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**Senior Home Countries Mountain International
Sunday 17th August 2025 – Whinlatter Forest, England
Selection Policy published October 2024**

Overview

The Welsh Athletics performance vision is to deliver a sustainable sector leading elite performance system that consistently transfers talented athletes to UKA's WCP whilst winning medals at Commonwealth Games. As part of this strategy, Welsh Athletics is committed to providing competition opportunities to developing and aspiring Welsh international athletes. Opportunities to compete for Wales are categorised as one of the following;

1. **International Opportunity** - a competitive opportunity in pathway events for senior Welsh athletes.
2. **Representative Opportunity** - a development opportunity in either pathway or non-pathway events for both junior and senior Welsh athletes.

The Senior Home Countries Mountain International is classified as a **Representative Opportunity**.

Additionally, the Welsh Athletics performance vision for mountain is to consistently have Welsh athletes qualify for British teams whilst challenging to win the International Snowdon Race.

Selection Policy Aim

The aim of the selection policy is to provide senior and junior (U23) Welsh athletes demonstrating potential with a **developmental opportunity** in a non-pathway event (mountain).

Athlete Eligibility

Eligibility will be in line with Welsh Athletics eligibility criteria. To be considered, athletes need to have registered as Welsh by the Snowdon International Mountain Race (acting as the trial race) on Saturday 19th July 2025.

Competition Format

The Senior Home Countries Mountain International provides **Senior and U23 Age Group** competition opportunities, with athletes from both age groups competing in the same race.

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Teams of up to **4 Senior and 2 U23 Men and 4 Senior and 2 U23 Women** may be selected. The age groups follow World Athletics rules, so U23 athletes are those born in 2003, 2004 and 2005. Wales will compete against teams from the other home nations.

Selection Process

Step 1: The first two eligible senior Welsh athletes and first eligible U23 Welsh athlete home in the Snowdon International Mountain Race on Saturday 19th July will be selected.

The Welsh Athletics National Talent Development Coordinator for Endurance (Steve Mitchell) will contact athletes meeting the step 1 selection criteria to see if they wish to be selected. If athletes do not reply by the time of the selection meeting, it will be assumed that the athlete does not wish to be selected. If athletes who have met the step 1 selection criteria do not wish to take up their selection, automatic selection will not go down to the next ranked Welsh athletes.

Step 2: The following athletes will then be considered for selection:

- Athletes who from 2024 onwards have represented Great Britain (senior or U20 age groups) or Wales (senior or U23 age group) on the mountain
- Athletes who from 2024 onwards have finished in the top six in British or Inter-Counties Mountain Championships (senior, U23 or U20 age group) or won medals in Welsh Mountain Championships (senior or U23 age group)
- The third, fourth, fifth and sixth eligible senior and second and third eligible U23 Welsh athletes in the 2025 Snowdon International Mountain Race.
 - Athletes meeting any of the three criteria above will be contacted by the Welsh Athletics National Talent Development Coordinator for Endurance (Steve Mitchell) prior to the selection meeting to see if they wish to be considered for selection and if there is any evidence they wish to be put forward to be used during the selection meeting. If athletes do not reply by the time of the selection meeting, it will be assumed that the athlete does not wish to be considered for selection
- Athletes wishing to be considered but have not met any of the criteria above need to email the Welsh Athletics National Talent Development Coordinator for Endurance (Steve Mitchell) by end of Sunday 20th July to state their wish to be considered and to provide evidence they wish to be used during the selection meeting. Steve Mitchell's email address is:

Steve.Mitchell@Welshathletics.org

The following evidence will be considered when deciding who to select:

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- a. Recent Performance History (1st January 2025 to Saturday 19th July: championship/race placings and times, priority to mountain races)
- b. Previous Performance History (championship/race placings and times: priority to mountain races and to Recent Performance History)
- c. Career trajectory
- d. Head-to-head records (priority given to both head-to-head record from 1st January 2025 to Saturday 19th July and to mountain head-to-head record)
- e. Recent verified screening/monitoring data (e.g. physiological landmarks; strength and power landmarks; strength capacity landmarks)
- f. Athlete Engagement with Welsh Athletics
- g. Any further evidence which implies the athlete will compete well and strongly benefit from being selected

There is no obligation to fill all available positions.

The selection meeting will take place on **Thursday 24th July** and the teams will be announced by **Saturday 2nd August**.

The **Selection Panel** will comprise of **two members of the Welsh Athletics Performance Team, two nominated members of the mountain, trail and ultra committee and a team manager. Selections will be ratified by the Welsh Athletics Head of Performance.** Selection meeting notes will be made available.

Please note that, if having been selected you become unavailable, evidence for why you are unavailable will need to be supplied to the Welsh Athletics Head of Performance and the Welsh Athletics NTDC for endurance.

Appeals Process

There shall be no right to appeal the selection of the Welsh team made by the selection panel.

De-selection Process

De-selection of an athlete may occur following:

1. Failure to adhere to the Welsh Athletics 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 required, evidence will have to be supplied. If it is deemed that the injury or illness will negatively affect the athlete's performance this will result in deselection.

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Equal Opportunities



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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 publically available (including the date on which the amendment was made) on the [Welsh Athletics website](#)