete must be a Nationally Categorised Athlete in Para Powerlifting - Podium, Podium Ready, Podium Potential, Developing or Emerging.

Or

Pre-Emerging or Non categorised Athlete

- (b) Meet the Minimum Qualification Standards outlined in section 8 at a WPP recognised event within the timeframe of January 2025 to February 2026; and
(c) Demonstrated progression through National events (Grand Prix and Nationals) and training camps (where relevant).

8. Minimum Qualification Standards (MQS)

Men

Bodyweight Category	Elite and Legends
Up to 49 kg	102 kg
Up to 54 kg	107 kg
Up to 59 kg	118 kg
Up to 65 kg	125 kg
Up to 72 kg	127 kg
Up to 80 kg	129 kg
Up to 88 kg	128 kg
Up to 97 kg	136 kg
Up to 107 kg	133 kg
Over 107 kg	150 kg

Women

Bodyweight Category	Elite and Legends
Up to 41 kg	65 kg
Up to 45 kg	64 kg
Up to 50 kg	71 kg
Up to 55 kg	64 kg
Up to 61 kg	78 kg
Up to 67 kg	79 kg
Up to 73 kg	72 kg
Up to 79 kg	83 kg
Up to 86 kg	80 kg
Over 86 kg	87 kg

9 Selection Announcements & Timelines

- 9.1 PPA will determine the date when it announces the selection of the Team, and this date will be advised.
- 9.2 PPA is solely responsible for the announcement of AO2026 Team.

10 Appeals

- 10.1 A Non-Selected Athlete may appeal against their non-selection. A new selection panel will be formed to facilitate an independent process to reassess the athlete's selection.

11 Key Dates

December 2025	EOI Applications Open
16 February 2026 5pm AEST	<p>Athletes must submit their EOI application and sign the participation waiver by 16 February.</p> <p>No late entries will be accepted.</p> <p><i>You do not need to wait for your NSW Grand Prix results on 14 February to complete your EOI —selectors will have access to those results and they will be considered in the selection process. We encourage you to submit your EOI as soon as possible to confirm your eligibility.</i></p>
Week commencing 16 February 2026	Selection Panel meets to consider EOI Applications.
Week commencing 23 February 2026	PPA to notify Athletes of Selection or Non-Selection.

24 February 2026	Deadline for WPP to receive entry by number information from PPA.
27 February 2026	Appeals window closes for Athletes to write to PPA for written statement for reason(s) of their non-Selection with \$200 non-refundable fee.
2 March 2026	Appeals panel meets to consider appeals as required.
3 March 2026	Deadline to notify athlete on the decision(s) of the Appeal(s).
3 March 2026	Deadline for WPP to receive entry by name information from PPA.
Mid March 2025	PPA announces the Selection of AO2026.

12 Amendments

This Criteria may be amended at the discretion of PPA.