

GB Climbing



GB National Development Squad 2022 Selection Policy

1. Purpose of this policy;

- 1.1. This selection policy outlines the approach the BMC, as the National Governing Body working in partnership with Mountaineering Scotland, will undertake in selecting eligible athletes to the GB National Development Squad for the year of 2022.

2. Purpose of the GB National Development Squad;

- 2.1. GB National Development Squad membership is part of the pathway to competing for Great Britain at IFSC and IFSC-Europe International Competitions.
- 2.2. It provides talent development and competitive opportunities for the development of junior and youth athletes to transition towards future senior international and podium success, at European, World and Olympic sport climbing events.

3. GB National Development Squad Objectives;

- 3.1. To provide meaningful group and individual development opportunities for selected athletes by creating training, development and competitive environments that are supportive, fun and holistic, with athlete health and well-being central to everything we do.
- 3.2. To develop the skills, experience and attributes required for a talented athlete to progress through each stage of the pathway.
- 3.3. To facilitate the education and personal development of talented athletes, preparing them for life on and off the wall as an elite athlete. Increasing their capability to transition successfully into a GB senior high-performance programme and thrive in a culture of respect, honesty, curiosity, with an openness to learn and develop.
- 3.4. Once selected to the GB National Development Squad there will be an expectation of high engagement in the activities of the squad. In particular; the development of an Individual Athlete Plan (IAP), working in collaboration with an athlete's home coach and the GB Climbing coaching team, as well as attendance at training events, UK-based and international camps, competition simulation, domestic competition and if selected international IFSC competition.

4. Squad Size;

- 4.1. The 2022 GB National Development Squad will be formed of five categories split into two groups –
 - 4.1.1. Youth D & C
 - 4.1.2. Youth B, A and Junior
- 4.2 Each category will have a minimum of 3 athletes in the lower birth year of the category and a minimum of 3 athletes in the upper birth year of each category.
- 4.3 Subject to paragraph 4.2, the total number selected in each category will be at the discretion of the selection panel. There is no upper limit on the number of athletes who may be selected in each category.

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5. Eligibility

5.1. The athletes eligible for selection will be born in the following years:

2022 age category	Youth D		Youth C		Youth B		Youth A		Junior	
Year of birth	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Age	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19

5.2. Athletes must hold a current UK passport.

5.3. Athletes will complete a Selection Acceptance Form to confirm they will be available to join the GB National Development Squad by the deadline set.

5.4. Failure to do so will be interpreted as non-availability. Selection Acceptance Forms will be provided by GB Climbing/BMC.

5.5. Athletes will be a current member of the British Mountaineering Council. Athletes who are members of Mountaineering Scotland or Mountaineering Ireland and are selected to the GB National Development Squad will be given a one-year complementary BMC membership.

5.6. Athletes will sign the GB National Development Squad Athlete Agreement and abide by its terms and conditions. Any athlete failing to do so will see their selection being withdrawn.

5.7. Athletes will comply with IFSC and UK Anti-Doping rules and anti-doping blood/urine testing policies. Notified athletes in the National and/or International Registered Testing Pools, or the UK Anti-Doping Domestic Testing Pool, will comply with the requirements of the World Anti-Doping Code and International Standard for Testing and Investigations with regard to ADAMS and whereabouts information.

5.8. Athletes are not serving any current or pending suspensions.

5.9. All athletes must be declared medically fit to compete by providing a letter from their GP, which must include a BMI measurement to comply with IFSC athlete licence and governance requirements.

6. Selection Process

6.1. The intention of this selection policy is to set out an open and transparent process for selection.

6.2. Subjective nature of selection decisions

6.2.1. GB Climbing does not consider it desirable to select athletes based on hard edged criteria (for example ranking at single selection event or international ranking only). Such an approach would not allow other factors to be considered e.g. injury or illness, ties in competition results.

6.2.2. Selection decisions will consider all the available competition results data as detailed in Section 7 of this document.

6.3. Purpose of selection decisions is to;

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- 6.3.1.1. Select athletes who show a trajectory of achieving the highest placed finish at the relevant competitions in their category.
- 6.3.1.2. Where possible support individual athlete development.
- 6.4. **Stage 1** - All selection recommendations are made by the following group;
 - 6.4.1. Chair
 - 6.4.2. Pathway Manager (Talent and Performance)
 - 6.4.3. GB National Development Squad Coaches
 - 6.4.4. Independent Observer (non-voting, minute-taker)
 - 6.4.5. Process for Selection recommendation;
 - 6.4.5.1. Conflicts of interest (if any) will be declared at the start of the meeting. In the event of a conflict of interest, the person will remove themselves from the decision-making process for the category(ies) to which the conflict relates.
 - 6.4.5.2. The Stage 1 selection group's overarching impression from the competition results data presented (see Section 7) will be used to make selection recommendations for athletes in each year of birth. The recommendations will be data informed not solely data driven.
 - 6.4.5.3. The Stage 1 selection group has the discretion to take into account factors other than competition results data in making selection recommendations, including exceptional or extenuating circumstances (such as considerations relating to athletes' physical and mental health).
 - 6.4.5.4. Each voting member of the Stage 1 selection group shall have one vote as regards each recommendation. In the event of a tie, the Pathway Manager (Talent and Performance) shall have the casting vote.
- 6.5 **Stage 2** - All selection recommendations from 6.4.5 will be presented to the selection panel comprising the following group:
 - 6.5.1 Independent Chair in an ex-officio non-voting capacity
 - 6.5.2 Head of Performance (voting)
 - 6.5.3 A representative from Mountaineering Scotland (voting) (Independent Member)
 - 6.5.4 Head Coach (voting)
 - 6.5.5 Pathway Manager (Talent and Performance) (non-voting)
 - 6.5.6 Independent Observer (non-voting, minute-taker)
 - 6.5.7 Process for selection confirmation:
 - 6.5.7.1 Conflicts of interest (if any) will be declared at the start of the meeting. In the event of a conflict of interest, the person will remove themselves from the decision-making process for the category(ies) to which the conflict relates.
 - 6.5.7.2 The selection panel will confirm that due process has been followed and consider whether the recommendations made by the Stage 1 selection group are appropriate. If so, the selection panel will confirm those recommendations.
 - 6.5.7.3 Each voting member of the selection panel shall have one vote as regards each selection decision. In the event of a tie, the Head of Performance shall have the casting vote.



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6.5.8 Other expert advisors or observers such as representatives from the British Olympic Association, UK Sport, British Athletes Commission may be invited to attend but shall not be entitled to vote.

6.6 Athletes and officials listed in 6.4 and 6.5 must not disclose any information regarding any selection decisions or appeals until such information is publicly announced or disclosed by the BMC, working in partnership with Mountaineering Scotland.

7 Results Data

7.1 The results data from the competitions listed in Section 7.2 will be used as part of the selection process;

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7.2

Year of Birth	2022 Age Category	2021 Age Category	Results used as part of selection process, in order of consideration.	Quota
2012	Youth D	Youth E	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. YCS 2021 Regional Round Overall Results; 2. YCS 2021 Regional Rounds Results in Lead and/or Boulder; 3. YCS 2020 Regional Rounds Overall Results. 	Minimum of 3 athletes
2011	Youth D	Youth D	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. YCS Grand Final 2021 Overall Result; 2. YCS Grand Final 2021 Result per discipline; 3. YCS 2020 Regional Round Overall Results; 4. YCS Grand Final 2019 Overall Result. 	Minimum of 3 athletes
2010	Youth C	Youth D	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. YCS Grand Final 2021 Overall Result; 2. YCS Grand Final 2021 Result per discipline; 3. YCS 2020 Regional Round Overall Results; 4. YCS Grand Final 2019 Overall Result. 	Minimum of 3 athletes
2009	Youth C	Youth C	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BLCC 2021 Result and/or JBBC 2021 Result; 2. BLCC 2021 & JBBC 2021 Combined Rank; 3. YCS Grand Final 2021 Overall Result; 4. YCS Grand Final 2021 Result per discipline; 5. YCS 2020 Regional Round Overall Results; 6. YCS Grand Final 2019 Overall Result. 	Minimum of 3 athletes
2008	Youth B	Youth C	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BLCC 2021 Result and/or JBBC 2021 Result; 2. BLCC 2021 & JBBC 2021 Combined Rank; 3. YCS Grand Final 2021 Overall Result; 4. YCS Grand Final 2021 Result per discipline; 5. BMC 2020 National Ranking Competitions best individual result per discipline; 	Minimum of 3 athletes



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			6. YCS 2020 Regional Round Overall Results; 7. YCS Grand Final 2019 Overall Result.	
2007	Youth B	Youth B	1. IFSC 2021 Best Result per discipline; 2. BLCC 2021 Result and/or JBBC 2021 Result; 3. BLCC 2021 & JBBC 2021 Combined Rank; 4. BMC 2020 National Ranking Competitions best individual result per discipline; 5. BMC 2019 National Ranking Competitions best individual result per discipline.	Minimum of 3 athletes
2006	Youth A	Youth B	1. IFSC 2021 Best Result per discipline; 2. BLCC 2021 Result and/or JBBC 2021 Result; 3. BLCC 2021 & JBBC 2021 Combined Rank ; 4. BMC 2020 National Ranking Competitions best individual result per discipline; 5. BMC 2019 National Ranking Competitions best individual result per discipline.	Minimum of 3 athletes
2005	Youth A	Youth A	1. IFSC 2021 Best Result per discipline; 2. IFSC 2019 Best Result per discipline; 3. 2021 Best Result; BLCC or JBBC or BBC; 4. Best of BLCC 2021 and JBBC 2021 Combined Rank or BLCC 2021 and BBC 2021 Combined Rank; 5. BMC 2020 National Ranking Competitions best individual result per discipline; 6. BMC 2019 National Ranking Competitions best individual result per discipline.	Minimum of 3 athletes
2004	Junior	Youth A	1. IFSC 2021 Best Result per discipline; 2. IFSC 2019 Best Result per discipline;	Minimum of 3 athletes



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			<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. 2021 Best Result; BLCC or JBBC or BBC;4. Best of BLCC 2021 and JBBC 2021 Combined Rank or BLCC 2021 and BBC 2021 Combined Rank;5. BMC 2020 National Ranking Competitions best individual result per discipline;6. BMC 2019 National Ranking Competitions best individual result per discipline.	
2003	Junior	Junior	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. IFSC 2021 Best Result per discipline;2. IFSC 2019 Best Result per discipline;3. 2021 Best Result; BLCC or JBBC or BBC;4. Best of BLCC 2021 and JBBC 2021 Combined Rank or BLCC 2021 and BBC 2021 Combined Rank;5. BMC 2020 National Ranking Competitions best individual result per discipline;6. BMC 2019 National Ranking Competitions best individual result per discipline.	Minimum of 3 athletes

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7.3 The YCS Regional results for 2021 that will be considered as part of the selection process include the following regions; Scotland, Ireland, Wales, North East & Lakes, North West & Yorkshire, Midlands, London & South East (North), London South East (South), South West (North) and South West (South).

7.4 The YCS Regional results for 2020 that will be considered as part of the selection process include the following regions; Scotland, Ireland, Wales, North East & Yorkshire, North West & Lakes, Midlands & Peak, London & South East (North), London South East (South), South West (North) and South West (South).

7.5 The YCS Regional results for 2019 that will be considered as part of the selection process include the following regions; Scotland, Ireland, Wales, North East & Yorkshire, North West & Lakes, Midlands & Peak, London & South East (North), London South East (South), South West

8. Deselection - Substitutions and Injuries

8.1. Athletes may be de-selected from the GB National Development Squad on the following grounds:

- 8.1.1. Ceasing to comply with the eligibility criteria set out in section 5 of this selection policy.
- 8.1.2. Injuries, illness and changes in health status (e.g. pregnancy) will be considered on a case by case basis where an athlete wishes to be considered for selection.
- 8.1.3. Deselection will be considered where there is a lack of engagement with the program and nonattendance at the GB National Development Squad program events.

8.2. Replacement of athletes de-selected from the squad will be considered at the complete discretion of the Selection Panel. Any replacement will be selected in accordance with sections 6 & 7 of this selection policy.

8.3. Athletes will cease complying with the eligibility criteria set out in this Selection Policy, if any of the following occur;

- 8.3.1. An anti-doping rule violation or receiving provisional suspension due to anti-doping infringement; or
- 8.3.2. Any serious misconduct or suspension due to misconduct; or
- 8.3.3. A breach of any GB Climbing policy.

9. Appeals

9.1. The sole grounds of appeal against the decision of any selection panel will be that:

- 9.1.1. There has been a failure to follow this policy or that the selection panel reached a decision based on an error of fact.
- 9.1.2. Where a panel member has acted with bias or a conflict of interest.

9.2. The right to appeal a selection decision is provided on these grounds only and must not be seen as opportunity to dispute the opinion of the selection panel where the procedure and selection criteria stated in this policy has been followed.

9.3. In reaching their decision the selection panel are acting as experts and athletes agree that in so doing the panel exercises judgment and discretion which are not in themselves capable of challenge.

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9.4. Any appeal relating to the process followed will be conducted in accordance with the BMC Appeals policy (which process forms a part of this policy).

10. Disclaimer

10.1. Due to the uncertainty of the competition season due to COVID, this document may require minor amendment should the YCS, YCS Grand Final, BLCC and/or JBBC not be held. These amendments will be limited to changes to the BMC and Mountaineering Scotland competition calendar. Any amended version of this document will be made publicly available (including the date on which any amendment was made) at www.thebmc.co.uk.

10.2. This policy is subject to periodic review to ensure that the selection policy: remains fair and efficient; takes account of any external rule or policy amendments; and includes any relevant feedback from the selectors, athletes, coaches and appeal panels.

11. Timeframes

11.1. The selection process will take place after the final National competition in 2021 has taken place.

11.2. GB Climbing will communicate the selection outcomes to athletes and/or parents by Wednesday 22nd December 2021 by email.

11.3. Athletes will be required to complete a selection acceptance form (via webform) to accept their place by the 31st December 2021.

11.4. GB Climbing will communicate the selection outcomes to the public by 5pm Friday 7th January 2022 by posting on the GB Climbing website <https://gbclimbing.uk/development-squad> and via a web article on the BMC website <https://www.thebmc.co.uk/articles/Indoor%20Climbing/Competitions>

12. Questions about the policy

12.1. Questions about this policy should be directed to office@thebmc.co.uk where a staff member who is not involved in the selection process will respond.

13. Arbitration

13.1. All parties agree that, save for appeals in accordance with section 9 of this selection policy, all disputes between them shall be referred to Sport Resolutions (UK) (a trading name of The Sports Dispute Resolution Panel Ltd Company No. 33510939) for final and binding arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Act 1996 and Sport Resolutions (UK)'s Arbitration Rules, which Rules are deemed to be incorporated by reference to this clause.