

SELECTION POLICY – TOKYO OLYMPIC GAMES 2020



1 BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 With the delegated responsibility to manage the Great Britain Performance Programme, Badminton England, with the guidance of the British Olympic Association (BOA), have used the qualification regulations of the Badminton World Federation (BWF) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Eligibility Code, to set the selection criteria for the 2020 Olympic Games to be held in Tokyo, Japan (“the Games”). Whilst Badminton England have delegated responsibility, GB Badminton will be responsible for nomination of athletes to the BOA.
- 1.2 The maximum number of competitors per National Olympic Committee (NOC) shall be **two** players in the men’s singles and women’s singles and **two** pairs in each of the doubles events (men’s doubles, women’s doubles and mixed doubles), provided each entry is directly qualified (see Clause 5 below). The maximum number of men and women respectively per NOC is eight (a total of 16).
- 1.3 To be eligible for selection in the singles event, all players must have played in a minimum of three tournaments counting towards the World Rankings lists during the Olympic qualifying period (29 April 2019 - 15 March 2020 & 4 January 2021 – 13 June 2021) and be registered in the World Ranking list of 15 June 2021.

The List of 15 June 2021 will be based on results during the period 29 April 2019 - 15 March 2020 & 4 January 2021 – 13 June 2021. Participation in any of the following events will count towards the BWF Ranking List during this period:

- Thomas & Uber Cup (all stages)
- Sudirman Cup
- World Championships
- Grade 2 BWF tour tournaments – Levels 1 to 6
- Grade 3 BWF Continental tour tournaments – International Challenge, International Series, Future Series
- Continental Championships (Individual and Team)
- Continental Multi sports games – Pan America Games, European Games, and African Games

- Any other international event sanctioned by the BWF and included in advance and BWF approval as being part of the World Ranking Lists

For period 4 January 2021 – 13 June 2021, the following eligible tournaments if hosted within the period*:

| TOURNAMENT | CATEGORY/LEVEL | HOST |
|---|--------------------------------------|------|
| Lingshui China Masters 2021 | Grade 2 – Level 6 | CHN |
| German Open 2021 | Grade 2 – Level 5 | GER |
| Portuguese International Championships 2021 | Grade 3 – International Series | POR |
| KaBaL International Karviná 2021 | Grade 3 – International Series | CZE |
| Swiss Open 2021 | Grade 2 – Level 5 | SUI |
| Giraldilla 2021 | Grade 3 – Future Series | CUB |
| North Harbour International 2021 | Grade 3 – Future Series | NZL |
| Vietnam International Challenge 2021 | Grade 3 – International Challenge | VIE |
| Orleans Masters 2021 | Grade 2 – Level 6 | FRA |
| India Open 2021 | Grade 2 – Level 4 | IND |
| Waikato International 2021 | Grade 3 – International Series | NZL |
| Polish Open 2021 | Grade 3 – International Challenge | POL |
| Canadian International Challenge 2021 | Grade 3 – International Challenge | CAN |
| Malaysia Open 2021 | Grade 2 – Level 3 | MAS |
| Osaka International Challenge 2021 | Grade 3 – International Challenge | JPN |
| Finnish Open 2021 | Grade 3 – International Challenge | FIN |
| Singapore Open 2021 | Grade 2 – Level 4 | SIN |
| Dutch International 2021 | Grade 3 – International Series | NED |
| Croatian International 2021 | Grade 3 – Future Series | CRO |
| Peru International 2021 | Grade 3 – International Series | PER |
| 2021 European Championships | Continental Individual Championships | |
| Badminton Asia Championships 2021 | Continental Individual Championships | |
| Pan Am Individual Championships 2021 | Continental Individual Championships | |

*Some of the listed eligible tournaments may not be hosted within the period 4 January 2021 to 13 June 2021, but no replacement tournaments will then be included. If they are hosted at a later date outside of the extended qualification period they will not be included in the Race to Tokyo rankings.

- 1.4 Final selection is at the sole discretion of the BOA and will be based on the GB Badminton nominations made against this selection policy. Nominations will be submitted to the BOA and the team will be announced following ratification from the BOA in accordance with the Olympic Qualification Standard Agreement entered into with the BOA.

2 ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 To be considered for selection under this Policy, an athlete must be eligible to represent Great Britain under BOA and IOC rules in place from time to time, including, but not limited to, being:

(a) a holder of a valid British passport which expires no less than 6 months after the Games;

(b) eligible under Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter entitled “Nationality of Competitors”.

(c) an affiliated member of and in good standing with the respective National Governing Body; and

(d) eligible under any other eligibility criteria imposed by the IOC and/or the BOA including in respect of anti-doping.

(e) must have played in a minimum of three tournaments in their respective event counting towards the World Ranking Lists during the Olympic qualifying period (29 April 2019 – 15 March 2020 & 4 January 2021 – 13 June 2021) and be registered in the World Ranking Lists of 15 June 2021.

3 SELECTION PROCEDURE – TIMESCALES

- 3.1 The BWF Ranking List as of **15 June 2021** will be used to determine who is eligible for selection to Team GB for the Games.

Provisional nomination to the BOA by GB Badminton will be no later than **21 June 2021** subject to the satisfactory conclusion of any appeals.

Final nomination and selection – nomination to the BOA by GB Badminton will be no later than **5 July 2021** subject to the satisfactory conclusion of any appeals. The BOA will formally announce selection to Team GB no later than (date T.B.C), (unless such date is varied by agreement between the BOA and GB Badminton). All selections to Team GB remain contingent on GB Badminton's continued nomination of the player(s) to the BOA.

Nominated/selected players are not permitted to make any announcements to the media or the general public in any form whatsoever (including via any social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook) of their possible or confirmed selection or non-selection prior to official announcement by the BOA of such selection.

Any decision to deselect any player(s) before the Delegation Registration Meeting (DRM) by **07 July 2021** (Japan time), which is the date that Team GB is formally registered with the Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee of the Olympic Games will be the sole responsibility of GB Badminton in accordance with Clause 6.1. Following this date, any decisions on deselection of players will be the responsibility of the BOA (in consultation with GB Badminton) in accordance with Clause 6.2.

All dates in this clause 3.1 may be subject to variation. Any such variations will be notified to all players eligible for selection.

4 SELECTION PANEL

- 4.1 An Olympic Selection Panel comprising of five representatives will be responsible for the administering of this policy, comprising the Team Leader, Olympic Head Coach, a National Coach from one of the Home Nation Associations excluding Badminton England, a non-voting observer from the GB Board and a non-voting independent observer. In the event of a tie the Team Leader will hold the casting vote.

5 OLYMPIC QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

- 5.1 As stated above at Clause 1.2, the maximum number of competitors per NOC shall be **two** players in the men's singles and women's singles and **two** pairs

in each of the doubles events (men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed doubles) (subject to the provisions set out in Clauses 5.4 to 5.7).

- 5.2 The BWF Ranking List of 15 June 2021 (the "List") will be used to allocate qualifying places until a total 38 places in each singles event and 32 places (16 pairs) in each doubles event are allocated (also taking into account the IOC/BWF Olympic Qualifying Regulations that require: in every event there shall be at least one player/pair from each of the five BWF Continental Confederations; the six Tripartite Commission Invitation Places available in the singles events).

Singles Events

- 5.3 If all players are ranked 1 - 16 in the List, such players will gain automatic selection in order of ranking up to a maximum of two subject to ensuring the number of competitors does not breach the requirements in Clause 1.2.
- 5.4 If no players are ranked 1 - 16, all players achieving qualifying places on the List will be considered collectively and one player selected based on the following criteria in no particular order:
- (i) World Ranking as at 15 June 2021;
 - (ii) Current levels of consistency in performance and fitness;
 - (iii) Achievements at major events in the past two years;
 - (iv) Performance against higher ranked players at Grade 3 BWF Continental tour tournaments and above;
 - (v) Longer term potential (post Tokyo 2020).
- 5.5 Selection decisions made in respect of the pathway listed in paragraph 5.4 above shall be taken by the Panel in their reasonable discretion by taking into account relevant facts including those listed above. For example, if an eligible player is ranked below another on 15 June 2021 but has greater potential to achieve a top 8 position at the Paris Olympic Games 2024, the Panel would reserve the right to select such athlete on such a basis.
- 5.6 For the avoidance of doubt, nomination for selection via the process set out in paragraphs 5.4 - 5.5 may (in the event that a lower ranked athlete is nominated ahead of a higher ranked athlete) be subject to the relevant quota place being available pursuant to the reallocation process set out in the relevant IOC-BWF document.

Doubles Events

- 5.7 Pairs ranked 1 - 8 in the List will gain automatic selection in order of ranking up to a maximum of two pairs from any one NOC provided that the number of competitors does not breach the requirements in Clause 1.2.
- 5.8 If no pairs are ranked 1-8 all players achieving qualifying places on the List will be considered collectively and one pair selected based on the following criteria in no particular order:

- (i) World Ranking as at 15 June 2021;
- (ii) Current levels of consistency in performance and fitness;
- (iii) Achievements at major events in the past two years;
- (iv) Performance against higher ranked pairs at Grade 3 BWF Continental tour tournaments and above;
- (v) Longer term potential (post Tokyo 2020).

5.9 Selection decisions made in respect of the pathway listed in paragraph 5.7 above shall be taken by the Panel in their reasonable discretion by taking into account all relevant facts including those listed above. For example, if an eligible pair is ranked below another on 15 June 2021 but has greater potential to achieve a top 8 finish at the Paris Olympic Games 2024, the Panel would reserve the right to select such pair on such a basis.

5.10 For the avoidance of doubt, nomination for selection via the process set out in paragraphs 5.7-5.8 may (in the event that a lower ranked athlete is nominated ahead of a higher ranked athlete) be subject to the relevant quota place being available pursuant to the reallocation process set out in the relevant IOC-BWF document.

6 WITHDRAWAL

6.1 Pre-DRM, regardless of any other provision, no player will be nominated to the BOA if, at the time of nomination and in accordance with Clause 3.1:

- (i) They are injured or unfit, unless they can satisfy the Selection Committee that they will be able to compete in the Games to the best of their ability (this may include carrying out a pre-determined sports specific physical assessment and a medical examination by the Badminton England Medical Officer); or
- (ii) They have not demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Selection Committee their full commitment to the required training and competition programme. For the avoidance of doubt, any decisions made with regard to deselection made prior to DRM (i.e. 07 July 2021) will still remain the sole responsibility of GB Badminton. GB Badminton shall at all times keep the BOA informed of any actual or potential deselection decisions.

6.2 After the DRM, 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 his/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 player risks causing medical harm to him or herself, or endangering other competitors, officials or spectators. The BOA Chief Medical Officer will carry out this examination or another doctor delegated by him/her. If the athlete fails the medical examination, he/she will be withdrawn from the Team.

- (ii) if the player passes the medical examination carried out in accordance with (i) above but GB Badminton and/or the BOA have concerns over whether or not the player is able to compete to the level ordinarily expected of them 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 Team Leader, a physiotherapist and the BOA's Deputy Chef de Mission for Performance.

7 APPEALS

7.1 In the event that a player wishes to appeal against a decision made by GB Badminton in relation to selection or deselection, the player shall have the right to appeal in accordance with the "Selection and Nomination Appeals Procedure" which is published alongside this Policy. It should be noted that a player may only appeal against a decision of GB Badminton on the grounds that the procedure set out in this policy has not been applied correctly.

7.2 In the event that:

- (i) the BOA fails to select a player nominated by GB Badminton; or
- (ii) the BOA deselects a player post DRM,

the player shall have the right to appeal in accordance with the BOA's "Selection Appeals Process". A copy of which is available from the BOA upon request.

8 COVID-19

8.1 Please note that GB Badminton reserves the right to make changes to this Selection Policy should it be necessary to do so as a result of Covid-19. Any changes to this Policy will be communicated to the Home Nation Governing Bodies and also to those athletes in contention for selection.

8.2 Athletes in contention for selection will be contacted to ask that they wish to opt in to the selection process in respect to Covid-19 due to the risks that attending the Games may pose. For those athletes in contention, should they not wish to be considered for selection, they should notify the Chair of GB Badminton by 11 June 2021 (prior to selection process starting) and if post selection, by 28 June 2021 (prior to the final entry deadline date of 5 July 2021).

GB Board
Revised October 2020