



SELECTION GUIDANCE FOR THE 2017 PARA-SWIMMING ACADEMY SQUAD

Athletes meeting the qualification criteria as set out below will be considered for the Para-Swimming Academy Squad (PSAS) for a 10 month period from 1st January 2017 to 31st October 2017.

SETTING THE SCENE

The PSAS is the entry level to the British Para-Swimming World Class Programmes, the squad will facilitate the transition and confirmation period from the Home Nation talent programmes into the World Class Programme.

Athletes selected for the PSAS are seen as potentially possessing the skills and ability to progress onto a British Para-Swimming World Class Podium Potential (WCPP) Programme. They should be on an upward and progressive performance profile and clearly demonstrate that they are capable of bridging the gap to WCPP.

The PSAS will provide the athlete with the additional support to what they are already receiving through their Home Nation Talent programme, this may include additional camps, home programme visits and competitions.

SQUAD QUALIFICATION PROCESS

1. Athletes will be identified for the 2017 PSAS based on performances at the below competitions:
 - British Summer Championships 2016 – Sheffield
 - British Para Swimming International Meet (Trials) 2016 – Glasgow
 - ASA Summer Nationals 2016 – Sheffield
 - Welsh Summer Championships 2016 – Swansea
 - Scottish National Open Championships 2016 – Glasgow
2. Applications will be invited from those athletes who are showing year on year progression and showing their performances can bridge the gap to WCPP.
3. All applications will then be reviewed alongside the individual's year on year performance progression and world ranking (starting 1st September 2014 in their event(s)).
4. Following the review of applications successful athletes will then be invited to an assessment day in November 2016.
5. Once the above stages have been completed then a squad place may be offered to an athlete. If any of the above points are not completed, the athlete will no longer be in consideration for a PSAS place.
6. Additional athletes may be invited to apply who may not have achieved the consideration points but are showing performances that are progressive, this will be at the discretion of the PPM.
7. All final selections will be made by the World Class Programmes Selection Panel.

SQUAD CRITERIA

- Athletes will only be considered for invitation to the programme providing they have either an IPC or British Swimming classification (S1-S13 inclusive), IPC or INAS-FID Classification (S14).
- Athletes must be registered to a swimming club affiliated to the ASA, SASA, WASA and be eligible to represent Great Britain at the Paralympic Games.
- Only Athletes from within the age range 10–19 years (S6-S1, SB5-SB13 SM6-SM13) and 10 to 23years (S1-S5, SB1-SB5, SM1-SM5) of age inclusive (age as at 31st December 2015) will be eligible for consideration.
- Only times achieved in IPC events that are published in the IPC Swimming rulebook for IPC Regional, World or Paralympic Games may be considered.
- Any change in an athlete's classification at any time for whatever reason during the year will result in a review of the athlete's place on the programme. If the athlete has not achieved a consideration time for their new classification within an agreed period of time (minimum 3 months from the date of classification change) the athlete will be withdrawn from the programme.
- Split times or performances from time trials will not be considered.
- Only results from Electronic Timing will be considered.
- Only long course times from electronic timing will be considered

SQUAD REQUIREMENTS & ATHLETE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Athletes must sign, agree to and adhere to the athlete responsibilities.
- Athletes must achieve and maintain trainability. Levels to be agreed by PPM, home programme liaison and/or home programme coach.
- Athletes must have an on deck home programme coach (minimum UKCC level 2) responsible for their home programme training and annual plan.
- Home programme coaches must submit annual plans, process goals in consultation with the PPM and home programme liaison coach.
- Home programme coaches must submit review documentation as and when requested by the PPM and Home Programme Liaison Coach
- Athletes must comply with all UK Sport and British Swimming conditions/requirements including, but not limited to:
 - British Swimming Anti-Doping Control Rules and Protocols.
 - Selection Agreement and Code of Conduct.
 - British Swimming Disciplinary Code.
 - ASA Child Protection Procedures.

GENERAL

Acceptance of invitation to the Para-Swimming Academy Squad is subject to all British Para-Swimming World Class polices and requirements.

Athletes are reminded that their place on the squad is a privilege and not a right and are expected to remain fully committed to their training.

Athletes will be reviewed at 6 months to ensure that they are continuing to progress and are still fulfilling the requirements of the squad.

There is no individual funding support as part of this squad, however where there is the option to access some funding from external partners e.g. SportsAid where athletes will be put forward.