



GB Climbing

Boulder | Lead | Speed

GB National Development Squad Selection Policy 2020

V9 07/03/19

13/3/19 Wording amendment to 7.1.1.2 for clarification only

28/5/19 Wording amendment to 7.1.1.3.4 for clarification only

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 National Development Squad Selection Purpose

- 1.1 This selection policy outlines the approach the BMC in partnership with Mountaineering Scotland will undertake in selecting athletes to the GB National Development Squad 2020.
- 1.2 The squad is open to British competition climbers who in 2020 will compete in Youth A, B, C or Junior categories. These athletes are born in the years 2001 to 2008 inclusive.

1.2.1

2020 age category	Youth C		Youth B		Youth A		Junior	
Year of birth	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001

- 1.2.2 The BMC in partnership with Mountaineering Scotland will deliver four GB National Development Squad Training events in 2020 all of which are compulsory for athletes who are members of the squad (unless they have pre agreed extenuating circumstances, such as examinations or unforeseen circumstances).
- 1.3 GB National Development Squad members will have opportunities in 2020 to compete in IFSC International Competitions and may qualify to attend events as part of the GB Youth and Junior Team.

2. Performance Objectives

- 2.1 The intention of the selection policy is to provide clarity and consistency in approach to the selection for all athletes with the following performance aims:
 - 2.1.1 The target is to support an athlete's development both as an individual and as a competition climber on a pathway to join the GB Team.
 - 2.1.2 Ensuring that appropriate competition opportunities are provided to give athletes the best opportunity to accrue the necessary experience to allow them to progress on the talent pathway.
 - 2.1.3 Support athletes by being athlete centered and create a positive experience during their talent pathway journey and leave having developed both as an individual and as a climber.

- 2.1.4 Create an athlete centered pathway of attainment, ensuring that the required levels of physical, technical and tactical skill are achieved to allow progression to the next stage of development.
- 2.1.5 We plan to create a cohesive squad, where resources including time and expertise are pooled to ensure each athlete gets the input required to optimise their development and long-term performance.
- 2.1.6 Develop a talent system that produces higher quality athletes throughout the entire pathway, including performance foundations, while delivering a positive experience that retains those athletes in the sport system.

3. Squad Size

- 3.1 6 athletes per age category, per gender.
- 3.2 Once the selection process is completed as per this policy in 2019 there will be no further selection opportunities for the GB National Development Squad during 2020.

4. Eligibility

In addition to eligibility below, athletes must comply with IFSC eligibility rules¹, including anti-doping.

- 4.1 Athletes are members of the BMC or Mountaineering Scotland
- 4.2 Athletes must be a British citizen and eligible to represent Great Britain
- 4.3 Athletes hold a valid international license issued by the IFSC, where an athlete meets age category criteria.
- 4.4 Athletes have signed the GB National Development Squad Contract and abide by its terms and conditions. Any athlete failing to do so could see their selection being withdrawn.
- 4.5 Athletes have completed a Selection Acceptance Form to confirm they will be available to participate by the deadline set by the BMC, in partnership with Mountaineering Scotland. Failure to do so will be interpreted as non-availability. Selection Acceptance Forms will be provided by the BMC, in partnership with Mountaineering Scotland.

¹ IFSC 2019 Rules, page 4&5

- 4.6 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:
- Chair - Deputy CEO (Nick Colton), casting vote
 - BMC Competitions Program Manager (Zoe Spriggins), voting rights
 - Mountaineering Scotland Sports Development Officer (Kevin Howett), voting rights
 - Talent Development Co-Coordinator (Lucinda Whittaker), voting rights
 - Talent Development Co-Coordinator (Tim Cunnington), voting rights
 - Chair of Competitions Committee (Iain McKenzie), voting rights
 - Independent Observer (TBC), no voting right
- 5.2 Other expert advisors or observers such as representatives from Sport England may be invited to attend from time to time, but without voting rights.
- 5.3 The selection panel will exercise its discretion fairly and without bias in making its decision against the selection criteria listed in this document.
- 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 the BMC, in partnership with Mountaineering Scotland.

7. Selection Criteria

- 7.1 Athletes will be selected for a place on the GB National Development Squad via one of the selection methods below. Place allocation will be prioritized in the following order until a maximum category size of 6 is reached.

7.1.1 Priority 1 – For selection to categories Junior, Youth A and Youth B Athletes will have achieved an IFSC European Youth Cup, European Youth Championship or World Youth Championship Final.

7.1.1.2 For selection to the GB National Development Squad for Youth C category athletes they will have achieved 1st, 2nd or 3rd in lead, boulder or combined in one of the following events;

7.1.1.2.1 IFSC Promo Event – Youth Colour Climbing Festival – Imst (AUT)2019

7.1.1.2.2 IFSC Promo Event – Flatlander Cup – Arnhem (NED) 2019

7.1.1.3 Priority 2 – Any remaining places in the category quota after Priority 1 have been selected for selection to categories Junior, Youth A, Youth B and Youth C athletes will be selected from the National Ranking system.

7.1.1.3.1 In Junior and Youth A categories the first ranked lead athlete at the end of the 2019 season will take any remaining place in the category after the Priority 1 athletes have been selected. In the event that an athlete who is placed first in the National Ranking System has already been selected via Priority 1 no other athletes will be selected from the National Ranking System.

7.1.1.3.2 In Junior and Youth A categories the first ranked boulder athlete at the end of the 2019 season will take any remaining place in the category after the Priority 1 athletes have been selected. In the event that an athlete who is placed first in the National Ranking System has already been selected via Priority 1 no other athletes will be selected from the National Ranking System.

7.1.1.3.3 In Junior and Youth A categories the first ranked combined athlete at the end of the 2019 season will take any remaining place in the category after the Priority 1 athletes have been selected. In the event that an athlete who is placed first in the National Ranking System has already been selected via Priority 1 no other athletes will be selected from the National Ranking System.

- 7.1.1.3.4 In Youth B and Youth C categories the 1st and 2nd ranked combined athletes in the National Ranking System at the end of the 2019 season will take any remaining place in the category after the Priority 1 athletes have been selected. In the event that any athlete who has been selected via Priority 1, places in either 1st and / or 2nd place in the National Ranking System, selection via Priority 2 will not roll down to any places below 2nd place.
- 7.1.1.3.5 For Youth C categories the 1st ranked in the Youth Climbing Series Grand Final Youth D category (providing they meet the age eligibility for the GB National Development Squad) will take any remaining places in the category once the Priority 1 athletes have been selected and athletes via 7.1.1.3.4 have been selected. In the event that an athlete has already been selected via Priority 1 no other athletes will be selected.
- 7.1.1.4 Priority 3 – Any remaining places after Priority 1 and Priority 2 athletes have been selected to categories Junior, Youth A, Youth B and Youth C athletes will be selected in descending rank order from the GB National Development Squad Selection Event.
- 7.1.1.5 GB National Development Squad Selection Event:
- 7.1.1.5.1 Date and venue is to be confirmed.
- 7.1.1.5.2 Compulsory for all athletes including athletes selected via priority 1 and priority 2. This event will contribute to the National Ranking System for 2020 by establishing the field factor for the forthcoming season.
- 7.1.1.5.3 To be eligible to attend the event the athlete must be a current member of the GB National Development Squad, have achieved a top 5 result in a BMC National Ranking Competition or if in Youth C and D a top 5 placing in the Youth Climbing Series Grand Final 2019.
- 7.1.1.5.4 Athletes who qualify for the selection event will be required to register for the event via the BMC website. It is the athletes/parents responsibility to ensure they meet the advertised registration deadline. Registration to the selection event will not be accepted after the deadline.
- 7.1.1.5.5 If an athlete who has qualified for the 2020 squad (through Priority 1 and/or Priority 2) does not wish to accept their place, their allocated category place

will be available to athletes in that same category at the 2019 selection event.

This place will not be filled by an athlete from another category.

7.1.1.5.6 Selection Event Format

7.1.1.5.6.1 Day 1 – Boulder EYC qualification format (45% weighting)

7.1.1.5.6.2 Day 2 – Lead EYC qualification format (45% weighting)

7.1.1.5.6.3 Day 2 – Speed – use of fastest time for rank (10% weighting)

8 Deselection - Substitutions and Injuries

8.1 Selection to the GB National Development Squad is in accordance with the prevailing selection policy.

8.2 Replacement of athletes withdrawn from the squad will be considered at the complete discretion of the Selection Panel, any replacement will be prioritized in number order against section 7 - selection criteria, of this selection policy.

8.3 Injured Athletes –

8.3.1 Non 2019 GB National Development Squad members - If an athlete has not achieved pre-selection and cannot perform at the selection event then they will not be eligible for selection to the GB National Development Squad for the year 2020.

8.4 2019 GB National Development Squad members -

8.5 If an athlete has achieved selection they will be invited to attend Development Squad training events and only considered for entry into international events once they have been approved, in writing to the BMC Competitions Program Manager (zoe@thebmc.co.uk), as fit to compete by a medical practitioner.

8.6 If an athlete cannot perform at the selection event (priority 3) and has not achieved selection through priority 1 or 2, they will not be eligible for selection to the GB National Development Squad 2020.

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 GB National Development 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 GB National Development Squad 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 GB National Development 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 The BMC in partnership with Mountaineering Scotland appeals policy.

10 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 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