

**2021 Leeds Abbey Dash**

**10k Road Running Representative Opportunity**

**24th October 2021**

**Selection Policy – published September 2021**

**Overview**

The overall objective of the international competitions program is to develop Welsh athletes to perform at the best of their ability at future major, senior Championship events (e.g. the Commonwealth Games), as part of this strategy, Welsh Athletics is committed to providing quality development competition opportunities.

**Selection Policy Aim**

The selection panel will attempt to select the best team possible to represent Wales in a high-quality race, competing against the other home nations.

**Athlete Eligibility**

To be considered for selection, athletes must satisfy the following;

1. Be eligible to compete for Wales by either:
   1. Birth
   2. Parentage
   3. Retention
   4. Residence (minimum 2 years)
2. Have achieved the selection standard
3. Be affiliated to Welsh Athletics

**Competition Format**

In 2021, Wales will be sending a team of up to four senior athletes (4 Female / 4 Male) to compete against teams from England, Scotland, Northern Ireland.

**Selection Criteria**

For consideration for selection, athletes must have achieved the following qualification standards

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Female** | **Event** | **Male** |
| 16:50 | **5km** | 14:40 |
| 34:45 | **10km** | 30:45 |
| 1:18:00 | **Half Marathon** | 1:08:00 |

*\* Qualification performances must be achieved between 00:00 (GMT) 1 September and midnight (GMT) 19th September 2021 (GMT)*

**\*** *Qualification performances must be achieved in competitions organised or authorised by World Athletics, its Area Associations or its National Member Federations (Road and Track performances apply)*

**Selection Process**

1. The selection meeting will take place on **Monday 20th September 2021**. The Selection Panel (“the Panel”) will comprise of 5 voting members (2 members of the Coaching and Performance team, 2 independent panel members (Road Running Committee) and 1 of the nominated team mangers for the event) and an independent observer (non-voting).
2. Up to 4 female and 4 male athletes may be selected for the competing team.
3. There is no obligation to fill all available positions.
4. One male non-traveling reserve and one female non-traveling reserve will also be selected.
5. There is no automatic selection for this event. In coming to its decision, the Panel will consider the following criteria (in no particular priority order):
   1. Standards outlined in this policy are the minimum standards to be considered for selection and should not be considered as a guarantee of selection.
   2. Current form, fitness and competition history (within the stated selection date 1st January 2021 – 19th September 2021).
   3. Current form will be prioritised when selecting between athletes with similar qualifying performance.
   4. Future potential at senior level (and associated progression / development)
   5. Head to head competitive records
   6. Previous / other Championship performances
   7. Injury status
   8. Athletes who are supportive of Welsh Athletics
   9. Any other factors that, in the panel’s opinion, give Wales the best chance of success in the match
   10. In exceptional circumstances only, Welsh Athletics reserves the right to select athletes without a current standard.
   11. Welsh Athletics reserves the right to amend this policy or cancel / postpone the team selections if Government guidance is changed with regard to Covid 19.

Selected athletes will be informed by e-mail by Wednesday 22nd September 2021. The team will be announced on Friday 24th September 2021.

Welsh Athletics is committed to offering equal opportunities to all of the athletes in Wales. Any Welsh athlete is eligible to be selected and will be considered as part of the selection process, providing they have achieved all that is laid out within this selection policy. Welsh Athletics will not discriminate in the selection of any athlete on the basis of any protected characteristic

**Appeals Process**

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

**Additional Notes**

Any selected athlete with doubt over their fitness in the lead up to the race may be required to evidence a fitness test.

**De-Selection Process**

De-selection of an athlete may occur following;

1. Failure to achieve the standard fitness testing protocols
2. Failure to adhere to the Welsh Athletics athlete code of conduct

In the event that an athlete sustains an injury following acceptance of their position on the team, they are required to inform the Team Leader immediately.

**Athlete withdrawal following acceptance**

Athletes who withdraw themselves for reasons other than illness or injury (with doctors letter provided) may be liable to cover any associated costs, accommodation, travel / flights etc. in the case of travel / flights athletes who withdraw may also be liable for the cost of flights or a change of name to the ticket where there is an option to substitute.

**Confirmation of Team Staff**

Team Manager – James Thie

Team Staff –

Team Staff -

**Amendment**

Welsh Athletics reserves the right to amend this Selection Policy at its sole discretion and will make any amended version publicly available (including the date on which the amendment was made) at [www.welshathletics.org](http://www.welshathletics.org)