

British Wrestling Selection Policy – European u23 and Senior Championships, 2022

1. Introduction

- 1.1. British Wrestling selects athletes to compete for Great Britain (GBR) in United World Wrestling (UWW) competitions and other international competitions.

2. Purpose

- 2.1. The purpose of this document is to detail the process and procedures of selection to represent GBR at the following competitions:

- 2.1.1. European U23 Championships, 7th -13th March 2022 (Varna, BUL)
- 2.1.2. European Senior Championships, 28th March – 3rd April 2022 (Budapest, HUN)

3. Eligibility

- 3.1. Athletes wanting to be under **consideration** for selection for the above-mentioned competitions will need to meet the following eligibility requirements:

- 3.1.1. Be eligible to represent GBR in accordance with the rules of UWW.

- 3.1.2. Hold a valid and current membership of British Wrestling.

- 3.1.3. Ordinarily be a current member of a squad within the Great Britain Performance Pathway.

- 3.1.4. Have competed within the relevant freestyle weight category at the most recent British Championships unless no British Championships has been provided for that relevant freestyle weight category.

- 3.1.4.1. Should an athlete not be able to complete 3.1.4 due to illness or injury, British Wrestling may consider previous head to head competition results against other athletes under consideration for selection within the designated selection period

- 3.1.5. If an athlete is unable to fulfil 3.1.4 due to injury or illness, British Wrestling reserves the right to request proof from a medical professional stating the nature of the injury/illness and its resultant impact on participation.

- 3.1.6. Meet the appropriate age class requirements at the date of competition.

- 3.1.7. Not serving a sanction or ban as a result of an anti-doping violation not at the time of selection.

- 3.1.8. The athlete's selection must not, in the opinion of the Selection Panel, jeopardise the efficient, safe, and orderly management of the group and/or individual during the relevant trip.

3.1.9. Have signed the athlete code of conduct.

4. Selection Criteria

4.1. Selection period for criteria to be achieved: 1st January 2021 – 31st December 2021.

4.2. European u23 Championships:

Athletes considered for selection for this event will need to have achieved all the below standards as a minimum:

4.2.1. Won 2 matches at the 2021 u23 World Championships at the same weight category and style or have won a minimum of 1 match at 2 UWW international events against opponents other than Home Nation athletes within the designated selection period at the same weight category and style.

4.2.2. Matches won via forfeit, opponent withdrawal due to injury or bye will not be considered.

4.2.3. Ordinarily have attended 75% of allocated GBR squad training within the designated selection period unless agreed with British Wrestling in advance.

4.2.4. Have an agreed training plan in place and provide weekly training logs to British Wrestling between selection and the conclusion of the selection event.

4.3. European Senior Championships:

Athletes considered for selection for this event will need to have achieved all the below standards as a minimum:

4.3.1. Reached the last 8 at the 2021 World Senior Championships at the same weight category and style or have won a minimum of 2 matches at a UWW international event against opponents other than Home Nation athletes within the designated selection period at the same weight category and style.

4.3.2. Matches won via forfeit, opponent withdrawal due to injury or bye will not be considered.

4.3.3. Ordinarily have attended 75% of allocated GBR squad training within the designated selection period unless agreed with British Wrestling in advance.

4.3.4. Have an agreed training plan in place and provide weekly training logs to British Wrestling between selection and the conclusion of the selection event.

5. Selection Process

5.1. Athletes will be nominated for selection to the Selection Panel by the BWA Performance Manager or by their Home Nation representative via the BWA Performance Manager. Nominations should demonstrate the athlete's eligibility for selection and a clear case for selection based on the criteria in section 4. Only nominations that are received by the nomination deadline will be considered.

5.2. Athlete nomination deadline will be 21st January 2022

5.3. Selection decisions will be made by the Selection Panel using the following criteria:

- 5.3.1. **Technical and Tactical Ability:** Technical and tactical ability of athletes in training and competition.
- 5.3.2. **Fitness and Athletic Ability:** Athletes meet required fitness and conditioning requirements to compete and are deemed to be in the required condition to compete on the international stage.
- 5.3.3. **Behaviour and Discipline:** Commitment to the British Wrestling Performance Programme including the behaviours and values stated in the Athlete Agreement during training sessions, at training camps and competitions.
- 5.3.4. **Lifestyle Management:** Adherence to agreed training and weight management programmes.
- 5.3.5. **Competitive Record and Performance:** Competitive results within the designated selection period (e.g. results at previous majors, progression within non-major events, win/loss ratio), performances (e.g. performance against higher ranked athletes, win/loss classification etc), and experience at the nominated competitions.
- 5.3.6. **Current Form:** Current competitive form, as apparent from recent performances and results.
- 5.3.7. **Future potential:** Future potential of the athlete under consideration and whether selection will provide major competition experience that supports the athlete's long term development.
- 5.3.8. **Opposition:** If applicable, the nature of the opposition, and the suitability of any given athlete bearing in mind the opposition likely to be faced.
- 5.4. The Selection Panel will only consider nominations for athletes demonstrating eligibility in accordance with section 3 and 4
- 5.5. The Selection Panel will consider the criteria stated in section 5.3 within the designated selection period in making their decision utilising information provided to them from the nomination and any other information available on the individual athlete.

6. Selection Panel

- 6.1. The Selection Panel will consist of the following members:
 - 6.1.1. Chair – TBC
 - 6.1.2. BWA Performance Manager – Huw Griffiths
 - 6.1.3. England Representative – Jit Rakhra
 - 6.1.4. Scotland Representative - Vasile Jornea
 - 6.1.5. Wales Representative - Alan Jones
 - 6.1.6. Northern Ireland Representative - Bruce Irwin
- 6.2. Each member of the Selection Panel will have one vote each with the exception of the Chair who will have no vote. Selection decisions shall be made by way of a majority decision.

- 6.3. Members of the Selection Panel must declare any perceived conflict of interest concerning the selection of any athlete. In cases where there is conflict of interest, then the Selection Panel member affected will remain in the meeting and will be able to discuss the merits of selecting the athlete in question, but not to vote on the selection of the athlete subject to the declaration to which their conflict of interest extends.
- 6.4. The Selection Panel reserves the right to seek additional expert guidance from specific coaches, technical experts, or programme medical advisors if the panel thinks it is appropriate. Any person involved in providing advice or guidance during the selection process must declare any conflict of interest.
- 6.5. The Selection Panel will exercise its discretion fairly and without bias in making selection decisions.

7. Communications

- 7.1. The BWA Performance Manager will ordinarily communicate all selection decisions and rationale to all nominated athletes within 72 hours of the selection meeting.
- 7.2. It is important that members of the Selection Panel do not become involved in communicating with athletes and personal coaches on any matters of selection other than to refer any queries to the GBR Squad Lead.
- 7.3. All communications remain confidential until such time as selection is published on the British Wrestling website.

8. Anti-Doping

- 8.1. All selected athletes must comply with the UK Anti-Doping Rules as published by UK Anti-Doping Limited (or its successor). www.ukad.org.uk/documents/uk-anti-doping-rules

9. Preparation, Testing & Deselection

- 9.1. To ensure access to available required support, athletes and their coaches will be required to submit a preparation programme to be agreed with the BWA Performance Manager.
- 9.2. Selected athletes and athletes in squads may be required to undergo physiological and/or medical assessment. This will be to monitor development and confirm fitness following injury, illness, any other period where the athlete has been prevented from training and/or competing normally or a period of marked under-performance.
- 9.3. British Wrestling reserves the right to require a medical examination by a British Wrestling nominated medical officer.
- 9.4. British Wrestling reserves the right to deselect any athlete who does not fulfil the necessary fitness, medical, or performance standards; or who does not agree and then follow their agreed preparation programme or meet the standards of behaviour expected.
- 9.5. Prior to the de-selection of the athlete for any reason, the athlete must be presented with the opportunity to attend a removal interview with a minimum of

two members of the Selection Panel. The athlete may be accompanied at this meeting by a supporter, e.g. friend, family, trainer, legal advisor, medical adviser. Written justification must be provided for all removals. Any appeal against such a decision would follow the Appeals procedure set out in section 11.

10. General

- 10.1. Insofar as is permitted by law, British Wrestling and its authorised agents do not accept liability for any loss or damage occurring as a result of the selection process. This shall not affect any statutory rights that are available, and this shall not limit or exclude any liability that may not be excluded or limited by law.
- 10.2. British Wrestling reserves the right to withdraw the team or athlete or change the selection policy in response to abnormal situations beyond the control of the sport including but not limited to a pandemic, terrorist threat or environmental disaster.
- 10.3. If clarification of any part of this selection policy is required, please contact admin@britishwrestling.org.

11. Appeals

- 11.1. Appeals will only be heard for competitions listed in section 2.
- 11.2. An athlete who was eligible for selection but was not selected may appeal against the decision of the Selection Panel only on the grounds that:
 - 11.2.1. this selection policy was not properly followed and/or implemented (for example, the selectors failed to apply the selection criteria, or did not give proper consideration to the factors identified);
 - 11.2.2. the Selection Panel failed to take into account relevant considerations or took into account irrelevant considerations;
 - 11.2.3. the selection process was tainted by bias; and/or
 - 11.2.4. the selection decision was made in bad faith, dishonestly or perversely.
- 11.3. An appeal must be made, in writing, by e-mail to the Chair of the Selection Panel (via admin@britishwrestling.org) by **5pm UK time on the third working day** after receipt of the communication of the Selection Panel's decision (i.e. the date of sending of the selection decision at clause 7.1). Any notice of appeal must state the grounds, from clause 11.2 of this policy, on which the appeal is being lodged together with any evidence that the athlete relies on.
- 11.4. The Chair of the Selection Panel will confirm receipt of the notice of appeal ordinarily within 48 hours of receipt.
- 11.5. If, in the reasonable view of the Chair of the Selection Panel, the appeal may affect an athlete other than the appellant (a Third Party), e.g., where it may involve the deselection of an athlete if the appealing athlete is selected in their place, then the Chair must provide the grounds of appeal to any such persons as soon as possible. The Third Party will be invited to make a written submission on the merits of the appeal, and (if the Third Party accepts that invitation) the Arbitrator will provide the Third Party with copies of all relevant documentation as soon as

reasonably practicable and set a deadline for the Third Party's written submissions (if any are to be filed). The Third Party will have the same right to be heard as the appellant before the Arbitrator, save that the deadlines imposed may be shorter if necessary in the circumstances. As the decision of the Arbitrator will determine the rights of any Third Party (not just the appellant), the Third Party is prohibited from raising again (by way of a separate or further appeal) matters that have already been decided on by the Arbitrator.

- 11.6. As soon as possible, and in any event no later than within 3 working days of receiving the appeal, the Chair of the Selection Panel will lodge the Appeal with Sport Resolutions (UK) (a trading name of The Sports Dispute Resolution Panel Ltd - Company No. 3351039). The Appeal shall be governed by the Arbitration Act 1996 and Sport Resolutions (UK)'s Appeal Arbitration Rules, which Rules are deemed to be incorporated by reference to this clause. Where there is contradiction between Sport Resolutions (UK)'s Appeal Arbitration Rules and this Policy, this Policy will take precedence. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on all concerned. The arbitrator may not select or de-select an athlete and may only refer the matter back to the Selection Panel if an appeal is upheld.
- 11.7. Timeline: The Appellant, British Wrestling and any Third Party will submit any evidence for the appeal to the arbitrator by **5pm UK time on the fourth working day** after notification of the appeal to Sport Resolutions (UK) by the Chair of the Selection Panel. The arbitrator will communicate their decision by **5pm UK time on the third working day** after receiving evidence from all parties.
- 11.8. Appeals will ordinarily be conducted based on the written submissions of the appellant and the relevant first instance Selection Panel, and any Third Party (if any), without an oral hearing, the calling of witnesses or the giving of oral evidence. If the Arbitrator determines that the circumstances warrant the holding of an oral hearing, the parties will be invited by the Arbitrator to be heard by video or telephone conference (i.e., not in person) at a specified date and time.
- 11.9. An athlete seeking to appeal will be required to pay to British Wrestling a deposit of £200 towards the cost of using Sport Resolutions' services, which must be paid at the same time as the grounds of appeal are provided. This sum will be reimbursed to the athlete in the event that the appeal succeeds but will otherwise be forfeited.