



UK SPORTS ASSOCIATION
FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITY

GB SELECTION POLICY

TO 2009 INAS-FID EUROPEAN CROSS
COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

PUBLISHED POLICY

12TH – 16TH February 2009
Mangualde, Portugal

**2009 INAS-FID European Cross Country Championships
12th – 16th February 2009**

SELECTION POLICY

Definitions of Terms used within this Policy:

Programmed/Scheduled Championship events

The events being held at the 2009 INAS-FID European Cross Country Championships

Selection Committee

The Committee set up by UKSA to set the Selection Policy, select staff and athletes to the GB Team and manage the sport at a Great Britain level on behalf of UKSA.

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1. Minimum Standards and Consideration for Selection

- a) Open event – athletes should be able to demonstrate appropriate level of ability and experience over required distances.

2. Registration

- a) Each athlete must have a full “April 2005”, INAS-FID Registration number by the selection date to be considered for selection to the 2009 INAS-FID European Cross Country Championships.

3) Illness and Injury

- a) If an athlete is unable to compete in the preparation and lead up to the event due to illness or injury and wishes the Selection Committee to keep their place on the GB Team, that athlete will be required to submit a valid, original medical certificate to the Selection Committee for consideration.

The Selection Committee, at their discretion will consider the athlete’s likely health and fitness levels and make their decision. The decision of the Selection Committee is final.

- b) It is the responsibility of the athlete to inform the GB Head Coach of any illness/injury as described in 3 (a).
- c) It is the responsibility of the GB Head Coach to immediately inform the UKSA office of any illness/injury as described in 3 (a) and (b), making recommendation on a way forward.
- d) It is the responsibility of the UKSA office to inform the SSC and facilitate discussion on the recommendations made and to inform the Head Coach of any decision taken.

4) Other Selection Criteria & Considerations

- a) Athletes must be in current training and retain an appropriate level of training commensurate to World International performance and continue in that training through to the World Championships.
- b) It is advisable and preferred, that athletes do not take holidays immediately prior to the Championships, which might, in the opinion of UKSA and/or the Team Manager and/or GB Head Coach, be detrimental to their performance at the World Championships. Athletes should seek the advice of the UKSA GB Head Coach before booking a holiday in the period between selection and the Championships.
- c) Athletes must keep in regular contact with the UKSA 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.
- d) If , in the reasonable opinion of the UKSA Selection Committee and/or the GB Team Manager/Head Coach, an athlete is not at an appropriate fitness, training or competitive level to appropriately represent Great Britain at the World Championships, then that athlete may be de-selected from the Team.

5) GB Team Staff

- a) The Core Staff positions shall consist of Team Manager, Head Coach and other Coaches (1:4 ratios).
- b) Additional Staff may be selected once the full support needs of the Team have been identified.
- c) The Selection Committee will select staff on the following basis, taking into account the need to have a balanced Coaching Team to meet the performance and pastoral requirements of the Team.

i) Qualifications

UKSA to invite nominations from Home Countries to fill the above positions, paying attention to the following minimum levels of qualification:

Team Manager/Head Coach

One position incorporating Team Manager and Head Coach. Recent relevant experience, plus knowledge of international athletics rules and regulations. Ideally Level 3 qualified, but at least level 2 with appropriate and recent relevant experience

Coaches

Must be level 2 qualified with appropriate and recent relevant experience.

Physiotherapist

Minimum qualifications as determined by professional body in order to hold oneself out as “qualified physiotherapist” with sports injury knowledge and experience.

Each staff member appointed will, as normal, take on a pastoral support role as part of their overall appointment. The SSC reserve the right to revise the staffing structure if deemed necessary taking into account the experiences etc of nominees in other positions.

Criminal Record Bureau Checks

In order to be nominated to the SSC, it was agreed that any nominee must already have a valid CRB (Enhanced) Disclosure through their Home Country Association or Sports Governing Body that is not more than 18 months old on the day after the group returns OR have already submitted a CRB (Enhanced) disclosure application to their Home Country Association or Sports Governing Body. Details of the current status must be declared with their nomination.

ii) Additional Factors considered

- Staff must have the ability and skills to meet the support and pastoral care needs of the Team.
- Medical staff must have the ability and skills to provide medical and/or physiotherapy support to the Team.
- Staff will be required to undertake a number of varying tasks to support the needs of the Team and must have proven ability to work on their own initiative in an elite environment under extreme pressure.
- Staff may be required to demonstrate other disability awareness eg. deaf awareness or be willing to undergo appropriate training.
- Staff should be available to travel between 11th and 17th February 2009.

The SSC reserve the right to remove positions from the staffing structure if deemed necessary taking into account athlete numbers and experience of nominees for consideration.

6. General – Athletes and Staff

The conditions relevant to either athlete or staff member, outlined below must be met to be considered for selection:

- a) Only athletes eligible to represent Great Britain and Northern Ireland at the INAS-FID European Cross Country Championships will be selected.
- b) It is advisable that athletes are registered with a recognised club.
- c) Athletes must be in regular training in their respective Home Country at a national level and known to the national Team Head Coach. Athletes must have come through their Home Country pathway to be considered for selection.
- d) Athletes must hold a current valid April 2005 INAS-FID Registration and no later than at the point of selection.

- e) The Selection Committee will also consider each athlete's overall personal ability to fit the GB Team profile, plus pastoral needs, past history and facts known to the UKSA Selection Committee at the time of selection.
- f) Athletes and staff will be required to attend any pre-World Championship training camps or meetings designated by the UKSA Selection Committee and/or Team Manager/Head Coach for this event.
- g) If INAS-FID withdraws an event from the programme after the final entry date an athlete may be de-selected from the Team. This may affect Team numbers and therefore the Selection Committee reserve the right to restructure the staffing needs, including invited escorts, which may result in staff being deselected also.
- h) All Team members will be required to sign and comply with any UKSA policy and codes relevant to the competition i.e. doping controls, child and vulnerable adult protection policies etc.
- i) Athletes and staff must have met the requirements of their own Home Country's National Team.
- j) Athletes and staff will be required to either raise funds to meet the costs of their travel and entry to this event, or have the means to source the funds through other means – for example, sponsorship applications etc.

7. Schedule – Final Selection (Athletes & Staff)

- a) Final Selection for this event will be carried out by the Selection Committee on 18TH December 2008 after which at the earliest opportunity, the confirmed Team will be announced.
- b) The GB Team will be announced by UKSA once those invited have confirmed their acceptance.
- d) Staff Selection schedule is as follows:

18 th November 2008	Deadline for staff nominations to reach UKSA office
21 st November 2008	Pre-Selection of Staff
18 December 2008	Final selection & confirmed Team
- e) Athlete Schedule as follows:

18 th November 2008	Deadline for Athlete nominations to reach UKSA
21 st November 2008	Pre-Selection
18 th December 2008	Final Selection & Confirmed Team
- f) Any appeals against selection and de-selections in relation to this 2008 World Championships Selection Policy must be made in accordance with the UKSA Appeals procedure. A copy of the Policy is available on request from UKSA.