

SELECTION FRAMEWORK

GB CLIMBING TEAM



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WHO IS IT FOR?

This document relates to the following groups.

- ▶ GB Climbing Squad

This document relates to the following disciplines.

- ▶ Lead
- ▶ Boulder
- ▶ Speed
- ▶ Combined

This document relates to the following categories.

- ▶ Senior
- ▶ Junior (U20)
- ▶ Youth A (U18)
- ▶ Youth B (U16)

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1. OBJECTIVES OF THIS SELECTION FRAMEWORK

- 1.1. This framework outlines the approach that the British Mountaineering Council (BMC) will use when selecting eligible athletes to the 2024 GB Climbing Squad. This includes Olympic selection should an athlete be successful in gaining a named quota place through any of the Olympic qualification pathways (OQP) as set out in section 8.4 below.
- 1.2. This framework must be read in conjunction with the GB Squad and Team Annual Performance Strategy (APS) 2024.
 - 1.2.1. The APS provides detailed information to assist athletes, parents, and primary coaches in understanding the relevant discipline specific performance standards and capabilities that will be used by the GB Climbing coaching team and Selection Panels (see 10.4).
- 1.3. This selection framework also describes the appeal process, any appeal against a decision of the Selection Panel must follow the procedures detailed in the appeal process. Adherence to the process ensures that all appellants are treated fairly and equitably.
- 1.4. Athletes should be aware that on meeting the selection criteria for the GB Climbing Team, as set out in this document, they will be eligible to compete in selected International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC) competitions.
- 1.5. Athletes who have achieved an Olympic named quota place through the OQPs, will be eligible for nomination to Team GB. Ratification of selection onto Team GB is the responsibility of the British Olympic Association (BOA).
- 1.6. This framework and the APS will be reviewed at least annually, and any updates will be made available on the BMC and GB Climbing websites.

2. PURPOSE OF THE GB CLIMBING TEAM

- 2.1. To support athletes in their pursuit of world-class performances.
- 2.2. To create a world leading team with a strong culture and training environment that all athletes value and take pride in being a part of.
- 2.3. To collaborate with parents and primary coaches to support the holistic development of athletes as climbers and rounded individuals.
- 2.4. To inspire the nation with Olympic and world-class podium success and winning well.
- 2.5. GB Climbing Athletes are proud to be ambassadors for the sport and are supported to make a positive impact in their communities, representing the very best of British competition climbing.

3. PURPOSE OF SELECTION DECISIONS

The purpose of the selection decisions, in priority order:

- 3.1. Select athletes who are most likely to deliver the GB Climbing performance objective of winning medals at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

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- 3.2. Continuously enhance the performance pathway by offering opportunities and experiences aimed at nurturing the long-term development of athletes who show promise in achieving podium success at future World and European Championships, as well as the Los Angeles 2028 and Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games. This naturally involves selecting athletes for the team with the specific goal of earning the ranking points required to secure additional quota places for the nation in 2025.
- 3.3. Select athletes who have shown the ability to deliver exceptional podium successes in the individual disciplines of Boulder, Lead and Speed Climbing.

4. ELIGIBILITY

In addition to BMC eligibility below, athletes must comply with the UK Sport Eligibility Policy¹ and the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC) Rules².

- 4.1. Athletes must be a member in good standing of the BMC, Mountaineering Scotland or Mountaineering Ireland (together the Home National Climbing Associations), and eligible to represent Great Britain in international championships under the rules of the IFSC.
- 4.2. Athletes must meet the BMC, BOA, IFSC and International Olympic Committee's (IOC) eligibility requirements to compete for Team GB at the Olympic Games (including holding a full British Passport valid until at least 31 December 2024).
- 4.3. Athletes will comply with IFSC and UK Anti-Doping rules and anti-doping blood/urine testing policies. Notified athletes in the National and/or International Registered Testing Pools, or the UK Anti-Doping Domestic Testing Pool, will comply with the requirements of the World Anti-Doping Code and International Standard for Testing and Investigations regarding Anti-Doping Administration & Management System (ADAMS) and whereabouts information.
- 4.4. Supporting athletes and ensuring their health and well-being are the foundations of GB Climbing. Athletes require various forms of support, and the BMC Athlete Health Policy will play a crucial role in safeguarding athletes' physical and mental health.
 - 4.4.1 The BMC Athlete Health Policy can be found [here](#)
- 4.5. Northern Irish athletes who hold both Irish and British passports,
 - 4.5.1. Have an option to declare national allegiance to the UK.
 - 4.5.2. To be eligible to be considered under this policy, an athlete will be required to declare their national allegiance to the UK prior to the selection processes commencing.
 - 4.5.3. In the interest of fair play in sport, this declaration will be for an agreed period of time.
 - 4.5.4. If the athlete had previously competed internationally for Ireland, we would follow the rules as set out by the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC) in respect to changing nationality.

¹ [UK Sport Eligibility Policy](#)

² [IFSC Rules](#)

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- 4.5.5. If this is the first declaration of allegiance to a nation for the athlete, there is an expectation that an athlete will declare allegiance for a period of two years.

5. NATIONAL TRIALS – LEAD AND/OR BOULDER

- 5.1. Athletes who have achieved an Olympic quota place or have been allocated an Olympic Qualification Series (OQS) named quota place will be pre-selected to the 2024 GB Climbing Team.
- 5.2. All other eligible athletes, who wish to be considered for the GB Climbing Team, are required to participate, and compete in the 2024 spring national trials, which will take place in the last two weeks of February or first two weeks of March 2024. Confirmation of the trial dates and format will be made by **30 November 2023** and will be published on the BMC and GBC websites.
- 5.2.1. Boulder - Date/Venue/Format TBC
- 5.2.2. Lead - Date/Venue/Format TBC

- 5.3. Selection routes and blocs will be appropriate to the performance standards as set out in the APS, across each of the age group and gender category. The format will enable athletes seeking senior selection from U20 and U18 age groups to perform on routes and blocs of senior standard if they choose.

Athlete performances at these events will be considered against the discipline specific standards and capabilities as outlined in the APS.

- 5.4. To be eligible to participate in the GB Climbing National Team trials for any discipline (boulder or lead), athletes must meet the following criteria:
- 5.4.1. Be a member of the 2024 GB Climbing Squad or 2023 GB Senior Team/Squad.
- 5.4.2. Be a member of a 2024 Home Nation National Squad (Scotland or England).
- 5.4.3. Achievement of a Final place at a 2023 British Championship event.
- 5.5. Athletes who have achieved any of the above criteria will be eligible to participate in both the boulder and/or lead National Team Trials at their own discretion. (See APS for information on expected standards at National Team Trials)
- 5.6. Selection process timeframe
Following the final trial event, the nomination and selection panels will convene to select the GB Climbing Teams.

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| Date | Day / Time | Description |
|------|-----------------------------------|---|
| TBC | Monday | Nomination Panel Meet |
| TBC | Tuesday | Selection Panel Meet |
| TBC | Wednesday by 17.00 | Selection letters confirmed and athletes informed |
| TBC | Friday by 17.00 | Deadline for notice of appeal |
| TBC | Thursday or Friday | Appeal panel convene |
| TBC | Following Tuesday (if not sooner) | Appellants notified of the appeal panel decision |

Table 1 | Timetable of selection / GB Climbing Team

6. SELECTION CRITERIA

6.1. Athletes who have achieved Olympic qualification as a result of their performances at the 2023 World Championships, 2023 Olympic Continental Championships or have gained a named quota place for the 2024 OQS will be pre-selected to the 2024 GB Climbing Team.

6.2. Lead and Boulder

6.2.1. The selection criteria list in the below table and the information set out in the APS will be used by the Nomination and Selection Panels (see 10.3 and 10.4) in the decision-making process and will support the professional judgement and subjective decision-making regarding athlete selections.

| Priority Order | Selection Criteria | Description |
|----------------|--|--|
| 1 | Historical International Performance | Historical Ranking and performance standard achieved in relation to the level of competition (i.e. World, European) will be considered as part of the decision-making process. |
| 2 | Performance at National Trials 2024 – ranking and performance standard | Performance Standards are aligned to international competition standards for the relevant age and gender. |
| 3 | Domestic Competition Performance | Historical Ranking and performance standard achieved in relation to the level of competition will be considered as part of the decision-making process |
| 4 | Coach Observations | Coaches' independent responses to key performance observations. |

Table 2 | Selection criteria list

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6.3. Speed

- 6.3.1. Speed qualification time considerations are referenced in the APS.
- 6.3.2. Applications to be selected to the GB Climbing Team for Speed must be made using the official application form which can be requested from GB Climbing by emailing gbcadmin@thebmc.co.uk
- 6.3.3. Applications must include video evidence of achieving the qualification time on an IFSC ratified speed wall, using official speed wall timing system such as Depron is required.
- 6.3.4. If there are more athletes than quota places who achieve the consideration times or faster, a rank will be used from fastest to slowest.
- 6.3.5. The nature of the speed climbing discipline is time based, and therefore this policy outlines the consideration times and does not guarantee selection.
- 6.3.6. The deadline date for athletes' applications is the **23 February 2024 at 17.00**.

| Date | Day / Time | Description |
|------|-----------------------------------|---|
| TBC | Monday | Nomination Panel Meet |
| TBC | Tuesday | Selection Panel Meet |
| TBC | Wednesday by 17.00 | Selection letters confirmed and athletes informed |
| TBC | Friday by 17.00 | Deadline for notice of appeal |
| TBC | Thursday or Friday | Appeal panel convene |
| TBC | Following Tuesday (if not sooner) | Appellants notified of the appeal panel decision |

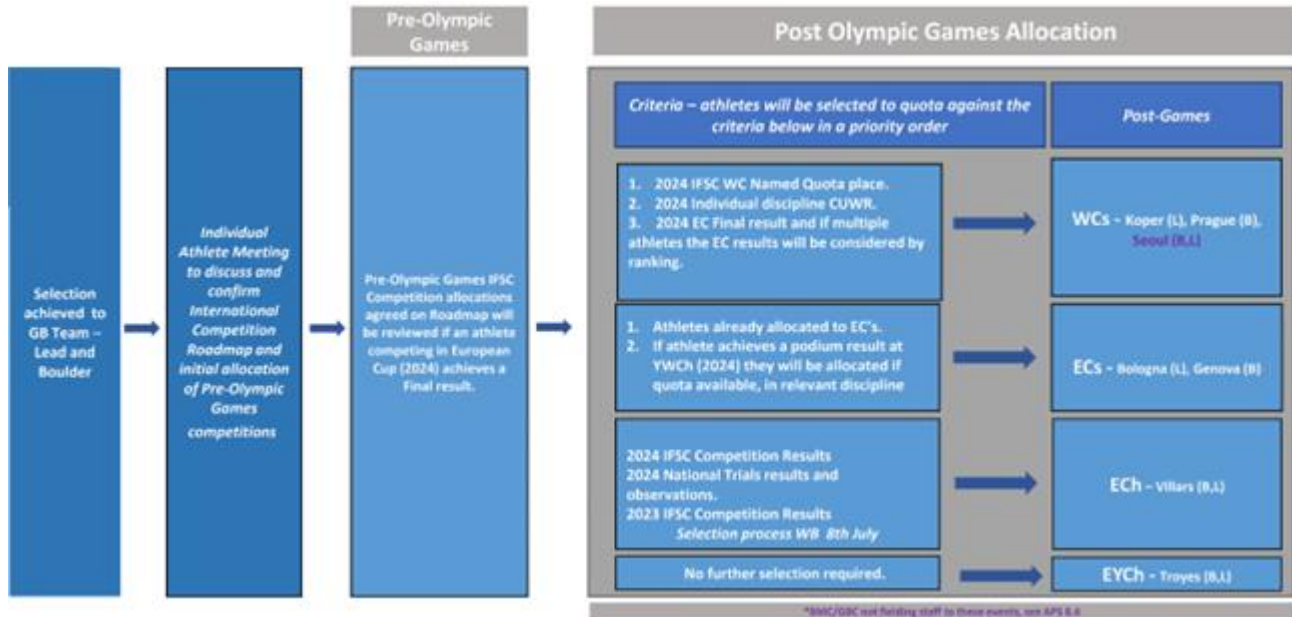
Table 3 | Timetable of applications / GB Climbing Team

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7. IFSC INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION SELECTION PROCESSES

- 7.1. OQS - Athletes who have already achieved the pre-requisite 2023 world rankings as of 30 December 2023 and been offered named quota places to attend the OQS rounds are pre-selected for 2024 season.
- 7.2. The selection timeline and processed for individual competitions.



7.2.1. The selection process for the Youth World Championships (YWCh) 2024

7.2.1.1. **Boulder discipline.** The data points that will be considered as part of the selection decision making process are:

- ▶ 2024 Junior British Bouldering Championships (JBBC), 15 - 16 June 2024
- ▶ 2023 and 2024 IFSC International competition results
- ▶ 2024 National Trials Performance
- ▶ 2024 Coaching Observations

7.2.1.2. **Lead discipline.** The data points that will be considered as part of the selection decision making process are:

- ▶ Scottish Youth Climbing Championship (SYCC), Lead 1 June 2024
- ▶ 2023 and 2024 IFSC International Competition results
- ▶ 2024 National Trials Performance
- ▶ 2024 Coaching Observations

7.2.1.3. In the event that an athlete is unable to attend the SYCC or JBBC, their eligibility for selection to the YWCh will still be considered based on other relevant data points in 7.2.1.1 and 7.2.1.2.

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7.2.2.

The selection timeline and processes for Youth World Championships 2024 Lead and Boulder Disciplines.

| Date | Day / Time | Description |
|--------------|---|---|
| 1 June | Scottish Youth Climbing Championship EICA Ratho | Additional 'in season' Lead data point |
| 15 – 16 June | Junior British Bouldering Championships Depot Manchester | Additional 'in season' Boulder data point |
| 19 June | Wednesday (pm) | Nominations Panel Meet |
| 20 June | Thursday (am) | Selection Panel Meet |
| 21 June | Friday 5:00pm | YWCH Team announced |
| 23 June | Sunday 5:00pm | Deadline of appeals |
| 25 June | Tuesday (am) | Appeals panel meet |

7.3. Individual Athlete Development Plans (IADP), National trial performances and the ability to deliver against the objectives and purpose of this selection framework will be the primary driver for competition selections.

8. PARIS 2024 OLYMPIC GAMES SELECTION

- 8.1. The BMC as the national federation member to the IFSC, has the opportunity to qualify up to two male and two female individual named quota places per the disciplines of Speed Climbing and Combined (Boulder & Lead) for the Olympic Games.
- 8.2. None of these quota places are guaranteed at the date this policy has been adopted, and the quota places are awarded to the athlete directly.
- 8.3. In all cases, being awarded a named quota place affords the athletes the opportunity to be nominated by the BMC to the BOA for ratification and will be conditional on athletes signing and adhering to the BOA Team Members' Agreement (TMA). The final decision regarding selection for the Olympic Games lies with the BOA.
- 8.4. The named quota places can be secured at the three events listed below,
 - 8.4.1. World Championships 2023, 1 - 12 August, Bern (SUI)
 - 8.4.2. Olympic Continental Championships 2023, Speed September, Rome (ITA) and Boulder & Lead 27 - 29 October Laval (FRA)
 - 8.4.3. OQS 2024 (venue, location, and dates TBC)
- 8.5. The timeline for confirmation and acceptance of a named quota place within the Sport Climbing Olympic Qualification System (OQS).
 - 8.5.1. The IFSC will confirm in writing to the National Olympic Committee (NOC) within five days after the last day of each event or ranking, the quota places they have obtained.
 - 8.5.2. The NOC's will then have two weeks to confirm to the IFSC if they wish to confirm or decline these quota places, as detailed in **section G qualification timeline** in the OQS.
 - 8.5.3. Should an athlete be offered a named quota place, the BMC will within two working days submit a nomination to the BOA seeking ratification.

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- 8.5.4. If the nomination is not ratified by the BOA, and therefore not confirmed by the BOA back to the IFSC within the stated deadline or the quota place declined by the BOA, the quota place will be handed back to the IFSC for reallocation according to the OQS.
- 8.5.5. Please refer to the BOA OQS policy, reallocated places are not accepted. *unless exceptional circumstances apply, a case is then made to the BOA OQS panel. Where there is a reallocation of unused quota places as a result of a GBR athlete being the next highest eligible athlete at a respective event.
- 8.5.6. Final team announcement date TBC.

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| Date | Milestone |
|--|---|
| 11 - 12 August 2023 | D1.1.1 IFSC World Championships, Bern (SUI) |
| By 18 August 2023 | IFSC confirms in writing to the BOA the quota place obtained if a GBR athlete achieved a top 2 result in Speed climbing or a Top 3 results in the B&L combined event. |
| Within two working days of receiving the notification | The BMC will make official nomination of the named quota place athlete, with evidence of performance standard achieved, seeking BOA ratification. |
| Within two weeks of receiving notification from IFSC | If ratified by the BOA, they will confirm acceptance of the named athlete quota place to the IFSC. |
| 15 - 16 September 2023 | D.1.2. IFSC Continental Qualifiers, Rome (ITA) Speed |
| By 21 September 2023 | IFSC confirms in writing to the BOA the quota place obtained if a GBR athlete wins the event. |
| Within two working days of receiving the notification | The BMC will make official nomination of the named quota place athlete, with evidence of performance standard achieved, seeking BOA ratification. |
| Within two weeks of receiving notification from IFSC | If ratified by the BOA, they will confirm acceptance of the named athlete quota place to the IFSC. |
| 27 - 29 October 2023 | D.1.2. IFSC Continental Qualifiers, Laval (FRA) B&L Combined |
| By 3 November 2023 | IFSC confirms in writing to the BOA the quota place obtained if a GBR athlete wins the B&L combined event. |
| Within two working days of receiving the notification | The BMC will make official nomination of the named quota place athlete, with evidence of performance standard achieved, seeking BOA ratification. |
| Within two weeks of receiving notification from IFSC | If ratified by the BOA, they will confirm acceptance of the named athlete quota place to the IFSC. |

Table 4 | Timeline of a named quota place within OQS

Timeline for the OQS is yet to be published. An updated timeline for this will be added within one month of the OQS dates being released and published.

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9. SUBJECTIVE NATURE OF SELECTION DECISIONS

- 9.1. The GB Climbing does not consider it desirable to select the GB Climbing Squad purely based on hard edged criteria. The panels will use the selection criteria and APS to inform the decision-making process.

10. NOMINATION AND SELECTION PANELS

- 10.1. To minimise the risk of personally biased judgements, a range of sporting professionals will make up the Nomination and Selection panels.

- 10.2. Minutes from all meetings of both the Nomination Panel and the Selection Panel will be taken by a non-voting, independent observer.

- 10.3. All selection nominations are made by the following panel, or their equivalent if in exceptional circumstances they are unavailable:

▶ **(The Nomination Panel)**

- 10.3.1. GB Climbing Head Coach (Olympic) (Chair, casting vote)
- 10.3.2. Minimum of two GB Climbing Coaches (Performance Development) (voting)
- 10.3.3. GB Climbing Coach (England Talent) (voting)
- 10.3.4. Climb Scotland Talent and Pathways Officer (voting)
- 10.3.5. GB Climbing Performance Analyst (voting)
- 10.3.6. Independent Observer with High Performance Sport knowledge (non-voting)

- 10.4. All selection nominations will be presented to the following panel, or their equivalent if in exceptional circumstances they are unavailable:

▶ **(The Selection Panel)**

- 10.4.1. GB Climbing Head of Performance (Chair, casting vote)
- 10.4.2. GB Climbing Pathway Manager (Talent and Performance) (voting)
- 10.4.3. Mountaineering Scotland representative (voting)
- 10.4.4. Independent Observer with High Performance Sport knowledge (non-voting)

- 10.5. The Selection Panel is responsible for:

- 10.5.1. Confirming that due consideration and process has been followed and that the athlete nominations made by the Nomination Panel are free from bias and/or conflict.
- 10.5.2. Ensuring that all conflicts of interest are recorded in advance of the selection processes ensuring selection is free from bias and/or conflict.
- 10.5.3. Ensuring selections are appropriate and made in accordance with the purpose of this selection framework and the ABS.
- 10.5.4. Ratification of the nominations from the Nomination Panel.

- 10.6. The role of the non-voting Independent Observer at clause 10.3.6 and 10.4.4 is to:

- 10.6.1. Act as an observer, scrutinising the process while holding both panels accountable to the selection policy and its criteria as set out in the framework and the supporting ABS.
- 10.6.2. Ensuring the principles of fairness and acting without prejudice are upheld.
- 10.6.3. The Independent Observer must have no current or previous relationship (personal or financial) with GB Climbing, the athlete, or the athlete's support personnel, which could be perceived as biased.

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- 10.7. Other expert advisors or observers such as representatives from the BOA, UK Sport, British Athletes Commission may be invited to attend.
- 10.8. Selections will be made without prejudice or discrimination, and, as such, any conflicts, real or perceived, must be declared and recorded at the start of the meeting.
 - 10.8.1. In the event of a conflict the panel member will be removed from the meeting for discussions pertaining to the conflict.
 - 10.8.2. The panel member will abstain from voting.
- 10.9. Each voting member of the Nomination and the Selection Panels (the Panels) shall have one vote as regards each selection decision. In the event of a tie, the respective Chair will have the casting vote.
- 10.10. There is no obligation on the Nominations Panel nor the Selection Panel to select a specific number of team members.
- 10.11. All endeavours will be made to conduct the Panels either on-line through video conferencing or in-person. In exceptional circumstances and only as a last resort to abide by the timelines set, it may be necessary to conduct a selection process electronically if members of the Panels are unavailable, such as if they are in different time zones.

11. CONFIDENTIALITY

- 11.1. Athletes and officials must not disclose any information regarding any selection decisions or appeals until such information is publicly announced or disclosed by GB Climbing. GB Climbing will make selection decisions publicly available within 1 working day of the appeal process being completed.

12. EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- 12.1. The Selection Panel has the sole discretion to invoke the provisions in this clause.
- 12.2. Should an athlete miss an event or fall ill during or prior to elements of the 2024 selection process; or have any other mitigating circumstances, the Selection Panel reserve the right to either provide a separate opportunity for an athlete to compete and challenge for selection or take into consideration the mitigating circumstances under the following conditions:
 - 12.2.1. Evidence of illness, injury or other mitigating circumstances must be provided in writing prior to the event in question via email (Lorraine.Brown@thebmc.co.uk) to the Chair of the Selection Panel.
 - 12.2.2. If the athlete has been unable to take part in the selection event the Selection Panel may identify another selection opportunity whereby the athlete can provide the necessary performance data to support the selection decision making process.
 - 12.2.3. Where an athlete is seeking for the Selection Panel to consider any other mitigating circumstances, the athlete must satisfy the criteria stated below:
 - 12.2.3.1. In the case of an incident occurring during an event used in the selection process, a member of staff must be informed of the situation and the athlete must provide details of the situation via email to (Jon@thebmc.co.uk) to the chair of the Selection Panel within **twelve hours** following the end of the event in which the incident occurred.
 - 12.2.3.2. In all other cases certified details must be provided via email to (Jon@thebmc.co.uk) to the Chair of the Selection Panel no later than **1 hour** prior to an event via an email to the Chair

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of the Selection Panel.

- 12.2.3.3. The athlete must be able to demonstrate an established consistent track record in competition climbing performance that objectively demonstrates their performance above other athletes based upon performance analysis and training data (from GB Climbing performance analysis data) and other objective data.
- 12.2.3.4. All decisions under mitigating circumstances that relate to injury, illness or medical conditions will be determined by the Head of Performance, Head Coach (Olympic) and an appointed Medical Officer to ensure a transparent process that also considers the medical needs of the athlete involved. When assessing if an athlete is fit to compete, the Medical Officer decision is final.

13. APPEALS

- 13.1. Any appeal against a decision of the Selection Panel must follow the procedures detailed in this appeal process which apply to all disciplines.
- 13.2. The athlete does not have the right to appeal against any judgement or discretion exercised in the course of selections decision or against the content of the selection framework or APS.
- 13.3. Reasons for an appeal:
 - 13.3.1. There has been a failure to apply the selection criteria contained in the framework and/or the 2024 APS.
 - 13.3.2. The Selection Panel has failed to follow its procedures properly; and/or
 - 13.3.3. The Selection Panel’s discretion has not been exercised in a reasonable manner, and such discretion was exercised in such a way as to be prejudicial to the appellant.
- 13.4. Appeal process: The appeals process commences when an athlete affected by a selection decision, or the athlete’s authorised representative submits a formal written appeal (the Notice of Appeal) to the BMC using, appeals@thebmc.co.uk.
 - 13.4.1. The Notice of Appeal must be submitted **within 48 hours** of the selection decision being communicated to the athlete.
 - 13.4.2. If the athlete fails to submit the Notice of Appeal within the time limit set out in this appeals process, they will have lost their right of appeal, save in wholly exceptional circumstances, which will be agreed by the appeal panel at their absolute discretion.
 - 13.4.3. Timetable

| Date | Day / Time | Description |
|------|--------------------------------|--|
| TBC | Friday by 17.00 | Deadline for Notice of Appeal |
| TBC | Following Tuesday or Wednesday | Appeal Panel convene |
| TBC | Following Friday by 17.00 | Appellants notified of the appeal panel decision |

Table 5 | Appeal Timetable

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13.4.4. The Notice of Appeal must set out full details of the athlete's ground(s) of appeal on no more than two pages and include:

- 13.4.4.1. Details of the decision the athlete is appealing.
- 13.4.4.2. Details of the grounds(s) upon which the athlete is making the appeal, including the precise manner in which the athlete alleges that the selection criteria have not been applied or in which the procedure set out in the selection policy has not been followed.
- 13.4.4.3. Any written evidence upon which the athlete relies in support of their appeal.
- 13.4.4.4. These documents must be relevant specifically to the athlete's grounds of appeal.

13.5. Athletes should be aware that appeals are normally conducted by reference to the Notice of Appeal and supporting documents. The athlete (or their authorised representative) will not normally be allowed to attend the meeting of the appeal panel in person. Therefore, the athlete should ensure that the Notice of Appeal is as comprehensive as possible.

13.6. Appeal panel

- 13.6.1. The Chair of the Competition Climbing Performance Group (CCPG) will appoint the appeal panel. The appeal panel will be composed of three members, namely: One BMC Board member with performance expertise, one CCPG member (who was not part of the Selection Panel) from which one shall be nominated as chair; and an external person with high performance and elite sports knowledge/experience (the Appeal Panel).
- 13.6.2. The Chair of the CCPG shall ensure that when selecting the Appeal Panel, those appointed do not have an actual or perceived conflict of interest in respect of the appeal.
- 13.6.3. In the event that any member of the Appeal Panel has any involvement with, or is related to an appellant or any athlete who might be affected by the outcome of the appeal, or had any involvement with the selection decision under appeal, or is in any way placed in a position of conflicting interests in respect of the appeal, he or she shall be disqualified from sitting on the Appeal Panel and will be replaced by an alternate who shall be nominated by the Chair of the CCPG.
- 13.6.4. Upon receipt of the Notice of Appeal, the Chair of the CCPG will, as soon as reasonably practical, circulate it to all members of the Appeal Panel.
- 13.6.5. The chair of the Appeal Panel will convene a meeting to take place as soon as practical, and in any event within **five working days** of receipt of the Notice of Appeal, at which the Appeal Panel will consider the Notice of Appeal.
- 13.6.6. The Appeal Panel will investigate the grounds set out in the Notice of Appeal and establish to their reasonable satisfaction whether or not there has been a failure to apply the selection criteria and/or that there has been a failure to adhere to the procedure set out in this selection policy.
- 13.6.7. The Appeal Panel, when considering the Notice of Appeal, shall be entitled to take advice (including legal advice) as they see fit.

13.7. The appeal decision.

- 13.7.1. The Appeal Panel shall be entitled to:
 - 13.7.1.1. Confirm the selection decision under appeal and reject the appeal; or
 - 13.7.1.2. Quash the selection decision under appeal and remit the matter back to the original decision-maker identifying the errors they have identified in the conduct of the selection process and requesting that a new decision be made within 3 working days; or
 - 13.7.1.3. Rescind the selection decision under appeal and confirm the selection of the athlete.
- 13.7.2. The decision of the Appeal Panel shall be reached by a majority vote, and all members shall have

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one vote each.

- 13.7.3. In the case of a frivolous or vexatious appeal, the panel reserves the right to seek reasonable remuneration against the appellant to cover the costs of the appeal.
- 13.7.4. The Chair of the CCPG will, in writing, inform all parties about the Appeal Panel's decision to either uphold or reject the appeal.
- 13.7.5. The Appeal Panel's decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

14. DE-SELECTION – SUBSTITUTIONS AND INJURIES

- 14.1. An athlete may be de-selected from the GB Climbing Squad on the following grounds:
 - 14.1.1. Ceasing to comply with the eligibility criteria set out in this selection policy.
 - 14.1.2. Injuries, illness and changes in health status will be considered on a case-by-case basis where an athlete wishes to be considered for selection.
 - 14.1.3. Repeated failure to engage with the BMC and GB Climbing as set out in the athlete contract. Particularly in respect to team training events, IADP processes, formal review processes, post competition debriefs, and team meetings.
- 14.2. Replacement of athletes de-selected from the squad will be considered at the complete discretion of the Selection Panel. Any replacement will be selected in accordance with section 6 (SELECTION CRITERIA) of this policy.
- 14.3. In the case of an athlete pregnancy, UK Sport pregnancy guidance will be used.
- 14.4. Athletes will cease to comply with the eligibility criteria set out in this Selection policy if any of the following occur:
 - 14.4.1. An anti-doping rule violation or receiving provisional suspension due to anti-doping infringement; or
 - 14.4.2. A breach of the BMC code of conduct or athlete agreement; or
 - 14.4.3. A breach of any BMC and/or GB Climbing policy.

15. FRAMEWORK CHANGES

- 15.1. The selection framework may be amended at any time by the BMC for one or more of the following circumstances:
 - 15.1.1. Any changes in rules governing a particular event.
 - 15.1.2. Any change in IFSC eligibility, rules or program of events.
 - 15.1.3. To give effect to the selection process in case of a drafting error or oversight.
 - 15.1.4. To clarify any ambiguity to the intended meaning of the selection policy.
 - 15.1.5. Any other reason determined by BMC at its total discretion.
- 15.2. Any changes will be communicated on the BMC and GB Climbing websites.

16. QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLICY

- 16.1. Questions about this policy should be directed to the GBCadmin@thebmc.co.uk who will forward the query to the appropriate staff member who will ordinarily respond within 5 working days.