



**Loughborough International  
19 May 2024**

**Mannheim International  
22-23 June 2024  
Mannheim, Germany**

**2024 World Athletics U20 Championships  
27-31 August 2024  
Lima, Peru**

**Selection Policy v1 – January 2024**

## **Overview**

UK Athletics (UKA) provides athletes and coaches with valuable performance experiences with the international age group championships. These events focus on developing key skills, abilities and behaviours needed for progression to the senior international stage. Athletes are expected to compete in their respective age groups, ensuring appropriate age and stage development. The goal is to prepare athletes for success in future senior international championships, including the Olympic Games. In cases where athletes under 18 lack international opportunities, UKA may consider them for the U20 age group championships programme, following EAWA rules.

The Selection Panel (“the Panel”) therefore aim to select a competitive team and athletes who they believe have the potential to reach top 8 in their event at the World Athletics U20 Championships.

In line with the UKA Futures Relay programme, the U20 relays are seen as vital educational opportunities for ensuring future success on the senior stage. All U20 relay programme athletes will therefore be expected to make themselves available for the 4x100m or 4x400m relay squads throughout the year, culminating at the World Athletics U20 Championships.

The World Athletics U20 Championships Trials (“the Trials”) for all events except for Combined Events, will take place on **19-21 July at the England Athletics u20/Senior Championships**. There will be No Trial event for Combined Events.

## **Loughborough International - 19 May 2024**

The Loughborough International match is the traditional season opener in the UK and is seen as a development opportunity for U20 **athletes born between 2007 – 2005**.

A full programme of events with U20 implements and hurdles will be staged (the 110m hurdles race with U20 height hurdles is not a match race). Endurance events will include 3000m and 3000m steeplechase for men and women.

The Loughborough International fulfils a key role in the UKA relay programme. As such, all eligible relay athletes should make themselves available for selection and participation in Loughborough.

The team will be selected with 1 per event using the following criteria, which are not listed in any priority order.

- Performances achieved from 1st January 2024.
- Head-to-head performance record from 1st January 2024.
- Performances from 2023 outdoor season (where performances demonstrate clear medal potential at the 2024 World Athletics U20 Championships).
- Previous age-group competition history.
- Current form and fitness.

Selection will take place on **Monday 13 May 2024**. The voting panel members will be made up of representatives of each event group as nominated by the Head of Performance Pathways, based on their knowledge and expertise. The panel will also include a non-voting independent observer and a member of the Athlete's Commission.

**Additional guest slots may also be allocated to additional U20 athletes (i.e. those not already selected for the GB & NI team) aiming to secure selection for the World Athletics U20 Championships. These will be allocated using the criteria above.**

Team Leader – Darren Ritchie  
Team Manager – Sharon Morris

**Mannheim International**  
**22-23 June 2024**

The Mannheim International is one of the highest U20 level competitions outside the World or European Athletics U20 Championships each year. Given the historical level of performance at this meeting and its importance in preparing the 4x100m and 4 x 400m relay teams for the World Athletics U20 Championships, it is UKA's intention to select men's and women's 4x100m and 4 x 400m relay teams and where appropriate select a number of individual athletes to compete in Mannheim as part of another opportunity for developing pathway athletes.

The team will be selected using the following criteria:

- The relay teams take priority over any of the individual events in Mannheim. Any athlete who wishes to be selected in the individual events must make themselves available for the relay teams in Mannheim or they will not be selected for an individual event.
- The number of athletes selected for each relay will be at the discretion of the Panel. Athletes will be selected based on the Panel's consideration of a combination of the following criteria (which are not listed in priority order), as well as any other factors that may be deemed relevant:
  - Full commitment, engagement, and relay progress with the UKA Futures Academy Relay Programme.
  - Current form (Performances from 1st January 2024).
  - Head-to-heads in 2024.
  - Previous major age-group competition history.
  - Injury status.
- Due to the provision of high-level competition opportunities for many disciplines in the UK, such as the BMC events and the UKA Championships, any remaining places (subject to the team size allocated by event organiser) will be filled in the following priority order:
  1. Highly ranked in World Athletics U20 individual athletes in the throws, jumps, hurdles and combined events.
  2. Any individual athlete who, in the panel's opinion, are Medal contenders for the 2024 World Athletics U20 Championships.

Selection will take place on **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023**.

Team Leader – Sharon Morris

**2024 World Athletics U20 Championships – 27-31 August**  
**Lima, Peru**

### Trials

The World Athletics U20 Championships Trials (“the Trials”) for all events except for Combined Events, will take place on **19-21 July at the England Athletics u20/Senior Championships**. There will be No Trial event for Combined Events.

In the case of an injury, athletes will be required to provide a medical report to the UKA Pathway Therapy Lead, please contact [agegroupchampsinfo@britishathletics.org.uk](mailto:agegroupchampsinfo@britishathletics.org.uk).

The GB and NI team will travel to the Championships as a single team. All questions related to the selection policy or trial races should be directed to [agegroupchampsinfo@britishathletics.org.uk](mailto:agegroupchampsinfo@britishathletics.org.uk)

### Eligibility

1. To be considered for selection, athletes must satisfy the following:
  - a. be eligible to compete for GB&NI (i.e. full British passport holder);
  - b. be born in 2005 and 2006. Except for the following
    - i. In exceptional circumstances athletes who are 17 years at 31 December 2024 (i.e. born in 2007), may be considered for discretionary selections by the Head of Performance Pathways.
    - ii. To be eligible, these athletes must have demonstrated a consistent level of performance, as well as previous experience, at a major GB & NI age group international championship, which suggests that selection for the competition is appropriate for their long-term development.
  - c. Compete in the Trials in the event in which they wish to be selected.
  - d. sign the UKA 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/>. and

*Note 1: U18 Athletes born in 2007 who are selected for the European Athletics U18 Championships should prioritise that event and will not be considered for selection.*

*Note 2: For athletes aiming for selection as described in paragraph C take note that they are mandated to compete at any of the designated trials events.*

*Note 3: To ensure the Panel have an accurate picture of an athlete’s fitness ahead of the selection meeting, those who are unable to compete at the England Athletics U20 Championships due to injury but still wish to be considered for selection MUST either have been reviewed in person by the UKA medical team in the week prior to the England Athletics U20/Senior Championships. Athletes who fail to satisfy either provision will not be considered for selection.*

For the avoidance of doubt athletes seeking selection for the relay must compete in their usual relevant individual event at the Trials.

## Qualification

2. To be considered as part of the selection process qualification performances must be achieved from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 and 23:59 (BST) on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2024
3. The UKA qualification standards are based on a predicted Top 8 finish:

## World Athletics U20 Standards

Men	Event	Women
10.35	<b>100m</b>	11.50
20.85	<b>200m</b>	23.50
46.50	<b>400m</b>	53.00
1:48.0	<b>800m</b>	2:04.00
3:42.0	<b>1500m</b>	4:15.0
8:05.0	<b>3000m</b>	9:15.0
13:55.0	<b>5000m</b>	16:00.0
08:55.0	<b>3000m S/C</b>	10:15.0
42:00.0	<b>10,000m Walk</b>	47:00.0
13.60	<b>110m/100m H</b>	13.45
51.00	<b>400m H</b>	58.00
2.15	<b>High Jump</b>	1.86
5.25	<b>Pole Vault</b>	4.15
7.70	<b>Long Jump</b>	6.35
15.80	<b>Triple Jump</b>	13.30
18.70	<b>Shot</b>	15.50
58.00	<b>Discus</b>	50.00
71.00	<b>Hammer</b>	60.50
70.50	<b>Javelin</b>	51.50
7400	<b>Decathlon/Heptathlon</b>	5500

## Selection Process

4. The team will be selected on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024.
5. A maximum of two athletes may be selected in each individual event. Up to 6 athletes may be selected for each relay event. The composition of those relay athletes must include the athletes who are selected in the relevant individual event. Any other athlete who is selected in any other event may then be able to participate in the relay event.
6. UKA will select qualifying athletes up to a **maximum team size of 36**, depending on budget constraints.
7. Round 1 – automatic selections:
  - a. The winner of each individual Trials events (refer to the overview for details on all Trials events) will automatically be selected for the same event at the World Athletics U20 Championships provided they are eligible for selection (see paragraph 1) and provided the relevant UKA qualification standard has been achieved by that athlete during the relevant qualification period. Should any of the automatic selections from the relevant Trials event be unable or unwilling to take up their places(s), their Round 1 place(s) will not be offered by default to the next best placed eligible athlete(s) from the relevant Trial;

8. Round 2 – all remaining eligible individual athletes:

- a. In this round the Panel will consider athletes that have:
  - i. Achieved at minimum one qualification standard by the end of the qualification period.
  - ii. Demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Panel current form and fitness which suggests they can perform at a level equal to (or exceeding) the aims of the policy achieving a Top 8 at the championships.
- b. If more athletes satisfy all the criteria outlined in paragraph 7(a) above than there are places available, athletes will be selected based on the Panel's consideration of a combination of the following criteria (which are not listed in priority order) as well as any other factors that may be deemed relevant:
  - i. Current form (Performances from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024);
  - ii. Position at the trials.
  - iii. World ranking aligned with aims of the policy
  - iv. Finalist potential at the 2024 World Athletics U20 Championships.
  - v. Head-to-heads in 2024.
  - vi. Previous major age-group competition history.
  - vii. Ability to successfully double-up (i.e. compete in more than one event at the Championships);
  - viii. Contribution to relay teams (where relevant); and
  - ix. Injury status.

9. Round 3 – Relays

- a. Based on the athletes selected for individual sprint/hurdles events in rounds 1 and 2, the Panel, in its absolute discretion, may choose to select a team for each of the men's and women's 4x100m and 4x400m relays. In accordance with the European Athletics entry rules as outlined in paragraph 5, provided they believe that the relevant relay team will be genuine medal contenders.
- b. The number of athletes selected for each relay will be at the discretion of the Panel, in accordance with the World Athletics entry rules outlined in paragraph 5. Athletes will be selected based on the Panel's consideration of a combination of the following criteria (which are not listed in priority order), as well as any other factors that may be deemed relevant:
  - i. Full commitment and engagement with the UKA Futures Academy Relay Programme.
  - ii. Current form (Performances from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024).
  - iii. Head-to-heads in 2024.
  - iv. Previous major age-group competition history.
  - v. Injury status.
- c. Athletes selected for the relay do not need to have achieved a UKA qualification standard but do need to have competed in the Trials.

*Note: All athletes selected for the 4x100m and 4x400m relay teams, regardless of whether they are also selected in an individual event, will be expected to compete as part of the wider development of relays in the UK. As such all selected relay athletes will be expected to make themselves available for ALL rounds of the relevant relay (except in the case of genuine injury). Any athlete who fails to do so will not be considered (until such time as behaviours demonstrably change) for support via UKA Futures Academy (or equivalent) or World Class Programmes.*

10. Round 4

- a. The 'Panel' may select additional individual athletes to the team who have a realistic chance of being a finalist at the Worlds but who have not achieved a UKA qualification standard within the relevant qualification period (provided they have achieved the World Athletics qualification standard in accordance with paragraphs 11 to 16 below).

- b. Athletes will only be selected in this round if places remain unfilled in the relevant individual event.
  - c. Athletes will be selected based on the Panel's consideration of a combination of the following criteria (which are not listed in priority order) as well as any other factors that may be deemed relevant:
    - i. Current form and consistency of performances
    - ii. Position at the trials.
    - iii. World ranking aligned with aims of the policy.
    - iv. Finalist potential at the 2024 World Athletics U20 Championships based on event depth and what it takes to final.
    - v. Head-to-heads in 2024.
    - vi. Previous major age-group competition history.
    - vii. Injury status.
11. The total number of athletes selected in rounds 2, 3 and 4 may be limited by regulations set by World Athletics, the Championship organisers, or by UKA for logistical or budgetary reasons.

### **Conditions**

12. Qualifying standards can only be achieved at WA permitted meets.
13. Competitions in GB that receive WA permits will only be the level 2 licensed meets.
14. Performances must be achieved during competitions organised or authorised by the WA, its Area Associations or its National Member Federations. Domestic competitions will only be accepted if they are achieved in Permit Level 2 competition (or higher)
15. For avoidance of doubt all permit level 1 competitions WILL NOT BE VALID for qualifying purposes. Any athlete/coach who is unsure as to which competitions will be acceptable for qualification purposes are advised to contact Pathway Statistician, Ian Hodge - [IHodge@talentpathway.org.uk](mailto:IHodge@talentpathway.org.uk) at the earliest opportunity.
16. Providing the sprints are timed using photo finish and that sprints and jumps all use a wind gauge.
17. Race walking performances achieved in road events must be achieved on WA certified courses.
18. Wind-assisted performances (or performances achieved at events where wind measurement was not available) will not be accepted. The interpretation of a wind assisted Combined Events performance will be based on the most recent version of the WA rule book (at the time of selection), unless the relevant organising committee state otherwise.
19. Performances achieved in mixed events held completely in a stadium will not be accepted.
20. Hand-timed performances in 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 100m/110m Hurdles, 400m Hurdles and 4 x100m relay will not be accepted.
21. Indoor performances for all field events and for races of 400m or longer will be accepted.
22. 100m, 200m, 400m, 110m/100m hurdles and 400m hurdles performances at altitudes of above 950m will not be accepted.



## **Appeals**

18. There shall be no right of appeal to the selection of the GB&NI Team made by the Panel. The provisions of the UKA Selection and Nomination “Fast” Appeals Procedure do not apply to the GB&NI team selections for the World Athletics U20 Championships.

## **Amendments**

19. UKA 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 [2024 Selection Policies | UK Athletics](#).

Head of Delegation – Dan Wagner

Team Manager – Sharon Morris & Emma Wiltshire