



WELSH ATHLETICS
ATHLETAU CYMRU

2021 School Games National Finals
(formerly known as the UK School Games)
Para-Event Selection Policy
2nd – 5th September 2021 Loughborough

Selection Policy. V.2 – Published 07/06/2021

Overview

The School Games are a valuable opportunity for young para-athletes to represent their Home Country, within an integrated team environment and among other sports. The experience of working with team coaches and staying overnight among athletes is great preparation for athletes who progress onto GB Junior & Senior teams.

The School Games has seen many of its athletes go on to achieve the highest sporting accolades and success on national and international stages. Inspirational athletes including Jonnie Peacock, Morgan Lake and Hannah Cockroft.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the 2020 School Games National final was postponed. But we are pleased to report that the games will take place again in September 2021, with athletics making up one of the 10 sports.

British Athletics and the designated lead organisations in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales are keen to provide a competition opportunity, which brings the best athletes together at a multi sports games and links with the Home Country Talent Pathways. We have been working with the Youth Sports Trust to provide a revamped competition offer, which better meets the needs of the sport.

What is the NEW competition format?

Previously, the games have seen 5 teams representing the North, Midlands and South of England, Northern Ireland and Scotland, competing against each other in a traditional athletics competition.

We are now proposing a revamped competition format, which:

- Provides increased numbers of athletes present at the games (increasing from 5 to 8 Teams)
- Selects the best 8 athletes from across the UK, per event (male and female) and wherever possible, provides fair representation from the four home countries.
- Provides 8 evenly balanced teams, to provide a better team competition experience.
- Links directly with the Home Country Talent Pathway and Programmes.

How does it work?

New for 2021 will be an adapted Universal Relay featuring 2 x Ambulant, 1 x Mainstream and 1 x Wheelchair Racer per 4 x 100m team, with 2 Boys & 2 Girls.

The revised Selection Policy ensures there are equal teams and full fields of athletes, with representation from all Home Countries and the introduction of Trial Events.

48 para-athletes is 10 more than competed in the 2018 School Games.

TEAMS

There will be 8 'All Star' teams taking part in the Games. Each team will consist of 6 Para Athletes:

BOY	GIRL	
1 x 100m Ambulant	1 x 100m Ambulant	2 Athletes
1 x 100m Wheelchair Racer	1 x 100m Wheelchair Racer	2 Athletes
1 x Field Athlete (LJ / SP / DT)	1 x Field Athlete (LJ / SP / DT)	2 Athletes
Universal Relay		

MEDALS & SCORING

Medals will be awarded 1st – 2nd – 3rd using 'Raza Points' as recognised by World Para Athletics.

IMPLEMENTS

Field athletes will use their appropriate U17 or U20 implement as listed in WPA Rules.

How does the draft system work?

- Each athlete will be given a point score based on their ranking at the selection meeting. i.e. the number one ranked athlete will be given a point score of 8 and then eight ranked athlete will be given a point score of 1.
- The 8 teams will then be selected to ensure that all teams have an evenly balanced make up / numbers.

COVID 19

At the time of publication, the impact of COVID19 pandemic is unpredictable, and unknown in certain areas. Considering the global pandemic, British Athletics can amend this policy at its discretion and attention is drawn to Clause 17.

Given the challenges athletes face in terms of competition opportunity and returning to full fitness post lockdown, it is proposed that the published Selection Process within this document be reviewed on the 18th July 2021.

Eligibility

1. Age Groups

- U17 & U20 Combined (Minimum: 14 Years Old)

2. Impairment Groups

- Cerebral Palsy
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Amputees
- Visual Impairment
- Dwarfism
- Intellectual Impairment

3. Events

- 100m Ambulant T11-13/35-38/42-47/61-64
- 100m Wheelchair Racing T33-34/51-54
- Long Jump T11-13/20/35-38/42-47/61-64
- Shot Putt Ambulant & Seated (Combined) F11-13/20/31-38/40-46/51-57/61-64
- Discus Ambulant & Seated (Combined) F11-13/31-38/40-46/51-57/61-64
- Universal Relay: Selected from Above 2 Boys / 2 Girls

Qualifications

4. Performances at the following 'Trial' events will be used to assess current form and head-to-heads:

- July 3rd Activity Alliance National Junior Disability Athletics, Coventry
- July 4th Forth Valley Flyers Open Meet, Grangemouth
- July 17-18th NI & Ulster Age Group Championships, Belfast
- July 31-1st Welsh Junior Championships, Newport
- August 7-8th England Athletics U15 & U17 Champs inc Disability Open, Bedford
- August 14-15th Scottish Athletics Senior & U17 Champs inc Parallel Success, Grangemouth

Selection Process

5. The School Games National Final Teams will be selected in one meeting on **Monday 16th August 2021**.
6. A maximum of 8 athletes (male & female) will be selected for each event.
7. A reserve list will also be selected on the day based on the criteria set out within this document.
8. *Prior to the selection meeting, athletes who are eligible for selection will be asked to complete an online registration form to confirm if they wish to be considered for selection. **Please note this does not guarantee selection, but it is an important process, to ensure we have all the required information for those athletes successfully selected.***

9. Round 1 – Home Country Automatic Selections

Each "Home Nation" England, Northern Ireland, Scotland & Wales will select the following:

- 1 athlete 100m Ambulant, Boy & Girl Up to 8 Athletes
- 1 athlete 100m Wheelchair, Boy & Girl Up to 8 Athletes
- 1 athlete Field Event (LJ, SP or DT), Boy & Girl Up to 8 Athletes

10. Round 2 – Highest ranked athletes remain after round 1

The remaining spaces will be drafted UK-wide:

- 100m Ambulant Boys & Girls 8 Athletes*
 - 100m Wheelchair Boys & Girls 8 Athletes*
 - Field Events Boys & Girls 8 Athletes*
- Plus any remaining slots not filled by Home Country allocation

TOTAL: 48 ATHLETES

11. Round 3 – Selecting a Reserve List

All eligible Reserve athletes

To select athletes across different classification and impairment groups Raza Points will be used to identify the highest scoring athlete. Where appropriate, performances from 2021 listed on 'Power of 10' will be considered.

To maximise the number of athletes gaining School Games experience, the following points will be considered:

- *Athletes will be selected for 1 individual event only. Reserves will be invited if a space becomes available. Athletes may only double-up in exceptional circumstances i.e. lastminute withdrawal or injury.*
- *Athletes will be limited to 2 x School Games selections. The only exception is where no other athletes or substitutes are eligible for selection.*
- *Athletes who have represented their country at Commonwealth, European, World or Paralympic Games will not be eligible for School Games selection.*
- *The Universal Relay will comprise 3 para-athletes from individual events, plus 1 mainstream athlete. Teams will be finalised at the Games. Here is a [video](#) of the Universal Relay.*

Assistance

12. Athletes in the following classes are permitted assistance during the competition: T/F11-12, F31-33 & F51-54, and will also be offered accommodation for a parent, carer, or guide. Further advice re: accommodation and support will be provided following Selection. Athletes in other classes requiring assistance with blocks or run-ups, will be supported by a Team Coach or Starters Assistant.

Classification

13. Athletes should have a 'UK Classification' Review, Fixed Review or Confirmed **OR** 'New Athletes' competing at the 'Trial' events listed above will be considered for School Games selection, providing they submit classification paperwork that demonstrates they meet Minimum Impairment Criteria. More information on UK Classification can be found [here](#).

Appeals

14. There shall be no right of appeal to the selection of the School Games Teams made by the Panel.
The provisions of the British Athletics Selection and Nomination “Fast” Appeals Procedure do not apply to the School Games teams selection for the 2021 School Games National Finals.

Amendments

15. British 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 any amendment was made) at www.uka.org.uk.