



2024 Olympic Games Artistic Swimming Selection Document for Great Britain

Introduction

1. The Olympic Games are the primary PERFORMANCE competition in the quadrennial. Nomination of athletes representing Great Britain at the 2024 Olympic Games (OG) in Paris (the “Games”) will be made according to the following criteria as set out below.

2. The final decision in selection to the Games lies with the British Olympic Association (“BOA”). Achievement of the selection criteria therefore represents an “eligibility for nomination”, not selection or even an automatic nomination.

Eligibility

3. All athletes must comply with the provisions of the Olympic Charter currently in force, including but not limited to, Rule 41 (Nationality of Competitors) and Rule 43 (World Anti-Doping Code and the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of Manipulation of competitions). Only those athletes who comply with the Olympic Charter may participate in the Olympic Games Paris 2024.

4. In all cases, athletes must meet all of the eligibility requirements to participate in the Games as may be set by the BOA, the International Olympic Committee (“IOC”), British Swimming and home country NGB including (for example) in respect of matters such as of nationality (e.g. by having a UK passport which expires no less than six months after the Games) and of anti-doping.

5. Only athletes selected to represent Great Britain in 2023-2024 competitive season will be considered.

Age Requirements

6. All athletes participating in the Games must be born on or before 31 December 2009.

Objective

7. To nominate athletes that will form the duet to achieve the best possible results and qualify for the Olympic Games 2024 and that have the best chance of achieving a podium finish.

Athlete Expectations

8. Nomination will be conditional on signing and complying the British Swimming Code of Conduct and the BOA’s Team Member’s Agreement. Athletes must also comply with all British Swimming and BOA provisions consisting of:

- British Swimming Anti-Doping Control Rules and Protocols
- British Swimming Athlete Selection Agreement and Code of Conduct
- - British Swimming Safeguarding Procedures

9. Athletes will be expected to abide by the Media Protocols of the British Artistic Swimming Programme. During the Olympic Games period, athletes must also comply with the BOA media rules as set out in the Team Members Agreement.

10. Athletes will be expected to attend each programmed event, where selected, taking part in all programmed activities. Unless otherwise agreed, no athlete will be allowed to leave a camp or undertake any activities that are not directly relevant to the camp programme, this includes any external media or social activities.

11. Athletes must demonstrate an uncompromised commitment to training preparation for peak performance at the Olympic Games 2024 as determined by the programme. If for any reason the athlete is unable or unwilling to fulfil this commitment, they may be withdrawn from the duet at the complete discretion of the National Coaches in consultation with the Artistic Swimming Manager.

12. The CEO of British Swimming will authorise the final nominations to the BOA for the Olympic Games 2024 Artistic Swimming Duet in line with this Policy with a view to achieving the Objectives set out in item 7.

Qualification Period

13. See OQS for Artistic Swimming.

British Swimming Qualification system Paris 2024

14. The British Swimming Qualification for the GB Duet will be through the two qualification competitions -

1. LEN European Games, Poland – June 2023
2. World Aquatics World Championships, Doha – February 2024

Selection Policy Criteria and Framework for the Artistic Swimming Duet

15. Artistic Swimming is a team sport that requires more than just athletic performance for nomination and selection. The nomination and selection process considers various factors such as technical and routine skills, but also mind-set, attitude and how athlete works with others. Input may be gathered from all national team staff and coaches working with the athletes to assist in the final decision. The physical selection trial will draw from information on the below performance criteria, assessing the **level, accuracy, consistency and improvement**

Physiological Requirements:

- General physical fitness and strength (out of water)
- Artistic Swimming general fitness and strength (in water)
- Flexibility (in and out water)

Technical ability & specific markers: (in the water)

- Synchronisation and count accuracy
- Pattern accuracy
- Thrust action and height
- Element accuracy
- Height
- Line accuracy
- Flexibility
- Extension (full body)
- Accuracy of spin (levels, speed, on spot)
- Execution
- Speed of movement and sharpness
- Energy and artistic impression (facial expression)
- Artistic Mastery – ability to deliver the choreography
- Acrobatic consistency
- Propulsion

Compatibility:

- Individual contribution to enhance dynamics
- Has the ability to appreciate others

- Competitive but considerate and supportive

Psychological abilities:

- Mental toughness - ability to maintain optimum performance under pressure and adversity
- Focus and concentration - ability to maintain performance focus in training and competition
- Demonstration of an internal drive and motivation towards excellence
- Confidence in own ability to correct and adapt as required

The Human Factor:

- Work ethic based on intensity of training
- Working well with others

Duet Selection Criteria and Process

16. The duet athletes who participate in the European Games held in Poland in June 2023 will go directly to phase two of this process.

To be considered for the Olympic Duet athletes must be eligible as per criteria 3-4-5 and must understand and show commitment at all training sessions/camps and competitions including:- :

- 16.1 Full time training upon selection until the qualification competition
- 16.2 World Championships, Doha, February 2024
- 16.2 Ongoing full time training/competitions Feb-July 2024
- 16.3 Olympic Games July/Aug 2024

Selection Trial Process

Phase one:

- All eligible athletes will attend the National Programme HPC 2023 trials, 22nd-23rd September 2023.
- Athletes will be selected and ranked based on the Performance Criteria listed in criteria 15.
- A maximum of 8 athletes will be invited to join the HPC duet training and go forward to the phase two duet trial 21st October 2023.

Phase two (21st October 2023):

- Athletes will perform the duet A Technical Required Elements.
- Each athlete will be marked in accordance with the performance standards in criteria 15 and World Aquatic scoring system.
- The top two athletes will be selected and named duet athletes to attend the Olympic Qualification event in Doha February 2024. If successful in qualification they will also be nominated to BOA as the athletes to represent TeamGB in the duet event at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games.
- The next best athletes, up to 4, with future potential will be named as reserves, they will be added to the longlist.
- As per the Olympic Qualification Standard document a maximum of one duet, with two athletes, per qualified NOC (BOA) will be listed and attend the Olympic Games. Athlete(s) named as reserves will not travel to the Olympic Games and will be present at designated training, unless selected in the case of illness/injury as outlined earlier in this document.

17. In the event of an injury or illness preventing an athlete taking part in criteria 16 (phase one or two), results from the competitions within the pasts 12 months will be considered from the date of publication of this document. The Selection Committee will make the final decision whether to consider the athlete and offer a different trial date.



18. Based on the results of criteria 16 Phase two, the next best athletes that are named as reserves will continue to train with the HPC National Programme and will not travel to overseas training or competition as part of the Olympic Duet unless directed by the Artistic Swimming Manager.

19. The selection will be made against this selection policy and are at the discretion of the Selection Committee and after qualification, this will be ratified by the British Olympic Association (BOA).

20. The date of nomination to the BOA shall be agreed in advance after the official quota place has been obtained (exact date tbc). It is anticipated to be two weeks after the end of the Qualification competition on 26th February 2024 (date tbc).

Selection Committee and the Nomination Process

21. All decisions in relation to nomination of athletes for selection by the BOA in respect of the Games shall be made by the Selection Committee, who will be made up of the Artistic Swimming Manager and two other appointed coaches working with the National Programme. Input may be gathered from support services staff working with the athletes on the programme and any other person the Selection Committee considers necessary to assist in the final decision. British Swimming will ratify the Selection Committee's decision and after qualification the athletes will be nominated for final approval to the BOA.

British Swimming will exercise their authority to ensure that the nominations for the Olympic Games 2024 Artistic Swimming duet are in line with this Policy with a view to achieving the best possible performance.

To the extent that any conflicts arise in respect of any nomination decisions by any coach or member of the Selection Committee, these shall be declared in advance and such conflicted individual shall not be entitled to vote.

De-selection Prior to Delegation Registration Meeting

22. The date of the **Delegation Registration Meeting (DRM)** is 12 July 2024 (which may be amended). This is the date that the British Olympic Team is formally entered with the Paris Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (POCOG).

Following selection by the BOA, but prior to the date of the DRM, the de-selection of an athlete is the sole responsibility of British Swimming. The BOA will be kept informed of any possible de-selection decision.

23. Athletes becoming unfit due to illness/injury (physical or mental) at any time between selection and nomination to the BOA will be required to undertake a full medical examination (by an independent medical advisor appointed by the national programme), which may result in the athlete being de-selected from the duet. If the medical advisor confirms the athlete may regain fitness in time before nomination the Selection Committee may decide to leave the athlete selected.

De-selection after the Delegation Registration Meeting

24. De-selection of an athlete after the date of the DRM, is the sole responsibility of the BOA (in accordance with the IOC Athlete Late Replacement Policy). Any appeal against a decision by the BOA after DRM will be according to the BOA Rules.

Replacement after the Delegation Registration Meeting

25. The IOC's Athlete Late Replacement Policy primarily provides for replacement of a selected athlete on the basis that they are unfit to compete due to injury and/or illness. In the event of there being a query over the ability of an athlete to be able to compete to the best of his/her ability due to an injury or illness the following procedure will be adhered to:

(i) the BOA Chief Medical Officer can require an athlete to undergo a medical examination to determine her fitness to participate which at this stage will be determined based on an assessment of whether or not the injury and/or illness is such that the athlete is physically able to compete or risks causing medical harm to herself, or endangering other competitors, officials or spectators.

(ii) if the athlete passes the medical examination carried out but British Swimming and/or the BOA have concerns over whether or not the athlete is able to compete to the best of her ability due to the underlying injury or illness, the Team GB Chef de Mission can require the athlete to undergo a set of pre-determined sports specific performance tests. Those tests will be agreed in advance following consultation with the Selection Committee, British Swimming's Chief Medical Officer and the BOA's Deputy Chef de Mission for Performance.

26. For administrative purposes, the BOA must be kept informed of any possible decision to withdraw an athlete. The nomination of a replacement athlete must also conform to this selection policy and must be an individual who has been named on the BOA long list and has met the criteria for full selection as stated in this selection policy.

Replacements and Reserves

27. In the event an athlete is de-selected due to illness/injury at any time between selection and the nomination of the duet to the BOA, or remains selected at the Selection Committees discretion, as point 21, they reserve the right to add a reserve athlete to the duet from the next best athlete ranked on the long list.

Replacement or reserve athletes joining the duet because of point 27 will be considered at the complete discretion of the Selection Committee.

28. After the DRM, and in the case of medically certified injury, such nominated reserves would be eligible to replace a selected athlete in accordance with point 30, up to the final confirmation of competitors at the Technical Meeting and draw in Paris on a date TBC subject to any IOC regulations in force from time to time.

Grounds for Appeal

29. All appeals prior to the DRM on the nomination (or non-nomination) to the Olympic Games Artistic Swimming 2024 duet shall be dealt with under the British Swimming Team Selection Appeals Procedure. British Swimming Legal Affairs Department BSLegal@swimming.org.

30. For the avoidance of any doubt the British Swimming Team Selection Appeals Procedure does not apply to any non- selection (or de-selection) athlete after the DRM. Athletes should be aware of the time limits contained in the procedures, which are designed with the intention of resolving issues expeditiously and fairly.

31. In respect of any de-selection decision taken by the BOA after the DRM, any appeals must be made to the BOA and dealt with in accordance with the BOA's appeals process and administered by Sports Resolutions UK.

Announcements

32. Athletes shall not be permitted to make any announcement of any selection or de-selection decision until such time as the BOA has officially confirmed that selection of the athlete.

Consultation

33. This policy has been subject to consultation through the Artistic Swimming Leadership Group, British Swimming/BOA Legal Team.