

Rowing New Zealand (RNZ) Summer Squad Policy

Philosophy

In keeping with Rowing New Zealand mission 'To build and deliver the world's leading high performance system, which delivers sustainable winning performances', RNZ may operate a training squad of athletes (the Summer Squad) during the domestic rowing season.

The purpose of the Summer Squad is to assist medallists (Olympic events) and other high performing athletes to meet our mission statement.

Process

Invitations to join the Summer Squad will be issued by 'Summer Squad Committee' (SSC) which comprises of the Elite and U23 National Selectors who will act in conjunction with the RNZ High Performance Director and Elite Coaching team. In determining which athletes shall be invited into the Summer Squad the SSC shall have due regard to the resources available to RNZ to provide a proper training regime including, but not limited to, its ability to provide financial, coaching and logistical support to those athletes.

The Summer Squad is not a New Zealand representative rowing team. An invitation to join the Summer Squad does not constitute national selection nor confer any such status on an athlete.

Priority

Subject to adequate resources being available invitations to join the Summer Squad shall be issued, within 10 days after the Elite pinnacle international event (World Championships or Olympics) each year in the following order:

1st priority - Athletes that have medalled at the recent Elite World Championship or Olympic Games

2nd priority- Athletes that have made the 'A' final at the recent Elite World Championships or Olympic Games

3rd priority - Other such athletes as the SSC shall determine having due regard to Olympic and International aspirations of RNZ

4th priority – Athletes that don't meet priority 1 or 2 and are returning after 10+ months out of the RNZ HP programme need to meet the RPC selection requirements in July to September each year.

Summer Squad Start Date

The starting date for the Summer Squad will be approximately three weeks after the conclusion of the Elite World Championship other than the Olympic year, which will be advertised during the Olympic year.

Training Venue

Athletes shall be based at and undertake training out of the RNZ High Performance Centre at Lake Karapiro.

Athlete Support

1. Athletes will receive PEGs through their results from World Championships or Olympic Games as per the HPSNZ PEGs entitlement.
2. Athletes that are NOT entitled to PEGs will receive a 'Non-PEGs' Grant from RNZ from the start of the Summer Squad through to the end of the Elite trial the following year (beginning of March).

Notes on the Summer Squad Policy

1. Summer Squad athletes are not employees of RNZ and must sign an Athletes Agreement within a month of the Summer Squad starting.
2. Summer Squad athletes shall at all times comply with the terms of their RNZ athlete agreement in order to maintain eligibility for support under this policy.
3. Summer Squad athletes shall be personally responsible for payment of any NZ Government Taxes or other levies for which they are liable.
4. The ability of RNZ to provide funding or other support in terms of this policy is dependent upon and therefore subject to the receipt of funding from external agencies such as HPSNZ.
5. RNZ reserves the right to amend this policy from time to time as circumstances may dictate and athletes will be informed of the changes.
6. An athlete who has been a member of the current year's Elite Team and is not been included in the Summer Squad will be communicated to by the Head Coaches. Any other athlete not invited into the Summer Squad may contact the Head Coaches for reasons of their non-inclusion.
7. Failure to be invited into the Summer Squad does not preclude an athlete from being selected into an Elite or Under 23 trial if they meet the "Selection Guidelines".
8. The High Performance Director shall have the authorisation to grant exemptions from the starting date for exceptional circumstances.