

Welsh Athletics Selection Policy for the Pickering Memorial Throws International Sunday 31st May 2026

Overview

The Welsh Athletics performance vision is to deliver a sustainable sector leading elite performance system that consistently transfers talented athletes to UKA's WCP whilst winning medals at Commonwealth Games. As part of this strategy, Welsh Athletics is committed to providing competition opportunities to developing and aspiring Welsh international athletes. Opportunities to compete for Wales are categorized as one of the following:

International Opportunity – a competitive opportunity in pathway events for senior Welsh athletes.

Representative Opportunity – a development opportunity in either pathway or non-pathway events for both junior and senior Welsh athletes.

School -Aged Match Opportunity – a development opportunity in either pathway or non-pathway events for school aged Welsh athletes to compete in a representative match. The eligibility criteria for some of these competitions is different to that for International and Representative opportunities.

The PMTI provides a representative competition opportunity.

For the Pickering Memorial Throws International Welsh Athletics will select a team of U18, U20 and U23 Athletes to compete on the 31st May 2026, the below selection policy reflects the strategic aim of Welsh Athletics and the Performance pathway to support the pathway and preparation of athletes aspiring to be selected for a major championship, and will:

- Focus on U18 and U20 and U23 athletes with a focus on Qualification for major championships
- Athletes within the current performance pathway program
- Athletes that are competing in Paralympic disciplines whom the selection panel believe are showing realistic progression towards gaining Paralympic futures or senior Wales and GB&NI selection at major events.

Athlete Eligibility

To be considered for selection for this team:

- Athletes must be eligible to compete for Wales. This includes holding a full British passport.
- Athletes must not be currently serving a period of ineligibility or a provisional or permanent suspension for a doping violation or for any other reason of misconduct.
- Athletes must be currently registered as a member with Welsh Athletics, directly or through a club.
- Para Athletes must have a current National or International Para Athletics Classification.

- Athletes will be required to sign the Welsh Athletics Team Members' Agreement and abide by its terms and conditions. Any athlete failing to do so before the date of the competition will result in their selection being withdrawn. All athletes wishing to be considered for selected for the PMTI must express their interest in competing via this form by 9.00hrs Friday 24th April 2026 [Pickering Memorial Throws International 31st May 2026 – Fill in form](#)

Age classifications

- U23s = Athletes born in 2004, 2005 and 2006.
- U20s = Athletes born in 2007 and 2008.
- U18s = Athletes born in 2009 and 2010.

Events

Welsh Athletics will select up to two people per age group per event, max team size of up to 16 athletes

- Olympic Disciplines: Shot put, discus, hammer, javelin
- Paralympic Disciplines: Ambulant shot put, ambulant discus & ambulant javelin, Seated Shot

Selection Process

- The selection meeting will take place on 13th May and final teams will be announced on 16th May.
- The teams will be selected by the Welsh Athletics Head of Performance or Performance Team Deputy, Welsh Athletics Para Athletics Coordinator and National Talent Development Coordinator for Throws and a member of Welsh Athletics Track and Field Committee.
- Selection of the team will use the following process to ensure the selection policy aim is met:
 - Ambulant Throws events will be selected on ability to make the GB futures program and ability to obtain GB representation at Junior and senior Para World Championships, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games
 - U18/U20/U23 athletes will be selected using the following criteria:
 - Athletes will be selected in line with the Performance Pathway consideration standards and with the consideration of realistically making future GB representation and CWG teams. (Consideration standards can be found here <https://www.welshathletics.org/en/blog/post/performance-strategy-update>)
 - Priority 1: Athletes currently on Welsh Athletics support programmes (Performance Programme, Transition Programme and National Development Programme.)
 - Priority 2: Non-program athletes will be considered. Results and rankings of non- program athletes specifically looking at U18/U20/U23 GB representation.

There is no obligation to fill all available positions.

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Appeals Process



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There shall be no right to appeal against 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.

Equal Opportunities

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

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) on the [Welsh Athletics website](#)

Other Information

- The event will be run under World Athletics and World Para Athletics Rules.
- All implements entered, including personal implements, will be available to all competitors in that weight category. U20 and U18 Age Group athletes can elect to throw the appropriate weight implement for their age group. However, they must compete with that weight of implement for the entirety of the competition.
- Welsh Athletics will not provide financial assistance for travel to the meeting point at Loughborough, meals or snacks. Athletes based overseas will be required to cover their own travel expenses to the UK.
- Welsh Athletics will not provide overnight accommodation for the team.
- Welsh Athletics will provide competition kit to any athletes that haven't received such kit within the last 12 months.
- There will be support team coaches at this event, personal coaches are invited to attend and further entry information will be confirmed for spectators.
- For more information on the performance strategy 2023 – 2026 please follow this link - <https://www.welshathletics.org/en/blog/post/performance-strategy-update>

Please contact neil.taylor@welshathletics.org should you wish to discuss the above policy

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