



GB Climbing Team

Categories;

Youth B (U16), Youth A (U18) & Junior (U20)

Selection Framework 2023

Disciplines;

Speed

1 Purpose of this Selection Framework

- 1.1 This framework outlines the approach that GB Climbing department will undertake when selecting eligible athletes to compete at IFSC Sport Climbing competitions, in the Youth B (U16), Youth A (U18) and Junior (U20) categories, in the discipline of Speed.

2 Purpose of the GB Climbing Team

- 2.1 To inspire the Great Britain climbing community through the achievement of World Class performances and medal winning success.
- 2.2 To create a formidable team of athletes by providing a team culture and environment that all those involved are proud to be a part of.
- 2.3 To support athletes to be the best they can be, achieving great things both on the climbing wall and in their life beyond.
- 2.4 To develop athletes with skills to enable them to have a positive impact on society through representing Great Britain on the worlds sporting stage.

3 Purpose of selection decisions

- 3.1 Selection decisions will be based on the factors set out in Section 7 of this document.
- 3.2 All selection decisions will be made by the Selection Panel outlined in Section 6 of this document.
- 3.3 The quota places per IFSC age category, per gender, are as follows;
 - 3.3.1 Youth B (U16): 3 +2 spots for Top 10 Ranked Federations
 - 3.3.2 Youth A (U18): 3 +2 spots for Top 10 Ranked Federations
 - 3.3.3 Junior (U20): 2 +2 spots for Top 10 Ranked Federations

- 3.4 The objective of each selection decision is to select athletes with the best chance of achieving outstanding performances at IFSC International events in the Youth B (U16), Youth A (U18) & Junior (U20) categories.

4 Eligibility

In addition to BMC eligibility below, athletes must comply with the [UK Sport Eligibility Policy](#)¹ and IFSC eligibility rules² including anti-doping:

- 4.1 Athletes must be members of the BMC (if a member of Mountaineering Scotland or Mountaineering Ireland a complimentary membership to the BMC will be arranged);
- 4.2 Athletes must hold a current UK Passport;
- 4.3 Athletes must hold a valid international license issued by the BMC;
- 4.4 Athletes will sign the BMC Athlete Agreement and abide by its terms and conditions. Any athlete failing to do so prior to attending the selected competition, will see their selection being withdrawn;
- 4.5 Athletes will comply with IFSC and UK Anti-Doping rules and anti-doping blood/urine testing policies. Notified athletes in the National and/or International Registered Testing Pools, or the UK Anti-Doping Domestic Testing Pool, will comply with the requirements of the World Anti-Doping Code and International Standard for Testing and Investigations with regard to ADAMS and whereabouts information;
- 4.6 All athletes must be declared as medically fit to compete by their GP (including satisfactory BMI, see [GB Climbing Welfare Support plan](#)³).

¹ [UK Sport Eligibility Rules and Policies](#)

² IFSC Rules 2023, to be added when published

³ GB Climbing Welfare Support Plan, link to be added

5 Selection Panel

- 5.1 The standards and criteria outlined in the ABS are the primary input into the selection decision making process, and support the professional judgement and subjective decision-making regarding athlete selections. In order to minimise the risk of personally biased judgements, a range of people will make up the nomination and selection panels.
- 5.2 All Speed Climbing selections are made by the BMC selection panel:
- Head of Performance – GB Climbing (chair, casting vote)
 - Pathway Manager (Talent and Performance) – GB Climbing (voting)
 - GB Head Coach (Olympic) (voting)
 - GB Coach (England Regional Pathway) x1 (non-voting)
 - Observer (non-voting) - Development Manager, ClimbScotland
 - Independent Observer with high performance and elite sports knowledge/experience (non-voting)
- 5.3 The selection panel is responsible for:
- 5.4 Confirming that due consideration and process has been followed and that the athlete nominations made by the nomination panel are free from bias and/or conflict.
- 5.5 Ensuring nominated athletes are on an upward development and performance trajectory towards either the Paris 2024, LA 2028 or Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games.
- 5.6 Ensure selections appropriate to the squad are made in accordance with the purpose of the selection framework as stated. In conjunction with its own assessment, it will use the most recently published ABS document as a guide to their deliberations and conclusions to ratifying the nominations from the nomination panel.
- 5.7 A non-voting Independent Observer will form part of the selection panel who has high performance and elite sports knowledge/experience. Providing confidence to athletes about the fairness and objectivity of the process. Their role is to act as an observer, scrutinising the

process while holding both panels accountable to the selection policy and its criteria as set out in the framework and the supporting APS. Ensuring the principles of fairness and acting without prejudice are upheld. The Independent Observer must have no current or previous relationship (personal or financial) with GB Climbing, the athlete, or the athlete's support personnel, which could be perceived as biased.

- 5.8 Other expert advisors or observers such as representatives from the British Olympic Association, UK Sport, British Athletes Commission may be invited to attend.
- 5.9 Selections will be made without prejudice or discrimination, and, as such, any conflicts, real or perceived, must be declared and recorded at the start of the meeting. The existence of a disclosed conflict will not preclude a GB Coach team member or selection panel member, or attendee, from participating in deliberations. Depending on the nature of the conflict, a selection panel member may have to abstain from voting if a vote is required.
- 5.10 Each voting member of the selection panels shall have one vote as regards each selection decision. In the event of a tie, the Chair will have the casting.
- 5.11 There is no obligation on the Nomination Panel nor the Selection Panel to select a specific number of team members. The total squad sizes will be subject to the number of quota place available for each competition, available funding determined by the GB Climbing Pathway Manager (Talent and Performance) and validated by the selection panel.

6 Speed Performance Strategy

6.1 Speed qualification time considerations: “A” Time, achieved at an official IFSC competition in the 2022 season or a “B” Time achieved between 1 January 2023 - 10 March 2023;

Female	Consideration “A” Time	Consideration “B” Time
Junior	9.550	10.505
Youth A	9.470	10.417
Youth B	10.180	11.198

Male	Consideration “A” Time	Consideration “B” Time
Junior	6.570	7.227
Youth A	6.660	7.326
Youth B	7.300	9.030

6.2 Video evidence of achieving the qualification time will be required when submitting your application for selection.

6.3 In the event that there are more athletes than quota places who achieve the consideration times or faster, we will rank order from fastest to lowest.

7 Subjective nature of selection decisions

- 7.1 The GB Climbing department does not consider it desirable to select the GB Climbing Team purely based on hard edged criteria. Such an approach would not consider factors such as injury or illness which may have affected attendance at events, future performance potential or team performance dynamics.
- 7.2 Selection decisions will be based on the factors set out in Section 7 of this document.
- 7.3 All selection decisions will be made by the Selection Panel outlined in Section 6 of this document.
- 7.4 The quota places per IFSC age category, per gender, are as follows;
 - 7.4.1 Youth B (U16): 3 +2 spots for Top 10 Ranked Federations
 - 7.4.2 Youth A (U18): 3 +2 spots for Top 10 Ranked Federations
 - 7.4.3 Junior (U20): 2 +2 spots for Top 10 Ranked Federations

8 Confidentiality

- 8.1 Athletes and officials must not disclose any information regarding any selection decisions, Annual Performance Strategy or appeals until such information is publicly announced or disclosed by the GB Climbing Department at the BMC.

9 Selection

9.1 This selection framework is for the following events:

- IFSC Europe - European Youth Championships, Duisburg 8-11 June 2023
- IFSC Europe – Continental Youth Cup, Imst 30 June - 2 July 2023
- IFSC Climbing Youth World Championships 2023, South Korea, 19-27 August 2023

9.1.1 Athlete Application deadline date of 12 March 2023 @ 17.00

9.1.2 Selection panel will meet week commencing 20 March 2023

9.1.3 Selection notification by Friday 31 March 2023

10 Appeals

10.1 Any appeal against a decision of the selection panel must follow the procedures detailed in this appeal process and applies to all disciplines (men and women's Lead and/or Boulder and/or combined).

10.2 Reasons for an appeal:

10.2.1 There has been a failure to apply the selection criteria contained in the framework and/or the 2023 APS.

10.2.2 The selection panel has failed to follow its procedures properly; and/or

10.2.3 The selection panel's discretion has not been exercised in a reasonable manner, and such discretion was exercised in such a way as to be prejudicial to the appellant. The athlete does not have the right to appeal against any judgement or discretion exercised in the course of making a selection decision or against the content of the selection framework or APS.

How to Appeal

This appeals process is commenced when an athlete affected by a selection decision, or the athletes authorised representative submits a formal written appeal ("the Notice of Appeal") to the BMC appeals email, appeals@thebmc.co.uk

10.3 The notice of appeal must be submitted within 72 hours of the selection decision being announced or communicated to the athlete, whichever is later.

10.4 If the athlete fails to submit the notice of appeal within the time limit set out in this appeals process, they will have lost their right of appeal, save in wholly exceptional circumstances, which will be agreed by the appeal panel in their absolute discretion.

10.5 The notice of appeal must set out full details of the athlete's ground(s) of appeal and include:

10.5.1 Details of the decision which the athlete is appealing.

10.5.2 Details of the grounds(s) upon which the athlete relies, including the precise manner in which the athlete alleges that the selection criteria have not been applied or in which the procedure set out in the selection policy has not been followed.

10.5.3 Any documents of written evidence upon which the athlete relies in support of their appeal.

10.5.4 These documents must be relevant specifically to the athlete's grounds of appeal.

Athletes should be aware that appeals are normally conducted by reference to the written notice of appeal and supporting documents. The athlete (or their authorised representative) will not normally be allowed to attend the meeting of the appeal panel in person. Therefore, the athlete should ensure that the notice of appeal is as comprehensive as possible

Appeal Panel

The BMC CEO will appoint the appeal panel. The appeal panel will be composed of three members, namely:

10.6 Two BMC board of directors (who were not part of the selection panel) from which one shall be nominated as chair; and

10.7 An external person with high performance and elite sports knowledge/experience.

10.8 The BMC CEO shall ensure that when selecting the appeal panel, those appointed do not have an actual or perceived conflict of interest in respect of the appeal.

10.9 In the event that any member of the appeal panel has any involvement with, or is related to an appellant or any athlete who might be affected by the outcome of the appeal, or had any involvement with the selection decision under appeal, or is in any way placed in a position of conflicting interests in respect of the appeal, he or she shall be disqualified from sitting on the appeal panel and will be replaced by an alternate who shall be nominated by the BMC CEO.

10.10 Upon receipt of the notice of appeal, the BMC CEO will as soon as reasonably practicable circulate it to all members of the appeal panel.

10.11 The chair of the appeal panel will convene a meeting to take place as soon as practical, and in any event within five working days of receipt of the notice of appeal, at which the appeal panel will consider the notice of appeal.

10.12 The appeal panel will investigate the grounds set out in the notice of appeal and establish to their reasonable satisfaction whether or not there has been a failure to apply the applicable selection criteria and/or that there has been a failure to adhere to the procedure set out in the selection policy.

10.13 The appeal panel, when considering the notice of appeal, shall be entitled to take advice (including legal advice) as they see fit.

The Decision

The appeal panel shall be entitled to:

10.14 Confirm the selection decision under appeal and reject the appeal; or

10.15 Quash the selection decision under appeal and remit the matter back to the original decision-maker identifying the errors they have identified in the conduct of the selection process and requesting that a new decision be made within 72 hours; or

10.16 Rescind the selection decision under appeal and confirm the selection of the athlete.

10.17 The decision of the appeal panel shall be reached by a majority vote, and all members shall have one vote each.

10.18 In the case of a frivolous or vexatious appeal, the panel reserves the right to seek remuneration against the appellant to cover the costs of the appeal.

10.19 The BMC CEO will, in writing, inform all parties about the appeal panel's decision to either uphold or reject the appeal.

10.20 The appeal panel's decision shall be final and binding on all parties

11 De-selection – Substitutions and Injuries

11.1 An athlete may be de-selected from the GB Climbing Team on the following grounds:

11.1.1 Ceasing to comply with the eligibility criteria set out in this Selection Policy;

11.1.2 Injuries, illness and changes in health status (e.g. pregnancy) will be considered on a case by case basis where an athlete wishes to be considered for selection.

11.1.3 Failure to engage with GB Climbing programs and IADP processes.

11.2 Replacement of athletes de-selected from the squad will be considered at the complete discretion of the Selection Panel. Any replacement will be selected in accordance with section 6 of this policy.

11.3 Athletes will cease to comply with the eligibility criteria set out in this Selection policy if any of the following occur:

11.4 An anti-doping rule violation or receiving provisional suspension due to anti-doping infringement;
or

11.5 A serious misconduct or suspension due to misconduct; or

11.6 A breach of any BMC and/or GB Climbing department Policy.

12 Disclaimer

12.1 Should this document require amendment due to a change in any competition or selection event, these amendments will be made public via an updated version of this document, made available (including the date on which any amendment was made) on the BMC and GB Climbing websites.

12.2 This policy is subject to periodic review to ensure that the selection policy: remains fair and efficient; considers any external rule or policy amendments; and includes any relevant feedback from the selectors, athletes, coaches and appeal panels.

13 Timeframes

13.1 The selection process will take place after the selection events listed the Annual Performance Strategy with decisions announced as soon as is reasonable to do so.

14 Questions about the policy

14.1 Questions about this policy should be directed to the GB Climbing Performance Administrator Ellen Butler (ellen.butler@thebmc.co.uk) who will forward your query to the appropriate staff member who will ordinarily respond within 5 working days.