

GENERAL SELECTION PROCEDURE FOR MAJOR EVENTS – Updated Aug 2025



THIS DOCUMENT OUTLINES THE PROCEDURE SPORT TAEKWONDO UK LIMITED (TRADING AS GB TAEKWONDO (GBT)) WILL USE TO SELECT THE GREAT BRITAIN TEAM TO COMPETE AT MAJOR INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND THE PROCESS ATHLETES NEED TO FOLLOW TO REGISTER INTEREST FOR CONSIDERATION FOR SELECTION.

This General Selection Procedure document must be read in conjunction with the following documents headed:

- DETAILED SELECTION INFORMATION (which contains further information relating to the specific event for which selection is sought);
- SELECTION APPEALS PROCEDURE; and
- EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM (which must be completed and signed by all athletes wishing to be considered for selection).

1. INTRODUCTION

The main objective of this selection procedure is to select the athletes who are best able to achieve the objective(s) set out in the Detailed Selection Information at the major international event for which the selection procedure is being used (**Event**)

The final number of athletes selected will be limited by the maximum team size permitted for the Event in question and by any financial or other constraints and objectives (such as those in paragraph 4.C below) to which GBTKD may reasonably have regard.

2. ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION

Athletes are eligible for consideration provided they can demonstrate they:

- Are a British citizen with a valid British passport (with at least six months validity at time of return date of travel);
- Comply with the entry requirements of the Event;
- Are a current member of British Taekwondo;
- Hold a current Global Athlete license;
- Hold a current and valid Kukkiwon certificate;
- Are not serving any current or pending anti-doping suspension; and
- Are not serving a current or pending suspension from either the GBT performance programmes, or British Taekwondo membership as a consequence of misconduct, bringing the sport into disrepute or making false statements.

Any further eligibility requirements for a particular event will be set out in the Detailed Selection Information relating to that event.

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Any athletes wishing to be considered for selection must complete the Expression of Interest Form and return it by the deadline stipulated by GBT for the Event.

Any athlete applying for selection, who is not a member of a GBT programme, is permitted to submit a supporting document of commendation from their personal coach, of no more than two pages, which should outline the coach's opinion as to why the athlete should be considered for selection. This document must be signed and dated by the coach and submitted either in paper form or scanned and sent via e-mail at the same time as the Expression of Interest Form is submitted.

3. REGISTRATION OF INTEREST

Any athlete wishing to be considered for selection must first ensure that they satisfy the eligibility requirements (see paragraph 2 above).

Athletes are then required to complete and sign an Expression of Interest Form and submit this to GBT by hand or post (to the address shown at the foot of this page) or by email (selection@gbtaekwondo.co.uk). The onus is on athletes to ensure that their application has been received and registered.

GBT will announce any deadline for registering interest for specific events on the GBT website, www.gbtaekwondo.co.uk

4. THE SELECTION PANEL

A. Selection Panel Members

The Selection Panel will consist of:

- The GBT Head of Teams & Operations (**non-voting**) who will act as the Chair of the Selection Panel;
- The GBT Head of Athlete Performance and GBT Head of Athlete Development (both voting);
- Between 3 and 6 members of the GB Taekwondo coaching team (**all voting**); and
- A Procedural Adviser (**non-voting**); A Data Adviser (non-voting), responsible for ensuring the panel has, and understands, the key facts relevant to the decisions being taken.
 - (i) Attendance will normally be in person but, where this is not reasonably possible, attendance via telephone or other methods will be permitted;
 - (ii) The Procedural Adviser, who will normally be a qualified barrister or solicitor with appropriate experience and expertise, will be responsible for ensuring that GBT's selection procedures are complied with in every respect. Any questions that the Selection Panel may have about procedure will be referred to, and advised upon, by the Procedural Adviser;
 - (iii) The Panel Chair may, exceptionally, co-opt one or more additional voting members of the Selection Panel where this is necessary by virtue of the absence of one or more of the GBT High Performance Coaches, or some other substantial reason. Any such co-opted voting members will be required to have significant and demonstrable knowledge and experience of the sport of Taekwondo.

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B. Selection Panel Procedures

- (i) Others (e.g. a non-executive director, a representative of UK Sport or the British Olympic Association) may be invited to attend selection meetings in a non-voting capacity.
- (ii) The Panel Chair may allow the attendance of personal coaches, or others, where this is believed likely to assist it with a selection decision and, where this happens, will determine what reasonable requirements in relation to confidentiality and otherwise should be imposed. Any such attendees may be asked to leave when other athletes are being discussed, or at any other time, and will not be present when any vote takes place.
- (iii) The Selection Panel may call for, and give appropriate weight to, any evidence they believe may assist them in their selection decision.
- (iv) Where a vote is drawn, the Head of Athlete Performance or Head of Athlete Development (for senior and age group Teams respectively) will have the responsibility to either a) apply their vote as the casting vote to conclude the selection decision or b) call for a 'fight off' between those athletes receiving equal votes.
- (v) Where called, a 'fight off' will be contested under the rules and using the same scoring system as will be used in the event for which the athletes are being selected. The 'fight off' will typically be held over 3 matches on a single day, with the provisional date of the 'fight off' to be set out in the DSI. Where any athlete called to participate in the 'fight off' is unable to compete (e.g. as a result of injury or illness), they will be considered unavailable for selection, and the place handed to their opponent, or contested by their opponents (where the 'fight off' involves more than two athletes).
- (vi) Any athlete refusing or failing to comply with a reasonable request made by the Selection Panel may be disqualified from further consideration for selection.
- (vii) Voting members of the Selection Panel will be encouraged to exercise their votes, save where the Procedural Adviser advises that one or more voting members should abstain by reason of a conflict of interest or other legal requirement.
- (viii) It is recognised that the GBT employed coaches will have personal knowledge of many of the athletes under consideration, and that this is likely to give them knowledge which is relevant to the selection decision. This knowledge of the athletes will not normally be viewed as a good reason for abstaining from voting.
- (ix) Where, a voting member of the Selection Panel is required to abstain, the Procedural Adviser will consider and advise upon whether fairness requires that voting member to abstain in respect of any other related selections.
- (x) Each voting member will vote by writing the selection on a piece of paper and, without disclosing the selection to any other members of the Selection Panel, passing it to the Procedural Adviser who, when all the votes have been cast, will confirm and record the result. An appropriate equivalent procedure will be adopted in respect of any voting member who is taking part by telephone (e.g. they will state their selection once all other votes have been cast or in the alternative text or email their vote to the Procedural Adviser).
- (xi) Typewritten notes of each selection meeting will be prepared and circulated amongst members of the Selection Panel for agreement and will include, among other things, the reasons for all selection decisions made and the number of votes cast for or against each athlete considered.

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C. Selection Panel Objectives

As stated in paragraph 1 (Introduction), the Selection Panel's primary objective is to select the athletes who have the best chance to achieve the objectives set out in the Detailed Selection Information for the Event.

Further, the Selection Panel:

- (i) Will determine in which weight division(s) the GBTKD Team will enter athletes, to achieve the objectives for the Event;
- (ii) May select an athlete at a higher and/or lower weight category where it is deemed that athlete will be better able to achieve the objectives than any other athlete who has registered an interest for the Event; and
- (iii) May select reserve athletes where appropriate.

D. Selection Panel Terms of Reference

In exercising their discretion, the Selection Panel will refer to the criteria set out in the Detailed Selection Information document relating to the Event concerned, and may also give regard to the following factors:

- WT World Ranking List (and in respect of Olympic events, the Olympic Ranking List) information, it being acknowledged that such ranking lists may not always be a reliable or proportionate determining factor for selection but that such rankings may provide a wider consideration of past performance.
- Medals won
- Quality and quantity of matches
- Opponents fought
- Percentage of matches won/lost
- Consistency of results and performance at competitions using the primary (KPP and DAEDO) protector scoring systems (PSSs)
- Tactical game variety and management
- Technical abilities
- Career performance/results in Major Championships
- Letters of commendation from personal coaches
- Any other relevant factors which the Selection Panel consider relevant for the Event

E. De-selection or Removal from Consideration for Selection

The Selection Panel reserves the right to de-select, or to remove from consideration for selection, any athlete, at any time (subject to any event-specific deadlines):

- (i) Who is medically unfit to compete as a result of injury or illness. The GBT Performance Team Doctor shall medically assess whether or not the condition is such that the athlete is able to compete without causing harm to themselves or endangering others. If the athlete passes the medical assessment but the GBT Head of Athlete Performance / Head of Athlete Development (for senior / age group teams respectively) is concerned the athlete is not able to compete to the best of their ability due to the effects of injury or illness, the athlete may be requested to undergo fitness, additional medical or other performance related tests.

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- (ii) Who does not comply with GBTs requirements for team members (including full participation in event preparation and any pre-event activity programme) or whose behaviour is otherwise disruptive or potentially damaging to the team and/or undermines, in any way, the objective of winning the best set of medals;
- (iii) Who fails to satisfy the weight requirements for the relevant category at any stage after selection, after being given a reasonable opportunity (determined by the GBT Head of Athlete Performance / Head of Athlete Development and GBT coaches whose decision shall be binding) to rectify this;
- (iv) Whose performance level falls following selection to the extent that the Selection Panel considers in its reasonable opinion that the athlete will not perform to the best of his/her ability at the relevant event
- (v) Who fails to pay (where full funding is not provided by GBTKD), in good time prior to departure, any sum required to be paid to attend the Event;
- (vi) Who fails to comply with any drug-testing requirement of UK Anti-doping, or any anti- doping requirements imposed by the Event organiser or others with appropriate authority so to do;
- (vii) where the original selection has been successfully appealed, the athlete originally selected will be automatically de-selected pending the further selection process;

Where an athlete is de-selected, or removed from consideration for selection, written reasons will be provided within 72 hours of such removal/de-selection.

F. Athlete Replacement

A reserve athlete can be selected to replace any athlete who is removed based on the above or for any other unforeseen reason. An athlete from a higher or lower weight category may be selected as a reserve.

Event-specific additional athlete replacement procedures may be set out in the Detailed Selection Policy relevant to the event in question.

G. General Selection Procedure amendment

GBT reserves the right to amend the General Selection Procedure where this becomes necessary as a result of factors beyond GBTs control, or if the Head of Teams and Operations reasonably believes that this is necessary to achieve the objectives of the Great Britain team, as outlined in paragraph 1 (Introduction) above. It is the responsibility of athletes to acquaint themselves with the General Selection Procedure applicable to the Event, and all related documents (as set out above). Changes to the General Selection Procedure will come into effect from the date published on the GBT website and stated in the header of this document.

5. ANTI DOPING POLICY

UK Anti-Doping is provided with the dates and venues for all GBT Team activities and training sessions to assist with their anti-doping programme. Those athletes selected to represent Great Britain will be required to consent to the requirements of the GBT anti-doping policy, as amended from time to time, and any additional requirements that may be imposed for the Event.

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6. SELECTION NOTIFICATION

Selections will be announced on the GB Taekwondo website (www.gbtaekwondo.co.uk).

Prior to the website announcement all athletes being considered for selection will have been notified of their selection or non-selection by GBT by telephone or email.

7. APPEALS

Athletes will have the opportunity to appeal against a decision of the Selection Panel if, but only if, there has been a material breach by the Selection Panel of the procedures set out in this document which has had, or may have had, a material effect on the decision.

The procedure relating to appeals is set out in a separate GBT document entitled “Selection Appeal Procedure”.

8. CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE SELECTION

Selected team members are not to make any disclosure to anyone of their selection until GBT have announced the selection via the GBT website. Please note that where selection requires the ratification of an external partner/body, GBT may be obliged to delay announcing the selection until after it has been ratified.

9. SELF FUNDING

Although GBT will try to identify funding opportunities for any selected athletes who are self-funded, it cannot guarantee that any financial assistance will be given. Accordingly, self-funded athletes should register an interest in being selected only if they have the ability to fund the event, any associated training camp and any programme recommendations, as and when payment falls due.

10. ACCEPTANCE AND AGREEMENT

Athletes selected that have subsequently accepted the offer to represent the GBT Team will be required to sign and comply with GBTs Team Members Agreement. In the case of selection to Team GB or Paralympics GB, the athlete will be required to sign and comply with the agreements set out by the British Olympic Association and British Paralympic Association respectively.

Athletes undertake to keep this General Selection Procedure, and the other documents listed above, confidential and not to disclose any of the terms to any third party without GBTs prior written consent, other than to their professional advisers or agents or as required by law. Before any disclosure to a professional adviser or agent, the athlete must take appropriate steps to ensure that those to whom the disclosure is made keep the terms of these selection documents confidential.