

2021/22 World Class Programme (WCP) selection

Purpose of the World Class Programme?

UK Athletics receives National Lottery funding via UK Sport to deliver the World Class Programme (WCP) – the main purpose is to support the most talented athletes to ensure they have every chance of realising their full potential in winning medals at the Olympic & Paralympic Games.

The World Class Programme operates at three distinct levels:

Podium

Designed to support athletes whose profile indicates a strong prospect of achieving/ contributing to medal winning performances at the Olympic or Paralympic Games within the cycle and who are already achieving/contributing to international results within the medal zone.

Aim: To create a value-add relationship with the athlete and their coach in understanding what it will take to win in their event. It is anticipated this will involve an individual needs based, bespoke, & unique offer

Expectations:

- For athlete and coach pairs to engage in open dialogue and share training and performance information via the respective point of contact (POC)/other support staff.
- Engage with the WCP to co-create the athlete's support, training, performance plans alongside post career aspirations.
- Be responsible & proactive in establishing the athletes weekly support service team alongside available WCP expertise & capacity.
- Engage in quarterly progress reviews.

Podium Potential

Designed to support athletes who have been identified and confirmed as having the potential to bridge the gap to Olympic and Paralympic medal success and have made the commitment to pursue this goal.

Aim: To provide adequate support alongside high challenge and appropriate learning opportunities that helps develop athletes progress towards finals & future winning success.

Expectations:

- To positively embrace continuous learning
- The onus will be on the coach and the athlete to work with the available support to explore how best to solve performance questions.
- To positively engage in athlete review meetings, competition de-briefs, planning sessions, training feedback sessions
- Be open to feedback and accountable towards setting agreed technical, tactical physical, and/or psychological goals.

Confirmation

Designed to support athletes in their first 1-2 years of inclusion in high-performance programs, to provide a period through which the potential of the athlete is explored and confirmed.

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How to apply?

Athletes do not apply to come onto the WCP. The performance team will review all global & domestic results, data & historical trends for all events and disciplines.

All current WCP athletes will automatically be reviewed unless they have notified UKA they are retiring or no longer wish to be considered for the WCP.

All athletes offered a place must agree to all WCP selection policy clauses & sign the appropriate athlete agreement.

2021/22 WCP places available: Olympic: 68 places / Paralympic: 48 places

All athletes offered a place on the WCP will need:

✓ to adhere to the WCP selection policy and all clauses.

✓ Understand an offer of a place on the World Class Programme is conditional to making progress towards medalling at an 2024/2028 Olympic Games/Paralympic Games

Timelines

WCP membership process	Olympic	Paralympic
WCP athlete review meetings (current WCP Athletes)	6th -17th Sept	27th Sept - 11th Oct
Pre-Panel Meeting (Initial review of all eligible athletes)	27th Sept	7th October
Selection Meetings (& nominations to UK Sport)	5 th & 6 th Oct (7 th - 8 th)	12th Oct (13 th -15 th)
UK Sport Nomination Acceptance process	11th - 17th Oct	13th - 18th Oct
Athlete Notification & Media Announcement	18th Oct	19th Oct
Communication & appeal process		
Athlete Communications – APA Offer Letters and Agreements	W/C 18th Oct	W/C 19th Oct
Completion of all UKA / UKS paperwork	31st November	
Transition/Induction		
WCP Athlete Induction (MANDATORY for all athletes)	6/7th Nov (Olympic & Paralympic)	
Start WCP agreement	1st December 2021	

2021/22 Induction

Every athlete nominated onto the World Class Program (WCP) will need to attend an Induction on the weekend **6/7th November 2021**. Personal coaches will also be invited to attend.

Do I need to be a member of the WCP to be selected to represent GB&NI?

No!

All GB&NI Teams are selected via separate selection policies.

For further information

Please request at: wcp@britishathletics.org.uk

Sequence of Events

