

2025 EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPIC FESTIVAL (DRAFT) SELECTION POLICY

**20-26th July 2025
Skopje, North Macedonia**

1. BACKGROUND & INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This document sets out the selection procedure in respect of athlete nominations to the British Olympic Association for the 2025 European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF).
- 1.2. Whilst Badminton England have delegated responsibility, GB Badminton will be responsible for nomination of athletes to the BOA for these Games.
- 1.3. There will be 15 sports on the Programme for the XVI edition of the Festival – Artistic Gymnastics, Athletics, Badminton, Basket 3x3, Basketball, Canoe Slalom, Cycling, Handball, Judo, Mountain Biking, Shooting, Swimming, Table Tennis, Taekwondo and Volleyball.

2. POLICY OBJECTIVES

- 2.1. To select the strongest available players for the 2025 EYOF and in accordance with the qualification system of the European Olympic Committee (EOC) and in line with the below selection criteria of GB Badminton. As per the BOA OQS policy, which states *'In accordance with previous editions, it is proposed that the BOA offers the quota places to each NGB as pre-determined by the Host Organising Committee. The BOA reserves the right to ask NGBs to present information on their nominated athletes in advance of final ratification. This must demonstrate the athlete(s) requisite standard to return a credible performance at the Festival. Moreover, evidence that the athlete(s) participation at this Festival would be a beneficial pathway opportunity for future senior Olympic Games selection.'*

3. ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1. To be considered for selection under this Policy, a player must be eligible to represent Great Britain in the 2025 EYOF under the EOC Charter and regulations and the BOA rules in place from time to time, including, but not limited to:
 - 3.1.1. Born between 1 January 2009 and 31 December 2010;
 - 3.1.2. A holder of a valid British passport which expires no less than 6 months after the Festival, or otherwise through submission of relevant documents to the Organising Committee that they then deem meet requirements for eligibility for this Event;
 - 3.1.3. Be a current member of and in good standing with the respective National Governing Body;
 - 3.1.4. Eligible under any other eligibility criteria imposed by the IOC and/or the BOA including in respect of anti-doping and;
 - 3.1.5. Signing the BOA Team Members Agreement

4. EOC QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

- 4.1. A maximum of one male and one female athlete from each National Olympic Committee (NOC) can qualify
- 4.2. It should be noted that it will be mandatory for all qualified players to play in both the Singles and the Mixed Doubles event.

5. SPORT SELECTION CRITERIA

- 5.1. GB Badminton will select and nominate players to the BOA in accordance with the Policy Objectives and Event eligibility criteria, who meet the following criteria at the time of selection:

- 5.1.1. Players that are part of a Home Nation Performance Programme / Pathway, or engaging in Performance Programme / Pathway activity

The Panel will then consider the following within the last 12 months from selection date:

- Significant results / performances achieved in singles at U17/U19 Junior BEC/BWF sanctioned tournaments in the expert opinion of the Selection Panel
- Significant results / performances in singles against higher performing / older opposition, in the expert opinion of the Selection Panel

Additional Considerations

Where necessary, the Panel's decision making may be guided by all or any of the following in any order and with any weighting that they see fit utilising their knowledge and discretion to select players relating to achieving the Policy Objective. The below will be based **within the last 12 months from selection date**:

- Quality of Event and opposition the player has competed against
- Head to heads between players
- A player's most recent singles results (last 6 months), consistency and current stage of development (age relevant to level)
- BEC European U17 Singles Ranking
- Unforeseen circumstances within a player's draw i.e., byes, walk-overs and withdrawals
- Extenuating circumstances e.g., significant/long term injury and/or illness which has impacted on a player's ability to compete during the period which they have been required to have met criteria. Where this is the case, the athlete's prior performance level may be considered

6. APPEALS

- 6.1. GB Badminton Appeals Procedure will be followed.

7. DESELECTION

- 7.1. A player selected for the 2025 EYOF may be deselected if the player:
 - 7.1.1. Due to illness or injury, in the opinion of the Selection Panel (see below), becomes unable to perform to the required standard. Medical advice may be sought.

- 7.1.2. Breaches, or fails to fulfil a requirement of, the Anti-Doping Policies of the respective National Governing Body, the Badminton World Federation or other approved agencies.
- 7.1.3. No longer fulfils the eligibility criteria listed in Section 3 of this document.
- 7.2. Any decision to deselect a player from this event will be taken by the Selection Panel and communicated to the respective player in writing explaining the reason(s) for the deselection.
- 7.3. The selection of any replacement players will be completed in accordance with this selection policy.

8. SELECTION PANEL

- 8.1. The Selection Panel will comprise of the England Junior Performance Programme Manager (Chair & non-voting), all four GB Technical Advisory Group members (or nominated deputy/s with relevant knowledge), GB Performance Director, if in place, the nominated EYOF Team Leader, plus a member of the GB Board as independent observer (non-voting) In the event of unforeseen circumstances, the GB TAG Group can appoint replacement Members of this Selection Panel from within its Membership such that there is a minimum of 5 voting members of the Selection Panel.
- 8.2. Panel members should declare any conflicts of interest at the beginning of the selection meeting such as close personal connections with players considered for selection (e.g., family, personal coach). The Panel Member can take part in discussions but will abstain from voting when this involves the player(s) in question.

9. SELECTION PROCEDURE – TIMESCALES

- 9.1. The selection for the 2025 EYOF will take place on 19th May 2025.
- 9.2. Selected players will be informed about the selection via email by 12pm on 20th May 2025.
- 9.3. Selected players must confirm their availability for the Event as well as any team preparation activities within 24 hours.
- 9.4. These provisional selections will be published on all Home Nations websites by 3pm on 20th May 2025.
- 9.5. Non-selected players will have 72 hrs to submit an appeal from receiving the above notice and GB Badminton will ensure that all appeals have been heard and concluded within one week (see item 6 – Appeals) and prior to the nomination date in 9.6
- 9.6. Nominations will be submitted to the British Olympic Association on or before 19th June 2025.
- 9.7. Final selection is at the sole discretion of the BOA and will be based on the GB Badminton nominations made against this Selection Policy. The BOA will submit its selection to the EOC by 20th June 2025.
- 9.8. The selection will be announced on all Home Nations websites <http://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/> following ratification from the BOA.