

London Mini Marathon – 25th April 2026
London, England
Selection Policy – published October 2025

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 categorised as one of the following;

1. **International Opportunity** - a competitive opportunity in pathway events for senior Welsh athletes.
2. **Representative Opportunity** - a development opportunity in either pathway or non-pathway events for both junior and senior Welsh athletes.
3. **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 London Mini Marathon (U18, U16 and U14 para and non-para athletes) is classified as a **School-Aged Match Opportunity**.

Selection Policy Aim

The aim of the selection policy is to provide U18, U16 and U14 Welsh athletes demonstrating potential with a **developmental opportunity** in a non-pathway event (road).

Athlete Eligibility

To compete for Wales at the TCS Mini-London marathon the athlete needs to be born in, live in or go to school in Wales.

Competition Format

The Welsh team being selected to compete in the London Mini Marathon will provide U18, U16 and U14 athletes with the chance to compete in a representative team against other representative teams. As this competition is after 1st April 2026, this competition will follow the new age group rules.

For para athletes, Wales will be looking to send **Girls** and **Boys** in the **U18**, **U16** and **U14** age groups. For non-para athletes, Wales will be looking to send teams of up to **6 U18 Girls**, **6 U18 Boys**, **6 U16 Girls**, **6 U16 Boys**, **6 U14 Boys** and **6 U14 Girls** to compete. The age groups will follow the same rules as the UK road age groups. U18 athletes are in school years 11 and 12, U16 athletes are in school years 9 and 10 and U14 athletes are in school years 7 and 8

Selection Process

Selection of the team will use the following process to ensure the **selection policy aim** is met:

Para athletes

Athletes who wish to be considered for selection are to contact the Welsh Athletics Para Athletics Coordinator (Neil Taylor) by end of Sunday 29th March 2026. They are recommended to provide evidence that they wish to be used for consideration in the selection meeting. Neil Taylor's email address is:

Neil.Taylor@welshathletics.org

Non-para athletes

Step 1: The Welsh Senior Road Relays at Parc Bryn Bach on Saturday 28th March 2026 will include junior trial races for the teams at the London Mini Marathon. The first four eligible athletes in each age group in these races who make themselves available for selection will gain automatic selection.

Step 2: To be considered for a discretionary place, athletes need to have either competed in the trial race or have contacted the Welsh Athletics National Talent Development Coordinator for Endurance (Steve Mitchell) prior to the trial race to ask if they can have exemption from competing in the trial race. Steve Mitchell's email address is:

Steve.Mitchell@welshathletics.org

The following evidence will be considered when deciding who to select:

- a. Performance History (championship/race placing and times: priority to recent performance history)
- b. Career trajectory
- c. Head-to-head records (priority given to recent record)
- d. Recent verified screening/monitoring data (e.g. physiological landmarks; strength and power landmarks; strength capacity landmarks)
- e. Athlete Engagement with Welsh Athletics

- f. Any further evidence which implies the athlete will compete well and strongly benefit from being selected

Our aim is to select full teams. However, it is not an obligation to fill all available positions.

The selection meeting will take place on **Wednesday 1st April** and teams will have been announced by **Saturday 11th April**.

The selection panel will consist of three people, with both the **Welsh Athletics Performance Team** and the **Welsh Athletics Road and Cross Committee** represented in the selection panel. **Selections will be ratified by the Welsh Athletics Head of Performance.** Selection meeting notes will be made available.

Please note that, if having been selected you become unavailable, evidence for why you are unavailable will need to be supplied to the Welsh Athletics Head of Performance and the Welsh Athletics NTDC for endurance.

Appeals Process

There shall be no right to appeal 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 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

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was made) on the [Welsh Athletics website](#)



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