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WELSH ATHLETICS
ATHLETAU CYMRU

23rd British and Irish Junior Mountain Running Championships
Sunday 10th September 2023 – Peebles, Scotland
Selection Policy published December 2022 (updated February 2023)

Overview

The 23rd British and Irish Junior Mountain Running Championships will take place in Peebles, Scotland on Sunday 10th September 2023. This provides junior athletes with the opportunity to compete against the best junior mountain athletes in Britain and Ireland. Welsh Athletics continues to value international competition opportunities and the role it plays in developing Welsh athletes.

Selection Policy Aim

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

Athlete Eligibility

To be considered for selection, athletes must be eligible to compete for Wales through at least one of the following:

1. Birth
2. Parentage
3. Retention
4. Residence (minimum 3 years)

Competition Format

The 23rd British and Irish Junior Mountain Running Championships provides **U20 and U17 Age Group** competition opportunities.

Teams of up to **4 U20 Men, 4 U20 Women, 4 U17 Men and 4 U17 Women** may be selected. The age groups follow IAAF rules, so U20 athletes are those born in 2004, 2005 and 2006 and U17 athletes are those born in 2007 and 2008. Wales will compete against teams from England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Ireland.

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Selection Process

The trial race (venue to be decided) for the Welsh team will be on **Saturday 22nd July**. The first three Welsh athletes across the finish line in the male and female U20 and U17 races will be selected, 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 team athletes need to do one of the following:

1. Take part in the trial race
2. If unable to do the trial 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 trial race and to give an indication of current mountain and fell running form. The athlete will be considered in the selection meeting when discussing 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 25th July 2023** and the teams will be announced on **Saturday 29th July 2023**.

The **Selection Panel** will comprise of **2 individuals nominated by the Welsh Athletics Mountain and Trail Committee, a team manager and 2 individuals 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. 2023 form and fitness in mountain and fell races
2. Evidence of competing at mountain and fell races in previous seasons
3. Future potential and associated progression/development
4. Head-to-head competitive records
5. Previous/other event championship performances
6. Injury status
7. Athletes who are supportive of Welsh Athletics and have participated in fell and mountain development days
8. Any other factors that, in the panel's opinion, give Wales the best chance of success

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Appeals Process

There shall be no right of appeal to Welsh Team selected by the Selection Panel.

De-Selection Process

De-selection of an athlete may occur following:

1. Failure to adhere to the Welsh Athletics athlete 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 it is deemed that the injury or illness will negatively affect the athlete's performance this will result in de-selection.

Equal Opportunities

Welsh Athletics is committed to offering equal opportunities to all athletes in Wales. Any Welsh athletes will be considered as part of the selection process, providing they have met the criteria that is laid out within this policy. 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 publicly available (including the date on which the amendment was made) at www.welshathletics.org