

2025 Australian Sport Climbing Team - Selection Policy

(Boulder / Lead / Speed)

Sport Climbing Australia (SCA) is the national body responsible for the sport of Sport Climbing in Australia as recognised by the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC), Sport Australia (ASC) and the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC).

1. Our vision

To attract and inspire future generations of Australian sport climbers through the successful delivery of medal competitive performances in Brisbane 2032 and beyond as a leading Sport Climbing nation.

2. Policy Objectives

The objective of this policy is in direct alignment to the stated vision above. It will ensure that both investment and opportunities are directed to those athletes who demonstrate the potential to successfully represent Australia and deliver medal winning performances at current and/or future World Championships and Olympic Games.

3. Definition and Purpose 2025 Australian Sport Climbing Team

Athletes identified to be a member of the 2025 Australian Sport Climbing Team (ASCT) will be selected through one of three talent streams, each with specific selection criteria, objectives, and funding frameworks (*subject to confirmation of AIS funding allocation*), but all aligned to achieving the long-term strategic vision of Sport Climbing Australia:

- SCA Podium Program
- SCA Pathway Program
- SCA Development Program

There is **no minimum or maximum number of athletes** in this team (discipline, gender, or talent stream). Instead, **the objective is to provide appropriate levels of support and competition opportunities to facilitate medal winning performances at benchmark and pinnacle events, now and in the future.** SCA will support and facilitate this through the employment of sport climbing and high performance expertise and the delivery of a national program of international events, training camps and other appropriate activities and opportunities.

Selection to the 2025 ASCT does not guarantee any athlete a minimum number of competition opportunities each year. This will be established through individual athlete performance planning in consultation with the National Coaching Team and in alignment with an independent selection framework.



4. Eligibility

To be eligible for consideration for selection to an Australian Sport Climbing Team, athletes must meet the following criteria:

- (a) be an Australian citizen;
- (b) have read, signed in agreement and returned the execution page of the SCA National Team Agreement and/or Code of Conduct;
- (c) be a current SCA Member, in good standing and with no outstanding invoices to SCA;
- (d) meet the age requirement to participate in adult international competition for the upcoming season under IFSC policy.
- (e) have not been issued a red card in the last 12 months
- (f) have read, signed and returned the SCA No Doping Declaration Policy and declare that the circumstances have not changed since submitting the declaration.
- (g) agree to participate in and meet all competition, training and participation requirements as determined by SCA.
- (h) be available for sample collection and have provided accurate and up to date whereabouts information on a regular basis as directed by IFSC and/or Sport Integrity Australia (SIA), under the policies of IFSC and SCA (ADPs) and the World Anti-Doping Code (Code);
- (i) not have breached any ADP nor have had a sanction imposed which has not been completed. For the purpose of considering eligibility for selection, a breach of an ADP may include: (i) an athlete under investigation for an Anti-Doping Rule Violation (ADRV) where an infraction notice has been issued or the athlete has been stood down under the provisions of any ADP; or (ii) a failure to comply with an athlete's obligations under an ADP, even if such a breach does not result in an ADRV;
- (j) be required to be up to date and fully compliant with SIA's Anti-doping Education (SIA e-learning), and therefore have completed and be current at the time of selection with all online updates;
- (k) Any athlete who, after 1 January 2010, has been found guilty of an ADRV and where the consequent penalty applied is a two-year suspension or greater, will no longer be eligible for consideration for selection to an ASCT for the duration of the penalty issued. On a case-by-case basis, SCA may extend the non-eligibility to a longer period;
- (l) Any athlete who is currently under investigation because of any indictable criminal charge (even where such charge has been heard summarily) having been brought against them or is currently serving a penalty issued by the Courts because of an indictable criminal charge being proven, is and will not be eligible for consideration for selection to an ASCT, unless he/she is able to satisfy the Board of SCA (at its sole discretion) that exceptional circumstances apply. Where the Board is satisfied that exceptional circumstances apply, the athlete may be considered for selection in the ASCT in accordance with the selection criteria set out in this document. Any request for the Board to consider an athlete's circumstances must be submitted to the Board in writing.



5. 2025 ASCT – Selection Criteria

2025 ASCT - PODIUM

Aim: To identify and support **athletes with proven international results or the potential to perform and deliver top-8 results at a World Championships or Olympic Games in the next 4-years**. Athletes in this program will be supported in their daily performance environments, in national team training camps and through a targeted campaign of IFSC World Cup Competitions aligned to their Individual Athlete Performance Plans developed in consultation with the SCA Coaching Team.

Criteria:	<p>Performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● IFSC top-40 athletes in the World Ranking (LINK) (Boulder, Lead or Speed) OR, ● 2 or more semi-final (Boulder / Lead) performances during the most recent IFSC World Cup Season OR, ● 2 or more top-16 (Speed) performances during the most recent IFSC World Cup Season OR, ● 1 or more final (Boulder / Lead) performances during the most recent IFSC World Cup Season OR, ● 1 or more top-8 (Speed) performances during the most recent IFSC World Cup Season OR, ● Represented Australia at an Olympic Games in the previous 12 months.
	<p>Categorisation</p> <p>Meets National Categorisation status of Podium, Podium Ready or Podium Potential</p>

2025 ASCT - PATHWAY

Aim: To identify, develop, support & progress **athletes with the potential to perform and deliver consistent top-8 results at a World Championships or Olympic Games in 4 to 8 years' time**. Athletes in this program will be supported in their daily training environments, in national team training camps and through a targeted campaign of IFSC Continental Youth Cup, Continental Cup and, when appropriate, targeted World Cup Competitions aligned to their Individual Athlete Performance Plans developed in consultation with the SCA Coaching Team.

Criteria:	<p>Performance</p> <p>1 semi-final (Boulder / Lead) performances during the most recent IFSC World Cup Season OR,</p> <p>1 top-16 (Speed) performances during the most recent IFSC World Cup Season OR</p> <p>Final (Boulder / Lead) at previous years IFSC Europe Cup OR,</p> <p>Top-8 (Speed) at previous years IFSC Europe Cup OR,</p> <p>Semi-final (Boulder / Lead) at previous years IFSC Youth World Championship (Youth A or Junior) OR,</p> <p>Top-16 (Speed) at previous years IFSC Youth World Championship (Youth A or Junior)</p>
	<p>Categorisation</p> <p>Meets National Categorisation status of Emerging, Developing or Podium Potential</p>



2025 ASCT – DEVELOPMENT

Aim: To continue to provide competition experiences to high performing **athletes who do not meet selection criteria elsewhere** but who have high performance aspirations and/or develop and display their talents through non-traditional development pathways and are able to demonstrate their performance levels in targeted competition.

Criteria:	Performance Highest ranked performance at a National Championships (Boulder/Lead) after athletes who have already met selection criteria in the Podium Program or Pathway program OR , Discretionary selection by the selection panel through 2025 SCA High Performance Program activities.
	Categorisation Does not meet any National Categorisation status.

Categorisation

Does not meet any [National Categorisation](#) status.

6. Discretionary Selection

Athletes can not apply for special consideration for the 2025 ASCT. In exceptional circumstances, some non-selected athletes may be invited by the SCA Coaching Team to attend 2025 ASCT training camps, competition simulations and events to both support their development and allow National Coaches to view their performance.

7. Selection Timeline

The selection panel will convene no later than one-week following the conclusion of the 2024 National Championships for a given discipline to confirm which athletes have met selection criteria and issue 2025 ASCT invitations shortly thereafter.

8. Selection Panel

The selection panel will consist of:

- National Performance Pathway Lead (chair)
- One member of the SCA Coaching Team
- One SCA board member (non-voting observer)
- One external, independent, expert panel member

The external panel member will be invited through National Institutes of Sport Network (NIN). The selection panel will be signed off by the SCA board.

9. Event Allocation Process

Allocation of ASCT quotas at 2025 international events will be conducted through a process of individual performance planning with each athlete facilitated by the SCA Coaching Team. A key output of this process will be a Individual Athlete Performance Plan (IAPP) which is the instrument used to establish performance expectations, guide planning, and support the evaluation of each athlete while they are a member of the 2025 ASCT.

This process is intended to enable SCA to send athletes who are prepared and able to take full advantage of international competition opportunities and will be carried out through the following steps:



Step	Description
1	The athlete, in consultation with the SCA Coaching Team, will develop a 2025 IAPP. This will include identification of a targeted IFSC World Cup and Continental Cup calendar.
2	The SCA Coaching Team will review all IAPP's and nominate athletes to each event using, but not limited to, the following guidelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● consideration of which 2025 ASCT program stream the athlete has been selected through: Podium program, Pathway program, or Development program.● consideration of how the event fits with the overall goals and objectives of the athlete's IAPP.● consideration of available world ranking points at the event and the athlete's current world ranking standing.● consideration of athlete health and wellbeing.● performance at International, National and Domestic events● SCA High Performance resources
3	Preliminary event allocation plans will be communicated by the SCA Coaching Team to each athlete at least 2 months before the start of the IFSC World Cup season (for each respective discipline).
4	Event selection will be confirmed in three-month blocks, two months before the start of that block. For example, event allocations for April, May and June will be confirmed in February. SCA reserves the right to review and amend event entries up to final event registration for reasons such as, but not limited to athlete injury or illness.

10. Monitoring

All 2025 ASCT athletes will be monitored and reviewed against their Individual Athlete Performance Plans every four months to track progression and to identify areas where further support may be required. Concurrently, athletes will be monitored against the signed terms of their SCA Athlete Agreements.



11. De-selection

Once athletes have obtained a place on the 2025 ASCT they are expected and required to conduct themselves at all training events and competitions as ambassadors of the sport and in line with the [code of conduct](#) of SCA and all relevant High Performance partner's policies. In addition, members are required, unless extenuating circumstances arise, to attend all specified National training camps and events as well as maintain a training program agreed upon by the Coaching Team.

An athlete may be de-selected from the 2025 ASCT for the reasons of, but not limited to:

- They cease to comply with the eligibility criteria
- Their health status (including injury or illness)
- The athlete fails to comply with Sport Climbing Australia policies or the requirement of the high performance program. This may include:
 - compliance with Team Agreement and Code of Behaviour
 - anti-doping rule violation or receives a provisional suspension due to an anti-doping infringement
 - breach of any any other current Sport Climbing Australia policy or National Team policy
 - attendance to Team training events and selection events
 - Individual Athlete Performance Plan process

Any deselection will be reviewed by the selection panel.

In the event of an athlete pregnancy, AIS High Performance Pregnancy Guidelines will be followed.

12. Amendment

These criteria and sub sections may be amended or supplemented, particularly where matters arise which have not been provided for. All amendments must be approved by the SCA Board. If approved, SCA will notify in writing any criteria amendment or supplement, and will endeavour to give as much notice as possible, to all persons affected by any such amendment or supplement.

13. Appeal

There is no right of appeal to any athlete who is not selected under this policy. If athletes feel they have been treated unfairly, the National Sports Tribunal should be contacted.