



2009/2010

ATHLETE SELECTION POLICY FOR THE
RACE TEAMS AND DEVELOPMENT
SQUADS OF THE BRITISH DISABLED SKI
TEAM

1 of 11





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1. INTRODUCTION

The British Disabled Ski Team, hereinafter referred to as BDST, is the racing arm of Disability Snowsport UK. The BDST is the UK's National team for alpine (downhill) ski racing for the disabled and receives its race remit from Snowsports GB.

The BDST comprises an "A" Race Team, a "B" Race Team (the Race Team) and a Adult Development Squad. From the Race Team, athletes are selected to compete in major skiing competitions such as Paralympic Winter Games and World Championships, as well as World Cup, European Cup, North American Cup and other competitions. The Development Squad works alongside the Race Team to provide an environment from which new ski racers emerge and develop aspiring to join the Race Team.

The BDST athlete selection policy aims to be fair and transparent and governs the requirements for entry into the Race Team and the Development Squad and maintenance of positions in the Race Team and Development Squad.

Separately, the BDST administers the process for race licence applications and race entries for non-BDST British athletes ("independent racers").

Ultimately our goals are to provide an environment in which individuals within the BDST may reach their full potential, and produce athletes who have a realistic medal opportunity in major skiing competitions.

Further criteria with which selected athletes taking part in IPC sanctioned competitions must comply are laid down in detail in the latest document: "IPC Alpine Skiing Rule Book" as published from time to time on the Winter Sports>Alpine Skiing section of IPC website, www.paralympic.org .



2. SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection to the Development Squad and the Race Teams is subject to the General Criteria set out below in section 2.1 AND is also subject to the Specific Criteria set out for the Development Squad and Race Teams in sections 2.2 and 2.3 respectively.

2.1 GENERAL CRITERIA FOR ENTRY TO RACE TEAM AND DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

All athletes wishing to be considered for selection for the Race Team or the Development Squad as part of the BDST must:

1. *Hold British nationality status.*
2. *Be a member of their National Governing Body and support organisation (Disability Snowsport UK).*
3. *Agree to conform to the anti doping regulations laid down by the IPC and WADA which includes UK Sport's authority to apply police and enforce these rules. Details are contained in the Anti-Doping Rules of The British Disabled Ski Team which form part of the Code of Conduct of the BDST and signed up to as part of the Athlete Contract*
4. *Agree to conform to and uphold the rules and regulations as laid down by IPC and International Skiing Federation in the IPC Alpine Skiing Rules and Regulations Book, including (but not confined to) compliance with the IPC medical classifications. This to be used in combination with FIS ICR Technical Rules as approved during FIS – Congress Miami (USA) 2004.*
5. *Agree to and conform to the Code of Conduct of the BDST which also articulates BDST Disciplinary Procedures and sign-up to the terms set out in the Athlete Contracts for completion by the BDST Pre-Season Camp in October/November 2009.*
6. *Agree to pay an annual team contribution to the BDST. The amount of such team contribution to be communicated to the athlete, no later than 1st October 2009 and to be paid by the athlete no later than the pre-season camp in October/November 2009. Where the athlete receives funding obtained through the NGB, the BDST shall deduct the team contribution at source.*

2.2 SPECIFIC CRITERIA FOR SELECTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT SQUAD



All candidates wishing to be considered for selection to the Development Squad of the BAST must:

- 2.2.1 *Contact the Development Officer of the BDST with a view to being assessed.*
- 2.2.2 *Attend a Selection Camp as held periodically by the BDST.*
- 2.2.3 *Satisfy the Performance Manager, Development Officer or Head Coach that they show sufficient competence and future potential for inclusion on the Development Squad – in this regard the Performance Manager, Development Officer or Head Coach has full discretion and his/her decision is binding.*

If a candidate is unsuccessful and fails to be selected for the Development Squad this shall not prevent the candidate from re-applying at a future date.

Selection to and maintenance of position within the Development Squad is subject to the agreement of the athlete to follow any strengthening, body conditioning and nutritional programmes that the Head Coach or deputy may deem appropriate for the candidate.

No Athlete shall remain on the Adult Development Squad in excess of three consecutive years.

Maintenance of athlete positions within the Adult and Youth Development Squad is subject to annual review by the Head Coach.

2.3 SPECIFIC CRITERIA FOR SELECTION TO THE "A" AND "B" RACE TEAMS

As a minimum, selection is based upon IPCAS race points from the Combined List (rounded down to the nearest whole race point) as published on the IPC website (www.paralympic.org) at the close of the Northern Hemisphere race season.

- 2.3.1 *Selection to the "A" Race Team is achieved by an athlete reaching 150 IPCAS race points or below on the combined list.*
- 2.3.2 *Maintenance of the position of an athlete on the "A" Race Team may require the athlete to attain a position within the upper quartile (25%) of their class (VI, Sitting or Standing) in at least one current IPCAS points list.*
- 2.3.3 *Selection to the "B" Race Team is achieved by an athlete who has not attained the points level required by an athlete for the "A" Race Team, but who has demonstrated their potential by attaining a points level of 300 IPCAS race points or below on the combined list.*



- 2.3.4 *Maintenance of the position of an athlete on the "B" Race Team requires the athlete to steadily reduce their points and to demonstrate their commitment to do this with a view to attaining a position on the "A" Race Team.*

2.4 PROCESS FOR INDEPENDENT RACERS

- 2.4.1** *For independent racers outside of the BDST, each racer shall apply for a race licence to the Team Manager of the BDST.*
- 2.4.2 *The BDST Team Manager may at his/her discretion require evidence of competence and appropriate insurance cover before making any such race licence application on behalf of the individual concerned and may at his/her discretion refuse to make the application.*
- 2.4.3 *Independent racers holding an IPCAS licence must inform the BDST Team Manager in advance of any race entry being applied for.*

3. INJURY, DISCRETIONARY APPOINTMENTS AND OTHER FACTORS

- 3.1** *Every athlete who suffers a serious injury or extended hospitalisation for non-injury related reasons will be given time to recover full fitness before being considered for reselection to a team. They will be given opportunity through conditional selection to prove that they will be able to meet the selection criteria, and continue their position on their performance programme. Each case will be considered individually, and there will be not automatic reselection.*
- 3.2** *Discretionary appointment to or maintenance of the position of an existing athlete on the “B” Race Team may be granted on a probationary basis pending full membership which will be confirmed once the 300 points level is attained.*
- 3.3** *In all cases of selection, Performance Director’s/Team Manager’s discretion or Head coach may be used and will consider:*
- 3.3.1** *Attitude and Commitment.*
 - 3.3.2** *Outstanding Results in non-IPCAS points qualifying competitions.*
 - 3.3.3** *Physical fitness level.*
 - 3.3.4** *Injuries or hospitalisations*
- 3.4** *The discretion of the Performance Director/Team Manager or Head Coach may be used to promote an athlete from the Adult Development Squad to the “B” Race Team, to move an athlete to the “B” Race Team from the “A” Race Team, to move an athlete from the “A” Race Team to the “B” Race Team or to maintain an athlete’s position within either the “A” or “B” Race Team as the Performance Director/Team Manager or Head Coach deems appropriate.*
- 3.5** *No athlete shall remain on the Adult Development Squad in excess of three consecutive years.*

4. GENERAL COMMENTS REGARDING RACE TEAM AND ADULT DEVELOPMENT SQUAD STATUS

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- 4.1 *All athletes must participate in all training camps, competitions and other designated mandatory team functions unless excused by the Performance Director/Manager or deputy (as appointed by the Performance Director).*
- 4.2 *Any athlete who does not abide by the Code of Conduct of the BDST may have their Race Team or Development Squad status removed.*
- 4.3 *Being a member of the "A" or "B" Race Team or the Development Squad does not automatically qualify an athlete to compete at international level and such competition is subject to approval by the Head Coach or deputy (as appointed by the Performance Director).*
- 4.4 *All members of the BDST are required to sign Athlete Agreements and to comply with the terms of such Agreements. Failure to sign an Athlete Agreements and/or non-compliance with the terms of such an Agreement may lead to de-selection of the athlete/ expulsion from the BDST.*

5. SELECTION FOR COMPETITION

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- 5.1 *Selection of individuals for all international competitions is made by the Performance Director/Manager or Head Coach and is subject to his/her approval.*
- 5.2 *Members of the "B" Race Team and those members of the Adult Development Squad who are deemed ready for competition will normally be expected to enter only lower level competitions such as IPCAS European Cup and NorAm races. However, in a case where an athlete demonstrably achieves the required standards and requisite IPCAS race points levels, then such athletes may be entered for higher level competitions such as World Cup races.*
- 5.3 *Under no circumstances may an athlete on the Adult Development Squad be entered for any speed events (SuperG or Downhill) without permission from the Performance Director/Manager or Head Coach.*
- 5.4 *All athletes on the Race Teams or Development Squad are expected to enter competitions as selected by the Performance Director/Team Manager or Head Coach and maintenance of their position on the relevant Race Team or the Adult Development Squad may be subject to such participation.*



6. NOMINATION FOR UK SPORT, TASS FUNDING OR SPORTS AID

- 6.1 *The decision to nominate an athlete for funding shall be taken by the Development Officer after consultation with the TMC and the Head Coach. The key criteria that will be used shall be:*
- 6.1.1 *IPCAS Points*
 - 6.1.2 *Potential to achieve selection for Paralympic Games and World Championships.*
 - 6.1.3 *Potential to achieve Podium placing at Paralympic Games and World Championships.*
 - 6.1.4 *Commitment to improving individual performance.*
 - 6.1.5 *Compliance with the relevant TASS/ UK Sport/ Sports Aid criteria*
- 6.2 *In consultation with UK Sport, BPA, TASS and Sports Aid an athlete will be placed on the appropriate funding level as determined by performance and potential to win medals.*
- 6.3 *Where an athlete has not complied with the terms of funding obtained for them, then that athlete may not be considered eligible for funding during the next funding cycle.*

THE RACE TEAM AND DEVELOPMENT SQUAD FOR THE 2009/2010 SEASON WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY 1MAY09.