British Wrestling Age Group Championships Selection Policy 2024
U15, U17, U20 and U23 Major Championships

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 for consideration of selection to represent GBR at the following competitions:

2.1.2. U17 European Championships. 10-16th June 2024, Kuortane, Finland.
2.1.4. U20 European Championships, 1-7th July 2024, Warsaw, Poland.
2.1.5. U20 World Championships, 2-8th September 2024, Pontevedra, Spain

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;
   3.1.1.1. Hold a British passport
   3.1.1.2. Have not represented another nation without having completed a change of nationality in compliance with UWW rules

3.1.2. Hold an active competitive membership of British Wrestling at the time of selection.

3.1.3. Be a current member of a GBR Performance Pathway squad at the time of selection.

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3.1.4. Have competed within the relevant discipline, age & weight category at the most recent British Championships.

3.1.4.1. In the event an athlete is unable to compete due to injury, illness or no British Championships at the relevant discipline age & weight category is available, British Wrestling may consider previous attendance at the previous English Championships and/or head to head competition results against other athletes under consideration for selection within the relevant age & weight category within the selection period.

3.1.4.2. 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 certified medical professional stating the nature of the injury/illness and its resultant impact on participation.

3.1.4.3. An exception to 3.1.4 may be provided for athletes who are based abroad. Exceptions must be sort by the individual and approved by the BWA Performance Manager.

3.1.5. Meet the appropriate age class requirements at the date of competition.

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

3.1.7. Have consistently shown performance standards and habits aligned with programme values (Commitment, Consistency, Curiosity, Character and Celebrating the small wins).

3.1.8. Have signed and aligned themselves to the British Wrestling Athletes Agreement.

3.1.9. Athletes must ensure they are able to provide the required financial commitment to attend the selected Championships.

3.1.9.1. Athletes competing at the U15, U17, U20 or U23 European and World Championships will be fully self-funded. These events are not funded competitions, unless selected athletes are named as current UKS NSSF athletes.
4. Consideration Criteria

4.1. The consideration period for selection will be the 12 month period prior to the selection meeting.

4.2. Considerations will be based upon observations across a range of factors, including:
   4.2.1. Performance at key domestic and international competitions
   4.2.2. Athletes commitment, character and consistency during camps and competitions
   4.2.3. Athletes stage of development
   4.2.4. Impact on athletes long term development
   4.2.5. Impact on athletes emotional development

4.3. British Wrestling reserve the right not to select an individual should they be observed as not being ready mentally, emotionally or physically.

4.4. Performance considerations will be observed against the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Consideration Requirements</th>
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<tr>
<td>U15 European Championships</td>
<td>Evidence of significant performances at international competitions – consideration will be</td>
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<tr>
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<td>taken into account of level of competition, level of opponent and style of win:</td>
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<td>Results to include:</td>
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<td>Top 5 at U15 UWW competition - including at least 2 wins against non GB wrestlers.</td>
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### U20 European Championships
Evidence of significant performances at international competitions – consideration will be taken into account of level of competition, level of opponent and style of result:
Results may include:

- Top 5 at UWW U20 competition (including 2 wins against non GB wrestlers) or Top 8 at UWW U23/Senior competition (including 1 win against non GB wrestler)
- Gold at British Junior Championships (at relevant weight and age) or Top 3 at British Senior Championships

### U23 European Championships
Evidence of significant performances at international competitions – consideration will be taken into account of level of competition, level of opponent and style of result:
Results may include:

- Top 8 at UWW U23 competition (including 2 wins against non GB wrestlers)
- Top 3 at British Senior Championships

### U17 World Championships
At least 1 win (excluding by injury, forfeit or disqualification) at U17 European Championships

### U20 World Championships
At least 1 win (excluding by injury, forfeit or disqualification) at U20 European Championships

### U23 World Championships
At least 1 win (excluding by injury, forfeit or disqualification) at U23 European Championships

4.5. In the event that at the relevant British Championships, the leading GB eligible athlete does not take the required placing, the selection panel may take this into consideration for selection. This will be at the discretion of the selection panel and through consideration of the placing and standard of the relevant age and weight category.

4.6. Consideration will also be made against consistency of performances and current form at international level competitions across the selection period. The selection team will also take into account regularity of active competition, attendance at GB training and monthly training logs.
4.7. British Wrestling reserves the right to consider performances at appropriate non-UWW and UWW events and/or performances at higher age categories should they be deemed to be of sufficient standard. The final decision for this will be with the British Wrestling Selection Panel.

4.8. In conjunction with point 4.6, if 2 athletes are in consideration within the same age and weight category, British Wrestling reserves the right to request a wrestle off. This will be carried out under competition conditions, including a specified weight limit, qualified referee and officials.

4.9. In the event an athlete is not able to compete at the designated competitions due to illness or injury (including mental health), British Wrestling reserves the right to consider performances at appropriate non-UWW and UWW events within the 12 months prior. Classification of the appropriateness of competitions will be at the discretion of British Wrestling’s Performance Team.

4.10. Any final selection decisions will be based upon the selection team identifying athletes who have been observed as and have evidenced the appropriate fitness levels required to be competitive at the designated championships. (please see point 9.4 for deselection)

4.11. Has been identified, as a developing age group athlete with realistic potential to qualify for future Olympic Games. Consideration of realistic potential will be measured against the following

4.11.1. Current performance trajectory, taking into account results at National Championships, appropriate non-UWW and UWW International competitions.
4.11.2. Results at other international competitions may be considered if they are deemed to be of an equivalent level to UWW international events and agreed in advance with British Wrestling Performance Manager and designated GB Performance Coach.
4.11.3. Application of the following performance behaviours:
   4.11.3.1. Showing consistent commitment and work ethic within training
   4.11.3.2. Ownership and accountability for performance
   4.11.3.3. Ability to cope and perform under pressure
   4.11.3.4. Completion of agreed performance requirements such as completion of training logs, attendance at domestic training camps etc.
4.11.4. Technical ability to compete and win matches at European or World Championships level
4.12. The selection panel can select athletes who have not met the consideration criteria at their discretion, if they are deemed to be beneficial to achieving the aims of the British Wrestling’s performance strategy.

5. Selection Process

5.1. Athletes to be considered for selection will be based upon those nominated by the National Squad Coaches. The nomination list will be made up of athletes who have clearly demonstrated and evidenced eligibility for consideration. Nominating National Coaches will not be able to vote for selection, however, will be present to provide supporting information.

5.2. Athletes should be nominated to the selection panel no later than 14 days before the agreed selection panel meeting.

5.3. Selection decisions will be made by the Selection Panel using the following criteria (not in priority order):

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 by GB Performance Coaches 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. Athletes who are serving a live disciplinary sanction at the time of selection will not be eligible for consideration.

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.

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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
   6.1.2. BWA Performance Manager
   6.1.3. BWA GB Technical Director
   6.1.4. BWA GB Development Lead Coach
   6.1.5. BWA National Potential Coach – U17 lead
   6.1.6. BWA National Potential Coach – U15 lead

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.

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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 BWA Performance Manager.

7.3. Selection panel members are not permitted to discuss selections with athletes or coaches prior to 7.1 being completed.

7.4. 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).

9. Preparation, Testing & Deselection

9.1. To ensure access to available required support, athletes and their coaches will be required to commit to progress meetings with the required National Pathway Coach and BWA Performance Manager.

9.2. Selected athletes may be required to undergo a physiological and/or medical assessment. This will be to monitor athletes fitness following injury, illness or 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 or 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 the GBR Appeals Policy.

9.6. British Wrestling reserves the right to withdraw athletes from the selection competition should they demonstrate standards of behaviour below expectation. Athletes withdrawn and returned home will do so at their own cost.

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. Selected athletes are required to wear British Wrestling provided kit (KUKRI) only. GBR kit provided by any other manufacturer or alternative kit will not be accepted. Athletes who refuse will be withdrawn from competition and returned home at their own cost.

10.4. If clarification of any part of this selection policy is required, please contact kmalone@britishwrestling.org.

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