

YOUTH TALENT PROGRAMME SELECTION POLICY

SELECTION PROCESS

STAGE 1: ATHLETE/COACH APPLICATION

Places on the Youth Talent Programme (YTP) are limited. Therefore, all athletes and coaches in consideration for selection must then decide if they would like to apply for a place on the programme. If they choose to do so, they must complete the application by 7th September 2020. This is an important element of the process as it enables the programme to understand the athlete/coach goals for the season and where the programme can potentially add value. Each year the Athlete cohort selected is based on age groups, due to the Diploma in Sporting Excellence (DISE) element of programme, so athletes with birth dates between 1st September 2003 to 31st August 2004 need only apply.

STAGE 2: YOUTH TALENT PROFILING DAY

After applying you will be invited to a Youth Talent Selection Day event in September 2020. Here you will have the opportunity to showcase your physical, technical and behavioural attributes in a series of activities and to understand more about the Pathway and the journey ahead. The day will also help to add value to inform and direct training as the assessments on the day will be aligned with what it takes to develop into a successful senior athlete. The selection process will take into account your performances on the selection day as well as your previous competitions and achievements (pre-Coronavirus). We recognise that the Coronavirus lockdown has impacted everyone's ability to train in their respective events and this will be taken into account on selection.

All the following, as well as any other factors that may be deemed relevant, will be considered by the Panel when assessing selection for the programme;

Performance Profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Performance ranking ✓ Yearly progression profile and consistency in performances ✓ Major competition history ✓ Injury and training history ✓ Lifestyle and training environment ✓ Maturation (in primary or potential future events)
Technical & Physical Profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Shows technical skills which highlights long term potential relevant to their event or multiple events ✓ Shows physical capabilities which highlights potential relevant to their event
Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Keeps intensity in practice ✓ Shows consistence in effort over sessions and training block ✓ Shows consistent preparation ✓ Takes responsibility for rest and recovery ✓ Seeks support and identifies obstacles and setbacks as challenges ✓ Ability to work with others
Focus and Distraction control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Remains focused despite distractions present ✓ Self regulates (Calm) under pressure to perform optimally ✓ Has consistent flexible and robust pre performance Routine established
Quality practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The ability to understand the training process and their contribution to it ✓ Shows an understanding to why they are training in a particular way ✓ Asks questions to clarify understanding and purpose of training

Coping with Pressure

- ✓ Responds positively to training and competition situations
- ✓ Shows confidence to thrive under pressure
- ✓ Confident to do their best in competitive situations
- ✓ Reacts appropriately to mistakes and criticism
- ✓ Be appropriately prepared for training and competition

***if athletes have a mitigating reason that they are unable to attend the selection event, they will where possible, be reviewed for selection based on the above criteria.**

STAGE 3: SELECTION PANEL

The purpose of the Selection Panel is to prioritise athletes who have highlighted the potential aligned to the above criteria and that are deemed to have shown signs to progress onto the next stage of the pathway.

The panel will be made up of British Athletics Performance Pathway and England Athletics Event Leads and coaches.

STAGE 4: INDUCTION

Following athlete/coach notification of selection for the programme, there will be an induction camp at the relevant regional training centre or Talent Hub. The aim of the day will be to outline the journey ahead and programme expectations and meet your YTP support team and wider athlete groups on the programme.

PATHWAY OPPORTUNITIES

Athletes who are not successful through the initial selection process will be offered the opportunity to attend the England Athletics regional programme and there are multiple pathway entry points for athletes to join programmes at a later date.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the programme athletes will need to meet the minimum criteria;

- Are eligible to compete for England at the Commonwealth Games.
- Be British Passport holder and who are eligible to compete for Great Britain at international championships, the Olympic or Paralympic Games.
- Birth dates between 1st September 2003 to 31st August 2004.

COVID-19 – Selection Policy and Process Amendment

UKA and the England Athletics will be keeping up-to-date and ensuring that the restrictions and advice put in place by the UK Government will be abided by to ensure the safety and welfare of our athletes, coaches, officials and staff and their families. The selection policy and process will be amended to align with that advice and restrictions - all updates will be published on the UKA and England Athletics websites.