

European Off-Road Championships El Paso, La Palma 1-3 July 2022
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Selection policy – published March 2022

1. OVERVIEW

The British Athletics policy for the European Off-Road Championships will focus on senior performances that will challenge for individual and/or team medals and performances that will be competitive in the junior events.

The championships will be held at **El Paso, La Palma**. Details of the events and courses will be available at <https://www.european-athletics.com/competitions/european-off-road-running-championships/team-media-information>

Events as follows:

- Trail Race - 47.39km, 2562m ascent/descent
- Uphill Only Race - 8.96km, 1011m ascent/68m descent
- Classic Up-and-Down Race - 18.04km, 865m ascent/865m descent
- Junior (U20) Uphill Only Race - 5.28km, 788m ascent/9m descent
- Junior (U20) Up-and-Down Race - 5.4km, 309m ascent/descent

The Great Britain and Northern Ireland (GB & NI) team will travel to the Championships as a single team (exceptions to this will only be made at the discretion of the Team Leader and if budget allows). Travel arrangements from UK to La Palma will be booked and funded by British Athletics. The British Athletics Domestic Assembly Policy will apply for these Championships.

Athletes not based in the UK will be required to cover the cost of their own travel to/from the UK (if travelling direct British Athletics will contribute the equivalent cost of a UK/to La Palma return flight).

All questions related to the selection policy should be directed to the Chair of Selectors, **Anne Buckley** (annembuckley@yahoo.com)

2. ELIGIBILITY

To be considered for selection, athletes must satisfy the following:

- Be eligible to compete for GB & NI (i.e. full British passport holder)
- Minimum age for the trail event is 18 years on 31 December 2022 (born in 2004 or earlier)
- Juniors (U20) are eligible for selection in this age group if they are born in 2003, 2004, 2005 or 2006

- Be registered as a member with the relevant Home Country Athletics Federation, directly or through a club
- Hold a valid certificate for the European Athletics Anti-Doping Education Programme – ‘I Run Clean’
- 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 Any athlete failing to do so prior to the first date of competition will result in their selection being withdrawn.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 www.uka.org.uk/performance/british-athletics-teams-information/

3. TRIAL RACES

30 April 2022: 47.39 km Trail Race: in conjunction with the **Three Peaks Race:**
<https://www.threepeaksrace.org/>

Please enter the race via www.sientries.co.uk, before the closing date, 20 April 2022. Entries open 19 February 2022. The organiser has reserved places for athletes wishing to compete at the trial event and be considered for selection – if the event fills up or you do not have the relevant ‘fell’ experience (completed category long A fell races) please contact Anne Buckley on annembuckley@yahoo.com

20 May 2022: Uphill Only and Junior (U20) Uphill Only Race: Ben Lomond, Rowardennan. Entries open 1 April on www.sientries.co.uk. Updated information will be posted here, under the ‘European Off-Road Championships’ tab:
<https://www.uka.org.uk/competition/running/mountain-running/>

22 May 2022: Classic Up-and-Down Race and Junior (U20) Up-and-Down Race: Alva, Clackmannanshire. Entries open 1 April on www.sientries.co.uk. Updated information will be posted here, under the ‘European Off-Road Championships’ tab:
<https://www.uka.org.uk/competition/running/mountain-running/>

Any athlete who is unable to compete at the relevant Trial and wishes to be considered for selection should notify the Chair of Selectors, **Anne Buckley** (annembuckley@yahoo.com) before 29 April 2022 for the Trail Race and before 19 May for the Classic Up-and-Down and Uphill Only Trials.

Any athlete who has to withdraw from a Trial Race after these dates should inform the Chair of Selectors as soon as possible but before the respective trial race.

4. SELECTION PROCESS

The maximum number of athletes that may be selected for each event is four. Three athletes are required to form a scoring team.

The team will be selected in two phases.

- The first round of selections will be in week commencing **1st May 2022 for the Trail Race**
- The second round of selections will in week commencing **23 May 2022 for the Senior and Junior Uphill Only Races, the Classic Up-and-Down Race and the Junior Up-and-Down Race**

Round one

Following the 47km Trial Race, at least the first two eligible men and women will be selected subject to them meeting the following selection criteria:

- Shown consistency of performances in races of similar distance, profile and terrain
- and
- Have the potential to finish in the top 12 at the Championship based on performance and current form
- or
- Have the potential to form a medal-winning team

The selectors may fill the two remaining places in each race based on all known relevant form up to and including the trial.

Round two

Following the Senior and Junior Uphill Only Races, the Classic Up-and-Down Race and the Junior Up-and-Down Race, at least the first two eligible men and women will be selected subject to them meeting the following selection criteria:

- Shown consistency of performances in races of similar distance, profile and terrain
- and
- Have the potential to finish in the top 12 at the Championship based on performance and current form
- or
- Have the potential to form a medal-winning team

The selectors may fill the two remaining places in each race based on all known relevant form up to and including the trial.

The Selection Panel for the Trail event is made up of the following Voting members

- Anne Buckley (Chair)
- Members of Mountain Running Advisory Group (MRAG)
- Members of Ultra Running Advisory Group (URAG)
- Off-Track Events Administrator

Non-voting members

- An athlete's representative from the Athletes Commission –
- A member of the UKA Endurance Advisory Panel
- UKA Head of Performance Programme

The Selection Panel for all other events is made up of the following

Voting members

- Anne Buckley (Chair)
- Members of MRAG
- Off-Track Events Administrator

Non-voting members

- An athlete's representative from the Athletes Commission
- A member of the UKA Endurance Advisory Panel
- UKA Head of Performance Programme

5. CONDITIONS

The Panel reserve the right to deselect athletes who:-

- Become unfit to compete (fitness tests may be requested)
- Do not follow the conditions of selection or who break any rules of UK Athletics

Final selection of all athletes is subject to agreement of the athlete's racing programme with the respective Chair of Selectors between the date of selection and the Championships.

6. APPEALS

There shall be no right of appeal to the selection of the GB&NI Team made by the Panels. The provisions of the UK Athletics Selection and Nomination "Fast" Appeals Procedure do not apply to the GB&NI team selections for the 2022 European Off-Road Championships.

7. AMENDMENT

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.britishathletics.org.uk.

8. COVID 19

At the time of publication, the impact of COVID 19 is unpredictable and unknown. We expect that the Championships will be run under Covid protocols, and all selected athletes will be required to comply with these protocols outlined by European Athletics in order to compete.

Considering the global pandemic British Athletics can amend this policy at its discretion as per clause 7 and will endeavour to select the strongest team possible based on the budget available.