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**Trail de Guerledan
Saturday 18th/Sunday 19th May – Brittany, France
Selection Policy published October 2023**

Overview

The Trail de Guerledan, including the Inter-Celtic Trail Challenge, will take place in Brittany, France on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th May. Welsh Athletics values the role this representative opportunity will provide in enabling athletes to gain experience in competing against a high quality international field as part of a representative team against other representative teams.

Selection Policy Aim

The selection panel will attempt to select the **best team possible** to represent Wales.

Athlete Eligibility

Eligibility will be in line with Welsh Athletics eligibility criteria.

Competition Format

The Trail de Guerledan provides **Senior Age Group** competition opportunities.

Teams of up to **4 Senior Men** and **4 Senior Women** may be selected for the 26km race (Saturday 18th May) and **1 Senior Man** and **1 Senior Women** in the 65km race (Sunday 19th May). Athletes will compete against international teams and athletes.

Selection Process

26km race

The first three Welsh male and female athletes in **Red Kite Challenge Half Marathon Trail Race**, incorporating the Welsh Athletics Senior Trail Championships, on **Saturday 27th April** will be selected for the 26km race, with the final place at the discretion of the selection panel. **There is no obligation to fill all available positions, even if athletes finish in the top three in the trial race, if runners are not considered of the required standard to warrant selection.**

To be considered for the 26km team athletes need to do one of the following:

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1. Take part in the Red Kite Challenge Half Marathon Trail Race
2. If unable to do the Red Kite Challenge Half Marathon Trail Race, contact Arwel Lewis (Welsh Athletics Mountain and Trail committee representative) and Steve Mitchell (Welsh Athletics National Talent Development Coordinator) before the entries for the trial race closes. The athlete must explain why they are unable to do the race and prior to the selection meeting give an indication of current trail running form. The athlete will be considered for the discretionary places.

Arwel Lewis contact email address: arweleryri@googlemail.com

Steve Mitchell contact email address: steve.mitchell@welshathletics.org

The selection meeting will take place on **Tuesday 30th April** and the teams will be announced on the following **Saturday 4th May**.

The **Selection Panel** will comprise of **2 individuals nominated by the Welsh Athletics Mountain and Trail Committee, a team manager and 2 members from the Welsh Athletics performance team.**

In coming to its decision, the **Selection Panel** will consider the following criteria when it comes to the discretionary places (in no priority order):

1. 2024 form and fitness in trail races of similar distance, terrain and elevation
2. Evidence of competing in trail races in previous seasons
3. Future potential and associated progression / development
4. Head-to-head competitive records
5. Previous / other event championship performances
6. Athletes who are supportive of Welsh Athletics
7. Any other factors that, in the panel's opinion, give Wales the best chance of success

65km race

There will be no official trial race for the 65km race. Performances between 1st January 2023 and 25th February 2024 will be taken into consideration. Athletes must show fitness and form in a race of a similar distance, terrain and elevation to the 65km race at Trail de Guerledan.

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Athletes wishing to be considered for selection must contact Arwel Lewis, arweleryri@googlemail.com, and Steve Mitchell, steve.mitchell@welshathletics.org, by **22:00 on Sunday 3rd March** to confirm their interest and to state their performances in suitable races within the qualification time frame.

The selection meeting will take place on **Tuesday 5th March** and the teams will be announced on the following **Saturday 9th March**.

The Selection Panel will comprise of **2 individuals nominated by the Welsh Athletics Mountain and Trail Committee, a team manager and 2 members from the Welsh Athletics performance team.**

In coming to its decision, the **Selection Panel** will consider the following criteria (in no priority order):

1. 2023 and 2024 form and fitness in trail races of similar distance, terrain and elevation
2. Evidence of competing in trail races in previous seasons
3. Future potential and associated progression / development
4. Head-to-head competitive records
5. Previous / other event championship performances
6. Athletes who are supportive of Welsh Athletics
7. Any other factors that, in the panel's opinion, give Wales the best chance of success

Appeals Process

There shall be no right to appeal the selection of the Welsh team made by the selection panel.

De-selection Process

De-selection of an athlete may occur following:

1. Failure to adhere to the Welsh Athletics code of conduct
2. In the event of an athlete sustaining an injury or illness following acceptance of their position on the team, they are required to inform the team leader immediately. If required, evidence will have to be supplied. If it is deemed that the injury or illness will negatively affect the athlete's performance this will result in deselection.

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Equal Opportunities

Welsh Athletics will not discriminate in the selection of any athlete on the basis of any protected characteristics.

Amendment

Welsh Athletics reserves the right to amend this selection policy at its sole discretion and will make any amended version publically available (including the date on which the amendment was made) on the [Welsh Athletics website](#)