



2026 Loughborough International: 17 May 2026

Loughborough

SELECTION POLICY – published December 2025

Overview

UK Athletics provides the opportunity through age group championships for athletes and coaches to experience and learn the key skills, abilities and behaviours needed to progress through the pathway and on to the senior international stage.

The Selection Panel aims to select athletes with the potential to achieve a top eight placing at the World Athletics U20 Championships. The Loughborough International is recognised as a key event on the pathway towards World Athletics U20 selection.

In line with the UK Athletics Futures Academy Relay Programme, U20 relay opportunities are viewed as vital to long term senior success. Athletes selected to the U20 relay programme will be expected to make themselves available for 4x100m and/or 4x400m relay squads throughout the season, at Loughborough International, culminating at the World Athletics U20 Championships.

The Loughborough International is fully funded by UKA.

The Loughborough International match is the traditional season opener in the UK and is seen as a development opportunity for U20 athletes.

The Loughborough International fulfils a key role in the UK Athletics Futures Relay Programme. As such, all eligible relay athletes should make themselves available for selection and participation in Loughborough (unless involved in senior UK Athletics relay activities at the same time).

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

- Performances achieved from 1st January 2026.
- Head-to-head performance record from 1st January 2026.
- Performances from 2025 outdoor season (where performances demonstrate clear medal potential at the 2026 World Athletics U20 Championships).
- Previous age-group competition history.
- Current form and fitness.
- Any other factors the panel deem relevant.
- To be considered for selection, athletes must satisfy the following:
 - be eligible to compete for GB&NI (i.e. full British passport holder);
 - be born in 2007, 2008, 2009; 2010;

Selection will take place on **Monday 11 May 2026**.

SELECTION PANEL

1. The Selection Panel shall comprise the Members stated below. A substitute may be nominated at any time by the Head of Performance Pathway and Programmes if a member is unavailable:
 - a. Voting Members:
 - i. Team Leader
 - ii. Specialist Team coaches from all event groups, as nominated by the Head of Performance Pathways and Programmes.
 - b. Non-Voting Members:
 - i. Chairperson
 - ii. Event specialist(s), as nominated by the Head of Performance Pathways and Programmes if considered necessary
 - iii. UK Athletics Medical representative (as required)
 - iv. Note taker(s), and;
 - v. Any other person invited by the Chairperson
2. In the event of an actual, potential, or possible conflict relating to any voting member of the Selection Panel, it should be reported to the Chairperson of the selection meeting who shall determine whether the voting member in question should be permitted to take part in relation to any selection decision(s). In any event including but not limited to conflict of interest or absence, the Chairperson may appoint an alternative voting member if necessary.
3. Voting of the Selection Panel shall be by simple majority. The Team Leader shall have the casting vote, if required. If the Team Leader is unable to vote due to a conflict the Chairperson shall nominate the panel member with the casting vote if required. For discretionary selections, if the Team Leader has a conflict, the Chairperson will decide on which voting member shall have casting vote.
4. The Selection Panel may make any selection subject to the athlete completing a performance requirement or test set by the Panel.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

a) Appeals

There shall be no right of appeal to the selection of the Novuna GB&NI Team made by the Selection Panel.

b) Amendment

UK Athletics reserves the right to amend this Selection Policy at any time at its discretion and will make any amended version publicly available (including the date on which any amendment was made) at www.britishathletics.org.uk

c) Governing Law

This Selection Policy shall be governed by and constructed in accordance with the law of England and Wales.

d) Jurisdiction

Any dispute or claim (other than appeals) arising out of or in connection with this Selection Policy shall be submitted for determination exclusively to arbitration under the auspices of Sports Resolutions (UK) Limited and subject to the procedural control of the English Courts.

e) Performance Conditions

Performances achieved from a Level 1 meet in 2026 will be accepted for consideration for **LIA team selection ONLY**. However please be aware for the World u20 and European u18 Team selection, Qualifying standards can only be achieved at World Athletics level 2 permitted events.