



2024 Olympic Games: Marathon Selection Process Advance Information
26th – 11th August 2024
Paris, France

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Overview

This advance information document outlines the *general* process by which UK Athletics will determine selections for the marathon events at the 2024 Olympic Games. Final selections will be made based on the 2024 Olympic Games Selection Policy, which will be published in due course. The Selection Policy will take precedence over this document. In all cases, selection by UK Athletics represents a nomination to the British Olympic Association (“BOA”) for their ratification. The final decision regarding selection for the Games lies with the BOA and will be conditional on, amongst other matters, athletes signing the Team GB Paris 2024 Olympic Games Team Members’ Agreement (“TMA”).

The current UKA marathon event philosophy is based on supporting athletes’ performance and preparation for 2024 Olympic Games to optimise medal success and the number of top eight (8) placings. This is advance information to help athletes plan their goals and preparation from now and through 2024.

There will not be a marathon trial event for the 2024 Olympic Games.

For any queries regarding this advance information document please contact Steve Vernon (svernon@britishathletics.org.uk). For the avoidance of doubt, this advance information document is not the final selection policy and only outlines the selection process. The provisions in this document remain subject to change in the selection policy itself.

Eligibility

The full eligibility requirements will be published in the selection policy. As a minimum, to be considered for selection, athletes will need to:

- meet the BOA, World Athletics and International Olympic Committee’s eligibility requirements;
- have achieved the World Athletics Qualification Standard in the UK Athletics marathon qualification period; and
- sign the Team GB Paris 2024 Olympic Games TMA and abide by its terms and conditions.

World Athletics Qualification Standards

Men	Event	Women
2:08:10	Marathon	2:26:50

Selection Meeting

Marathon athletes will be selected in two selection meetings:

19 February: round 1 & 2

22 April 2024: round 3

Selection Process

The Selection Panel (“the Panel”) for the Marathon Selection meetings will be outlined in the Selection Policy.

Selections will be subject to the maximum entries as permitted by World Athletics of three (3) places per event. The overview process for Marathon selections is detailed below. After selection, athletes must be able to demonstrate to the Panel continued form and fitness ahead of the 2024 Olympic Games. Athletes must also agree to provide data from training and the appropriate event/performance(s) in which to demonstrate fitness and form prior to the Olympic Games. Athletes may be deselected at any time should they no longer be deemed fit to compete.

19th February 2024 Selection Meeting

The Panel may select up to two (2) male and two (2) female athletes at the first selection meeting.

For the avoidance of doubt, British Athletics are not required to select any athletes in round 1 or round 2 if they do not meet the criteria outlined below and which will be detailed in the 2024 Olympic Games selection policy.

Any athlete who has planned to compete in a marathon after 19 February 2024 can only be considered for selection in round 3 on 22 April 2024.

Round 1

The Panel will automatically select up to one male and one female athlete in each marathon event if they finish in the top eight (8) at the 2023 World Championships, provided they meet the eligibility requirements and have achieved a World Athletics Qualification Standard between 1 November 2022 – 18 February 2024.

If more than one athlete finishes in the top eight (8) at the 2023 World Championships, the Panel will only consider the top placed GB&NI athlete.

Round 2

The Panel may consider selecting athletes for the marathon provided they;

- have achieved at least one World Athletics Qualification Standard between 1 November 2022 – 18 February 2024;
- have, in the Panel’s opinion, demonstrated realistic potential to finish in the top eight (8) at the 2024 Olympic Games; **AND**
- have given the panel confidence in their ability to prepare effectively for a championship marathon.

Factors the Panel will consider include:

- i. Climate specific preparation plans;
- ii. A demonstration of progression towards an optimum nutrition/fuelling strategy;
- iii. Previous major championship performances;
- iv. Injury and health status; and
- v. 2024 competition plans.

Athletes may be selected based on whether the Panel believe they have potential to finish in the top eight (8) at the 2024 Olympic Games. This will be assessed through consideration of a combination of the following criteria. The criteria below are not listed in any priority order. Criteria may be given unequal weight and may be disregarded:

- i. 2023 & 2024 World rankings;
- ii. World Athletics season top lists (three per nation);
- iii. Current form and performance consistency;
- iv. Head-to-heads within the qualification period;
- v. Previous major competition history;

- vi. Injury/illness status;
- vii. Future individual medal potential at major championships; and
- viii. Any other factors the Panel deem relevant.

22nd April 2024 Selection Meeting

Round 3 - All remaining eligible individual athletes

The number of places available in this round will only be known after the completion of Round 2. Where places are still available, athletes may be selected in this round if they satisfy the following:

- have achieved at least one World Athletics Qualification Standard in the qualification period 1 November 2022 – 21 April 2024;
- have, in the Panel's opinion, demonstrated realistic potential to finish in the top eight (8) at the Olympic Games; AND have given the Panel confidence in their ability to prepare effectively for a championship marathon.

Factors the Panel will consider (in no particular order) include:

- i. Climate specific preparation plans;
- ii. A demonstration of progression towards an optimum nutrition/fuelling strategy;
- iii. Previous major championship performances;
- iv. Injury and health status; and
- v. 2024 competition plans.

If more athletes satisfy the criteria above than there are places available, athletes will be selected based on the strategic aims for selection and consideration of a combination of the following criteria which are not listed in priority order. Criteria may be given unequal weight and may be disregarded:

- Achievement of qualification standards;
- World ranking;
- World Athletics season top lists (three per nation);
- Current form;
- Future individual medal potential at outdoor major events;
- Head-to-heads;
- Previous major competition history;
- Injury status;
- The number of places available; and
- Any other factor the Panel consider to be relevant.

Note: in round 3, performances prior to 19 February 2024 may carry a greater performance weighting as it is deemed more likely to allow athletes adequate time to prepare and perform optimally at the 2024 Olympic Games.

All selected athletes will be required to complete the Marathon Pre-Competition Screening Pro Forma.

Appeals

Further details regarding the appeals process will be available in the Selection Policy.

Amendment

UK Athletics reserves the right to amend/update this advance information at its sole discretion and will make any amended version publicly available at www.uka.org.uk.