

World Taekwondo Grand Prix Series III Manchester 2027

Independent Member of the Stakeholder Board

Great Britain has secured the rights to host the World Taekwondo Grand Prix Series III in Manchester in October 2027. This event is an important qualification event for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games with both Olympic and Paralympic competition on the programme.

The UK has hosted Grand Prix events regularly since co-creating the format with World Taekwondo in 2013. This long-standing role at the heart of international Taekwondo has established the UK as a leading nation, and Manchester a leading city in our sport.

In 2027, the Grand Prix will take place in a new venue, the National Cycling Centre in Manchester, creating an opportunity to modernise and future-proof the Grand Prix, whilst continuing to deliver on our hard-earned reputation as ‘home of the Grand Prix’.

The Stakeholder Board seeks to strengthen our governance and strategic capability by appointing at least one independent member with expertise in growing audiences through digital and social strategy.



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About the Stakeholders

British Taekwondo is the National Governing Body for Taekwondo in the UK and is a Member National Association of World Taekwondo. It is based in the House of Sport Manchester. British Taekwondo is a membership organisation covering all UK Home Nations and supports people to participate in Taekwondo across various disciplines.

GB Taekwondo is the body responsible for leading the Taekwondo Olympic and Paralympic High-Performance pathway in the UK and is based at the National Taekwondo Centre in Manchester. GB Taekwondo is recognised in this role by UK Sport and Sport England, and charged with delivering medals on the Olympic, Paralympic and World stage.

Manchester is the host city for the event, and Manchester City Council serves as a key strategic partner for Taekwondo. The Council supports both British Taekwondo and GB Taekwondo through its provision of the National Taekwondo Centre, its role in funding and hosting major events, and its ongoing work, through Manchester Active, to drive sport development and community engagement for Taekwondo across the city.

UK Sport is the UK's high-performance agency powered by DCMS and The National Lottery. UK Sport is a major funding partner for this event.

About the Stakeholder Board

The SHB brings together the organisations responsible for hosting, funding, and governing the event's delivery. The remit of the SHB is to:

- Set the strategic objectives and direction of the event.
- Ensure compliance with stakeholder governance and funding requirements, and delivery of obligations to World Taekwondo
- Oversee financial and risk management across the event.
- Provide a unified and aligned foundation for the delivery of the event and its objectives.
- Work with the Event Director to ensure operational plans are deliverable and meet strategic objectives.



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About the role

This is an advisory, non-executive role with a specific focus on maximising the impact of the Manchester 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix. The appointed member will provide expert guidance and strategic oversight of the whole event as part of the Stakeholder Board.

While the position is advisory, the appointed member will Chair the communications group, providing leadership to ensure alignment, accountability and clear strategic direction across all partners.

The role will play a critical part in enabling the growth of Taekwondo fandom, strengthening how the sport is presented, consumed and understood by new and existing audiences. This includes ensuring strong alignment between British Taekwondo and GB Taekwondo, helping both organisations communicate a complementary, compelling vision of the sport from their unique perspectives.

Further anticipated is to provide challenge and stimulate creative and experimental content, formats and audience-growth approaches at other events in the UK ahead of the Grand Prix, including the British International Open in spring 2027.

Reporting to the Chair and working closely with other stakeholder board members and key LOC staff they will bring their expertise to bear to support the delivery of the event's strategic objectives.

This role offers an opportunity to challenge the status quo, bring the Manchester 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix to new audiences and turn those audiences into fans.

Location: Meetings to be held throughout 2026 and 2027.

Meetings will alternate between in person (Manchester) and online where possible.

Salary: This is a voluntary role, with reasonable expenses reimbursed for attending meetings and key events.

Time Commitment: Circa 10 days per year, the SHB will meet at 7-week intervals, with the meeting frequency increasing closer to the event.

Contractual Status: Fixed term until completion of World Taekwondo Grand Prix Series III Debrief (December 2027)

Start date: April 2026.



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Key responsibilities

- Provide strategic guidance to enhance the profile and impact of the World Taekwondo Grand Prix, Manchester 2027, ensuring the event reaches, engages and inspires the British public.
- Chair the communications subgroup, facilitating the creation and implementation of a coordinated strategy across British Taekwondo, GB Taekwondo, Manchester partners and UK Sport.
- Support the growth of Taekwondo fandom by helping to shape the sport's identity, narrative and digital presence so it resonates with general sports fans, younger audiences and communities with cultural and heritage ties to Taekwondo.
- Expertly inform an integrated communication strategy that permeates social, digital and broadcast to deliver a consistent and engaging view of Taekwondo.
- Identify and support the stakeholder communications leads to develop creative, innovative approaches to content and audience growth, advising on new channels, formats, partnerships and storytelling styles that will bring Taekwondo to life for new audiences.
- Provide a long-term audience development perspective that utilises the Manchester 2027 World Taekwondo Grand Prix to establish a blueprint for the future.

Key relationships

- SHB members (MCC, Manchester Active, British Taekwondo, GB Taekwondo, UK Sport)
- Event Director
- Event communications lead

Person specification

Essential

- Proven track record in growing engaged digital audiences in a multi-stakeholder environment
- A deep understanding of media consumption trends of sports fans/followers
- Experience of traditional and non-traditional broadcasting and streaming methods
- Knowledge of the media and viewership landscape for Olympic/Paralympic sports and the related challenges and opportunities
- Previous board or advisory experience



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Desirable

- A sound understanding of major sports events (ideally across both Olympic and Paralympic landscapes)
- An understanding of the digital landscape in governing body and international Olympic sport
- Knowledge of Taekwondo, combat sports or martial arts
- Knowledge of the stakeholder environment within Manchester

How to Apply

If this exciting position appeals to you, you should submit:

1. CV (max. two pages)
2. Covering letter of one page of A4 demonstrating how you will bring your experience, skills, and knowledge to be successful in the role.

Please send your CV and covering letter to recruitment@britishtaekwondo.org

The deadline for applications is 9am Monday 06 April

Interviews will take place w/c Monday 13 April

For an informal chat about the opportunity, please contact Matt Marshall, British Taekwondo Head of Events on 07518 960 627

We are dedicated to creating a SHB that truly reflects the diversity of the Taekwondo community. We actively welcome applications from people of all ages and backgrounds, particularly from Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic communities, Disabled people, and young people.

If you have any accessibility requirements or would like to discuss reasonable adjustments, please contact Matt Marshall

Email: Mathew.marshall@britishtaekwondo.org

Telephone: 07518 960 627

