



RIO 2016 PARALYMPIC GAMES - SELECTION POLICY
27TH AUGUST – 19TH SEPTEMBER 2016
(COMPETITION DATES – 7TH-16TH SEPTEMBER 2016)

The team shall be nominated to the British Paralympic Association (BPA) following the designated trials event (**British Para-Swimming International Meet (50m) – Glasgow, 23rd – 27th April 2016 (the “Trials Event”)**). Nominations will be made no later than 13:00 on Friday 29th April 2016. Final nomination is at the sole discretion of the National Performance Director (NPD). Final selections will be made by the BPA.

1. Athlete Selection - Individual Events

1.1 The maximum British Para-Swimming athlete team is subject to a maximum number of male and female athlete slots allocated to the BPA by IPC Swimming. The team size cannot exceed the number of athlete places given. Athlete slots are gender specific. The total team size will be determined by the NPD at his complete discretion.

1.2 Swimmers will be nominated using the following criteria:

1.2.1	The overall 1 st and 2 nd fastest swimmer in each event and classification (S1-S14) from the Trials Event will be nominated for that event providing that the performance equals or betters the published Qualifying Time. ¹
1.2.2	Relay Squad members will be nominated providing that the fastest combined 4 times from the Trials Event equals or betters the published Qualifying Time subject to the application of 1.2.1 above. The parameters of relay team nomination and selection are outlined in point 2 below.
1.2.3	<p>The first, second and third fastest swimmers in each event (S1-S14) from the Trials Event may be eligible for nomination for that event providing the performance is within 2% of the published Qualifying Time and that there are sufficient places remaining for the event (3 per nation) subject to the application of 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 above.</p> <p>Athletes identified under 1.2.3 will be considered using, but not limited to, and in no particular order the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage away from Qualifying Time; • Relay team cover; • Multiple medal winning potential; • World Ranking (1st January 2015 - 27th April inclusive); • Previous performance record at Major Championships; • 2020 Medal Potential Athlete. <p>Final nomination is at the sole discretion of the NPD.</p>

¹The Qualifying Times shall be established utilising all known performances from IPC Swimming approved/sanctioned long course competitions and IPC Swimming absolute World Long Course Rankings from the period 1st January 2015 to 13th October 2015. Qualifying Times will reflect the team's potential achieve both British Para-Swimming and ParalympicsGB team objectives.

1.2.4	Up to a maximum of 4 “Wild Card” place(s) may be allocated if, due to exceptional circumstances, a qualification time is not achieved by the swimmer(s) at the Trials Event. Final nomination is at the sole discretion of the NPD.
-------	---

N.B. 1.2.3 and 1.2.4 will be considered simultaneously i.e. 1.2.3 does not automatically take priority over 1.2.4.

1.3 For a swimmer to be eligible for consideration to compete in an additional event(s) all of the criteria indicated below must be met:

1.3.1 The swimmer will have already been selected for the team in either an individual or relay event as set out in 1.1 to 1.4 inclusive.

1.3.2 The swimmer having achieved a time, which is within the published IPC Swimming Minimum Qualifying Standard (MQS) for that event.

1.3.3 All additional swims are dependent upon place availability (3 entries per nation per event S1-S14), for that event and classification and total team athlete slots available.

1.3.4 Swimmers wishing to be considered for additional events must compete in all events in which they wish to be considered within the IPC Swimming Qualification Period (15th October 2014 - 14th August 2016) and must meet the IPC Swimming Minimum Qualification Standard (MQS) in all events in which they wish to be considered.

1.3.5 Once a swimmer has already been nominated to the team (by 1pm on Friday 29th April 2016), in a event subject to this Selection Policy, a swimmer and home programme coach may apply to be entered into an additional event(s) in writing to the NPD and Head coach no later than 4pm on 27th May 2016. The final decision on entries for additional events is at the sole discretion of the NPD in consultation with the Head Coach. This decision is not capable of being appealed and is not subject to the British Swimming Appeal Procedure. This decision by the NPD (and Head Coach) is made once the swimmer has already been nominated under the Selection Policy and is entry specific not whether the swimmer has or has not been nominated to the team.

1.4 Swimmers will be withdrawn from all additional events entered if any event(s), in which they have been nominated for, are withdrawn by IPC Swimming, unless the swimmer meets the criteria for an event in a higher classification as set out in 4.7 below.

2. Athlete Selection - Relays

2.1 Swimmers will be nominated by the Selection Panel for the relays, providing that the swimmers combined four (4) times and points meet the British Para-Swimming qualifying standard for that relay. Relay members will be nominated at the sole discretion of the NPD.

2.2 Swimmers combined times for relay team nominations will only be considered from the Trials Event. Other performances will not be considered with exception of those nominated under 1.2.4.

2.3 All relay team members must have achieved an MQS in at least one individual event within the IPC Swimming qualification period (5th October 2014 and 14th August

2016) and be entered in that event(s). Where the 3 per nation rule has already been reached the swimmer would not be eligible for nomination.

- 2.4** Relay squad practice sessions will be held in preparation for the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games following nomination. Nominated swimmers will be required to attend all relay practices.

3. Team Staff Selection

- 3.1** The BPA will allocate British Para-Swimming a limited number of team staff accreditations for Coaches and Support Staff.
- 3.2** The core team staff shall consist of the NPD/Team Leader, Head Coach, Team Manager, Head of Sport Science and Sport Medicine, Team Doctor, Team Physiotherapist, Media Liaison and up to 5 team coaches.
- 3.3** Support team staff will be nominated by the NPD at his sole discretion, from within the allocated number of staff accreditations allocated to the team by the BPA, in consultation with the Head Coach, Head of Sport Science and Sport Medicine and Team Manager and taking into consideration, but not limited to, the following:
- 3.3.1** Support team staff has proven experience, skills and relevant qualifications to meet the support needs of elite performance swimmers within a pan-disability team.
- 3.3.2** All team staff will be required to undertake a number of varying tasks to support the needs of an integrated team of swimmers, coaches and support staff and must have proven ability to work on their own initiative in an elite team environment under extreme pressure.
- 3.3.3** All team staff must have the ability to work as part of a team with excellent communication skills and the ability to support each other within an elite performance environment.
- 3.4** The Coaching team will be nominated at the sole discretion of the British Para-Swimming Head Coach.
- 3.5** All team staff will be required to undertake a medical examination and may be de-selected if deemed unfit to travel.

4. General

The conditions outlined below must be met for all team members wishing to be considered for nomination:

- 4.1** Only swimmers eligible to represent Great Britain at the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games will be considered. Swimmers must be a British passport holder or have previously represented Great Britain at a Paralympic Games. Swimmers must meet the current BPA and IPC Swimming regulations on eligibility.
- 4.2** Swimmers wishing to be considered for the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games must have competed in the designated Trials Event as outlined above in all the events in which they wish to be considered for nomination, subject to 1.2.4.
- 4.3** Swimmers must hold a valid current IPC Swimming Licence and be registered to a swimming club that is affiliated to the ASA, Swim Wales or Scottish Swimming.

- 4.4** Swimmers must be internationally classified with a “Confirmed” (C) IPC Swimming sport classification status or a “Review” (R) sport classification status with a review date after 31st December 2016.
- 4.5** Split times will not be considered.
- 4.6** Performances from time trials will not be considered with the exception of British Para-Swimming team relay practices post nomination for final relay team consideration.
- 4.7** In the event of IPC Swimming withdrawing an event from the programme, with the exception of a swimmer achieving the criteria as outlined in 1.1, 1.2 and 2, for an event in a higher classification where sufficient places are available, the swimmer will be de-selected from the team.
- 4.8** Team members will be required to attend (where selected) all pre Rio 2016 training camps, competitions, team meetings and BPA/ParalympicsGB events designated by the NPD as outlined in the British Para-Swimming Annual Plan. Attendance must be on a full-time basis, taking part in all programmed activities. With the exception of injury or illness team members will not be allowed to leave any required camps, competitions, meetings or undertake any activities that are not directly relevant to the camp programme including personal appearances, external media engagements or social activities. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the team member having their nomination to the BPA withdrawn.
- 4.9** Team members will be required to attend the following:
- 4.9.1** Relay practice sessions/camps – Dates TBC (all relay squad athletes, relay squad coaches and identified support staff).
 - 4.9.2** Paralympic Preparation Camp, Manchester – 16th-21st May 2016 TBC (all team members).
 - 4.9.3** ParalympicsGB Team Launch, London – 16th July 2016 (all available team members not attending British Para-Swimming training camp, TBC - 13th-23rd July 2016).
 - 4.9.4** British Para-Swimming Final Preparation Camp, London – 27th-1st September 2016 TBC (all team members).
- 4.10** All nominated swimmers will be required to maintain trainability and adhere to their process targets at all times between the date of nomination (29th April 2016) and the conclusion of the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games. Trainability and process targets shall be agreed between the NPD, Head Coach, Home Programme Liaison (HPL) and the swimmers home programme coach. A series of physiological tests utilising physiological data will be used to monitor Trainability. Swimmers failing to maintain trainability and performance targets may result in the swimmers nomination to the BPA being withdrawn.
- 4.11** Swimmers and team staff becoming ill or injured at any time between 29th April 2016 and the conclusion of the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games may be required to undertake a full medical examination which may result in the team members nomination to the BPA being withdrawn. All team members may be subjected to fitness (land/water) and/or medical tests at any time between 29th April 2016 and the conclusion of the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games.
- 4.12** Any team member who withdraws themselves from the team following nomination, with the exception of a withdrawal on medical grounds or as a result of 4.7 and 4.8, may be liable to British Para-swimming and the BPA for the reimbursement of any costs incurred on behalf of that team member.

- 4.13** All nominated team members will be required to sign and comply with the ParalympicsGB Team Agreement, IPC Swimming requirements, Rules and Regulations, British Swimming provisions consisting of the British Swimming Anti-Doping Rules & Protocols, Selection Agreement and Code of Conduct, the British Swimming Disciplinary Code and Child Protection Policies.
- 4.14** The NPD will exercise his authority to ensure that the final nominations for the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games are in line with this policy.
- 4.15** In the case of an athlete nomination not being accepted by the BPA, British Swimming may, at its sole discretion, choose to appeal using the BPA appeals procedures. The BPA will not accept appeals directly from individual athletes.
- 4.16** All appeals against non-nomination (or de-nomination) to the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games shall be dealt with under the British Swimming Team Selection Appeals Procedure. Details are available from the British Swimming Legal Affairs Department: legal@swimming.org. Swimmers should be aware of the time limits contained in the procedures, which are designed with the intention of resolving issues expeditiously and fairly.