



# GB Climbing

Boulder | Lead | Speed

## GB Senior Team Selection Policy

## 2019 & 2020 Olympic Qualification Pathway

V8 04/03/19

The BMC and Mountaineering Scotland reserves the right to amend this document should there be significant changes to either, the wider NGB strategy, the funding status or any significant changes made by the IFSC and/or the IOC.



## 1. GB Climbing Selection Purpose

- 1.1 This selection Policy outlines the approach GB Climbing will undertake in selecting athletes to represent Great Britain in identified senior International Federation Sport Climbing (IFSC), Sport Climbing events throughout the 2019 and 2020 seasons.
- 1.2 In 2019 and 2020 there are four levels of senior IFSC international competition:
  - 1.2.1 **IFSC World Cup International series** across three individual disciplines – Boulder, Lead and Speed<sup>1</sup>
  - 1.2.2 **IFSC Major Championships**
    - The IFSC 2019 European Championships - Lead and Speed
    - The IFSC 2019 World Championships - Boulder, Lead, Speed and Combined
    - The IFSC 2020 European Continental Championships (Format yet to be confirmed, but will include a combined event)
  - 1.2.3 **IFSC Special Olympic Qualification event 2019**, 28 Nov-1 Dec, Toulouse (FRA) – combined event only
  - 1.2.4 **Summer Olympic Games Tokyo 2020** – combined event only

## 2. Performance Objective

- 2.1 The intention of the selection policy is to provide clarity and consistency in approach to the selection for all athletes with three key performance aims:
  - 2.1.1 The target is to optimise medal outcomes in the Combined format (Bouldering, Lead & Speed) for Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 and 2019 IFSC Combined World Championships by providing international experience to those athletes who are in receipt of UK Sport Medal Support Plan and UK Sport Aspiration Fund, athletes who compete in the combined discipline, then athletes who are competitive with a top 30 ranking, in individual disciplines of Boulder, Lead and Speed.
  - 2.1.2 Ensuring that appropriate competition opportunities are provided to give athletes the best opportunity to accrue the necessary IFSC combined ranking points to maximise GB Climbing invitations to attend IFSC Special Olympic Qualification event, November 2019.
  - 2.1.3 Ensuring that obtaining a GB Climbing vest continues to be an aspiration for GB athletes throughout the BMC talent pathway and that GB athletes are inspired and motivated to continue their athletic journey and development towards future podium success.

## 3. Event Quota

- 3.1 **IFSC World Cup Series 2019.** A maximum of 5 athletes in each Discipline – Boulder, Lead, Speed per gender.

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<sup>1</sup> World Cup Calendar as published on IFSC Website



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- 3.2 **IFSC World Championships 2019** . Any extra quota athletes as allocated by the IFSC (any current World Adult (who shall be registered for the discipline in which they are champion)) and 5 athletes in each Discipline – Boulder, Lead, Speed per gender and IFSC have provided an additional dedicated quota place specifically for combined athletes per gender.
- 3.3 **IFSC European Championships 2019**. Any extra quota athletes as allocated by the IFSC (any current World Adult (who shall be registered for the discipline in which they are champion)) Up to a maximum of 5 athletes in each Discipline – Boulder, Lead, Speed per gender.
- 3.4 **IFSC Special Olympic Qualification 2019 – invitation only** from IFSC to athletes achieving Top 20 Overall World Cup Ranking per gender, not yet qualified through “D1 IFSC World Championships 2019”.
- 3.5 **IFSC Continental Championships 2020**. Any extra quota athletes as allocated by the IFSC (any current World Adult (who shall be registered for the discipline in which they are champion)) and Up to a maximum of 5 athletes in each Discipline – Boulder, Lead, Speed per gender.
- 3.6 **Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 – a maximum of 4 athletes, 2 men and 2 women in Combined competition**. Athletes achieve a named quota place through IFSC Olympic Qualification Pathway - D1 IFSC Combined World Championships 2019 (Top 7), D2 IFSC Special Olympic Qualification 2019 (Top 6), IFSC Continental Championships 2020 (Top 1, not yet qualified).

## 4. Eligibility

In addition to BMC eligibility below, athletes must comply with IFSC eligibility rules<sup>2</sup> and IOC eligibility rules for Olympic Games Tokyo 2020<sup>3</sup> including anti-doping.

- 4.1 Athletes are members of BMC and/or Mountaineering Scotland
- 4.2 Athletes must be a British citizen and eligible to represent Great Britain
- 4.3 Competitors must be over 16 years of age in year of competition
- 4.4 Athletes hold a valid international license issued by the IFSC
- 4.5 Athletes have signed the BMC athlete agreement and abide by its terms and conditions. Any athlete failing to do so prior to attending the selected competition, could see their selection being withdrawn.
- 4.6 Athletes have completed a Selection Acceptance Form to confirm they will be available to participate by the deadline set by BMC. Failure to do so will be interpreted as non-availability by BMC. Selection Acceptance Forms will be provided by BMC.
- 4.7 Athletes comply to IFSC and UK Anti-Doping rules and anti-doping blood/urine testing policies. Notified athletes on the National and/or International testing pools will comply with the requirements of the World Anti-Doping Code and International Standard for Testing with regard to ADAMS and whereabouts information.

## 5. Selection Panel

- 5.1 All selections are made by the BMC selection panel:

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<sup>2</sup> IFSC 2019 Rules, page 4&5

<sup>3</sup> IOC Qualification System – IFSC, p1 - section C. Athlete Eligibility



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- Chair - Deputy CEO (Nick Colton), casting vote
- BMC Competitions Program Manager (Zoe Spriggins), voting rights
- Mountaineering Scotland Representative (TBC), voting rights
- Chair of Competitions Committee (Iain McKenzie), voting rights
- Independent Observer/Advisor (Lorraine Brown, EIS Head of Managed Sport), no voting right

5.2 Other expert advisors or observers such as representatives from the British Olympic Association, UK Sport, British Athletes Commission may be invited to attend from time to time, but not have any voting rights.

5.3 The selection panel will exercise its discretion fairly and without bias in making its decision against the selection criteria listed below.

5.4 Decisions will be made by majority vote

## 6. Confidentiality

6.1 Athletes and officials must not disclose any information regarding any selection decisions or appeals until such information is publicly announced or disclosed by BMC (or BOA in respect to Olympic Selection).

## 7. Selection Criteria

### 7.1 IFSC World Cup Series

Selection of GB team members to compete at IFSC World Cup events for the entire 2019 competition season will be based on the following criteria (in priority order). If an athlete is unable to accept their place at a competition, the place will be given to the next eligible athlete in priority order.

#### **Boulder**

- Priority 1. An athlete in receipt of UK Sport Medal Support Plan or an athlete in receipt of UK Sport Aspiration funding, or any extra quota athletes as allocated by the IFSC will take places in the IFSC event quota ahead of any other athletes.
- Priority 2. Top 2 Athletes with a Boulder World ranking on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2019 in descending ranking order will take the remaining places in the IFSC event quota after priority 1 athletes have been selected.
- Priority 3. Athletes from the selection event in February in order of ranking obtained, once priority 1&2 athletes have been removed from the results.

GB Team Boulder selection events:

23 February 2019, compulsory all athletes

Selection format:

Morning session: 5 blocs; 5 minutes on, 5 minutes off

Afternoon session: 4 blocs; 5 minutes on, 5 minutes off

The scores from both sessions will be added together to create a ranking list.

Selection Panel Date: Tuesday 5 March 2019

Notification date to athlete cohort: Wednesday 6 March 2019



## Lead

1. Any extra quota athletes as allocated by the IFSC or an athlete in receipt of UK Sport Medal Support Plan or an athlete in receipt of UK Sport Aspiration funding.
2. Athletes with a Lead World ranking on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2019 in descending ranking order.
3. Athletes who competed at the British Lead Climbing Championships 2018. Spaces will be allocated in descending ranking order.

Selection Panel Date: Tuesday 5 March 2019

Notification date to athlete cohort: Wednesday 6 March 2019

## Speed

1. Any extra quota athletes as allocated by the IFSC or an athlete in receipt of UK Sport Medal Support Plan or an athlete in receipt of UK Sport Aspiration funding.
2. Any athlete who attained the speed qualification time as indicated in the GB team selection document.
3. Any athlete with a World ranking on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2019 in both Lead and Boulder. These spaces will be allocated using the sum of the rankings in descending order. In the event of two athletes attaining the same result, their positions will be allocated in descending order, from the boulder GB team selection event 1.
4. Athletes who competed at the 2018 British Speed Climbing Championships. Spaces will be allocated in descending ranking order.
5. Athletes with a Lead or Boulder World ranking on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2019 in descending ranking order. These spaces will be allocated with an equal weighting for both disciplines. In the event of two athletes attaining the same result, their positions will be allocated in descending order based on their boulder result in selection event.

Selection Panel Date: Tuesday 5 March 2019

Notification date to athlete cohort: Wednesday 6 March 2019

## 7.2 **IFSC World Championship 2019**

The IFSC has provided an additional dedicated combined athlete quota per gender per discipline at the IFSC World Championship 2019. In light of the BMC 2020 Tokyo Olympics performance objectives, the BMC will ring fence up to three spaces per discipline, per gender for combined athletes, provided athletes meet the minimum performance qualification standard as set out below.

The minimum qualification standard that is need to be achieved and in priority order for a GB Senior Team athlete to attend the IFSC World Climbing Championships 2019:

1. A top 30 combined IFSC Ranking in 2019 for each gender
2. A top 30 IFSC Ranking in a single discipline in 2019 for each gender
3. Remaining spaces will be filled in descending IFSC ranking order

Selection Panel Date: TBC

Notification date to athlete cohort: TBC

## 7.3 **European Championships 2019- Lead and Boulder:**



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1. Any extra quota athletes as allocated by the IFSC or an athlete in receipt of UK Sport Medal Support Plan or an athlete in receipt of UK Sport Aspiration funding.
2. Any athlete who attained a top 30 position or higher or with a Lead World Cup ranking or Boulder World Cup ranking on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2019 in descending ranking order.
3. Athletes who competed at the British Bouldering Championships or British Lead Climbing Championships 2018. Spaces will be allocated in descending ranking order.

Selection Panel Date: Tuesday 5 March 2019

Notification date to athlete cohort: Wednesday 6 March 2019

## 7.4 **IFSC Special Olympic Qualification Event, 2019, 28 Nov-1 Dec, Toulouse (FRA)**

1. IFSC invitation only event.
2. Top 20 highest ranked athletes per gender, not yet allocated a quota place through D1. IFSC Combined World Championships, at overall World Cup Ranking will be invited to attend.
3. BMC will accept any invite by the IFSC should an athlete achieve this standard, and remains eligible as set out in this policy.

Selection Panel Date: October 2019

Notification date to athlete cohort: October 2019

## 7.5 **Continental Championships 2020, Europe: 16-18 April 2020, Moscow (RUS)**

The minimum qualification standard that needs to be achieved and in priority order for a GB Senior Team athlete to attend the IFSC Continental Championships 2020, Europe:

1. Any extra quota athletes as allocated by the IFSC
2. A top 30 combined IFSC Ranking in 2019 for each gender
3. A top 30 IFSC Ranking in a single discipline in 2019 for each gender
4. Remaining spaces will be filled in descending IFSC ranking order

Selection Panel Date: February 2020

Notification date to athlete cohort: February 2020

## 7.6 **Olympic Games Tokyo 2020**

7.6.1 Selection of GB Climbing athletes to the British Olympic Association (BOA) - Team GB is a two-part process, involving the BMC as the National Governing Body for Sport Climbing and the BOA and the National Olympic Committee (NOC) member to IOC.

7.6.2 The BMC and BOA set the minimum standard for the selection which are prescribed by the IFSC Qualification Pathway as set out in the IFSC Olympic Qualification system for Summer Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

7.6.3 All athletes must comply with the provisions of the Olympic charter currently in force, including but not limited to, Rule 41 (Nationality of Competitors) and Rule 43 (World Anti-doping Code and the Olympic Movement Code on the prevention of Manipulation of Competitions). Only those athletes who comply with the Olympic Charter may participate in the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.



## 7.6.4 Athletes to be eligible to participate in the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 must

1. Attended an Olympic Pathway Qualification events as listed in section 6.6.5 above, and achieve a named quota place nomination from IFSC;
2. Athletes hold a valid international license issued by the IFSC for the Olympic Games year at the date of the final entries' deadline (6 July 2020);
3. Not have been banned from participating in any IFSC competition for whatever reason during the Olympic Games year;
4. Athletes may be excluded from the process if they cease for whatever reason to be eligible to compete in the 2020 Olympic Games representing Great Britain;
5. Athletes reached the minimum qualification standards as set out in this document;
6. Athletes remain fit and healthy, and fully compliant to BMC athlete agreement, and BOA Team GB - Team Member Agreement.

## 7.6.5 Athletes gain a named quota place through IFSC Olympic Qualification Pathway:

- **D1 - IFSC Combined World Championships 20-21 August 2019, Hachioji – Tokyo (JPN) 2019** – The seven (7) highest placed athletes per gender at the World Championships will be allocated one (1) quota place, respecting the maximum quota per gender, per NOC.

IFSC will publish the results within 2 days after the last day of the event on its website

- **D2 - IFSC Special Qualification Event 2019, 28 Nov-1 Dec, Toulouse (FRA)** – The six (6) highest placed athletes per gender at the Special Qualification Event will be allocated one (1) quota place, respecting the maximum quota per gender, per NOC.

IFSC will publish the results within 2 days after the last day of the event on its website

- **D3 – IFSC Continental Championships 2020, Europe: 16-18 April, Moscow (RUS)**. In the case the highest placed athlete already obtained a quota place through D1 and D2. the quota place will be allocated to the next best ranked athlete, not yet qualified, at the same Continental Championships, highest placed athlete per gender at the World Championships will be allocated one (1) quota place, respecting the maximum quota per gender, per NOC.

IFSC will publish the results within 2 days after the last day of the event on its website

## 7.6.6. The IFSC will confirm in writing to the BOA as the NOC within five (5) days after the last day of each event, or ranking, the quota places they have been obtained.

## 7.6.7. The BOA will then have two (2) weeks to confirm to the IFSC that they wish to use these quota places, as detailed in *IFSC Qualification System for Sport Climbing, section G. Qualification Timeline*

## 7.6.8. The BMC will convene selection panels on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019, and 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020 should any athlete achieve a confirmed Olympic quota place through the IFSC Olympic Qualification Pathway competitions - D1, D2, or D3.

## 7.6.9. The BMC will formally nominate athletes to the BOA within one working day of the BMC selection panel for ratification and selection onto Team GB.



## 8. Deselection - Substitutions and Injuries

- 8.1 Selection to the GB Climbing Team is to specific events in accordance with the prevailing selection policy.
- 8.2 The Selection Panel have the right to withdraw athletes from identified IFSC International Competition, Major Championships and Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 on the basis of injury/illness (physical or mental).
- 8.3 Such decisions will only be taken following consultation with appropriate coaches and/or medical reports, and/or BOA Chief Medical Officer assessment and/or an agreed fit to compete protocol successfully conducted.
- 8.4 Replacement of athletes withdrawn from the team will be considered at the complete discretion of the Selection Panel, any replacement to IFSC Internationals, and Major Championships will be prioritized in number order against section 7 - selection criteria, of this selection policy.
- 8.5 In respect to the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020:
  - 8.5.1 The Delegation Registration Meeting (DRM) will take place on 6 August 2020. This is the date that Team GB is formally entered by the BOA with Tokyo Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (TOCOG).
  - 8.5.2 Prior to the date of the DRM, the BMC retain the right to de-select any athlete in accordance with this Selection Policy. The nomination of a replacement athlete must also conform with this Selection Policy and must be an individual who has been named on the Short List submitted to the BOA.
  - 8.5.3 After the DRM has been completed, de-selection and selection of a replacement athlete is only allowed in accordance with the IOC's Athlete Late Replacement Policy (or any revised or amended IOC policy dealing with athlete replacement). This primarily provides for replacement of a selected athlete on the basis that they are unfit to compete due to injury and/or illness. An athlete is unfit to compete if due to injury and/or illness he or she is unable to compete to the best of their ability. In the event of there being a query over the ability of an athlete to be able to compete to the best of his/her ability due to an injury or illness the following procedure will be adhered to:
    - (i) the Chief Medical Officer can require an athlete to undergo a medical examination to determine his/her fitness to participate. This examination will be carried out by the Team's Chief Medical Officer, or another doctor delegated by him/her. If the athlete fails the medical examination he/she will be withdrawn from the Team and BMC may (if appropriate) nominate a replacement athlete in accordance with this Selection Policy.
    - (ii) if the athlete passes the medical examination carried out in accordance with (i) above but BMC and/or the BOA BMC have concerns over whether or not the athlete is able to compete to a level which would ordinarily have been expected of the athlete due to the underlying injury or illness, the Chef de Mission (in conjunction with BMC) can require the athlete to undergo a set of sports specific performance tests. The tests will be conducted under the guidance of the sports Team Leader (or his/her delegate e.g. team physiotherapist), and a BOA representative or delegate will be present (if possible/available). If the athlete fails the test (which can be undertaken on more than one occasion and within a short time frame if appropriate), he/she will be withdrawn





from the Team on medical grounds and, if appropriate, a replacement can be nominated by BMC in accordance with the Selection Policy.

- 8.5.4 BMC retains the right either not to select or to withdraw a preliminarily nominated or selected athlete (irrespective of whether they obtained the quota Place for Team GB at an Olympic qualifying competition) if, in the reasonable opinion of the Selection Panel (i) the athlete has failed to maintain form and/or fitness throughout the build-up and throughout the final selection process to the Games, or (ii) the athlete has failed to adhere to an agreed training programme, has a proven disciplinary infringement (subject to a separate BMC Appeals Procedure) or commits a doping offence.

## 9. Appeals

- 9.1 The sole grounds of appeal against the decision of any selection panel will be that:
- a) there has been a failure to follow the BMC GB Senior Selection Policy; or
  - b) that the selection panel reached a decision on the basis of an error of fact.
- 9.2 The right to appeal a selection decision is provided on these limited grounds only and must not be seen as an opportunity to dispute the opinion of the selection panel where they have followed the proper procedure and selection criteria stated in the BMC GB Senior Selection Policy.
- 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.
- 9.4 There are no appeals allowed against the content of the published BMC GB Senior Selection Policy and therefore against the actions of the selection panel, provided they follow the selection criteria published.
- 9.5 Any appeal relating to the process will be conducted in accordance with the BMC selections appeals policy <https://www.thebmc.co.uk/gb-climbing-selection-documents?s=1>

### Disclaimer

Due to the uncertainty of the International competition season this document may, during the course of the year, require minor amendment. These amendments will be limited to circumstances arising from rule changes and or changes to the competition calendar.