

## **1 POLICY PURPOSE**

- 1.1 This selection policy outlines the process to select the team to represent Great Britain at the 2021 European Open Water Championships. The policy has been developed during and in response to a pandemic that has presented some significant challenges for the swimming community in providing both preparation and competition opportunities.

## **2 PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE**

- 2.1 The target for this event is to optimise medal outcomes in Olympic events and to provide international experience for athletes on a trajectory for podium performance at Paris 2024.

## **3 TEAM SIZE**

- 3.1 Up to a maximum of 6 athletes will be selected for the 2021 European Open Water Championships. There is no obligation on British Swimming to select six (6) athletes and the total team size will be determined by the NPD at his complete discretion. Up to a maximum of two (2) athletes per individual event and one relay team per nation can be selected

## **4 SELECTION OVERVIEW**

- 4.1 Nominations for selection will comprise, in priority order:
- 4.1.1 Pre-selected athletes based on the results at the LEN Cup, Israel 2020 as per clause 5.1.
  - 4.1.2 Athletes selected at the discretion of the British Swimming Marathon Swimming Lead, in consultation with the GB Head Coach and National Performance Director (NPD), subject to clause 3.1.

## **5 SELECTION TRIALS and PROCESS**

### **Pre-selections**

- 5.1 The first British male and the first British female finisher at the LEN Open Water Cup, leg 1, Israel 2020 shall be pre-selected.

## **6 SELECTION NOTIFICATION**

- 6.1 Athletes selected under 5.1 will be notified by the 19th March 2021. Athletes selected under 4.1.2 will be notified by the 23rd April 2021.

## **SELECTION POLICY GENERAL CONDITIONS**

### **ELIGIBILITY**

#### **Swimmers must:**

- G1 Be a British citizen and eligible to represent Great Britain as per the FINA rule GR2.
- G2 Have completed a selection acceptance form to confirm they will be available to participate by the deadline stated by British Swimming. Failure to do so will be interpreted as non-availability by British Swimming. Selection acceptance forms will be provided by British Swimming to qualifying team members.
- G3 Be available to fulfil all team commitments from the time of nomination through to the championships.
- G4 Comply with any other FINA eligibility criteria from time to time, including in respect of nationality and/or anti-doping.

### **TEAM COMMITMENTS**

#### **All Team members will be required to:**

- G5 Comply with the British Swimming Athlete Agreement & Code of Conduct. A breach of the British Swimming Athlete Agreement & Code of Conduct may result in de-selection from the team.
- G6 Adhere to all prescribed travel arrangements which might involve different travel dates to other members of the team.
- G7 Abide by 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 National Performance Director may discuss performances of the entire team. Swimmers must not publicise any information in relation selection-related matters until authorised to do so by the Team Leader/National Performance Director.
- G8 Not take holiday or attend overseas camps and/or competitions between the selection trials and the meet for which they have been selected without prior written approval from the British Swimming Marathon Lead.
- G9 Make themselves available for all team activities designated by the British Swimming Marathon Lead (including but not limited to preparation camps and staging camps). No team member will be allowed to leave a national team camp or undertake any activities that are not directly relevant to the team camp programme; this includes any external media, sponsor or social activities. Failure to attend the required activities could result in withdrawal from the team. Under exceptional circumstances, written approval to be excluded from activities may be given by the British Swimming Marathon Lead, National Performance Director and/or GB Head Coach.
- G10 Comply with British Swimming and FINA swimwear regulations.

### **WITHDRAWALS AND REPLACEMENTS**

- G11 If for any reason a swimmer is unable or unwilling to fully comply with the Team Commitments (G5 to G10) they may be withdrawn from the team.

- G12 Swimmers becoming unfit due to illness or injury (physical or mental) at any time following their selection must notify British Swimming immediately. Failure to notify the British Swimming Chief Medical Officer (CMO) immediately of an injury or illness (physical or mental) may result in de-selection. Swimmers becoming unfit due to illness or injury (physical or mental) will be required to undertake a full medical examination which may result in the swimmer being de-selected from the team, normally at the discretion of the British Swimming Marathon Lead. In exceptional circumstances, the British Swimming CMO may refer his opinion to a panel of the British Swimming Performance Leadership Group for decision if, in the opinion of the British Swimming CMO or his designate, they pose a risk to themselves, other athletes or team staff.

### **REPLACEMENTS**

- G13 Replacement of swimmers withdrawn from the team will be considered at the complete discretion of the GB Head Coach in the best interest of the overall team performance.

### **OTHER**

- G14 The World Class Programme Performance Leadership Group may make reasonable amendments to selection policies at its discretion.
- G15 The National Performance Director and GB Head Coach will exercise their authority to ensure that the final selections for the 2021 European Open Water Championships team are selected in line with this policy and will result in achieving the policy Performance Objective.

### **APPEALS**

- G16 Any appeals against non-selection must be made to British Swimming in accordance with the British Swimming Team Selection Appeals Procedures, available online at <https://www.britishswimming.org/performance/swimming/selection-policies/team-selection-appeals/> or by request from Adam Clarke, Head of Performance Services via email at [adam.clarke@swimming.org](mailto:adam.clarke@swimming.org). Athletes should be aware of the time limits contained in the Procedures, which are designed with the intention of resolving issues expeditiously and fairly.