

Dear All

Many thanks to everyone who attended this weekends Junior Bouldering Cup at the Climbing Unit in Derby. Following the competition we would like to take this opportunity to share with you as a group of keen, young boulderers and their families, some changes to the logistics of the running of the GB Junior Bouldering Team.

As mentioned in Robs recent email the competition on Sunday was an opportunity to be considered for a place on the GB Junior Bouldering Team. In fact, every round of Junior Boulder Youth Cups will continue to be an opportunity to be selected to join the GB Junior Bouldering Team and athletes can be made an offer to join the team after any one of those competitions. All of the BMC youth bouldering events are and will continue to be used to monitor athlete performance levels on an ongoing basis and will be considered for team selections.

One change going forwards into the 2015 National Competition and 2016 international season is that the main selection event and the GB Junior Bouldering Team selection announcement will be in the summer. Therefore next year this will be The BMC Junior Championships, which will take place at Bloc in Bristol on June 27th. The GB Junior Bouldering Team for the 2016 season will be selected after that event though as previously mentioned the management team may also choose to select further athletes after other Youth Boulder Cup rounds.

With this new scheduling all youth boulderers will still be able to take part in 3 Youth Boulder Cups/Championships per year either just for the challenge and fun or to try to gain a place on the GB Team. Many of those selected as GB athletes will now have the advantage of training as a part of the GB team for almost a full year before potentially competing in Europe. Also, GB athletes who compete internationally and non GB climbers who make finals of other national competitions such as the BMC Youth Climbing Series will be able plan their training so that they peak in the spring/summer. This will optimise the chance of being at their best at a time of the year that coincides with all of their most important competitions.

A second change and one that is also in keeping with our preference for ongoing monitoring of performance is the exit strategy from the GB Junior Bouldering Team. If climbers currently on the GB Team do not achieve a result in the main selection event that is of a standard required for the team they will be given a six month window in which they will be supported by the managers to work towards improving their performance. During this time if they manage to achieve a high ranking performance in a Boulder Cup that justifies their position on the team they will continue as a member and if not they will leave at this point.

Many Thanks

The GB Junior Bouldering Team Management