

**LISTEN  
ENGAGE  
REPRESENT**



**Trail de Guerledan  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>/Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2025 – Brittany, France  
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 Trail de Guerledan is classified as a **Representative Opportunity**.

Additionally, the Welsh Athletics performance vision for trail is to consistently have Welsh athletes qualify for British teams whilst challenging to win the Trail de Guerledan.

### **Selection Policy Aim**

The aim of the selection policy is to select a team which has the **best possible chance** of having individuals and teams capable of challenging to win the Trail de Guerledan.

### **Athlete Eligibility**

Eligibility will be in line with Welsh Athletics eligibility criteria. To be considered, for the 26km race athletes need to have registered as Welsh by the Red Kite Challenge (acting as the trial race) on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2025. For the 65km race athletes need to have registered as Welsh by Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025.

### **Competition Format**

The Trail de Guerledan provides **Senior Age Group** competition opportunities.

Teams of up to **4 Senior Men** and **4 Senior Women** may be selected for the 26km race (Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June) and **1 Senior Man** and **1 Senior Women** in the 65km race (Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June). Athletes will compete against international teams and athletes.

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## Selection Process



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### 26km race

Step 1: The first two eligible Welsh athletes home in the Red Kite Half Marathon race (Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2025) 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 or Wales on the trails
- Athletes who from 2024 onwards have finished in the top six in the short distance British Trail Running Championships
- The 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> eligible Welsh athletes in the 2025 Red Kite Half Marathon 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 the Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2025 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](mailto:Steve.Mitchell@Welshathletics.org)

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

- a. Recent Performance History (1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 to 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2025: championship/race placings and times, priority to trail races)
- b. Previous Performance History (championship/race placings and times: priority to trail races and to Recent Performance History)
- c. Career trajectory
- d. Head-to-head records (priority given to both head-to-head record from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 to 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2025 and to trail head-to-head record)
- e. Recent verified screening/monitoring data (e.g. physiological landmarks; strength and power landmarks; strength capacity landmarks)

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- 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 be on **Thursday 8th May**, and the teams will be announced by **Saturday 17th May**.

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.

## **65km race**

There will be no official trial race for the 65km race, though athletes must have competed in at least one ultra trail race since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 to be considered. Athletes wishing to be considered for selection must contact the Welsh Athletics National Talent Development Coordinator for Endurance (Steve Mitchell) by **22:00 on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025** to confirm their interest and to state their performances in suitable races within the qualification time frame. Steve Mitchell's email address is:

[steve.mitchell@welshathletics.org](mailto:steve.mitchell@welshathletics.org)

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

- a. Recent Performance History (1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 to 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025: championship/race placings and times, priority to ultra trail races)
- b. Previous Performance History (championship/race placings and times: priority to ultra trail races and to Recent Performance History)
- c. Career trajectory
- d. Head-to-head records (priority given to both head-to-head record from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 to 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025 and to ultra trail 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.**

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The selection meeting will take place on **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February** and the teams will be announced by **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March**.

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.

## **Equal Opportunities**

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](#)