



FUTURES PROGRAMME

INTRODUCTION

The Futures Programme aims to confirm and support 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 focuses 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 initial phase of the program focuses on the foundational learning and development of essential skills and processes required to become a successful senior athlete.
2. **Futures Transition:** This phase is designed to refine and confirm the skills and attributes necessary for athletes to progress to the World Class Programme within the next 1-2 years. It also provides crucial support in preparing for key milestone events throughout the season.

Athletes and coaches invited to join the program will be assigned a UKA Engagement Lead. This Lead's role is to facilitate and support the Individual Athlete Plan (IAP) process in collaboration with the Performance Support team or existing home-based support. To identify areas where the program can offer support and add value, athletes and coaches must share their IAP and review it at 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 both athletes and coaches may vary, particularly considering the degree of input and influence possible based on individual circumstances and location. Note that athletes will not be eligible for direct financial support through the program.

Full details of the programme can be found here:

<https://www.uka.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Futures-Overview-2023-2024.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
Age	17-23 years*	N/A
Duration	2-3 years	1-2 years
Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement of athlete and coach on Pathway support Programmes Shows consistence in effort over sessions and training block & preparation Athlete/Coach willingness to share and collaborate with a wider support team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
Championship Performance	In 2024, 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 2024, an athlete has successfully competed for Great Britain or Home Nation at a Senior or age-group Championship.
Performance Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yearly progression profile (should be rising at least equal to or steeper rate than the event trend); Position on the relevant Performance Funnel; Major competition history 	<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>
Performance Consistency	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.
Performance Potential and progression	<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"> Injury history Training and competition history & volume. Lifestyle and training environment. Maturation (in primary or potential future events) 	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 and standards, 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 2028. Also any recommendation from the WCP selection Meetings, Event Leads and programme coaches.



PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

The UKA Futures standards, derived from the age and stage profiles of Olympic finalists, are crucial for selection into the Futures Programme. These benchmarks ensure that athletes are evaluated against the performance levels required for future Olympic success.

Women				Men		
Senior	u23	u20	Event	u20	u23	Senior
Individual event profile	11.25	11.41	100m	10.49	10.15	Individual event profile
	23.1	23.48	200m	21.24	20.59	
	51.7	52.84	400m	46.7	45.65	
	02:01	2:02,92	800m	01:47	01:46	
	04:07	04:13	1500m	03:42	3:38,43	
	NA	09:08	3000m	08:00	NA	
	15:22,19	15:48	5000m	13:38	13:28	
	9:30,91	9:40,70	3k Chase	08:32	08:27	
	13.13	13.3	110m Hurdles	13.48	13.65	
	55.95	57.7	400m Hurdles	51.54	49.22	
	1.90	1.86	High Jump	2.18	2.23	
	4.30	4.10	Pole Vault	5.40	5.60	
	6.65	6.38	Long Jump	7.77	8.10	
	13.8	13.77	Triple Jump	16.56	16.79	
	17.65	15.75	Shot	18.85	19.16	
	57	53	Discus	59	62	
	66	61	Hammer	72	75	
	57	52.12	Javelin	72.21	78.16	
	5750	5550	Multis	7561	7960	

* Aligned with the Senior World-Class Program, athletes will be selected for relay positions based on evidence this season from the Key Determinants Model applicable to both relay programs.

NUMBER OF PLACES ON THE PROGRAMME

- The number of places on Futures 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 UKA Performance Team.

Stage 2 – Pre-selection - Pathway event review with relevant UKA & 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 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

- UKA Performance Team Staff.
- Senior UKA Coach or Home Nation Event Leads (relevant to the event discussed)

Non-Voting

- Head of Performance Pathways – 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 UKA 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 UKA into disrepute.
- f) Not serving a period of ineligibility from the sport as determined by UKA. 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 UKA reasonably considers it inappropriate for the athlete to associate with, shall not, at the discretion of UKA, 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 UKA 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 Selection 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

APPEALS

There shall be no right of appeal to the selection of the Futures programme made by the Panel. The provisions of the UKA Selection and Nomination “Fast” Appeals Procedure do not apply to the Futures selections for the programme.