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WELSH ATHLETICS
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**2019 Welsh Athletics International
24th July 2019, Cardiff, Wales
Selection Policy – published May 2019**

Overview

The overall objective of the international competitions programme is to prepare Welsh athletes to perform at the best of their ability at major, senior Championship events (e.g. the Commonwealth Games). As part of that strategy, Welsh Athletics is committed to providing international competition opportunities to developing and aspirational Welsh athletes. International competitions are categorised as one of the following:

1. **International Matches** (where a Welsh team is fielded in a competitive fixture against other teams)
2. **International Overseas Fixtures** (an international, overseas competition that provides Welsh athletes of the appropriate standard with a conducive environment to achieve a good performance outcome)

The Welsh Athletics International is classified as an **International Match**.

Selection Policy Aim

The selection panel will attempt to select the best U20 team possible to represent Wales. It will prioritise athletes who were born in the years 2000 and 2001 but will also consider those who were born in the years 2002, 2003 and 2004.

Athlete Eligibility

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

1. Be eligible to compete for Wales by either:
 - a. Birth
 - b. Parentage
 - c. Retention
 - d. Residence (minimum 2 years)
2. Be born in either 1999, 2000 or 2001 (born after September 1st). U18 / U17 athletes can be considered under the specific conditions listed in the selection criteria.

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3. Have achieved the International Match selection standard

Competition Format

In 2018, this fixture provides an U20 age group competition for Wales (1 per event) against three U20 regional teams from England. Teams from Scotland, Northern Ireland, Guernsey and the Welsh Schools have also been invited.

The following events will be contested:

U20 Men;

100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 3000m, 110m Hurdles, 400m Hurdles, Long Jump, High Jump, Triple Jump, Shot Putt, Discus, Javelin, 4 x 100m (all events subject to change)

U20 Women:

100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 3000m, 100m Hurdles, 400m Hurdles, High Jump, Long Jump, Triple Jump, Pole Vault, Hammer, Shot Putt, Javelin, 4 x 100m (all events subject to change)

Selection Criteria

For consideration for selection, athletes must have achieved the U20 International Match Standard between the 1st January 2019 and the 30th June 2019.

Where appropriate, the selection panel will avoid selecting athletes in more than one event (for the health and wellbeing of the athlete and optimal performance in a single event) – with the exception of an individual event plus the relay.

Conditions

The achievement of the International Match standards must conform with the following requirements:

1. Must be achieved in competitions organised or authorised by the IAAF, its Area Associations or its National Member Federations
2. Wind assisted performances (or performances where wind measurement was not available) will not be accepted

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3. Hand timed performances in the 100m, 200m, 400m, 60m Hurdles, 400m Hurdles will not be accepted
4. Indoor performances for all events will be accepted

Selection Process

The selection meeting will take place on **Monday 1st July 2019**. The International Match Selection Panel ("the Panel") will comprise of 5 voting members (2 members of the Coaching and Performance team, 2 independent members nominated by the Track and Field committee and 1 of the nominated team managers for the event) and an independent observer (non-voting).

There is no obligation to fill all available positions – as per the selection criteria.

Automatic selection will be awarded to the winner of the U20 Welsh Championships taking place on the 15th & 16th June, providing they have also achieved the International Match selection standard before the 30th June 2019.

If the Welsh U20 champion declines selection, or does not have the International Match standard, or the event at the Welsh International is not held at the U20 Welsh Champs on the 15th/16th June, there will be no automatic selection, and in coming to its decision, the Panel will consider the following (in priority order):

1. Current form (2019 season's best performance and depth of performances above the selection standard)
2. Position and performance at the 2019 Welsh U20 Championships on the 15th/16th June
3. Position and performance at the 2019 England U20 Championships on the 22nd/23rd June
4. Future potential at senior level (and associated progression / development)
5. Previous / other Championship performances
6. Head to head competitive records
7. Injury status
8. Athletes who are supportive of Welsh Athletics

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9. Any other factors that, in the panel's opinion, give Wales the best chance of success in the match

Selected athletes will be informed via e-mail by Tuesday 2nd July. The team will be announced on Wednesday 17th July.

Appeals Process

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

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.

Confirmation of Team Staff

The following positions will be confirmed by the Panel following the selection of the athletes:

1. Team Leader
2. Team Managers
3. Team Coaches
4. Team Medical Staff

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) at www.welshathletics.org.