



## FUTURES PROGRAMME

### INTRODUCTION

The Futures Programme aims to confirm an athlete's potential to transition onto the World Class Programme (WCP) in the next cycle and support those who have highlighted the potential to succeed at future Olympic and Paralympic Games. The programme runs from the 1<sup>st</sup> December to 30<sup>th</sup> November and has been redeveloped from previous years, with the focus on supporting aspects of the athletes/coaches Individual Athlete Plan (IAP) and through additional support and experiences, provide athletes and coaches with the opportunities to develop the skills and abilities required for senior international success.

There are two levels to the programme:

1. **Futures Academy** – The first phase of the program which emphasises learning and the development of skills and processes necessary to become a successful senior athlete.
2. **Futures Transition**– To support and confirm the skills and attributes needed to progress onto World Class Programme in the next 1-2 years, while also providing support in preparation for performing at key milestone events across the season.

Athletes and Coaches invited onto the programme will be assigned a British Athletics Point of Contact whose role is to facilitate and support the IAP process, in conjunction with the Performance Support team or current home-based support. To identify areas where the programme can support and add value, athletes and coaches will be required to share their IAP and to review it across key points throughout the season.

Athletes based overseas may be considered for Futures support on a case-by-case basis. The level of support for athlete and coach may differ from the below, particularly when considering the level of input/influence that may be possible based on individual circumstances and location. Athletes won't be eligible for any direct financial support through the programme.

**Full details of the programme can be found here - <https://www.uka.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/20221014-Futures-2022-Overview-A4.pdf>**



## ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

All the following, as well as any other factors that may be deemed relevant, will be considered by the panel when assessing selection for the programme:

| Requirements                                 | Futures Academy  | Futures Transition  |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Age</b>                                   | 17-23 years*   | N/A   |
| <b>Duration</b>                              | 2-3 years  | 1-2 years   |
| <b>Commitment</b>                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engagement of athlete and coach on Pathway support Programmes</li> <li>Shows consistence in effort over sessions and training block &amp; preparation</li> <li>Athlete/Coach willingness to share and collaborate with a wider support team</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Athletes will have been identified as having the attributes to pursue success in the Olympic Games and have committed to engage in a trial period.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Championship Performance</b>              | In 2023, an athlete has successfully competed for Great Britain or Home Nation at an age-group Championship or showcased performances in National age group or senior championships.   | In 2023, an athlete has successfully competed for Great Britain or Home Nation at a Senior or age-group Championship.   |
| <b>Performance Standard</b>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yearly progression profile (should be rising at least equal to or steeper rate than the event trend);</li> <li>Position on the relevant Performance Funnel;</li> <li>Major competition history</li> </ul>   | <p>1. Produced a performance(s) at a championship that was in line with their potential. Demonstrated through performing close to or exceeding SB and/or through tactical abilities that allowed the athlete to progress as far as possible through rounds</p> <p>2.The performance level is trending towards Podium-Potential entry standard at a rate that gives the panel confidence that it will meet or exceed it within 2 years. Event trend/progression will be considered to add context to athletes current Performance trajectory</p> |
| <b>Performance Consistency</b>               | The panel will consider factors around age and stage for the specific event.   | If the level of consistency is too low at the panel's discretion, the panel has confidence that it's possible to address the reasons for the inconsistencies over 1 to 2 seasons.   |
| <b>Performance Potential and progression</b> | <p>At the Selection Panel's discretion, it is clear that the athlete shows technical, physical, psychological, and/or tactical aspects of performance can be improved over 1 to 3 seasons, to progress on to confirmation including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Injury history</li> <li>Training and competition history &amp; volume.</li> <li>Lifestyle and training environment.</li> <li>Maturation (in primary or potential future events)</li> </ul> | At the WCP Selection Panel's discretion, it is clear that technical, physical, psychological, and/or tactical aspects of performance can be improved over 1 to 2 seasons, enabling the gap to Podium-Potential and Podium levels to be closed.  |

\*In exceptional cases only – athletes outside of the age range, who compete in events with long developmental pathways or who have highlighted significant potential, when assessed against the Athlete Development Framework, are considered by the panel to have an overwhelmingly positive profile suggestive of potential for the Olympic Games after or including 2024. Also any recommendation from the WCP selection Meetings, Event Leads and programme coaches.



## **NUMBER OF PLACES ON THE PROGRAMME**

- The number of places on Futures Academy is limited and may vary from year to year.

## **FUTURES ACADEMY & TRANSITION - SELECTION PROCESS**

**The selection process is split across four stages:**

**Stage 1** – Pathway Athlete/Coach are shortlisted by British Athletics Pathway Team.

**Stage 2** – Pre-selection - Pathway event review with relevant British Athletics & Home Nation Leads around potential progressions of athletes onto each stage of the pathway.

**Stage 3** – Selection Panel

**Stage 4** – Induction

### **Selection Panel**

The Futures Academy Selection Panel will:

1. Nominate pathway athletes for consideration for WCP selection – Confirmation, Podium Potential, Podium
2. For existing Futures members - confirm, change the level of, or graduate. Also, may set conditions and targets for each athlete, that will need to be met by a particular point in the season for membership to continue.
3. Consider and select new athletes for the Futures Academy or transition programme.

### **Voting**

- British Athletics Pathway Event Coaches
- Senior British Athletics Coach or Home Nation Event Leads (relevant to the event discussed)

### **Non-Voting**

- Head of Performance Pathway – Chair
- One or more representative of each event-group
- Medical representative
- Statistician
- Independent Sport Observer & Note taker



## ELIGIBILITY

To be considered for membership of the British Athletics Futures Programme, an athlete must fulfil the following Eligibility criteria:

- a) Be eligible to compete for Team GB at the Olympic Games and for Great Britain in all relevant Championships and events including relay events.
- b) A British Passport holder.
- c) Not currently serving a period of eligibility as a result of a transfer of allegiance.
- d) Not currently serving a provisional or permanent suspension for a doping violation.
- e) Has not, whether by an act or omission, brought British Athletics into disrepute.
- f) Not serving a period of ineligibility from the sport as determined by British Athletics. For example, due to misconduct and / or disciplinary reasons.

Any athlete who has associated, or intends to associate, themselves with a coach, doctor or other medical or support person who British Athletics reasonably considers it inappropriate for the athlete to associate with, shall not, at the discretion of British Athletics, be eligible for selection for membership.

## SELECTION DECISIONS

- The Eligibility Criteria set out above must be met. If they are not, an athlete shall not be considered for selection.
- Decisions of the Selection Panel shall be discretionary, considering the following factors:
  - a) In relation to individual events, the age and stage progression profiles and the WCP Performance Matrix.
  - b) Performance against any previous Performance Targets and Conditions set for the athlete.
  - c) Any information received from the British Athletics Technical Director as to priority events and/or strategic direction.
  - d) For athletes currently on the programme, progress in key physical, technical, psychological and/or tactical areas related to performance.
  - e) Notes & reports from event specialists / points of contact / personal coaches (which may be supplied to the Section Panel or requested by them).
  - f) Any other relevant information requested by, available to or within the knowledge of the Selection Panel.
  - g) Compliance with the Athlete/Coach Agreement in previous years.
  - h) Engagement, progression and behaviours with Age Group Championships and Home Nation Pathway programmes in previous years