

**BETWEEN**

**PAIGE HOURIGAN**

**Appellant**

**AND**

**TENNIS NEW ZEALAND**

**Respondent**

**AND**

**ERIN ROUTLIFFE  
LULU SUN  
NEW ZEALAND OLYMPIC COMMITTEE**

**Interested Parties**

---

**DECISION OF SPORTS TRIBUNAL  
30 June 2024**

---

**Hearing**

29 June 2024 via Teams

**Present**

Willie Hamilton and Annie Larkin, counsel for Appellant  
Paige Hourigan, Appellant (remote attendance)  
Paul David KC and Maria Clarke, counsel for Respondent  
Robert Routliffe, father of and representative for Erin Routliffe  
Sarah Wroe, Counsel for Lulu Sun  
Tara Pryor, NZOC

**Tribunal**

John Macdonald. Chair  
Ruth Aitken DNZM  
Dr Helen Tobin

**Registrar**


Helen Gould

1. Ms Hourigan (the Appellant) filed an urgent appeal against the decision of Tennis New Zealand (the respondent) not to nominate her for selection to the New Zealand Olympic Team.
2. The issues for determination were whether:
  - (i) TNZ had properly followed and/or implemented the criteria from its 2024 Paris Olympic Games Nomination Criteria;
  - (ii) The appellant was not afforded a reasonable opportunity to satisfy the nomination criteria;
  - (iii) The nomination decision was affected by bias; and
  - (iv) There was no material on which the nomination decision could reasonably be based.
3. A virtual hearing was held on 29 June 2024 under urgency.
4. The Tribunal hearing panel undertook to provide the parties with a result decision within two days of the hearing (by Monday 1 July 2024) to allow time for potential review of the nomination decision and for NZOC to confirm the name of Ms Routliffe's partner.

## **Decision**

5. Having assessed the evidence and the oral submission of all parties, the Tribunal concludes that none of the grounds of appeal were made out.
6. The Tribunal therefore dismisses the appeal.
7. Written reasons for the decision will be provided as soon as practicable.

Dated: 30 June 2024

  
**John Macdonald**  
Chair