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**WELSH ATHLETICS**  
ATHLETAU CYMRU

**16<sup>th</sup> WMRA International U18 Mountain Running Cup Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – Annecy, France**  
**Selection Policy published December 2022**

### **Overview**

The 16<sup>th</sup> WMRA International U18 Mountain Running Cup will take place in Annecy, France on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2023. This provides junior athletes with the opportunity to compete abroad against a high-quality international field. Welsh Athletics continues to value international competition opportunities and the role it plays in developing Welsh athletes.

### **Selection Policy Aim**

The selection panel will attempt to select the best team possible to represent Wales.

### **Athlete Eligibility**

To be considered for selection, athletes must be eligible to compete for Wales through at least one of the following:

1. Birth
2. Parentage
3. Retention
4. Residence (minimum 3 years)

### **Competition Format**

The 16<sup>th</sup> WMRA International U18 Mountain Running Cup provides an **U18 Age Group** competition opportunity.

Teams of up to **4 U18 Men and 4 U18 Women** may be selected. The age groups follow IAAF rules, so U18 athletes are those born in 2006 and 2007. Wales will compete against teams from Europe and around the world.

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## Selection Process



The **Red Kite Challenge** on **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April** will act as the official trial race for the Welsh team. The first three Welsh athletes across the finish line in both the male and female U18 races will be selected, with the final place at the discretion of the selection panel. **There is no obligation to fill all available positions, even if athletes finish in the top three in the trial race, if runners are not considered of the required standard to warrant selection.**

To be considered for the team athletes need to do one of the following:

1. Take part in the trial race
2. If unable to do the trial race, contact Arwel Lewis (Welsh Athletics Mountain and Trail committee representative) and Steve Mitchell (Welsh Athletics National Talent Development Coordinator) before the trial race. The athlete must explain why they are unable to do the trial race and to give an indication of current mountain and fell running form. The athlete will be considered in the selection meeting when discussing discretionary places.  
Arwel Lewis contact email address: [arweleryri@gmail.com](mailto:arweleryri@gmail.com)  
Steve Mitchell contact email address: [steve.mitchell@welshathletics.org](mailto:steve.mitchell@welshathletics.org)

The selection meeting will take place on **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2023** (immediately following the race) and the teams will be announced on **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023**.

The **Selection Panel** will comprise of **2 individuals nominated by the Welsh Athletics Mountain and Trail Committee, a team manager and 2 individuals from the Welsh Athletics performance team.**

In coming to its decision, the **Selection Panel** will consider the following criteria when it comes to the discretionary places (in no priority order):

1. 2022-2023 form and fitness in mountain and fell races
2. Evidence of competing at mountain and fell races in previous seasons
3. Future potential and associated progression / development
4. Head-to-head competitive records
5. Previous / other event championship performances
6. Injury status
7. Athletes who are supportive of Welsh Athletics and have participated in fell and mountain development days
8. Any other factors that, in the panel's opinion, give Wales the best chance of success

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### **Appeals Process**

There shall be no right of appeal to Welsh Team selected by the Selection Panel.

### **De-Selection Process**

De-selection of an athlete may occur following:

1. Failure to adhere to the Welsh Athletics athlete code of conduct
2. In the event of an athlete sustaining an injury or illness following acceptance of their position on the team, they are required to inform the team leader immediately. If it is deemed that the injury or illness will negatively affect the athlete's performance this will result in de-selection.

### **Equal Opportunities**

Welsh Athletics is committed to offering equal opportunities to all athletes in Wales. Any Welsh athletes will be considered as part of the selection process, providing they have met the criteria that is laid out within this policy. Welsh Athletics will not discriminate in the selection of any athlete on the basis of any protected characteristics.

### **Amendment**

Welsh Athletics reserves the right to amend this Selection Policy at its sole discretion and will make any amended version publicly available (including the date on which the amendment was made) at [www.welshathletics.org](http://www.welshathletics.org)