



Sport Performance Department

Under 21 European Championships Team Selection Policy 2026

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(1) OVERVIEW

This Selection Policy should be read and used in conjunction with the Under 21 European Championships 2026 Expression of Interest (EOI) form and the Selection Appeals Policy.

Selection of athletes to represent Great Britain at the Under 21 European Championships will be made according to the criteria outlined in this document. British Taekwondo is closely monitoring the current situation regarding rule changes and category changes and so, therefore, reserves the right to amend this selection policy or process in the event of any unforeseen circumstances.

(2) COMPETITION DETAILS

- (a) This selection procedure pertains to the Under 21 European Championships 2026 taking place in <Location> from <Dates> to <Date>.

(3) ELIGIBILITY FOR SELECTION

- (a) Athletes are eligible for consideration for selection for the Under 21 European Championships 2026, provided they demonstrate the following criteria:
- Hold a current British Taekwondo Membership.
 - Are a British Citizen and hold a valid British Passport (with at least six months validity at time of return date of travel).
 - Hold a minimum 1st Kup.
 - Hold a valid 2026 GAL Licence.
 - Year of Birth – 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 or 2010
 - Athletes with multiple citizenship must not have represented another country within a period of 36 months, in line with World Taekwondo regulations.
 - Athletes must have achieved the minimum Qualification Standard outlined in section 4.
 - Athletes must not be in dispute with British Taekwondo, affiliated bodies or stakeholders.
 - Athlete must comply with the entry requirements of the event.
 - Declaration of all medications to obtain a TUE if needed.
 - Are not serving any current or pending anti-doping suspension.

(4) QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

Athletes must have demonstrated an ability to win matches on the international stage. The selection panel will consider any athlete that have achieved a minimum of **6 Points** or **2 Medals** for **Junior Athletes** and **3 Points** or **1 Medal** for **Senior Athletes** using the below criteria.

- (a) Selection competitions for this policy are any G/E ranked competitions for Junior Athletes and G1, G2 or G3 ranked competitions for Senior Athletes that takes place between 1st January 2026 to 30th June 2026.
- (b) Athletes will amass one point for every match win they record at any of the selection competitions.
- (c) For clarity a free draw in the first round of a competition **will not** count as a match win but an opponent withdrawal in the latter stages of the competition will be counted.
- (d) British Taekwondo reserve the right to add/change these qualifying competitions should the date of the Under 21 European Championships be changed for any reason.

- (e) Athletes will also be considered for selection if they have attended a minimum of 6 British Taekwondo Squad Sessions between 1st October 2025 and 30th June 2026 and they have expressed their interest to be selected via the official process

(5) SELECTION PROCESS

The selection panel will convene within 4 weeks of the deadline date mentioned in section 8 (subject to change by British Taekwondo) to select athletes for the Great Britain Team for the Under 21 European Championships 2026. The selected team will be announced shortly after the selection meeting.

The Selection Panel will be provided with the following information.

- Expression of interest forms submitted by all athletes that meet the Minimum Qualification Standard of 6 points or 2 medals for junior athletes and 3 points or 1 medal for senior athletes.
- Athlete Competition Record (completed by the athlete) from all E1 / E2 and G1 / G2 competitions from 1st January 2025 to 30th June 2026.
- Audit results from British Taekwondo Membership Services for athletes that meet the Minimum Qualification Standard.

The maximum team size for this event is 8 male athletes and 8 female athletes. The maximum number of athletes selected in each category will not exceed 1. However additional athletes may be selected per weight division if European Taekwondo Union allow further quotas per weight division per country.

- (a) Athletes will be automatically included into the selection meeting if they have amassed the minimum number of 6 points (equivalent of 6 match wins) or 2 medals for **Junior Athletes** and 3 points (equivalent of 3 match wins) or 1 medal for **Senior Athletes** at the selection competitions.
- (b) Athletes will also be considered for selection if they have attended a minimum of 6 British Taekwondo Squad Sessions between 1st October 2025 and 30th June 2026
- (c) Achieving the minimum standard of attendance, points or medals **does not** automatically guarantee selection to the Under 21 European Championships. It simply qualifies you to be considered by the selection panel.
- (d) The selection panel will consider all athletes that have reached the Minimum Qualification Standard and submitted an Expression of Interest Form along with the fully completed Competition Record from the G/E ranked competitions.
- (e) The Selection Panel will consider the following when selecting athletes for the Under 21 European Championships:
- Overall results at the selection competitions.
 - Athletes performances at the selection competitions.
 - Level of the opposition faced at the selection competitions.
 - Number of entries and the depth of quality at each selection competition.
 - Consistency of results and performance at competitions using the primary (KP&P and Daedo) protector scoring system (PSS).
 - Outstanding Performance at British Taekwondo Squad Sessions
- (f) British Taekwondo Sport Performance Department Selection Panel reserves the rights to consider any athlete for selection that has missed the Minimum Qualification Standards for exceptional circumstances or has shown themselves to be an athlete of potential for the future.
- (g) Selection Panel members will vote blindly and the athlete with the most votes will be selected for the Under 21 European Championships 2026.
- (h) Selection Panel members must declare a conflict of interest if an athlete from their own personal club is under discussion, and they will not be eligible to vote on this category.

- (i) In the event of a tie the Chair of the Selection Panel will have the casting vote

(6) SELECTION PANEL

The selection panel will consist of:

- (a) The Sport Performance Manager, Stephen Jennings (Acting as Chair for the Selection Meeting)
- (b) The Operations Manager, Daniel Flesher
- (c) GB Taekwondo Development Programme Manager – Ruebyn Richards

The selection process will be overseen by a British Taekwondo Board Member.

(6) FUNDING, ENTRIES & REFUNDS

Under 21 European Championships 2026 is a self-funding event and as such all athletes must prepare themselves for the financial responsibilities of being selected. We anticipate the cost of the trip to be somewhere in the region of £900 - £1300 per athlete.

- (a) Upon selection and notification of the team, athletes will have a 4 week period in which to pay the cost of the trip **IN FULL**. Failure to meet the payment deadline may result in de-selection.
- (b) Team logistics will be centrally organised through Sport Performance Department.
- (c) Selected athletes will be expected to check communications regularly and transfer funds before the deadlines.
- (d) Payment links will be sent directly to the competitors from British Taekwondo.
- (e) British Taekwondo are unable to offer any refund to any athlete once they have already made any relevant bookings on the athletes behalf

(7) OBLIGATIONS

Selected athletes will be required to:

- (a) Complete all the required documentations relating to the selection and the championship.
- (b) Complete the Expression of Interest form and submit it to the Sport Performance Department by Monday 6th July 2026 (subject to change by the Sport Performance Department).
- (c) Complete the Competition Record document and submit it to the Sport Performance Department by Monday 6th July 2026 (subject to change by the Sport Performance Department).
- (d) Sign a Sport Performance Department “Athlete Agreement” to include the British Taekwondo Code of Conduct.
- (e) Adhere to specified travel dates organised by the Sport Performance Department. You will be expected to travel together as a whole team and from the designated airport
- (f) Inform the Sport Performance Department immediately if preparation for the event is interrupted in any way to include illness and injury, between point of nomination and the Under 21 European Championships.
- (g) Submit accurate body weight & height measurements as requested by British Taekwondo Sport Performance Department.

- (h) Attend agreed team camps or activities organised by the Sport Performance Department prior to Under 21 European Championships.

(8) CONFIRMATION OF FITNESS & DESELECTION

Each selected athlete must consistently display performance related behaviours, which provide the selection panel with confidence that they can achieve key performance targets.

The selection panel under the advice of Sport Performance Department and the Squad Coaches reserve the right to deselect any athlete who fails to adhere to the terms outlined in this selection policy, the 'Sport Performance Department Athlete Agreement' and the 'British Taekwondo Code of Conduct, or who has failed or refused to prove their performance level or fitness as highlighted below.

- (a) Any cause for concern over injury or illness arising from an examination or otherwise will lead to the athlete needing to demonstrate fitness at the discretion of the Sport Performance Department by undergoing fitness assessments with appropriate medical practitioners, regardless of whether they have done so previously. Sport Performance Department will provide reasonable notice of no less than 3 days.
- (b) If an athlete displays inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour that reflects poorly on the Sport Performance Department, themselves or other selected team members, we are entitled to investigate the situation fully. If the actions of the athlete cannot be resolved, negatively affect other selected team members or there is a risk that there will be a negative effect on performance of other individuals or the team at the championships, then Sport Performance Department may outline an appropriate course of action to resolve the situation, which may include informal or formal disciplinary action and deselection if a resolution is not deemed possible without having an impact on the performance of the team.
- (c) If an athlete has an injury or, in the reasonable opinion of the selection panel, lacks fitness prior to the Under 21 European Championships, then designated medical, coaching, sport science personnel and/or the Sport Performance Department (as appropriate) will be entitled to make an assessment of the athlete's management of their injury, rehabilitation, preparation and/or their commitment and adherence to training and rehabilitation with a view to determining whether the athlete can achieve full fitness and perform optimally at the Championships. The athlete under review will be entitled to make representation during the process of this decision being reached.
- (d) The Sport Performance Department will be entitled to specify any reasonable method requiring a selected athlete to confirm their continued health and fitness, which might include, participating in certain competitions, attending meetings or squad training, or undergoing a fitness assessment.

(9) DECLARATION OF MEDICATIONS AND APPLICATION FOR A TUE

- (a) Athletes must fully disclose all relevant medical information and applications for TUE exemption certificates must be processed prior to attending the Selection Events. Athletes are responsible to ensure that the relevant certificates are obtained 6 weeks prior to the competition.

(10) SELECTION APPEAL PROCEDURE

- (a) The selection procedure as outlined above will be followed adhering to the timeline with a selection panel. Appeals against a selection decision are only limited to athletes under consideration for that selection and are permitted **solely on the grounds that the applicable Selection Procedure was not followed.**
- (b) British Taekwondo operates a formal appeals procedure for challenging selection decisions. The Appeals Procedure must be instigated within 72 hours of email notification being sent.
- (c) Please note that this document may be amended if necessary.

APPENDIX: Automatic Qualification Athletes & Quota Place Coaches

1. Automatic Qualification Athletes

Athletes who secure a Quota Place through ETU or WT sanctioned events—where automatic qualification is granted—will be recognised as Automatic Qualification Athletes.

These athletes:

- Will not displace athletes selected via the standard Selection Qualification process.
- May opt to be supported by National Team Coaches.
- Will be granted access to official team kit and uniform, consistent with National Team athletes.
- Must procure kit through the same channels as National Team athletes.
- Will be offered travel and accommodation arrangements alongside the National Team.
- Are required to represent British Taekwondo and comply with the British Taekwondo Codes of Conduct and Athlete Agreement.
- Must participate in all designated preparation training sessions prior to and during the event.

2. Conditions for Athletes Electing to Use Club Coaches

Athletes who choose to be coached by their own club coaches must adhere to the following conditions:

- Club Coaches supporting Quota Place Athletes are not recognised as National Team Coaches and will not receive financial support for travel, accommodation, or sustenance.
- They may only coach their designated athlete and must collaborate with National Team Coaches.
- Attendance at preparation sessions is mandatory, and they must align with National Team schedules.
- Club Coaches must represent British Taekwondo and uphold the British Taekwondo Codes of Conduct and Athlete Agreement.
- They may be required to attend National Team meetings but will not participate in Head of Team briefings.
- Where multiple athletes from the same club qualify automatically, only one club coach may be nominated. Athletes may either utilise the designated club coach or opt for support from National Team Coaches.