

Singapore Xiangqi General Association 2021 SEA Games Athletes Selection Policy

INTRODUCTION

This selection policy describes the process and procedure to select athletes who will represent Singapore in Xiangqi event in the 2021 SEA Games staged in Vietnam.

As this is the first time that Xiangqi is included in the SEA Games and the organizer has not announce the details of this event, the selection policy maintains certain flexibility such as the number and gender of athletes to be selected.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic situation, SIXGA did not hold the annual national Xiangqi Championship in 2020. It is also not practical to organize any selection tournament at this moment. The possibility of organizing online tournament is ruled out, as cheating using computer software has been rampant in online competitions, and it has proven hard to clamp it down.

However, SIXGA has decided to make its selection early, as we would like to prepare our athletes early by intensive trainings (which can be done through internet), with professional coaches from overseas.

The intend of this document is to set out a selection process which is fair, objective and transparent.

SELECTION PANEL

The SIXGA executive committee has nominated the following personnel to sit in the selection panel:

1. Lee Sit Seng (President)
2. Chow Kim Sun (Vice President)
3. Au Bok Soon (Secretary-General)
4. Chan Mau Yin (Dy Secretary-General)
5. Loh Jun Yu (Chairman Qualification)

The role of this panel is to oversee the entire selection process and ensure that it is carried out in accordance with the policy.

SELECTION CRITERIA/PROCESS

1. Mandatory requirements

There are certain mandatory requirements as required by the Organizing Committee which must be fulfilled. These are:

- (a) The Athlete must be a Singapore Citizenship; and
- (b) has not represented any other country in SEA Games for three years (till 31 Dec 2020)

2. Section criteria

2.1 Standard Events: SIXGA will select the athletes based on the performance of the athletes from 2017-2019. Specifically, the selection will be based on the followings:

- (a) Performance of the athletes in the National Championship, Division A;
- (b) The Grading Points of the athletes as at 31 Dec 2020.

Where there is no separate tournament for ladies, female athletes' performance among the participating females will be considered.

2.2 Rapid and Blitz events: SIXGA will invite the athletes who are shortlisted in 2.1 to participate in a trial to decide our nominations.

3. Selection Process

3.1 Selection without Trials

Based on the criteria listed in 2.1, the ranking of the athletes are calculated using the following procedure:

A. National Championship (Division A):

A1. Base Points (N1):

Position	1 ST	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	>12 th
Pts (N1)	10	8	7	6	5	4.5	4	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	0

A2. Weightage according to year (N2)

Year of Championship	2019	2018	2017
Weightage (N2)	70%	20%	10%

A3. Points obtained from National Championships (N)

$$N = N1(2019)*N2(2019) + N1(2018)*N2(2018) + N1(2017)*N2(2017)$$

B. Athletes' Grading Points (As published in SIXGA's official webpage)

B1. Base Points (G1):

Grading Pts	2100	2000	1900	1800	<1800
Points (G1)	10	8	6	4	0

Points showed in the above table serve as a guide. The exact point (G1) is obtained from the following formula:

$$G1 = 10 - 2*(2100 - \text{Grading Point})/100, \text{ where Grading Points} \geq 1800$$

B2. Weightage according to the year an athlete last joined a qualifying competition

Date athlete last took part in competition	After 1/4/2019	From 1/4/2018 to 31/3/2019	From 1/6/2017 to 31/3/2018	Before 1/6/2017
Weightage (G2)	100%	50%	10%	0%

B3. Points obtained from Athlete's Grading Points (G)

$$G = G1(\text{Base Points}) * G2(\text{Corresponding weightage})$$

C. Total Ranking Points (R): Total points for ranking purpose is calculated by the following formula:

$$R = N*6 + G*4$$

3.2 Selection with Trials

Selection with Trials may be necessary if there are events such as Rapid game or Blitz game event, where our national championship results may not be applicable for selection. In such cases, SIXGA will instruction the Tournament sub-committee to organize the appropriate trials to select the athletes for these events.

4. Final Selection

SIXGA will shortlist appropriate number of athletes based on the above process and invite them to join the SEA Game 2021 team. Nomination will be done after athletes' reply to the invitation.

Based on the above process, SIXGA will nominate the athletes and submit the nomination to SNOC. Final approval and selection of players for the SEA Games resides with the Singapore National Olympic Council.

APPEAL PANEL

The SIXGA executive committee has nominated the following personnel to sit in the Appeal Panel:

1. Lim Kwan How (Vice President)
2. Alvin Tan (Deputy Secretary General)
3. Ong Boon Leong (Chairman Study)

The panel will be responsible to entertain any query or complaint from any player with regard to the selection of athletes.

When necessary, the panel will convene meetings to make decisions with regard to any query or complaint. The meetings be chaired by Mr. Lim Kwan How.

APPEAL PROCESS

Appeal against the non-selection may be made in writing to the Chairman (Appeal Panel), Singapore Xiangqi General Association within 72 hours of the announcement of the players nominated for SEA Games to SNOC. (Email Address: Admin@xiangqi.sg attention to SEA Games Appeal Panel Chairman)

The sole ground for any appeal is that the selection policy and criteria was not properly followed.

An appeal must be made in writing with appropriate and sufficient supporting documentation and must be accompanied by a deposit of S\$100.00, payable to the Singapore Xiangqi General Association. If the appeal is upheld, the deposit will be refunded in full.

Within three (3) working days of receiving the appeal, the Appeal Panel will meet to investigate the issues of the appeal with all involved parties.

SIXGA will, in writing, inform all parties about the Appeal Panel's decision to either uphold or reject the appeal. The decision of the Appeal Panel will be final.

DESELECTION

A player selected for the SEA Games 2021 may be deselected from the team if the player:

- Due to illness or injury becomes unable to perform to the required standard in the opinion of the responsible National Coaches and the Technical Manager (after receiving medical advice).
- Demonstrate a lack of commitment to training requirements and/or tournament preparations in the opinion of the responsible National Coaches and Technical Manager.
- Breaches or fails to fulfill a requirement of the Anti-Doping Policies of the Anti-Doping Singapore or other approved agencies, if applicable.
- Is caught cheating using computer software or any other means in any of the tournaments.

Where a player has been de-selected from the team for the singles event, SIXGA may fill the vacant position with the person next on the ranking list. However, this is subject to the rules of the competition.

PLANNED MILESTONES

The list of tentative milestones is:

(a)	Clearance of Selection Policy by Executive Committee	By 31 Dec 2020
(b)	Sending out of invitation letter to those players who have met our Initial Selection Criteria	By 31 January 2021
(c)	Deadline for selected players to revert	By 15 February 2021
(d)	Finalize Nomination List	By 26 February 2021
(e)	Centralized Training	March-November 2021
(f)	SEA Games in Vietnam	December 2021

*The milestones above are tentative, and may be changed according to the official SEA Games schedule.

Addendum to the 2021 SEA Games Athletes Selection Policy

On 17 March 2021, SNOC has informed all NSA's on the additional consideration to justify their nominations of athletes in view of the Covid-19 pandemic, using the following:

1. To review the last 2 or 3 SEA Games (for those sports that are included in them) and look at the trend in results and trend in the number of athletes selected per sport.
2. Extend the selection window back to include results from SEA Games 2019. (Top 3 finish)
3. NSA's assessment and projection at the 31st SEA Games

In view of the above, as points 1 and 2 are not applicable to Xiangqi since this is the first time Xiangqi is included in the SEA Games, SIXGA will make its nomination based on its assessment and projection at the 31st SEA Games. SIXGA will make this projection by considering the athletes' performance (ranking) in the past Asian Xiangqi Championship tournament organized by Asian Xiangqi Federation among all the players from South East Asia countries. As almost all SEA countries participate in the Asian Championship tournament, this will give a fairly accurate indication of the athlete in SEA.