



**2022 School Games National Finals**  
*(formerly known as the UK School Games)*  
**Para-Event Selection Policy**  
**29<sup>th</sup> August – 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 Loughborough**

**Selection Policy - Published 27/06/2024.**

**Overview**

The School Games are a valuable opportunity for young para-athletes to represent their Home Country, within an integrated team environment and among other sports. The experience of working with team coaches and staying overnight among athletes is great preparation for athletes who progress onto GB & NI Junior & Senior teams.

The School Games has seen many of its athletes go on to achieve the highest sporting accolades and success on national and international stages. Inspirational athletes including Jonnie Peacock, Morgan Lake and Hannah Cockroft.

2022 saw the last School Games National Finals, which with great success and several athletes went on to compete in the 2023 Commonwealth Youth Games.

We are pleased to report that the games will take place again in August 2024, with athletics making up one of the 10 sports.

British Athletics and the designated lead organisations in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales are keen to provide a competition opportunity, which brings the best athletes together at a multi sports games and links with the Home Country Talent Pathways. The previous two Games have used a revamped competition offer, which better meets the needs of the sport.

**What is the REVISED competition format?**

Prior to 2021, the games had seen 5 teams representing the North, Midlands and South of England, Northern Ireland, and Scotland, competing against each other in a traditional athletics competition.

In 2024 we will deliver the revamped competition format, first used in 2021, which:

- Provides increased numbers of athletes present at the games (increasing from 5 to 8 Teams)
- Selects the best 8 available athletes from across the UK, per event (male and female) and where possible, provides fair representation from the four home countries.
- Provided 8 evenly balanced teams, to provide a better team competition experience.
- Integrates competition on both the track and field, with para-athletes competing alongside non-para-athletes. 100m Frame Running and 1500m Ambulant have been added for 2024.
- Is linked directly with the Home Country Talent Pathway and Programmes.



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## How does it work?

- 2024 will again include an adapted Universal Relay, featuring 2 x Ambulant, 1 x non-para and 1 x Wheelchair Racer per 4 x 100m team, with 2 Boys & 2 Girls.
- The revised Selection Policy ensures there are equal teams and full fields of athletes, with representation from all Home Countries and the introduction of Trial Events.
- Up to 64 para-athletes will take part, this is 26 more than competed in the 2018 School Games and 16 more than 2022.

## TEAMS

There will be 8 'All Star' teams taking part in the Games. Each team will consist of 6 Para Athletes:

BOY	GIRL	
1 x 100m Ambulant	1 x 100m Ambulant	2 Athletes
1 x 100m Wheelchair Racer	1 x 100m Wheelchair Racer	2 Athletes
1 x 100m Frame Runner (B or G)		1 Athlete*
1 x 1500m Ambulant (B or G)		1 Athlete*
1 x Field Athlete (LJ / SP / DT)	1 x Field Athlete (LJ / SP / DT)	2 Athletes
Universal Relay		

\* There will be four male athletes and four female athletes selected for both the Frame Running and T20 1500m. These athletes will be split across the 8 All – Star Teams.

## MEDALS & SCORING

Medals will be awarded 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> using 'Raza Points' as recognised by World Para Athletics. As there are currently no Raza points for Frame Running, this will be the only para event with a first past the post medal order.

## IMPLEMENTS

Field athletes will use their appropriate U17 or U20 implement as listed in WPA Rules.

## How does the draft system work?

- Each athlete will be given a point score based on their ranking at the selection meeting. i.e. the number one ranked athlete will be given a point score of 8 and then the eight ranked athlete will be given a point score of 1.
- The 8 teams will then be selected to ensure that all teams have an evenly balanced make up / numbers.

## Eligibility

### 1. Age Groups

- U17 & U20 Combined (Minimum: 14 Years Old)\*\*

**\*\* In exceptional circumstances, the Home Countries can nominate an athlete who is under 14 years at the time of the Games, but who will turn 14 years before the end of the competition season (that being 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024), if the panel felt it was appropriate to do so for the long-term development of the athlete.**

### 2. Impairment Groups

- Cerebral Palsy
- Amputees
- Dwarfism
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Visual Impairment
- Intellectual Impairment



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### 3. Events

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| • 100m Ambulant                          | T11-13/35-38/42-47/61-64           |
| • 100m Wheelchair Racing                 | T33-34/51-54                       |
| • 100m Frame Running                     | T71/72                             |
| • 1500m                                  | T11-13/T20/T36-38/T45-46           |
| • Long Jump                              | T11-13/20/35-38/42-47/61-64        |
| • Shot Putt Ambulant & Seated (Combined) | F11-13/20/31-38/40-46/51-57/61-64. |
| • Discus Ambulant & Seated (Combined)    | F11-13/31-38/40-46/51-57/61-64.    |
| • Universal Relay: Selected from Above   | 2 Boys / 2 Girls                   |

### Qualifications

4. Performances at the following 'Trial' events will be used to assess current form and head-to-heads:
  - 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> June 2024 - **BWAA Grand Prix Meet**
  - TBC June **Scottish Disability Sport Junior Athletics, Grangemouth**
  - 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> June 2024 **NI & Ulster Age Group Championships, Belfast**
  - 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> July 2024 - **Activity Alliance National Junior Disability Athletics, Coventry**
  - 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> July 2024 - **BWAA Grand Prix Meet**

### Selection Process

5. The School Games National Final Teams will be selected in one meeting on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024**.
6. A maximum of 8 athletes (male & female) will be selected for each event\*\*.
7. A reserve list will also be selected on the day based on the criteria set out within this document.
8. *Prior to the selection meeting, athletes who are eligible for selection will be asked to complete an online registration form to confirm they wish to be considered for selection. **Please note this does not guarantee selection, but it is an important process, to ensure we have all the required information for those athletes successfully selected.***

\*\* A maximum of 4 athletes (male & female) will be selected for Frame Running and the 1500m Ambulant, as these are trial events for 2024.

### 9. Round 1 – Home Country Automatic Selections

Each "Home Nation" England, Northern Ireland, Scotland & Wales will select the following:

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| • 1 athlete 100m Ambulant, Boy & Girl              | Up to 8 Athletes |
| • 1 athlete 100m Wheelchair, Boy & Girl            | Up to 8 Athletes |
| • 1 athlete 100m Frame Running, Boy or Girl        | Up to 4 Athletes |
| • 1 athlete 1500m Ambulant, Boy or Girl            | Up to 4 Athletes |
| • 1 athlete Field Event (LJ, SP or DT), Boy & Girl | Up to 8 Athletes |



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## **10. Round 2 – Highest ranked athletes remain after round 1**

The remaining spaces will be drafted UK-wide:

- |                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| • 100m Ambulant Boys & Girls      | 8 Athletes* |
| • 100m Wheelchair Boys & Girls    | 8 Athletes* |
| • 100m Frame Running Boys & Girls | 4 Athletes* |
| • 1500m Ambulant Boys & Girls     | 4 Athletes* |
| • Field Events Boys & Girls       | 8 Athletes* |
- Plus, any remaining slots not filled by Home Country allocation.

**TOTAL: 64 ATHLETES**

## **Round 3 – Selecting a Reserve List**

All eligible Reserve athletes

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*To select athletes across different classification and impairment groups Raza Points will be used to identify the highest scoring athlete. Where appropriate, performances from 2024 listed on 'Power of 10' will be considered.*

*To maximise the number of athletes gaining School Games experience, the following points will be considered:*

- *Athletes will be selected for 1 individual event only. Reserves will be invited if a space becomes available. Athletes may only double-up in exceptional circumstances i.e. lastminute withdrawal or injury.*
- *Athletes will be limited to 2 x School Games selections. The only exception is where no other athletes or substitutes are eligible for selection.*
- *Athletes who have represented their country at Commonwealth, European, World or Paralympic Games will not be eligible for School Games selection.*
- *The Universal Relay will comprise 3 para-athletes from individual events, plus 1 mainstream athlete. Teams will be finalised at the Games. Here is a [video](#) of the Universal Relay.*

## **Assistance**

11. Athletes in the following classes are permitted assistance during the competition: T/F11-12, F31-33 & F51-54, and will also be offered accommodation for a parent, carer, or guide. Further advice re: accommodation and support will be provided following Selection. Athletes in other classes requiring assistance with blocks or run-ups, will be supported by a Team Coach or Starters Assistant.

## **Classification**

12. Athletes should have a 'UK Classification' Review, Fixed Review or Confirmed **OR** 'New Athletes' competing at the 'Trial' events listed above will be considered for School Games selection, providing they submit classification paperwork that demonstrates they meet Minimum Impairment Criteria. More information on UK Classification can be found [here](#).



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## **Appeals**

13. There shall be no right of appeal to the selection of the School Games Teams made by the Panel. The provisions of the British Athletics Selection and Nomination “Fast” Appeals Procedure do not apply to the School Games team(s) selection for the 2024 School Games National Finals.

## **Amendments**

14. British 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 any amendment was made) at [www.uka.org.uk](http://www.uka.org.uk).

## **Interested in Para Athletics?**

If you are a potential para-athlete or PE Teacher looking to refer a student, we are keen to hear from you! There are over 400 para-athletes training with local clubs, competing in mainstream and integrated para competitions across the UK, with all performances tracked by [www.thePowerof10.info](http://www.thePowerof10.info). Each of the Home Countries and British Athletics have Para Programmes to support upcoming talent.

Please email the following to find out more:

- **England** - Matt Kendrick - [mkendrick@englandathletics.org](mailto:mkendrick@englandathletics.org)
- **Northern Ireland** – Heather Ardis - [Heather.ardis@athleticsni.org](mailto:Heather.ardis@athleticsni.org)
- **Scotland** – Pamela Robson - [Pamela.robson@scottishathletics.org.uk](mailto:Pamela.robson@scottishathletics.org.uk)
- **Wales** – Neil Taylor - [Neil.taylor@welshathletics.org](mailto:Neil.taylor@welshathletics.org)



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