

SELECTION AND NOMINATION “FAST” APPEALS PROCEDURE

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This document sets out Badminton England’s Selection Appeals Procedure for all international team selection decisions (including de-selection). It applies equally to such nomination decisions as if each reference to the “selection” was replaced with “nomination” unless otherwise stated. This document will remain in place until superseded or amended by Badminton England from time to time.
- 1.2. Anyone wishing to lodge an appeal under this procedure must be fully familiar with the detailed provisions of Badminton England’s Selection Policy for the relevant competition.
- 1.3. This is intended to be an accelerated procedure to enable any challenge to be resolved as quickly as is reasonably possible. There is considerable potential for “knock on” to athlete preparation related to the outcome of the appeal. Accordingly, the aim of this procedure is to return a decision on appeal within 7 working days.
- 1.4. This is the only applicable appeals procedure and forms the entire agreement between each athlete (which for this purpose includes the parents or guardian of any athlete under the age of eighteen) and Badminton England (together "the Parties") as to how selection decisions are to be challenged. The Parties agree to submit any dispute concerning any matter connected with or arising out of selection issues to binding arbitration in accordance with the provisions of this Selection Appeal Procedure. The Parties agree that they will not commence, continue or maintain any legal challenge to any matter falling under the jurisdiction of this Procedure, or any decision made under this Selection Appeals Procedure, before any court of law or other dispute resolution body. The Parties will treat all decisions under this Selection Appeals Procedure as final and binding upon them.
- 1.5. The Parties agree that this Selection Appeal Procedure is to be treated as an arbitration procedure under Part 1 of the Arbitration Act 1996 (“the Act”) and the provisions of clause 1.4 above amount to a binding arbitration agreement for the purposes of section 6 of the Act. The seat of the Arbitration shall be England.

2. PARTIES

- 2.1. This Selection Appeals Procedure is binding on Badminton England and on each athlete who is seeking selection to any England Team selected by Badminton England.

3. HOW TO APPEAL

- 3.1. This Appeals Procedure is commenced when an athlete affected by a selection decision makes a formal written appeal (the 'Notice of Appeal') addressed to the Chair of the Badminton England Appeal Panel. This must be done within 72 hours of the selection being communicated to the athlete in accordance with the selection policy. If the athlete fails to submit the Notice within the time limit set out in this Procedure he or she will have lost their right of Appeal under this Procedure, save in wholly exceptional circumstances which will be judged by the Appeal Panel in their absolute discretion.
- 3.2. The formal written Appeal submitted by the appellant, on receipt, will firstly (where possible) be independently validated prior to being sent to the Chair of the Appeal Panel. This is to ensure that the appeal is valid in reference to 3.3 and Section 4. (Grounds of Appeal). Should the Appeal not be deemed valid under section 4, the appellant will be notified of such and the appeal will not be heard by the Appeal Panel.
- 3.3. The Notice of Appeal will set out the ground of the appeal and will include full details of the basis of the appeal including the precise manner in which the appellant alleges the selection criteria have not been followed. The Notice of Appeal should be as full as possible as it will form

the basis of the remainder of this procedure. Appeals will normally be conducted based on the written submissions of the appellant and the relevant Badminton England Selection Panel, without a hearing or the calling of witnesses or the giving of verbal evidence.

4. GROUND OF APPEAL

- 4.1. The sole ground of appeal against the decision of any selection panel will be that there has been a failure to follow the applicable selection criteria. This Selection Appeals Procedure is provided on this limited ground only and must not be seen as an opportunity to dispute the opinion of the selection panel where they have followed the proper procedure. In reaching their decision the selection panel are acting as experts and athletes agree that in so doing the panel will exercise judgement and discretion which are not in themselves capable of challenge.
- 4.2. There are no appeals allowed against the content of the published selection criteria and therefore against the actions of the selection panel, provided they follow the selection criteria.

5. COMMUNICATIONS AND NOTICES

- 5.1. Due to the timescales involved, the Badminton England Selection Panel will use any reasonable method of communicating with athletes which will include verbal announcements to groups of athletes, telephone calls, text messages, email or fax and athletes must be aware of this and keep a constant review of these communication channels to receive the selection decision. Athletes are advised that they should inform the Performance Operation Team of a preferred method of communication and accept full responsibility for ensuring relevant contact details are provided.
- 5.2. Any Notice of Appeal must be sent by email as set out at Schedule 1.

6. APPEAL PANEL

- 6.1. The Appeal Panel will consist of three people who will be appointed by Badminton England, who are independent of Badminton England and of the original Selection Panel.
- 6.2. In the event that any member of the Appeal Panel has any involvement with or is related to an appellant or any athlete who might be affected by the outcome of the Appeal, or is in any other way placed in a position of conflicting interests in respect of any appeal s/he shall be disqualified from sitting on the Appeal Panel and will be replaced by an alternative panel member at the discretion of Badminton England.

7. CONDUCT OF THE APPEAL

- 7.1. As soon as reasonably practicable following the receipt of the Notice of Appeal from the independent validator, the Chair of the Appeal Panel shall contact the Chair of the Selection Panel to inform them of the Appeal, provide them with a copy of the Notice of Appeal and request that the Chair provides any response on behalf of the Selection Panel within 72 hours of this notification.
- 7.2. The Selection Panel and the Appellant will not be entitled to appear before the Appeal Panel but may at the discretion of the Appeal Panel be invited to provide information by telephone or in writing.
- 7.3. Until the appeal is decided, Badminton England will refrain from publishing any further details in relation to the selection which is the subject of the appeal, although the existing details will remain where originally published before the Notice of Appeal was received.

- 7.4. Where it appears to the Appeal Panel that the interests of some other athlete (other than the Appellant, referred to as the “Third Party”) may be affected by any decision of the Appeal Panel, they will invite the Third Party to comment on the merits of the Appeal and will provide the Third Party with copies of all relevant documentation. In such a situation it is likely that the decision of the Appeal Panel will determine the rights of all the affected athletes (not just the appellant) and therefore the Third Party will be prohibited from raising again by way of a separate or further appeal matters which have already been decided upon.
- 7.5. The Appeal Panel will seek to reach its conclusion no later than 7 working days following the deadline for receipt of an Appeal Notice, and will inform all interested parties in writing and by telephone (or such other method of communication as the Appeal Panel shall decide) within this time frame.

8. REMEDIES

- 8.1. The Appeal Panel shall be entitled to confirm the decision of the Selection Panel and reject the Appeal.
- 8.2. The Appeal Panel may also quash the selection decision and remit the matter back to the Selection Panel identifying the errors in the conduct of the selection process and requesting that a new decision is made within one week.

9. MINOR AND NON-CONSEQUENTIAL BREACHES OF THIS PROCEDURE

- 9.1. Save that the time limit for commencing this Procedure by the Appellant shall be strictly enforced, where any party deviates from any requirement of this Procedure it shall not invalidate the Procedure or the decision of the Appeal Panel, unless there is a clear and significant risk that the deviation has affected the decision of the Appeal Panel.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROCEEDINGS AND PUBLICATION OF DECISION

- 10.1. Badminton England, the Appellant and any Third Party are under an obligation of confidentiality in respect of any appeal proceeding under this Procedure. Save as permitted under this Selection Appeals Procedure none of these Parties will make any public statement or disclosure of the contents of the Notice, or any other matter referred to by any of the parties during the course of these Proceedings.
- 10.2. Badminton England will be entitled to publish the decision of the Appeal Panel where it upholds the Appeal (or any element of it) in such manner and to such extent as is necessary to inform all properly interested and effected parties of the status of the selection decision previously published and the resulting position as to selection.

11. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS TO THIS PROCEDURE

- 11.1. Badminton England will be entitled to amend this procedure from time to time and such amendments will take effect from the first date of publication of the complete amended procedure on the Badminton England website.

Any Notice of Appeal must be sent to by email to appeals@badmintonengland.co.uk, who will forward these to be validated by an independent member from Badminton England’s Board of Directors, prior to the Chair of the Appeals Panel being sent the Appellant’s submission.