



World Cross Country Championships – 18th February 2023 Bathurst, Australia

Purpose

British Athletics consider the World Cross Country Championships as a stepping-stone towards success at future global track and field championships, in line with the overarching Endurance strategy for UK Athletics.

The 2023 World Cross Country Championships selection policy has been structured to select a team with the following aims:

- Team Medal success at the 2023 World Cross Country Championships;
- Supporting senior athlete preparation for future global track success; AND
- Opportunities for developing junior athletes with the potential for future success at Cross Country championships.

Selection Overview

The team will be selected in one selection meeting on **Monday 30th January 2023.**

British Athletics will select up to four (4) athletes for each male and female junior team, four (4) athletes for the universal mixed relay team and up to four (4) male and four (4) female individual senior athletes who have demonstrated potential to finish in the top 40 at the World Cross Country Championships.

Selection for individual senior athletes will be based on performances achieved at the 2022 European Cross Country Championships and performances at World Athletics Cross Country Tour Events. Junior athlete selection will also take into consideration performances at the European Cross Country Championships and the Cross Country Challenge event in Perth on 14th January 2023.

Senior athletes wishing to compete in the mixed relay will need to complete an [Expression of Interest](#) (EOI) for the Universal Mixed Relay team prior to 29th January 2023.

Selection process

1. Final selection will be at the discretion of the Technical Director, UKA Endurance Strategy Manager, WCP Endurance Performance Manager and selection panel.
2. The selection panel (“the Panel”) will be chosen based on their expertise and knowledge in the field of Cross Country. The Panel will also include an Athletes Commission member and/or a non-voting independent observer.
3. The team will be announced on Wednesday 1st February 2023.
4. **Round 1 – Senior Athletes**
 - a. The first two (2) female senior athletes and first two (2) male athletes who finish in top 12 at the 2022 European Cross Country Championships will be automatically selected for the individual senior race.
 - i. For the avoidance of doubt, if any athletes who finished in the top 12 at the 2022 European Cross Country Championships decline selection (through injury or any other reason) their automatic selection WILL NOT

be offered to any other senior athletes who competed at the 2022 European Cross Country Championships.

- b. The Panel will select remaining senior athletes, up to a total of four (4) male and four (4) female based on the following criteria (the criteria below are not listed in any priority order):
 - i. Senior athletes who have demonstrated the minimum standard time, will be taken into consideration:
10,000m: Women's: Sub 32:30:00 Men's: Sub 28:30:00.
(Track and road times since the 1st Jan 2022 will be accepted).
 - ii. Athletes' current form and fitness from 1st September 2022 – 29th January 2023;
 - iii. Performances at the World Athletics Cross Country Tour Events;
 - iv. Performances at the 2022 European Cross Country Championships;
 - v. U23 Performances at the 2022 European Cross-Country Championships.
 - vi. Athletes' previous cross country competition history;
 - vii. Head to heads during 2022-2023 cross country season;
 - viii. Any other factors the selection panel deem relevant to this competition.
- c. No additional senior athletes will be selected.

5. Round 2 - Senior Mixed Relay

- a. The Panel will select a mixed relay team consisting of four (4) senior/U23 athletes – two (2) male and two (2) female, who will each run one (1) lap of the course (approx. 2000m per lap).
- b. Athletes will need to complete the EOI prior to 29th January 2023 should they wish to be considered for selection.
- c. The Panel will select athletes based on the following criteria (the criteria below are not listed in any priority order):
 - i. Athletes who have demonstrated the minimum standard time, will be taken into consideration:
1,500m: Women's: Sub 4:10:00 Men's: Sub 3:39:00.
(Track and times since the 1st Jan 2022 will be accepted).
 - ii. Athletes' current form and fitness from 1st September 2022 – 29th January 2023;
 - iii. Performances at the 2022 European Cross Country Championships;
 - iv. Athletes current form and performances at either/or indoor competition & cross country competitions.
 - v. Performances in the Cross Country Challenge series;
 - vi. Athletes' previous cross country competition history;
 - vii. Head to heads during the autumn 2022-2023 cross country season;
 - viii. Any other factors the selection panel deem relevant to this competition

6. Round 3 – Juniors (U20) Athletes:

- a. The first two (2) placed eligible junior athletes at the 2022 European Cross Country Championships will be automatically selected if they finish in the top 12.
- b. The qualification event for remaining junior athletes will be the Cross Challenge event in Perth, Scotland on the 14th January.
- c. The Panel will select athletes to fill the remaining team places based on the following criteria, which is not listed in any priority order:
 - i. Performances at the Cross Challenge event in Perth on the 14th January 2023;
 - ii. Athletes' current form and fitness from 1st September 2022 – 29th January 2023;

- iii. Athletes' previous cross country competition history;
- iv. Performances in the Cross Country Challenge series;
- v. Performances at the 2022 European Cross Country Championships;
- vi. Head to heads during the autumn 2022-2023 cross country season;
- vii. Any other factors the selection panel deem relevant to this competition.

Reserves

British Athletics will select two non-travelling reserves for each team event. These athletes will be added to the final entry and will be called upon if logistically possible should any athlete withdraw prior to travel. Non-travelling reserve places will be selected based on the criteria listed above in point 4.b, 5.c and 6.c.

Note: Athletes will be selected to compete in the age-group race for which they are eligible at the championships (i.e. U20 athletes will be selected for the junior race). U20 eligible ages are different to the 2022 European Cross Country Championships and can be found below.

Eligibility

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

- a. Be eligible to compete for Great Britain & Northern Ireland (including holding a full British passport);
- b. For Junior (U20) athletes, be aged 16, 17, 18 or 19 years on 31 December 2023 (born in 2004 2005, 2006 or 2007).
- c. Not currently serving a period of ineligibility or a provisional or permanent suspension for a doping violation or for any other reason of misconduct;
- d. Meets the standards and behaviour expected by British Athletics, as published from time to time, including but not limited to the Code of Conduct for International Athletes;
- e. Be registered as a member with the relevant Home Country Athletics Federation (HCAF), directly or through a club;
- 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 www.uka.org.uk/performance/british-athletics-teams-information/; and
- g. provide such performance, medical and training data requested by British Athletics from time to time whether before or after selection.

Appeals

There shall be no right of appeal to the selection of the GB&NI Team made by the Selection Panel. The provisions of the British Athletics Selection and Nomination "Fast" Appeals Procedure do not apply to the GB&NI team selections for the 2023 World Cross Country Championships.

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.

Contact Details

Questions related to the selection policy (including those relating to athletes based overseas) and expression of interest should be directed to Laura Burke (lburke@britishathletics.org.uk).