GB SELECTION POLICY

2024 VIRTUS OPEN EUROPEAN ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

11TH to 16th June 2024
Uppsala, Sweden

Published Policy
April 2024

GB Team Standards

Minimum Qualification Standards

MEN GB Standard		EVENTS	WOMEN GB Standard	
II1	II3		II1	II3
12.00	12.00	100m	14.22	14.22
24.30	24.30	200m	29.14	29.14
54.75	54.75	400m	01:07.7	01:07.7
02:07.0	02:07.0	800m	02:36.6	02:36.6
04:15.00	04:15.00	1500m	05:28.4	05:28.4
	TBC	3,000m	TBC	TBC
16:15.3		5,000m		
34:39.9		10,000m		
		100m hurdles	17.72	
16.95		110m hurdles		
01:02.4		400 Hurdles	01:16.4	
10:47.1		3k Steeplechase	13:56.6	
0:26:06		Race Walk 5000m	0:29.40	
11.22m 7.26kg	TBC 6kg	Shot	10.22 4kg	10.22 4kg
34.78 2kg	TBC 1.5kg	Discus	34.25 1kg	34.25 1kg
40.91		Hammer	39.28	
44.53 800g	TBC 700g	Javelin	34.04m 600g	34.04m 600g
5.8m	5.8m	Long Jump	4.20m	4.20m
3.51m		Pole Vault	2.81m	
11.53m		Triple Jump	8.83m	
1.65m		High Jump	1.35m	
1 per country		4 x 100m relay (II1 class only)	1 per country	
1 per country		4 x 400m relay (II1 class only)	1 per country	
TBC		Multi	TBC	

NOTES:

- Standards are based on performances worth 600 points on the IAAF scoring table.
- Where the GB standard is lower than the Virtus MES, the Virtus standard has been used.
- Whilst class II2 athletes are eligible to compete, there are currently no GB athletes with eligible classification.
- SSC reserves the right to alter or amend standards between now and event.

SELECTION POLICY

Definitions of Terms used within this Policy:

SportExcel UK – GB Team Standard (MQS)
The times set by the SportExcel UK Sports Selection Committee as the standard to be considered for selection to the GB Team. Consideration is no guarantee of selection.

Programmed/Scheduled Championship Events.
The events being held at the 2024 Virtus European Athletics Championships.

Virtus classes
• II1 - for athletes with an intellectual impairment
• II2 – for athletes with a more significant intellectual impairment*
* II3 – for athletes with autism

*Includes athletes with Down syndrome Trisomy 21

Sport and Selection Committee (SSC)
The Committee or representative set up by SportExcel UK to set policy, standards, appoint staff and invite swimmers to the GB Team. Manages and guides the sport at a Great Britain level on behalf of SportExcel UK.

SportExcel UK
The official Great Britain member of Virtus. The national charity that facilitates and supports talented sports people with intellectual impairment in the UK to train, compete and excel in national and international sport. SportExcel UK manages eligibility and classification across all sports, is recognised by UK Sport, is a member of BPA. SportExcel UK is the new name for the UK Sports Association.

SELECTION POLICY

1. GB Team Minimum Performance Standards and Criteria for Selection

Performance Standards

a) To qualify to be *considered* for selection to the GB Team, each athlete will be required to have competed at a recognised event. A recognised event will be one where the results appear on Power of 10 and are recognised by the relevant home country athletics governing body and/or be International Paralympic Committee (IPC) endorsed.

b) Only athletes (II1 and II3) who have met the GB standard and demonstrated consistency in performances during the period 1st April 2023 to 15th April 2024 will be considered.

c) The SSC will select up to a maximum of three athletes per event. The SSC reserve the right to select less than 3 athletes in circumstances where the required level of performance(s) has not been registered, other criteria has not been met, or for reasons that contribute to the viability of the Team. The SSC reserves the right to select a maximum of 6 athletes in total for the GB Team.

d) To be considered, Virtus class II1 athletes should show 1 eligible performance within this time frame which must be listed on Power of 10 under the T/F20 classification and at a recognised event. Other related websites to Power of 10 may be used to provide further support to performances already registered on Power of 10. The same performance and event criteria applies for Virtus class II3.

e) Athletes are expected to maintain or show improvement on the standard they achieved in events that were used for selection. An athlete needs to show this between the selection date and 5th May 2024.

f) All track performances should have been done with electronic timing in place and, where relevant, be within the legal wind speed (100m/200m and long jump).

g) Throws performances must have been recorded using the II1 and II3 relevant weight of implement required for male/female standards.

h) The SSC reserve the right to consider indoor performances over the indoor season 2023/2024 if further information is required to select an individual.

i) The SSC reserves the right to ask for further current performances and/or additional information for any athlete, to satisfy themselves that the athlete is performing well and at a level that is expected for the GB Team

j) If an athlete is a British Athletics funded athlete, has been invited by British Athletics to a programme, British Athletics GB Team, or event, that athlete is required to consult with British Athletics to ensure training and selection for the Virtus Athletics Championships does not hinder their British Athletics commitments. For these athletes, SportExcel UK will need to receive formal written approval from the British Athletics, Head Para Coach. IPC events take priority.

k) An athlete who has been selected by obtaining the GB standard for a particular event may, at the discretion of the Head Coach and in consultation with the athlete's support networks, be recommended for selection for other event(s) for which they have obtained at least a Virtus minimum qualifying standard.

l) The SSC will at their discretion consider athletes to combined events and reserve the right to specify additional criteria as and when, or if this arises.

2. Eligibility and Classification

a) Each athlete must be approved in an eligible class, have a valid Virtus international classification number, and appear on the Virtus Master List by 11.59pm on Sunday 21st April 2024 to be considered for selection to the Championships.

b) Any athlete who has been given an ineligible status from the sport's specific classification (Stage 2 classification), from IPC cannot be considered for selection to the GB Team or compete at the Championships.

c) Any athlete invited to the GB Team must pay their licence fees for 2024. This includes the IPC athletics licence fee (where relevant), the Virtus International Service Fee and the SportExcel UK fee and appear as active on the Virtus Master List in the appropriate class.

d) Athletes (II1 only) must be willing to undergo sports specific classification if available at the Championships.

3. Relays

a) The decision to enter relay teams will be considered by the SSC once the individual athlete selections are made. Relay teams will be comprised of athletes who have already been selected for an individual event.

4. Other Selection Criteria

In addition to criteria set in earlier sections, an athlete must also meet the following to be considered:

a) An athlete and his or her coach must provide information to show:

1) That the athlete is following a regular coach led training programme and the content of that programme.

2) Evidence that the athlete is injury/illness free. It is the responsibility of the athlete to inform the SSC and GB Head Coach of any illness/injury prior to and after selection. If an injury or illness is not declared by an athlete or coach and is found to be hindering an athlete on arrival at or during the event, SportExcel UK and the GB Team Manager reserve the right to remove that athlete from competition considering the athletes overall best interests. SportExcel UK reserve the right to reclaim from the athlete any costs that it has incurred in this situation that could have been avoided if a declaration had been made. Each will be considered on its own merits.

3) That the athlete can travel and compete as part of GB Team and meet the demands and pressures of a high-performance sport environment.

4) If an athlete and/or his or her coach cannot provide the required information on request, then the athlete will not be considered for the GB Team.

b) Any invitation to the Team, is done so on the basis

1) That the athlete is liable for, and accepts the costs as laid down by SportExcelUK.

2) That the athlete can meet the full costs and within the timelines set out by SportExcelUK and the athlete, advocate or support network will ensure these will be paid in full by the SportExcelUK deadlines.

3) That an athlete and their respective advocate or support network accept that, in the event a athletes costs remain unpaid at the time final payments are due, and expenditure is unrecoverable through other means, SportExcel UK will pursue full recovery from the athlete.

4) That the athlete can apply for and receive a visa to visit the host country, where needed.

5) That the athlete will comply with SportExcelUK policies and procedures.

c) If an athlete's payment is late, or defaulted then this may lead to the athlete being de-selected.

d) A athletes advocate or support network must provide in advance, and no later than the point of selection, a guarantee that in the event of emergency whilst part of the GB Team, including repatriating the athlete back to the UK, that the athletes support/advocate network *will actively support logistics and provide the financial means, in advance*, to support the athlete's needs and repatriation in the event the athlete is unable to do so.

e) If an athlete and the athletes advocate or support network is unable to accept and provide the support outlined in section 4 (a to d) then the athlete may not be selected.

5. Other Selection Criteria & Considerations

a) It is advisable and preferred, that athletes do not take holidays immediately prior to the Championships. Holidays should be discussed with the SportExcel UK Head Coach before booking. Anything, including holidays, that may affect a training plan in the lead up to the Championships, which might, in the opinion of SportExcel UK and/or GB Head Coach, be detrimental to their performance at the Championships, should be discussed with the Head Coach.

c) SportExcel UK and GB Head Coach reserve the right to advise athletes to postpone holidays where it is considered it may impact adversely on their preparation and performance for the GB Team.

d) Athletes are expected to keep in regular contact with the SportExcel UK GB Head Coach from selection through to the Championships to ensure their preparation is at the right level and on track. There is equal responsibility on both Head Coach and the athlete to maintain this contact.

e) An athlete may be de-selected from the Team if, in the reasonable opinion of the SportExcelUK Selection Committee or the GB Team Manager and Head Coach, an athlete is not at an appropriate fitness level or is not at the expected competitive level to appropriately represent Great Britain at the Championships.

f) Unless advised to the contrary, athletes, support staff and all GB Team associated staff are expected to travel out and return together, staying on-site at the event accommodation provided.

6. Selection and Invitation

a) The SSC will consider all the information available at time of selection to decide who should be selected and invited to the GB Team.

b) An athlete reaching a minimum standard is *no guarantee* that an athlete will be selected. Each athlete will need to meet all the selection criteria set out in this policy.

c) Selection and invitation are at the discretion of the SSC based on all the information available to them at the time of selection.

d) Invitations to the GB Team will be made as soon as possible after the end of the selection period.

7. Schedule – Payment and Finance

a) The SportExcelUK website indicates each athletes' costs circa £1,650. Exact costs will be confirmed once the team places are confirmed. Every effort will be made to reduce costs, however acceptance of a place on the Team is accepting responsibility for costs.

b) To secure the viability of the Team, athlete payments must be received as follows:

Payment 1	At least 50% of costs as deposit at point of invitation.
Payment 2	Further 25% of total cost by close of business on 4th May 2024.
Payment 3	Full and final balance of all costs by 25th May 2024.
Other	Kit costs or other related incidentals at point of order.

c) Withdrawal from the Team
If an athlete or support staff withdraws from the Team for any reason, staff costs to support the GB Team and other costs incurred or allocated by SportExcelUK and the LOC are non-refundable.

The GB Team is also governed by the LOC cancellation policy also which is:
25% refund available, if cancellation occurs prior to 20th May 2024
0% refund available, if cancellation occurs on, or after 21st May 2024r

It is important to ensure that travel and sports insurance is in place at the point of payment to maximise the opportunity to reclaim costs wherever possible.

8. Post Selection and Appeals

a) Any appeals against selection in relation to this Championships Selection Policy must be made in accordance with the SportExcel UK Appeals procedure. A copy of the Policy is available on request from SportExcel UK.

b) The GB Team will be announced by SportExcel UK once those invited are confirmed.

c) All athletes and staff invited by SportExcel UK, will be required to comply with SportExcel UK policy, procedures, and values.

9. Staff Selection

a) Staff appointments will be by invitation only and at the discretion of the SportExcelUK SSC. Invitations will be extended to any additional support staff/escorts at the discretion of the SSC, considering the overall composition and support needs of the Team.

Disclaimer

SportExcelUK reserves the right to

i) Alter the Team staff structure and athletes on the Team if deemed necessary to ensure the welfare, competitiveness and viability of the GB Team entry is preserved.

ii) Request additional finances where necessary to cover Team athlete and staff costs if costs rise due to exchange rates, delayed payments from invitees, athlete/staff withdrawals, or other reasons beyond the control of SportExcelUK.

iii) De-select athletes and/or staff as outlined in this policy or where such individual brings or has the potential to bring SportExcel UK, the GB Team or sport into disrepute.

v) Use its discretion in implementing this policy, including amending selection criteria, removing, or altering its GB entry, in full or in part, where giving consideration to all the circumstances and in SportExcelUK's and/or the SSC's reasonable opinion the viability of the Team in relation to athlete/staff welfare, competitiveness, competency, or financial undertakings are at an unacceptable risk level or where an athlete, their advocate/support network or other does not fully meet and act upon their obligations under this policy.