

World & European Senior Badminton Championships

SELECTION POLICY

This Selection Policy is based on the current BWF and BEu competition regulations at the point of publication, should at any point these regulations be amended this policy will be subject to review.

1 OBJECTIVES

1.1 Primary Objective

To select players that will win the most medals for England (subject to them meeting eligibility and qualification requirements).

1.2 Secondary Objective

Where entry numbers allow, to enable players who support the domestic circuit to participate in international competition.

2 GENERAL

All players wishing to be considered for selection to compete in the World and European Senior Badminton Championships must meet the players' eligibility requirements set out in Section 3.

For events where the number of eligible players entering exceeds the Member Associations' allocation, the Badminton England Masters Policy Group Selection Panel will conduct a selection using the criteria set out in Section 4.

Players must submit their entry on or before the Badminton England closing date using the official entry process (as advertised at the time), normally via BE Tournament Software. Both doubles partners must submit their entry by this date. For an entry to be accepted it must be complete and paid for at the point of entry (or by the specified date if not required at point of entry).

Badminton England is not obliged to support 'partner wanted' entries although these may be accepted if entry numbers allow (see 4.4 below).

Badminton England will normally inform all entered players of the team selection within 3 weeks of the advertised closing date (or by an alternative date if specified).

In the event of the withdrawal of one player of a selected doubles pair after the Badminton England closing date but prior to the closing date set by the relevant International Federation (BWF/BEu), the remaining player may request to play with an alternative partner. However, the panel reserves the right to disallow the request and select an alternative pair from those not previously selected.

Any player breaching or failing to fulfil a requirement of the Anti-Doping Policies of Badminton England, the Badminton World Federation or other approved agencies will not be considered for selection or if already selected will be deselected.

All players must be in good standing with Badminton England and BWF / BEu. Any breach of this at any time will result in the player not being considered for selection or, if already selected, being deselected.

3 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

In order for players to be considered for selection they must meet ALL of the following criteria (unless otherwise indicated):

- a) Hold a current United Kingdom passport
- b) Be a member of and in good standing with Badminton England
- c) Be resident in England at the time of entry and have been resident in England for a minimum of three years*
- d) Have not represented any other BWF Member Association for three years immediately preceding the date of the tournament
- e) Meet **one** of the following criteria:
 - i. Born in England
 - ii. Parent born in England (and that parent lived in England for a period of three continuous years)
 - iii. If the player is a UK passport holder, but neither they nor their parents were born in the UK then a player may elect to represent England if they have not previously represented any other BWF Member Association including Scotland, Ireland or Wales in the last three years.

** In exceptional circumstances players not meeting the residency clause may request dispensation by sending a letter of appeal to the Masters' Policy Group.*

4 PLAYER SELECTION CRITERIA

4.1 Qualification

To be considered for selection, players should have competed in **a minimum of three** English Masters Circuit Tournaments in the 12 months preceding the closing date (or other period if specified in the invitation). One of these should be the most recent English National Masters Championships or All England Senior Championships. O35s age category players, if eligible by age at the time of the event, will normally be expected to have competed in the most recent Nationals or All England. Please note that Senior Circuit tournaments do not count towards your tournament tally.

Priority in selection will be given to players meeting the above qualification criteria. However, **if an event is not oversubscribed** (ie. the number of entries of qualified players is less than the total number of players allowed by the relevant organising body), any players not meeting the qualification requirement (but that meet the eligibility criteria in Section 2) will be considered for entry into their requested event(s).

For singles events that are oversubscribed, priority will normally be given to players who participated in singles for at least two of their three qualifying tournaments.

4.2 Dispensation

Players not meeting the above qualification criteria, for example because of injury, illness or other significant extenuating circumstances, may seek dispensation in writing to englandmasters@badmintonengland.co.uk **a minimum of 5 days before the Badminton England closing date** (or by the date specified in the invitation) stating the reason for the request, for which you may be asked to provide evidence. Badminton England reserves the right to reject any requests for dispensation and the decision is final.

4.3 Nation Priority

English partnerships will normally be given priority over mixed nation pairings, unless in the opinion of Badminton England a mixed nation pairing has a significant chance of winning a medal and therefore contributing to the primary objective (normally evidenced by previous international medal success) versus an English partnership which has **not** demonstrated a level of international success suggesting they are likely to medal. Badminton England reserves the right to select a mixed nation pairing over an English partnership in these circumstances and the decision is final.

4.4 Partner Wanted Entries

Players entering doubles events as 'partner wanted' will only be considered if spaces are still available after all those entering as pairs, including mixed nation pairs, have been considered. Badminton England is not obliged to and will not normally assist in finding partners. You may be paired with other partner wanted entries but should make your best efforts to find and enter with your own partner.

4.5 Selection Criteria

All the below selection criteria are considered, but except the first point are not in priority order:

- The winning player in singles events and winning pair in doubles events of the most recent English National Masters Championship will gain automatic selection for that **same event** in the **same age group** (with the **same partner** for doubles events) **provided that they meet the qualification criteria above.**
- Results of the most recent English National Masters Championships and All England Senior Championships.
- Previous results in World and European Seniors' Championships.
- Results from Gold Masters Circuit tournaments in the preceding 12-month period prior to the closing date.
- Head-to-Head results, particularly in the above tournaments.
- Wins against recognised players/pairings on the Masters' domestic tournament circuit (at all levels).

5 NOTES

- **Ranking/Grading:** At the current time, Ranking position and Grading are not considered as part of selection due to the current system not being considered to give an accurate portrayal of relative standard. Badminton England is proposing to introduce a new system which, subject to review and testing, may result in these being considered in the future.
- **Appeal:** The decision of the selection panel is final and there is no right of appeal. The panel will not respond to specific enquiries regarding selection and any response to requests for further information will be limited to directing players towards the above criteria.