

**International Representative Cross Country Fixtures 2019-2020
Selection Policy Version 2 – November 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. World Championships and the Commonwealth Games). As part of that strategy, Welsh Athletics is committed to providing domestic and 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 or Domestic Fixtures** (either an overseas or domestic competition that provides Welsh athletes of the appropriate standard with a conducive environment to achieve a good performance outcome)

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, and not having competed for another nation in the previous 12 months)

Bobby Rea International XC – Belfast, NI – Saturday 9th November

The Bobby Rea International XC is classified as an International Overseas Fixture.

Welsh Athletics will select to compete:

- Up to four Senior Men and up to four Senior Women
- Up to two U20 Men and up to two U20 Women

There is no obligation to fill all positions.

Selection Process

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The selection meeting will take place on Wednesday 16th October 2019. The Selection Panel will comprise of two members of the Coaching and Performance Team, two independent members nominated by the Cross Country & Road Committee and at least one of the appointed Team Managers.

Senior Selection Criteria

The top two finishers at the Cardiff Cross Challenge (Senior Men's & Senior Women's races) will be awarded automatic selection. The two remaining places will be selected at the Panel's discretion based on current form around the time of selection.

Should either of the automatically selected athletes decline their place, there will be no further automatic selections.

U20 Selection Criteria

The top two finishers at the Cardiff Cross Challenge (U20 Men & U20 Women's races) will be awarded automatic selection. Should either of the automatically selected athletes decline their place, there will be no further automatic selections.

Liverpool Cross Challenge – Sefton Park, Liverpool – Saturday 23rd November 2019

The Liverpool Cross Challenge is classified as an International Domestic Fixture.

Welsh Athletics will select to compete:

- Up to six U20 Men and up to six U20 Women
- Up to six U17 Men and up to six U17 Women

There is no obligation to fill all positions.

Selection Process

The selection meeting will take place on Wednesday 16th October 2019. The Selection Panel will comprise of two members of the Coaching and Performance Team, two independent members nominated by the Cross Country & Road Committee and at least one of the appointed Team Managers.

Automatic selection will be awarded to the first four finishers in each age group race at the Cardiff Cross Challenge on Saturday 12th October. A further two athletes will be selected in each age group at the discretion of the Selection Panel based on current form around the time of selection.

Should any of the automatically selected athletes decline their place on the team, there will be no further automatic selections.

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**Stirling Cross Challenge inc. Celtic and Home Countries International – Kings Park, Stirling –
Saturday 11th January 2020**

The Stirling Cross Challenge (inc. Celtic & Home Countries International) is classified as an International Match.

Welsh Athletics will select to compete:

- Up to four Senior Men and up to four Senior Women
- Up to four U20 Men and up to four U20 Women
- Up to four U17 Men and up to four U17 Women

There is no obligation to fill all positions.

Age groups are as IAAF Age Groups on 31st December 2020.

Selection Process

The selection meeting will take place on **Wednesday 27th November**. The Selection Panel will comprise of two members of the Coaching and Performance Team, two independent members nominated by the Cross Country & Road Committee and at least one of the appointed Team Managers.

Selections will be based on performances at the Liverpool Cross Challenge (Saturday 23rd November 2019) and the Welsh Inter Regional XC Championships (Saturday 16th November 2019).

Selections will be based on the selection criteria (appendix i), in priority order.

Welsh Athletics is committed to offering equal opportunities to all 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.

De-Selection Process

De-selection of an athlete may occur following;

1. Failure to achieve the standard fitness testing protocols

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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 (if applicable)
2. Team Managers
3. Team Coaches
4. Team Medical Staff (if applicable)

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

Appendix i – Selection Criteria

1. Current form
2. Future potential at senior level (and associated progression / development)
3. Head to head competitive records
4. Previous / other Championship performances
5. Injury status
6. Athletes who are supportive of Welsh Athletics

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