



EUROPEAN OPEN WATER CHAMPIONSHIPS 2012

PIOMBINO, ITALY 12-16 September

Selection Policy

For any selection to be confirmed, all swimmers and team staff wishing to be considered for selection must have completed and returned a Selection Acceptance Form, as outlined in 3.12

The team for the European OWS Championships 2012 will be identified from swimmers selected for the London Olympic Games 2012 and from performances at the 'Open Water Trials', Israel 19 May 2012.

1. ATHLETE SELECTION

- 1.1. There are a maximum of 4 male and 4 female places available for selection.
- 1.2. Swimmers selected for the London Olympic Games 2012 will be offered automatic selection.
- 1.3. Remaining places will be filled by the fastest 'available' swimmers in the 10km 'Open Water Trials' on condition that a top 10 finish is recorded in the 10km 'Open Water Trials'.
- 1.4. Where all swimmers have declined selection in 1.2 and there are no qualifiers in 1.3, alternative swimmers will be identified at the complete discretion of the British Development/Open Water Coach and the National Performance Director (see 3.10).
- 1.5. Selected swimmers will be offered the opportunity to compete in both the 10km and 5km events at the European OWS Championships 2012. Selected swimmers will be required to compete in the 10km event unless dispensation is given by the British Development/Open Water Coach. Participation in the 5km event will be optional.

2. COACH SELECTION

- 2.1 The British Development/Open Water Coach will act as the Team Leader for the European OWS Championships 2012.
- 2.2 The Head Coach and support coaches will be selected at the discretion of the British Development/Open Water Coach in consultation with the National Performance Director.
- 2.3 Coaches 'available' for selection must be holders of the UKCC/ASA Coaches Certificate or equivalent, or be enrolled on an UKCC/ASA Coach Course at time of selection.
- 2.4 Coaches 'available' for selection must have been resident within the UK for a minimum period of two years leading into the 'Open Water Trials', unless employed or deployed by a British or Home Country National Governing Body.

3. GENERAL CONDITIONS

- 3.1 The reference to 'available' in the sections above denotes British swimmers and coaches who have declared their availability (as outlined in 3.12) to attend the European OWS Championships 2012.
- 3.2 Only swimmers eligible and available to represent Great Britain at the European OWS Championships 2012 will be selected.
- 3.3 Swimmers must demonstrate an uncompromised commitment to training preparation for peak performance at the European OWS Championships 2012 as determined by their personal coach and approved by the British Development/Open Water Coach. If for any reason a swimmer is unable or unwilling to fulfill this commitment, they may be withdrawn from the team.
- 3.4 ALL team members will be expected to attend ALL activities organised between the end of the 'Open Water Trials' and the European OWS Championships 2012, if selected and required to attend by British Development/Open Water Coach. Under exceptional circumstances, written approval to be excluded from activities may be given by the National Performance Director. Failure to attend compulsory activities could result in withdrawal from the team.
- 3.5 Team members will be expected to attend each programmed camp, where selected, on a full-time basis, taking part in all programmed activities. No team member will be allowed to leave a camp or undertake any activities that are not directly relevant to the camp programme, this includes any external media or social activities.
- 3.6 Swimmers may not take holiday or attend overseas camps and/or competitions between the 'Open Water Trials' and the European OWS Championships 2012 without prior written approval from the British Development/Open Water Coach and the National Performance Director.
- 3.7 Swimmers becoming unfit due to illness or injury at any time between the 'Open Water Trials' and the European OWS Championships 2012 must notify British Swimming immediately and will be required to undertake a full medical examination by British Swimming Medical Staff which may result in the swimmer being de-selected from the team at the discretion of the British Development/Open Water Coach and National Performance Director.
- 3.8 Swimmers may be subjected to fitness (land/water) and/or medical tests at any time between the 'Open Water Trials' and the conclusion of the European OWS Championships 2012. Any swimmer judged to be unfit by British Swimming, following tests conducted by British Swimming, may be de-selected from the team at the discretion of the OW British Development/Open Water Coach and National Performance Director.
- 3.9 Replacement of swimmers withdrawn from the European OWS Championships 2012 team will be considered by the National Performance Director and British Development/Open Water Coach if viewed to be in the best interest of the overall team performance. Replacement swimmers will be identified at the complete discretion of the British Development/Open Water Coach and the National Performance Director.
- 3.10 Where qualifying swimmers identified in section 1.2 decline their selection to compete in the European OWS Championships 2012, and there are no qualifiers in 1.3 (or qualifiers in 1.3 decline their selection), replacement swimmers will be considered by the National Performance Director and British Development/Open Water Coach if viewed to be in the best interest of the overall team performance or if for the purposes of a swimmer's individual development. Replacement swimmers will be identified at the complete discretion of the British Development/Open Water Coach and the National Performance Director.
- 3.11 All selected team members will be required to sign and comply with the British Swimming Code of Conduct. A breach of the British Swimming Code of Conduct may result in de-selection from the team.
- 3.12 **Selection Acceptance Form:** All swimmers and coaches will be expected to complete a Selection Acceptance Form to confirm they will be available to participate in the European OWS Championships 2012. Failure to do so will be interpreted as non-availability by the Federation. Selection Acceptance Forms will be provided by British Swimming to qualifying team members at the 'Open Water Trials'.

- 3.13 All swimmers must comply with FINA and British Swimming swimwear regulations.
- 3.14 British Swimming will impose a fine of £500 on any swimmer who withdraws from the team for any reason other than illness or injury (as certified by British Swimming Medical Staff).
- 3.15 All team members will be expected to abide by the Media Protocols of the British Swimming Programme. Athletes must only speak to the media about their own performances and group coaches must only comment on performances of swimmers in their group. The British Development/Open Water Coach and National Performance Director may discuss performances of the entire team.
- 3.16 The National Performance Director and British Development/Open Water Coach will exercise their authority to ensure that the final selections for the European OWS Championships 2012 are in line with this policy and will result in the best possible achievements at the European OWS Championships 2012.
- 3.17 Any appeals against nominations in relation to this GB Technical Swimming Committee selection policy must be made in accordance with the British Swimming Team Selection Appeals Procedures that can be found on the British Swimming website or upon request.

GB Technical Swimming Committee
29 September 2011