

1. Purpose

This selection policy outlines the process to select athletes to form a mixed team to represent Great Britain at the Lausanne 2020 Winter Youth Olympic Games (WYOG). The Games will commence on the 9th January with the final medal event for curling taking place on the 22nd January. Please note that this clashes with the start of the Scottish Junior Curling Championships 2020.

2. Performance Objectives

To achieve a 'Medal Zone' position i.e. 1st, 2nd or 3rd placing in the Team event.

3. Eligibility

To be eligible for selection athletes must:

- a. Have been born between January 1st 2002 and December 31st 2005.
- b. Hold a British Passport and be eligible under WCF and IOC rules.
- c. Be a member of a Curling Home Nation* Governing Body (NGB).
- d. Be of a level of fitness and health to be able to compete competitively as determined by medical staff appointed by British Curling (BC) and the British Olympic Association (BOA).
- e. Have no outstanding or existing doping offences or be ineligible to compete in accordance with the BOA's bye law on '*Eligibility of Membership of Team GB of persons found guilty of a doping offence*'.
- f. Be available for the whole duration of the competition of 9th – 22nd January 2019 inclusive. It is expected the team will not return until the 23rd January 2019.
- g. Be prepared to sign the BOA Team Member Agreement if selected.

**Home Nation Governing Body is defined as Scottish Curling, English Curling or Welsh Curling.*

4. Team Composition

One mixed team consisting of two male and two female athletes who must play in alternating positions. Please note that during the second half of the WYOG, individuals from the British Team will be drawn into a mixed doubles team with a player from another Olympic nation. This is also classed as a medal event.

5. Selection Criteria

The selection period will run from 10 July to 31 October 2019.

Following the close of applications on 10 July, athletes fulfilling the eligibility criteria will be placed on the long list. From 11 to 31 July, all long list athletes will be required to complete an online questionnaire issued by the BOA. Dependant on the number of initial applications, the selection panel reserves the right to carry out an initial shortlisting from the applications received by 10 July.

During shortlisting, the selection panel will consider the following elements:

- Performance history.
- Future potential.
- Any other available data and statistics.

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Shortlisted athletes will be invited to a selection event which will assess the following elements:

- Skills assessment.
- Team dynamics.
- Readiness i.e. positive mindset and positive character.
- Communications skills – on and off the ice.

6. Selection Timelines

01 July 2019

Selection policy issued for 2020 Winter Youth Olympic Games.

Applications open for athletes wishing to be considered for selection.

10 July 2019

Applications to be considered for selection close.

11 July 2019 – 31 July 2019

Online BOA questionnaire to be completed.

01 August – 31 August 2019

Initial shortlisting – if required.

01 August – 31 October 2019

Selection event details confirmed and athlete invites issued.

01 August – 31 October 2019

Selection Panel meeting to select two male and two female athletes for nomination to the BOA.

01 November 2019

Nominations submitted to BOA for ratification.

10 December 2019

BOA will review the British Curling nominations, ratify and select the final team and then enter that team for the Games.

Athletes will be nominated at both the stage of nomination by British Curling and the stage of ratification by BOA.

British Curling will endeavour to provide an updated timeline for selection at the start of August.

Prior to the event, British Curling retains the right to deselect an athlete on any grounds, including (but not limited to):

- a. loss of form, illness or injury (such that the Selection Panel, in their reasonable opinion, consider that the athlete in question will not be able to compete to the best of their ability at the Winter Youth Olympic Games);
- b. failure to adhere to the BOA Team Member Agreement.
- c. any breach of the British Curling Code of Conduct; **and/or**,
- d. any failure to adhere to the terms of this selection policy.

7. Selection Panel

All selection matters will be the responsibility of the Selection Panel. Panel membership is as follows:

British Curling Executive Performance Director – Panel Chair and Voting Member

Pathway Manager – Voting Member

WYOG Team Leader - Voting Member

Observer appointed by British Curling – Non-voting Member

Role: To oversee the proper conduct and due process of the selection process in an observational capacity. To ensure appropriate recording of all selection information.

Performance Administrator – Non-voting Member.

Role: Official record keeper.

The Selection Panel will consider criteria stated in section 5 in making its decisions and may also consult other support staff specialists where appropriate.

The selection process is generally an exercise of judgment. All athletes wishing to be considered for selection to Team GB for the Lausanne 2020 WYOG must agree that the selection decision is to be taken by the Selection Panel who will exercise their judgement as to which of the eligible athletes have the greatest 'Medal Zone' potential for the Games.

Selection decisions are necessarily subjective and an exercise of expert opinion. As such, while an appeals policy is provided for teams to appeal non-selection on the grounds that the policy has not been adhered to, teams are not able to appeal against selection decisions on any other grounds including against a selector's judgement. A process whereby an athlete can request an appeal of decisions is provided for in Appendix 1.

Appendix 1

Appeals Relating to Selection to Winter Youth Olympic Games

This document sets out the Appeals Procedure where an Athlete (“the Appellant Athlete”) wishes to appeal a selection decision taken in respect of Winter Youth Olympic Games selection. The British Curling (BC) Appeals Procedure will be adopted for this purpose.

An Athlete seeking an appeal of a selection decision should be aware of the time limits contained in the Policy, which are designed with the intention of resolving issues in a timely, fair and transparent manner.

This Procedure is the only applicable appeals procedure and forms the entire agreement between each individual wishing to be selected for the Winter Youth Olympic Games and British Curling (BC), together (“the Parties”). The Parties agree not to commence, continue, or maintain any legal challenge to any matter covered by this policy before any court of law. The Parties will treat all decisions under this Procedure as final and binding upon them.

The British Curling appeal procedure consists of 1 stage:

- **Stage 1.** An internal appeal panel to consider the grounds and merits of the appeal. Where the selection relates to the Winter Youth Olympic Games.

All players should read this policy carefully and satisfy themselves that they are eligible to appeal in the first instance. Any appeals which do not satisfy the grounds of appeals will be dismissed automatically.

1. Grounds for Appeal

An Athlete may appeal against a selection/nomination decision relating to the Winter Youth Olympic Games on one or more of the following grounds:

- a. the correct selection process was not followed;
- b. a decision maker was biased; OR,
- c. the decision was made on an error of fact.

2. Appeal Procedure

This Appeal Procedure begins when an Appellant Athlete submits a formal written appeal that identifies one of the permitted grounds of appeal (“the Notice of Appeal”) to the Board of British Curling, via email, British.Curling@sisport.com

The Notice of Appeal must be received by British Curling within **5 working days** of the selection decision, being communicated in writing (usually via email).

The Notice of Appeal must set out the full details of the Appellant Athlete’s ground(s) of appeal and include:

- a. details of the decision which the Athlete is appealing;
- b. details of the ground(s) of appeal upon which the Athlete relies, including the manner in which the Appellant Athlete alleges that such ground(s) apply; AND
- c. any documents or written evidence upon which the Appellant Athlete relies in support of his or her appeal.

3. Internal Appeal Panel

The Appeal Panel shall consist of three independent people selected by British Curling.

The Internal Appeal Panel shall:

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- a. **dismiss** the appeal and confirm the original selection decision; OR,
- b. **uphold** the appeal and remit the matter back to the original selection group, outlining the errors they have identified in the conduct of the original selection process, and request that a new decision is made within 48 hours.