

2021 European Athletics Indoor Championships
4-7 March 2021
Torun, POL

Selection Policy – Updated February 2021

Overview

This Selection Policy (“the Policy”) outlines the process by which British Athletics will determine selection for the 2021 European Indoor Championship (“the Championships”).

British Athletics have arranged a series of European Indoor Selection Trials to aid selection and qualification for the 2021 European Athletics Indoor Championships team.

The events take place over the weekend of **20 – 21 February 2021 in Loughborough, Lee Valley and Manchester**. The details of each event is as follows;

20 February: Lee Valley (60m, 60m Hurdles, Long Jump, Triple Jump)
21 February: Loughborough (Pole Vault, High Jump, Shot Put)
20-21 February: Manchester (400m, 800m, 1500m, 3000m, Pentathlon, Heptathlon)

Due to the unprecedented challenges that Government restrictions are introducing to combat Covid-19, associated travel restrictions & quarantine measures, athletes should note that they are not mandated to compete at the designated British Athletics European Indoor Selection Trials in order to be eligible. However, all athletes will be required to compete in the event in which they wish to be selected during the 2021 season to prove form and fitness. Athletes seeking selection who do not plan to compete at the British Athletics European Indoor Selection Trials should submit an expression of interest to Charlie Burn (cburn@britishathletics.org.uk) detailing their competition schedule and any other relevant information by Friday 19th February 2021. If no EOI is received by this date, the selection panel will not consider the individual for selection.

An expression of interest form can be found [here](#).

The health and safety of all athletes and staff selected will underpin our final preparations and competition arrangements. Selected athletes will be asked to confirm their decision to compete by signing an ‘Opt In’ form.

Final selection will be at the discretion of the Performance Director, Head Coach and Selectors.

British Athletics’ aims for the Championships in priority order is to:

- (1) maximise the number of opportunities to win medals,
- (2) provide opportunities for developing athletes
- (3) and provide opportunities for established athletes to achieve a GB&NI vest.

COVID 19

At the time of publication, the impact of COVID19 is immense, unpredictable, and unknown.

Considering the global pandemic, British Athletics can amend this policy at its discretion and attention is drawn to clause 23.

Eligibility

1. To be considered for selection, athletes **must**:
 - a. Compete Indoors between 1st January – 21st February 2021;
 - b. Be eligible to compete for GB&NI (i.e. full British passport holder);
 - c. Be 16 years or older at 31 December 2021 (i.e. born in 2005 or earlier) to be considered for selection in all events, except Men’s Shot Put who must be aged 18 years or older on 31 December 2021 (i.e. born in 2003 or earlier);
 - d. Have achieved a relevant British Athletics qualification standard within the qualification period (individual events only);
 - e. Hold a valid certificate for having completed the European Athletics Anti-Doping Education Programme – ‘I Run Clean’; and
 - f. Sign the British Athletics Team Members’ Agreement (“TMA”) and abide by its terms and conditions. Any athlete failing to do so prior to the first date of competition will result in their selection being withdrawn. The current version of the TMA can be found online at <https://www.uka.org.uk/performance/british-athletics-teams-information/>.

Note 1: Due to the global pandemic and associated travel restrictions, athletes should note that they are not mandated to compete at the designated British Athletics European Indoor Selection Trials listed in the overview to be eligible. However, athletes who do not compete at these events must have submitted an expression of interest form by 23:59 (GMT) 19 February 2021.

Note 2: Where athletes suffer illness the day before or the day of the British Athletics European Indoor Selection Trials, they must contact the Olympic Head Coach/British Athletics Lead Doctor as soon as possible prior to the commencement of the relevant event. The Panel will review all information and consider for selection accordingly. Illness that occurs earlier than the day before the first day of the event must be evidenced by a medical note from a GP in order for that athlete to remain eligible for selection.

Qualification

2. Qualification performances must be achieved between 00:00 (GMT) 1 May 2019 and 18:00 (GMT) 21 February 2021.
3. The British Athletics qualification standards are as follows – events marked with an asterix represent the baseline EA standard and have not been amended by British Athletics:

Men		Event	Women	
Indoor	Outdoor [†]		Indoor	Outdoor [†]
6.65	10.20* (100m)	60m	7.25	11.15* (100m)
46.90	45.40	400m	53.00	52.00*
01:48.00	01:45.50	800m	02:03.00	02:00.50

3:42.00 (3:58.00 mile)	03:36.00 (3:53.00 mile)	1500m	4:13.00 (4:33.00 mile)	04:07.00 (4:26.00 mile)
07:55.00	7:48.00	3000m	09:00.00	8:53.50*
Top 6 ranked team		4x400m	Top 6 ranked team	
7.65	13.50 (110mH)	60mH	8.10	12.95 (100mH)
2.28*		HJ	1.96*	
5.72*		PV	4.61*	
8.05*		LJ	6.80*	
16.95*		TJ	14.30*	
20.85*		SP	18.20*	
Top 12 ranked athlete		Hep/Pen	Top 12 ranked athlete	

Note 4 – athletes who qualify for selection by achieving an outdoor performance prior to 1 January 2021 will only be selected if they prove current form and fitness during 2021.

Selection process

4. The team will be selected on **Monday 22 February 2021**.
5. The team will be announced on **Monday 22 February 2021**.
6. Selections will be subject to the maximum entries as permitted by European Athletics (EA) as follows:
 - a. A maximum of 3 athletes can compete in individual events;
 - b. In the 4 x 400m relay, up to 6 athletes may be selected (which must include athletes selected for the individual 400m). Any other athlete who is selected in any event may then be able to participate in the relay event in addition to the 6 entered.
 - c. Relay teams shall be allocated by EA as described below:
 - i. The host country (Poland) shall be allocated 1 place in each relay;
 - ii. Three places shall be allocated in accordance with the order of ranking of teams in 4 x 400m combined outdoor lists of 2019 and 2020;
 - iii. The other 2 places (or 3 if the host country does not take its allocated place) shall be allocated in accordance with the accumulated 400m times of individual athletes from 2021 indoor season as at 10 days prior to the first day of the European Athletics Indoor Championships (22 February 2021).
7. The Selection Panel (“the Panel”) shall comprise:
 - a. Voting Members:
 - i. British Athletics Performance Director;
 - ii. British Athletics Olympic Head Coach, and;
 - iii. Event group representatives as nominated by the Performance Director and Head Coach.
 - b. Non-voting members:
 - i. Chairperson;
 - ii. British Athlete Commission (BAC) or UK Athletics Athlete Commission (UKAC) Member;
 - iii. Note taker; and

- iv. Others considered necessary by the Panel (i.e. British Athletics Lead Doctor, a statistician, a media representative).
8. The Selection Panel will select athletes via 4 rounds (outlined below in sections 9 to 12).
9. Round 1 – all eligible individual athletes (excluding combined events):
- a. The Panel will aim to fill all places available, subject to eligible athletes satisfying the following:
 - i. Achieved at least one qualification standard by the end of the qualification period; and
 - ii. Demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Panel, current form and fitness which suggests they can perform at a level equal to (or exceeding) the qualification standard.
 - b. Where there are more athletes that satisfy the criteria as described in paragraph 10(a) than places available, athletes in this round will be considered for selection by being considered against several factors, including (but not limited to) the following criteria which are not listed in any priority order:
 - i. Achievement of qualification standards in accordance with paragraphs 2 - 3;
 - ii. 2021 European ranking;
 - iii. 2021 Indoor performances;
 - iv. Projected future individual medal potential at indoor or outdoor major events.
 - v. Head-to-heads within the 2021 season;
 - vi. Previous major competition history; and
 - vii. Injury status.
 - c. During this round, the Panel may select non-travelling reserves for any event (except combined events), provided the athlete has achieved the relevant individual British Athletics qualification standard.
10. Round 2 – relays:
- a. As per European Athletics regulations British Athletics have qualified a Men's and Women's 4x400m team for the Championships.
 - b. Where British Athletics have qualified a team, up to 6 athletes will be selected for the men's and women's 4x400m relays (which must include those already selected in the individual 400m). Athletes will be selected based on a multitude of factors, including (but not limited to) the following criteria which are not listed in any priority order:
 - i. 2021 Indoor performances;
 - ii. Head-to-heads within the 2021 season;
 - iii. Previous major competition history;
 - iv. Injury status;
 - v. Previous engagement with the British Athletics relay programme(s); and
 - vi. Future relay team potential; and
 - vii. Technical relay skills;
 - c. Athletes selected for the relay do not need to have achieved a British Athletics qualification standard.
11. Round 3 – Combined events:

- a. EA will invite 12 athletes to compete in the men's Heptathlon and the women's Pentathlon. These invites (which will be automatically accepted by the Panel) will be distributed as follows:
 - i. Top 6 from the combined 2019 & 2020 European outdoor rankings for the Decathlon and Heptathlon (adjusted for maximum numbers per nation); and
 - ii. Top 6 from the 2021 European indoor rankings for the Heptathlon and Pentathlon (adjusted for maximum numbers per nation) as at 22 February 2021;
 - b. If, during each round of EA invitations, the maximum number of slots per nation (3) are reached, or athletes decline participation, EA will allocate invites to the next eligible athlete during each round;
 - c. Acceptance of such invites may take place after the Panel have selected the remaining members of the team.
12. Round 4 – Unqualified field event athletes
- a. Due to the limited qualification opportunities as a result Covid-19 European Athletics (EA) have amended their qualification process and will allow British Athletics to nominate unqualified athletes for selection to EA for consideration by the Technical Delegates.
 - b. Unqualified athletes will be nominated in field events only, where spaces remain after round 1 and at the discretion of the panel. The panel will make nominations based on the aims of the selection policy and for those athletes who have the potential to finish in the top 8 in Torun.
 - c. For clarification, athletes must have competed indoors during 2021 and have completed an EOI form or attended a British Athletics European Indoor Selection Trial on the weekend of 20-21 February.
 - d. EA will inform British Athletics on 25 February whether or not these nominations have been accepted by the Technical Delegates.

Conditions

13. Performances must be achieved during competitions organised or authorised by World Athletics, its Area Associations or its National Member Federations. Thus, results achieved at university or school competitions must be certified by the National Federation of the country in which the competition was organised.
14. UK domestic track and field performances will only be certified by British Athletics if they are achieved in a UK Athletics Level 2 Permit competition or higher, or at an Area or County Championship (see <https://www.uka.org.uk/competition/track-field/track-field-licensing/> for details on the UK Athletics competition permits).
15. Multiple performances achieved in the same individual event in a single day will only count as follows:
 - a. In a track event - at an official Championship of UK national level or higher; and
 - b. In a field event - only the best mark in the final and best mark in the pool.
16. Performances otherwise achieved in the same individual event in a single day will count as follows:
 - a. In track events - only the fastest legal result of the day;
 - b. In throwing events - only the best trial of the first competition of the day; and

- c. In horizontal jumps - only the best trial of the first competition of the day, unless every mark achieved by the athlete was windy in which case a second competition held under safer conditions will count.
17. Performances achieved in mixed events between male and female participants shall not be accepted.
 18. Wind-assisted performances (or performances achieved at events where wind measurement was not available) will not be accepted.
 19. Hand-timed performances in 60m, 100m, 400m, 60m Hurdles, and 100m/110m Hurdles will not be accepted.
 20. For the running events of 400m and over, performances achieved on oversized tracks will NOT be accepted

Appeals

21. Athletes may appeal their non-selection, but only after the announcement date in accordance with the procedure laid out in the British Athletics Selection “Fast Appeals Procedure” (<https://www.uka.org.uk/performance/british-athletics-teams-information/>) and subject to paragraph 22 below.
22. For the 2021 European Athletics Indoor Championships the following amendment to the Fast Appeals Procedure is made:
 - a. To maximise the amount of time that athletes have to qualify for the European Indoor Championships, and in order to adhere to the European Athletics final entry deadline, an expedited appeal process shall apply.
 - b. Paragraph 3.3 of the Fast Appeals Procedure shall not apply. Instead, any athlete wishing to appeal their non-selection and who wishes to obtain a copy of the minutes applicable to their non-selection must request the minutes as soon as possible after the announcement of the team on Monday 22 February 2021. UKA undertakes to provide a copy of the relevant minutes to any athlete who requests them within 2 hours.
 - c. Due to the need for an expedited procedure, the process relating to Additional Submissions in the Fast Appeals Procedure does not apply and athletes must therefore include in their Notice of Appeal their full submissions including any points they wish to make in respect of the minutes. All references to the “Appeal Submissions” and “Additional Submissions” in the Fast Appeals Procedure shall mean the Notice of Appeal.
 - d. The timeframe for filing the Notice of Appeal, as set out in paragraph 3.1 of the Fast Appeals Procedure remains within 24 hours from announcement of the team.
 - e. Paragraph 7.2 is amended - the timeframe for the Chairperson of the Selection Panel to make a response to an appeal is within 24 hours of receipt of the Notice of Appeal or by 6pm on Tuesday 23rd February 2021.

Athletes wishing to seek advice regarding the appeals process (including the validity of any procedure itself) are advised to contact the British Athletes Commission (BAC) <https://britishathletes.org/>.

Amendment

23. British Athletics reserves the right to amend this Selection Policy at its sole discretion and will make any amended version publicly available (including the date on which any amendment was made) at www.uka.org.uk.

Contacts

24. Contact details are as follows:
- a. Any queries regarding fitness to compete at the British Athletics European Indoor Selection Trials please contact British Athletics Lead doctor Dr James Brown jbrown@uka.org.uk;
 - b. All other enquires can be sent to Charlie Burn cburn@britishathletics.org.uk.

Equality Impact Assessment

25. An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed for the 2021 European Indoor Championships. A copy can be obtained by contacting Charlie Burn.