



SECONDARY SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY SELECTION POLICY 2026

Introduction

This selection policy is for Wellington Secondary School Athletes** selected to represent the Wellington Centre at the NZ Secondary Schools Cross Country Relay Championships, at Trentham Memorial Park on **Sunday 21 June 2026**.

*Note: ** Wairarapa Secondary School athletes have their own regional team*

1. Selection Policy Philosophy

The key objectives are:

1. To select competitive Athletics Wellington teams in all grades for this event, where possible.
2. To select teams, with reserves, based on selection events and entry by the individuals through their schools into the NZSS Cross Country Individual Championships held on Saturday 20 June.
 - a. Athletes must enter the Individual Championships through their school sports dept. See the Link Only School staff can access and complete entries at the link at www.nzssaa.org.nz
3. The intention will be to field teams in each division for Year 9, Juniors, and Seniors for both Boys and Girls and Mixed Relay team.
 - a. A maximum of three teams will be entered per division only [A & B & C teams]
 - b. Reserves will be named by age divisions.
4. The final composition of teams will be determined post the Individual Championships on Saturday (Day 1) of the Championships.

2. Expression of Intention

Athletes wishing to be considered for selection **must notify the Selectors** if they wish to be considered for at least two days prior to the relevant selection date, by:

- ✓ Completing the online **Expression of Interest at this [\[link\]](#)** to notify your intention to be selected and confirming that you will be in Trentham for the Sunday competition.

If an athlete subsequently becomes unavailable, the athlete must notify the Selectors immediately. For Athletes to be considered it is recommended they have ANZ membership as a current member of an Athletics Wellington club.

3. Selections

The following are the key Selection Events:

- AW Interclub Shaw Baton XC Relay on **Saturday 2 May** at Battle Hill
- AW Interclub University Relays on **Saturday 9 May** at QE II Park, Paekakariki
- CSW Cross Country Relays on **Tuesday 12 May**, at Wakefield Park, Berhampore
- CSW Cross Country Championships on **Thursday 28 May**, at Harcourt Park, Upper Hutt

Selections Timelines:

Selections will be made for the following events on the following dates:

- Announcement of provisional relay teams/squads will be made following the CSW Championships on 28 May 2026
- Initial confirmation of teams will be once athletes are entered on NZSSAA Individual entries.

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- **FINAL Relay Team** confirmation will be made by the AW team manager(s) post day one of the NZSS Cross Country Championships on Saturday on June 20th.
- AW will endeavour to support at least an “A” and “B” team in each relay event, including Mixed Relays
- If a selected athlete withdraws from the team, the selectors may replace that athlete at any time.

Note: Late withdrawals could result in the loss of a team which effects other athletes

4. General

Athlete Details

- On advice of selection in the team, the athlete must let the Athletics Wellington General Manager or Event Team Manager know their uniform requirements and confirm availability for the Sunday morning event.
- Online forms will be set up for these requirements.

Team Uniform and Hoodie

Selected athletes will be able to purchase an Athletics Wellington team singlet from Athletics Wellington and team merchandise online at

<https://www.sas.co.nz/product-category/athletics/athletics-wellington/>

The representative singlets are only available for purchase to those named in Athletics Wellington teams for these events. An online form will be set up for this.

5. Selectors and Managers

The **Selectors** and Team Managers for this event will be:

Julie Richards: juliemaerdy@yahoo.co.uk

John Cope: johnandjacquicope@gmail.com