



**2027 WORLD MOUNTAIN AND TRAIL RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIPS:
6 – 10 OCTOBER 2027
CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA**

**MOUNTAIN AND TRAIL RUNNING SELECTION PROCESS ADVANCE INFORMATION –
published June 2026**

Overview

This advance information document outlines the general process by which UK Athletics (UKA) will determine selections for the Mountain and Trail events at the 2027 World Mountain and Trail Running Championships. **This is not the selection policy** - final selections will be made based on the 2027 World Mountain and Trail Running Championships Selection Policy, which will be published after information on the Championship courses becomes available. The Selection Policy will take precedence over this document. In all cases, selection will be conditional on athletes signing and complying with the UKA Team Members' Agreement ("TMA").

The UKA Mountain and Trail events philosophy is based on supporting athletes' performance and preparation for the 2027 World Mountain and Trail Running Championships to optimise individual and team medal success and the number of individual top ten placings and team top five places. This advance information will help athletes and coaches plan their goals and preparation from now and through 2027.

Trials will be the primary means of selection for both Mountain and Trail events.

Championship Events

- Long Trail Race: circa Distance: 75 – 85km, Elevation: 3500 – 6000m
- Short Trail Race: circa Distance: 35 – 46km, Elevation: 2000 – 3000m
- Uphill Only Race: circa Distance: 4 – 7km, Elevation: 700 – 1000m
- Classic Up-and-Down Race: circa Distance: 12 – 15km, Elevation: 600 – 900m
- U20 Classic Up-and-Down Race: circa Distance: 4 – 7km, Elevation: 300 – 450m.

The above figures are from the World Mountain and Trail Running Championships Technical Guidelines.. All course details are still to be confirmed by the Local Organising Committee.

Trial Dates

- Long Trail – tbc, between 17 April and 11 July 2027
- Short Trail – tbc, between 17 April and 25 July 2027
- Uphill Only Race – Friday 13 August 2027, venue tbc
- Classic Up-and-Down Race – Sunday 15 August 2027, venue tbc
- U20 Classic Up-and-Down Race - Sunday 15 August 2027, venue tbc.

Selections

1. The team will be selected in four phases:
 - a. The first round of selections will be in the week commencing 19 October 2026 for medal zone contenders in the Mountain and Trail races.
 - b. The second round of selections will be the week after the Long Trail Trial race.
 - c. The third round of selections will be the week after the Short Trail Trial race.



- d. The fourth round of selections will be in the week beginning 16 August 2027 for the Senior Uphill Races, the Senior Classic Up-and-Down Races and the U20 Classic Up-and-Down Races.

2. Selection will be subject to the maximum entries permitted as detailed below. Three athletes form a scoring team for all events.

- a. Six (6) Senior Men and Six (6) Senior Women, Long Trail Race
- b. Six (6) Senior Men and Six (6) Senior Women, Short Trail Race
- c. Four (4) Senior Men and Four (4) Senior Women, Uphill Only
- d. Four (4) Senior Men and Four (4) Senior Women, Classic Up-and-Down Race
- e. Four (4) U20 Men and Four (4) U20 Women, Classic Up-and-Down Race.

To be considered for selection athletes must submit an expression of interest (EOI) for each round where they wish to be considered.

Selection Rounds

Round One

Purpose: To select athletes who based on previous performances are felt to have demonstrated that they are in the medal zone and will challenge for an individual medal. Athletes must have a proven track record demonstrating a level of consistency in elite competition and peaking for championships. This window is for Senior athletes only.

Up to two male and two female athletes may be selected in round one for the Short Trail and Long Trail events. Up to one male and one female athlete may be selected in Round One for each of the Senior Uphill Only and Classic Up-and-Down races. The Selection Panel reserves the right not to select anyone in round one.

Round Two – Long Trail

The first three placed eligible athletes at the Long Trail Trial will be selected for the men's and women's Long Trail race teams aligned to the event philosophy. An athlete's current form and fitness within a specified window will be a selection consideration.

Round Three – Short Trail

The first three placed eligible athletes at the Short Trail Trial will be selected for the men's and women's Short Trail race teams aligned to the event philosophy. An athlete's current form and fitness within a specified window will be a selection consideration.

Round Four – Mountain Races

In the Senior Mountain Races: The first two placed eligible athletes at the Trials will be automatically selected for each of the respective Mountain races aligned to the event philosophy. An athlete's current form and fitness within a specified window will be a selection consideration.

In the U20 Mountain Races: The first three placed eligible athletes at the Trials will be automatically selected for each of the respective Mountain races aligned to the event philosophy. An athlete's current form and fitness within a specified window will be a selection consideration.

Selection Process

The Selection Panel will be outlined in the Selection Policy.



Selections will be subject to the maximum entries as permitted of six places per Trail event and four places per Mountain event.

After selection, athletes will be required to demonstrate ongoing form and fitness to the Panel leading up to the 2027 World Championships.

Only athletes who meet the eligibility criteria will be considered for selection.

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 UK Athletics and World Athletics eligibility requirements.

Contact

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