



2027 WORLD ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS: 10 - 19 SEPTEMBER, BEIJING, CHINA

MARATHON – published October 2026

This Selection Policy (“the Policy”) sets out the **Marathon selection** process for the Novuna Great Britain & Northern Ireland team at the 2027 World Athletics Championships in Beijing, China (the “Championships”).

The overarching Performance Objective for the 2027 World Championships in Beijing is to maximise medal success and Top 8 placings. The selections for the Marathon events align with these principles and those set out in the Track & Field Selection Policy.

Athletes should note that they must comply with all General Eligibility Requirements given in Appendix 1 to compete for Great Britain & Northern Ireland at these Championships. **World Athletics Female Athlete Category Testing (‘FACT’) is now an Eligibility Requirement. Female athletes should note that they must have an SRY Gene Test to be Eligible to compete – see Appendix 1, paragraph 2.**

The selection policies for Race-Walking and Track & Field events are published separately.

TRIALS

1. The Trials event for athletes wishing to be considered for selection in the Marathon is the TCS London Marathon on **24 & 25 April 2027** (the “Trial”). It is not mandatory to compete at the Trials however; priority is given to participating athletes through the selection rounds. Athletes should familiarise themselves with the selection process.
2. Athletes **must compete in the elite race field at the Trial event** – in order to be considered for selection.

SELECTIONS

3. The selection meeting will take place on **4 May 2027**.
4. Selections will be based on the Performance Objectives of the Championships as stated above.
5. Selections will be published on **4 May 2027**.
6. Selections will be subject to the maximum number of entries as permitted by World Athletics (“WA”) which is a maximum of three (3) male and three (3) female athletes.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION

7. In addition to meeting the General Eligibility Requirements in Appendix 1, to be eligible for selection, athletes must comply with the Qualification Requirement.
8. For the avoidance of doubt, compliance means an athlete can be considered in the Selection Process; it does not guarantee selection.

Version	Date
v1	Published 1 October 2026



QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENT

9. To be considered for selection, athletes must meet the Qualification Requirement for the Marathon event by one of the following four routes.

- a. Achieve a **World Athletics Entry Standard**, as set out in the table below, within the qualification period set out in paragraph 10. The World Athletics Entry Standards must be achieved in competitions that comply with the Performance Conditions outlined in Appendix 2.

Men	Event	Women
2:06:00	Marathon	2:23:20

- b. Achieve **both** a **British Athletics Consideration Standard**, and a **WA Road to Beijing Ranked Position ('Road to Beijing')**. The British Athletics Consideration Standards are set out in the table below and must be met within the qualification period set out in paragraph 10. British Athletics Consideration Standards must be achieved in competitions that comply with the Performance Conditions outlined in Appendix 2. Athletes must also be in a **WA Ranked position** on Road to Beijing for the Marathon event at the close and final publication of the WA rankings, in accordance with WA rules.

Men	Event	Women
2:07:30	Marathon	2:24:30

- c. Achieve a Top 5 finish at a Platinum Label Marathon (as published by World Athletics. Refer to Appendix 3).
- d. Achieve a first-place finish at a Gold Label Marathon (as published by World Athletics. Refer to Appendix 4).

10. The qualification periods to achieve the World Athletics Entry Standards, British Athletics Consideration Standards and Label Marathon placings are as follows:

- World Athletics Entry Standards, British Athletics Consideration Standards and Platinum Label Marathon placings: **3 November 2025 to 2 May 2027**.
- Gold Label Marathon placings: **1 January 2027 to 2 May 2027**.

11. Qualification – Exceptional Provisions

Discretionary selection may be considered in accordance with the process set out in paragraph 19 below. Discretionary selection may only be proposed by the Performance Director at their entire discretion and must be voted for unanimously by the Selection Panel. Discretionary selection is **by exception only** and there is no obligation on the Selection Panel to select athletes under the provisions relating to Discretionary selection. A maximum number of two (2) discretionary selection places is permitted across the Championships. This includes athletes being considered for selection in the Race-Walking and Track & Field events.

A discretionary selection is only used in an exceptional situation where an athlete has not met qualification by any of the routes set out in paragraph 9, but the athlete must achieve a World



Athletics Ranked position and must comply with the General Eligibility Criteria set out in Appendix 1.

SELECTION PROCESS

12. The Selection Panel will only select from Eligible Athletes – i.e. those who meet the General Eligibility Requirements and Qualification Requirement (save for the Exceptional Provision set out in paragraph 11).

13. Selection will be made in two (2) rounds conducted as outlined below.

- Round 1 – Top 2 places in each Trials event
- Round 2 – Remaining Athletes with a World Athletics Entry Standard, British Athletics Consideration Standard, Platinum Label Finish or Gold Label Finish.

14. Selection in both rounds is subject to the Selection Panel's expert assessment of the athlete's injury and health status.

15. In its assessment of an athlete, the Selection Panel may decide not to select an athlete if based on British Athletics' medical advice, it considers that participation would constitute a risk to the athlete or others.

16. The Selection Panel may set conditions of selection, which may include but are not limited to fitness, health-related matters or any other form of assessment. If the athlete fails to comply with the conditions, the provisions relating to de-selection as set out below may apply.

17. Round 1 – Top Two (2) at Trials

- a. The first two (2) placed male and first two (2) placed female British Athletes at the Trials will be selected for the corresponding event, provided that they have a **World Athletics Entry Standard** and that the Selection Panel is satisfied with the athlete's injury and health status.
- b. Where there is a dead heat or tie in either of the Trial events between athletes eligible for consideration in this round, the following considerations will apply:
 - i. Where two athletes are tied for first place, both will be selected.
 - ii. Where three or more athletes are tied for first place, all athletes will be considered in Round 2.
 - iii. Where two or more athletes are tied for second place all athletes will be considered in Round 2.
- c. Should either of the first two finishers at Trials not be eligible for selection or decline selection, their place will not be offered by default to the next best eligible athlete.

18. Round 2 – Remaining Athletes with a World Athletics Entry Standard, British Athletics Consideration Standard, Platinum Label Finish or Gold Label Finish

- a. All athletes being considered for selection in this round must have provided a performance plan (before the selection meeting) to the WCP Endurance Performance Lead (Tom Craggs –

Version	Date
v1	Published 1 October 2026



tcraggs@uka.org.uk) covering an overview of planned races, camps and specific preparation for the expected conditions.

- b. Athletes who meet the Qualification Requirement in the period **3 November 2025 to 20 February 2027** must demonstrate form that gives the Selection Panel confidence of their performance potential and ability to compete at the Championships. Current form can be demonstrated in an alternative relevant discipline, as determined by the Selection Panel, which includes but is not limited to: 10k road and Half Marathon. Current form is assessed in the sole expert opinion of the Selection Panel.
- c. The Selection Panel will consider all remaining eligible athletes in this round. The Selection Panel will consider the extent to which athletes have demonstrated potential to achieve the Performance Objectives of the Championships. The Selection Panel reserves the right to not select athletes if in the Selection Panel's expert opinion, they are unlikely to achieve the Performance Objectives. To make this assessment, the Selection Panel will consider the following criteria:
 - Performances from 3 November 2025 to 2 May 2027
 - Whether WA entry standards have been achieved
 - If the WA entry standard has not been achieved, the gap to the standard
 - Performance in head-to-heads with other relevant athletes
 - Marathon races, race course profiles and race performances
 - Recent athlete performance history in major international competitions since 2024
 - Performance and position at Trials
 - Future individual Marathon medal potential at World Championships and Olympic Games
 - Analysis of performance plan that demonstrates effective preparation for the Championships in Beijing
 - Performances in climates similar to conditions expected at the Championships
 - Medical, injury and other health-related status considerations
 - Any other criteria the Selection Panel considers relevant.
- d. The criteria above are not listed in order of priority and may be weighted as necessary to best meet the Performance Objectives or may not be considered as the Selection Panel deems appropriate.
- e. If there are more athletes being considered in this Round than there are places available, athletes will be considered for selection based on the Selection Panel's comparative assessment of athletes. The Selection Panel will ultimately select athletes with the greatest potential to fulfil the Performance Objectives.
- f. For the avoidance of doubt, the Selection Panel aligns selection decisions to the Performance Objectives and there is neither an obligation to select athletes nor to fill all event places.
- g. Any athletes selected in this Round with the British Athletics Consideration Standard will be subject to them having achieved a ranking position on publication of the final Road to Beijing rankings on 8 May 2027 (or prior to final entries in case of withdrawal of an athlete from another nation). If the ranking position is not achieved, the athlete's selection will not be confirmed.

19. Exceptional Provisions – British Athletics Discretionary Selections

Version	Date
v1	Published 1 October 2026



- a. In exceptional circumstances only, following the Selection Rounds, the Performance Director may exercise their discretion to propose the selection of an individual athlete who has not met the Qualification Requirement. In such cases, in order to select the athlete, the Performance Director must be satisfied that there is **strong evidence** that the athlete can meet the Performance Objectives of the Championships.
- b. In making such an assessment, the Selection Panel will consider the athlete's performances to determine their ability and readiness to perform at the Championships at a level aligned to the Performance Objectives.
- c. Discretionary selections will be subject to the athlete achieving a World Athletics Road to Beijing Ranked Position on publication of the final rankings list on 8 May 2027.
- d. In the case of discretionary selections, voting will require a unanimous vote, in line with the procedures set out in paragraph 25 below.
- e. The total maximum number of discretionary selection places available across the three selection policies (Track & Field, Race Walks and Marathon) for the Championships is two (2).
- f. Discretionary selections may only be considered following completion of the Rounds and are by exception only. There is no obligation to use discretionary selections.

MARATHON PERFORMANCE AND MEDICAL ENGAGEMENT REQUIREMENT

20. All selected athletes will be required to engage with team staff to review health status, progress and preparation for the championships in the following four windows as a minimum:

- 1) 24 May 2027 to 6 June 2027
- 2) 28 June 2027 to 11 July 2027
- 3) 26 July 2027 to 8 August 2027
- 4) 23 August 2027 to 5 September 2027

21. Pursuant to paragraph 20, prior to the championships, should British Athletics Performance Endurance Staff and the Performance Director not have confidence that the athlete possesses the required fitness or form, the Selection Panel may de-select the athlete subject to the provisions relating to de-selection in paragraph 28 below.

22. Reserves

- a. The Selection Panel may in its discretion nominate an additional first and second eligible reserve athlete who has the ability to fulfil the Performance Objectives, as determined by the Selection Panel. To make such assessment, athletes will be assessed using the criteria outlined in Round 2. There is no obligation on the Selection Panel to nominate reserves.
- b. At the point of the final entry deadline (30 August 2027), only one reserve can be nominated, at which point if there have been no withdrawals in the event, only the first reserve will be entered into the final entry system.
- c. In situations where an athlete has been de-selected, British Athletics will exercise its sole discretion in determining whether or not to call upon a reserve.

Version	Date
v1	Published 1 October 2026



SELECTION PANEL

23. The Selection Panel shall comprise the members stated below. A substitute may be nominated at any time by the Performance Director if a member (including the Performance Director) is unavailable:

a. Voting Members:

- i. Performance Director
- ii. Deputy Performance Director – Performance
- iii. WCP Endurance Performance Lead
- iv. British Athletics Endurance Strategy Manager
- v. Lead representative for Sprints and Field & Combined events who will each vote on athlete selections.

b. Non-Voting Members:

- i. Chairperson
- ii. Event specialist(s), as nominated by the Performance Director if considered necessary
- iii. British Elite Athletes Associate or British Athletics Athletes Commission observer or another observer (as required and if available)
- iv. British Athletics Medical representative (as required)
- v. Legal representative (as required)
- vi. Media representative (as required)
- vii. Note taker(s), and;
- viii. Any other person invited by the Chairperson.

24. 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.

25. Voting of the Selection Panel shall be by simple majority save for the provisions made in paragraphs 19 and 26. The Performance Director shall have the casting vote, if required. If the Performance Director is unable to vote due to a conflict, the Chairperson shall nominate the Selection Panel member with the casting vote.

26. If Discretionary Selections are proposed by the Performance Director, voting by the Selection Panel must be unanimous. In the event of a conflict relating to a voting member of the Selection Panel, the paragraph 24 provisions above shall apply.

27. The Selection Panel may make any selection subject to the athlete completing a performance requirement or test set by the Selection Panel.

DE-SELECTION

28. Following selection, an athlete may be de-selected by the Selection Panel or British Athletics in the event of:

Version	Date
v1	Published 1 October 2026



- a. The athlete ceasing to comply with the eligibility criteria set out in this Selection Policy, WA rules and regulations or policy communicated by British Athletics.
- b. Failure to sign the World Class Programme Athlete Agreement or Team Member Agreement.
- c. Failure or partial failure to comply with any conditions or part of conditions of selection set by the Selection Panel.
- d. Application of the British Athletics Team Medical Policy as set out in the World Class Programme Athlete Agreement or Team Member Agreement.
- e. Any anti-doping rule violation or provisional suspension.
- f. Any serious misconduct or suspension (including whilst under investigation).
- g. British Athletics reasonably considering that the athlete will be unable to perform at the level required or expected due to any reason including loss of form or failure to recover fully or as expected from injury or illness, or:
- h. Failure to opt-in to team training, medical/health assessment requests or team events.
- i. Failure to complete the Marathon Pre-Competition Screening Pro Forma.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

29. Amendment

British 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.

30. Governing Law

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

31. 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 Sport Resolutions (UK) Limited and subject to the procedural control of the English Courts.

Key Contacts

- Performance Director queries: Paula Dunn (pdunn@uka.org.uk)
- WCP Endurance Performance Lead: Tom Craggs (tcraags@uka.org.uk)
- Policy queries and guidance: Tina Ryan (tryan@uka.org.uk)
- Medical and completion of medical pro-forma: George Polglass (gpolglass@britishathletics.org.uk) or Dr James Brown (jbrown@britishathletics.org.uk)
- Championships logistics: Maddy Ibbett (mibbett@britishathletics.org.uk)

Version	Date
v1	Published 1 October 2026



APPENDIX 1 – GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Be eligible to compete for GB&NI and be the holder of a full and current British passport.
2. Female athletes must meet the World Athletics eligibility rules (Technical Rule 3, Eligibility Rule 3.5) by being in possession of a SRY test certificate before 30 August 2027.
3. Comply with all World Athletics and competition rules including but not limited to any rules relevant to the category and/or event they wish to compete in.
4. Not be serving a period of ineligibility from the sport (as determined by British Athletics or a Home Country Athletics Federation) or from any other sport. For example, due to misconduct and/or disciplinary reasons.
5. Not be under investigation or have been charged by British Athletics, a Home Country Athletics Federation, or any other relevant organisation (including the police and/or CPS) with misconduct or any disciplinary, safeguarding or criminal offence.
6. Have completed all anti-doping requirements.
7. Not have committed a criminal, disciplinary or safeguarding offence that in the reasonable opinion of the Selection Panel renders the athlete unsuitable for selection.
8. Has not, whether by act or omission, brought British Athletics into disrepute.
9. Meet the standards and behaviour expected by British Athletics, as published from time to time, including in the British Athletics Athletes Code of Conduct and Team Members Agreement.
10. Be registered as a member with the relevant Home Country Athletics Federation (HCAF), directly or through a club. Exemption may be granted in exceptional circumstances only, where an athlete must be registered to a club in a foreign country due to local laws and regulations governing residency and training. In such cases, the athlete should seek written approval from the Performance Director in advance.
11. Be 16 years or older as of 31 December 2027 (i.e. born in 2011 or earlier).
12. Sign the British Athletics Team Members' Agreement ("TMA") or for World Class Programme (WCP) athletes the WCP Agreement 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/>.

APPENDIX 2 – PERFORMANCE CONDITIONS

The World Athletics Entry Standards and British Athletics Consideration Standards must be achieved in accordance with the Performance Conditions as set out below. Where there is a perceived dispute between the conditions below and World Athletics performance conditions, the World Athletics qualifications will always be the final authority.

1. Performances must be achieved during competitions organised or authorised by World Athletics, its Area Associations or its National Member Federations, conducted in conformity with World

Version	Date
v1	Published 1 October 2026



Athletics Rules and for which an application has been submitted to World Athletics (World Ranking Competition Framework). No results will be considered for competitions not submitted to WA and not included into World Athletics Global Calendar pages of the World Athletics website (<https://worldathletics.org/competition/calendar-results>).

2. For World Athletics Entry Standards and British Athletics Consideration Standards, performances must be achieved in a competition in World Rankings Category E and above.
3. Performances may only be achieved on a course measured by a World Athletics/AIMS Grade “A” or “B” international Road Race Course Measurer with the measurement certificate established no more than five years before the date of the race.
4. In cases where the overall decrease in elevation between the start and the finish exceeds 1:1000, i.e. 1m per km, the following applies:
 - a. For standards, they will not be accepted
 - b. For WA ranking position points, a correction will be made to the result score from which the points will be deducted depending on the drop.

Further details for the conditions of validity of performances are listed on the World Athletics website.

APPENDIX 3 – PLATINUM LABEL MARATHONS

The list below is taken as published in October 2026 from the World Athletics [website](#). Where there is a perceived dispute between the list below and the WA website, the WA website will always be the final authority.

Date	Marathon Name	Location
30 November 2025	Shanghai Marathon	Shanghai (CHN)
7 December 2025	Maratón Valencia Trinidad Alfonso Zurich	Valencia (ESP)
11 January 2026	C&D Xiamen Marathon	Xiamen (CHN)
25 January 2026	Osaka Women's Marathon	Osaka (JPN)
1 March 2026	Tokyo Marathon	Tokyo (JPN)
8 March 2026	Nagoya Women's Marathon	Nagoya (JPN)
15 March 2026	Seoul Marathon	Seoul (KOR)
20 April 2026	Boston Marathon	Boston, MA (USA)
26 April 2026	London Marathon	London (GBR)
30 August 2026	TCS Sydney Marathon Presented by ASICS	Sydney (AUS)
27 September 2026	BMW Berlin Marathon	Berlin (GER)
11 October 2026	Bank of America Chicago Marathon	Chicago, IL (USA)
18 October 2026	TCS Amsterdam Marathon	Amsterdam (NED)
1 November 2026	TCS New York City Marathon	New York, NY (USA)
6 December 2026	Maratón Valencia Trinidad Alfonso Zurich	Valencia (ESP)
6 December 2026	Shanghai Marathon	Shanghai (CHN)
2027 dates will be confirmed when released on the WA calendar list		

APPENDIX 4 – GOLD LABEL MARATHONS

The list below is taken as published in October 2026 from the World Athletics [website](#). Where there is a perceived dispute between the list below and the WA website, the WA website will always be the final authority.

Version	Date
v1	Published 1 October 2026



Date	Marathon Name	Location
<i>2027 dates will be confirmed when released on the WA calendar list</i>		

APPENDIX 5 – APPEALS PROCEDURE

1. Athletes may appeal their non-selection, but only after the final selection publication on the British Athletics website and only in accordance with the procedure laid out in the “British Athletics Selection Fast Appeals Procedure” which can be found on the British Athletics website, and which is subject to change. Athletes wishing to seek advice regarding the appeals process (including the validity of any procedure itself) may contact the British Elite Athletes Association via support@britisheliteathletes.org (WCP athletes only) or the British Athletics Athletes’ Commission at www.uka.org.uk/governance/uk-athletics-athletes-commission/.
2. All athletes wishing to be selected pursuant to this Selection Policy agree, as a condition of consideration for selection, that the British Athletics Selection Fast Appeals Procedure is to be treated as an arbitration procedure under Part 1 of the Arbitration Act 1996 (the “Act”) and amounts to a binding arbitration agreement for the purposes of section 6 of the Act. The seat of the Arbitration shall be England, and the Procedure shall be governed by English law.
3. Athletes wishing to commence an appeal should be aware there is a £250 administration fee due upon submission of the Notice of Appeal. The fee is refundable if the appeal is upheld. The fee must be paid in conjunction with the Notice of Appeal, as per the timelines outlined below.
4. The Notice of Appeal will not be valid unless the athlete provides confirmation of payment of the administration fee at or before the time the Notice of Appeal is due.
5. Payment details for the administration fee are below. Transfers must be referenced PAD1094 – [YOUR INITIALS]

Bank Details

Sort Code: 30-64-10

Account No: 31040560

Account Name: UK Athletics Ltd

6. The Relevant Timelines, as defined in the British Athletics Selection Fast Appeals Procedure, are set out in the tables below:

Action	Date & Time
Publication of selection list/selected athletes are notified	By 6pm Tuesday 4 May 2027
Athlete request notes from selection meeting	By 10am Wednesday 5 May 2027
British Athletics to supply notes	By 10am Thursday 6 May 2027
Athlete to submit Notice of Appeal	By 6pm Friday 7 May 2027
Evidence of administration fee payment	By 6pm Friday 7 May 2027
Third parties to submit additional documents. (if requested by the Appeal Panel)	By 4pm Monday 10 May 2027
British Athletics to submit response to Appeal	By 6pm Monday 10 May 2027
Appeal Panel Hearing	Tuesday 11 May 2027
Appeal Outcome	By 6pm Tuesday 11 May 2027

Version	Date
v1	Published 1 October 2026



Final entries deadline

11pm Monday 30 August 2027

If you have not been notified of your selection by the time stated above, you have not been selected. The deadlines set out above should be carefully noted in the event an appeal is being considered.

Version	Date
v1	Published 1 October 2026