



## **British Surfing Selection Policy**

**ISA World Games 2023**

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## Definitions

“ADRV”	means Anti-Doping Rule Violation
“Appeal”	means an appeal against a Selection decision under the Policy;
“Appeal Panel”	means the panel which addresses Appeals once they go beyond the capacity of the Selection Panel;
“Appeal Process”	means the process for addressing Appeals within the Policy;
“Appellant”	means any athlete or Authorised Representative who makes an Appeal against a Selection decision;
“Authorised Representative”	means any party who is authorised to accompany the Appellant at certain stages of the procedures outlined within the Policy;
“BLU”	means British Long Board Union
“Chairperson”	means the Chairperson of British Surfing
“Chair of the Appeal Panel”	means the individual whose role is to have leadership responsibilities over the Appeal Panel;
“GBR”	means the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
“British Surfing”	means British Surfing Ltd.;
“Notice of Appeal”	means the notice given by the Appellant to initiate Appeal proceedings;
“Second Appeal Notice”	means the notice received by the Appeal Panel once the Appeal Process has advanced beyond the Selection Panel's deliberations;
“Selection”	means the process of selecting athletes to represent GBR to British Surfing Squads
“Selection Panel”	means the British Surfing Selection Panel; a standing committee of the British Surfing Board responsible, inter alia, for the Selection or nomination of British Surfing Squads or British Surfing Teams;
“ISA World Games Squad”	means a set of Athletes selected from which the final ISA World Games Team will be selected

“ISA World Games Team”

means a set of Athletes selected to travel and represent Great Britain at the ISA World Games;

“ERQS”

means World Surfing League European Regional Qualifying Series

“WSL”

means World Surfing League

“RQS”

means Regional Qualifying Series

## 1. Objectives and Approach

- 1.1. This document outlines the Selection Policy ('Policy') which British Surfing will follow when selecting athletes to represent the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereinafter referred to as 'GBR') for the International Surfing Association (ISA) World Games 2023 and (ISA) World Longboard Championships, 2023.
- 1.2. The Policy sets out the overarching Selection process as well as specifically outlining the selection criteria for the ISA World Games 2023 and ISA World Longboard Championships.
- 1.3. The Policy also describes an Appeal Process. Any Appeal against a decision of the Selection Panel must follow strict procedures laid down in the Appeal Process. Adherence to the process ensures that all Appellants are treated equally. There is a financial charge for making an Appeal to discourage frivolous Appeals.
- 1.4. The Policy and/or the Selection Criteria contained herein may be amended from time to time by British Surfing, including in particular in the event that COVID-19 materially impacts any matters related to the Policy, including in respect of qualification events or timelines.

## 2. The Purpose of the Selection Policy

- 2.1. The purpose of the Selection Policy is twofold:
  - 2.1.1. The primary purpose of the selection policy is to select the team that gives GBR the opportunity for the best possible results at the 2023 ISA World Surfing Games and the 2023 ISA World Longboard Championships.
  - 2.1.2. The secondary purpose of the selection policy is to provide opportunities for the long-term development of athletes who are, in the opinion of the Selection Panel, capable of being podium competitive at future international Events.

## 3. The Selection Panel

- 3.1. The Selection Panel, which is responsible for the implementation of the Policy, will be chaired by an individual nominated by the British Surfing Board.
- 3.2. The Short Board Selection Panel will consist of the:
  - Independent Chair of Selectors nominated by British Surfing Board (voting)
  - Chair of British Surfing Board (voting)
  - British Surfing Performance Pathway Manager (voting)
  - British Surfing Pathway Development Lead (voting)
  - Nominated Lead Coach for the ISA World Games 2023 (voting – athletes only)

The Long Board Selection Panel will consist of the:

- Independent Chair of Selectors nominated by British Surfing Board (voting)
  - British Surfing Performance Pathway Manager (voting)
  - British Surfing Pathway Development Lead (voting)
  - Nominated Longboard Representative (voting)
  - Nominated Longboard Representative (voting)
- 3.3. The Selection Panel is therefore composed of 5 voting members, and shall be quorate if 3 members are present, provided one is the Independent Chair of Selectors. If the result of any voting is a tie the Independent Chair of Selectors shall have the casting vote.
- 3.4. Selections will be made without bias or discrimination, and, as such, any conflicts, real or perceived, must be declared and recorded at the start of the meeting. The existence of a disclosed conflict will not preclude a Selection Panel member, or attendee, from participating in deliberations. Depending on the nature of the conflict a Selection Panel member may have to abstain from voting if a vote is required.
- 3.5. The Selection Panel has total discretion to make Selections but in accordance with the purpose of the Policy stated above. It will use, in conjunction with its own assessment, the Selection criteria as a guide to their deliberations and conclusions. Any Appeal made against a decision of the Selection Panel cannot challenge the exercise of discretion unless the Appeal can demonstrate that the discretion has not been exercised in a reasonable manner and that such discretion was exercised in such a way as to be prejudicial to the Appellant.
- 3.6. Further to 3.5, the Selection Panel will not give any preference to athletes who work or train, or who are in any other way associated with partners of, or entities associated with, British Surfing, and all Selections will be made in accordance with the rules and procedures laid down in the Policy.

## **4. Eligibility**

- 4.1. No athlete may be selected under or pursuant to the Policy unless they have satisfied the basic eligibility criteria.
- 4.2. The athlete must:
- 4.2.1. hold a British Passport and be eligible under ISA rules to compete for GBR;
  - 4.2.2. be a member of a Home Nation Surfing Organisation
  - 4.2.3. be WADA compliant and not be banned or suspended from competition due to an Anti-Doping Rule violation (ADRV) ruling or Investigation;
  - 4.2.4. not be serving a suspension for any other disciplinary offence; and
  - 4.2.5. to be physically and mentally fit to compete.

- 4.3. Any Selection does not entitle an athlete to receive funding for the ISA World Games and ISA World Longboard Championships, although British Surfing will endeavour to contribute towards athlete costs in relation to the ISA World Games. This remains at the discretion of British Surfing.

## **5. The Selection Process**

- 5.1. The Selection Panel is responsible for Selection of all athletes and support staff for the ISA World Games and ISA World Longboard Championships.
- 5.2. This paragraph aims to provide an overview summary of the Short Board Selection process. For the ISA Short Board World Games 2023, British Surfing are conducting a two-stage selection process. The first selection meeting will be on or around 10<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and will select 5 male and 5 female athletes which represents GBR's allocated quota places plus two reserves (which will be non-travelling). At this first phase, 3 male and 3 female athletes will be automatically selected for the squad preparation camp in Hossegor, France based on the World Surf League ('WSL') European Regional Qualification Surfing ('ERQS') rankings, and two further male and female athletes will be selected against the criteria outlined in Section 7. Following a team preparation camp on or around May 1<sup>st</sup> 2023, the final quota spots will be selected based on performances at the preparation camp. For the avoidance of doubt, the number of athletes travelling to the ISA World Games will be three male and female, with two male and female non-travelling reserves.
- 5.3. Following Selection Panel meetings, athletes will be notified of their Selection/non-Selection by British Surfing and Selections will be published on the British Surfing Website once the Appeals window has closed. Selected athletes must confirm with British Surfing their intention to take up the place prior to the Appeals window closing.

## **6. Appeal Process**

- 6.1. Any Appeal against Selection for the 2023 ISA World Games and 2023 ISA World Longboard Championships must follow the Appeal Process laid down in this Selection Policy. Any Appeal against a decision of the Selection Panel must follow strict procedures.

### **Grounds of Appeal**

- 6.2. An athlete, or their Authorised Representative, ("the Appellant"), may make an Appeal against a Selection decision only on one or more of the following grounds:
- 6.2.1. there has been a failure to apply the Criteria contained within the Selection Policy
- 6.2.2. the Selection Panel has failed to follow its procedures properly; and/or

- 6.2.3. the Selection Panel's discretion has not been exercised in a reasonable manner and that such discretion was exercised in such a way as to be prejudicial to the Appellant.

### **The Process**

- 6.3. In the first instance an Appeal is made to the Selection Panel, who will consider the Appeal and respond, either:
- a) agreeing with the Appellant and changing the original decision; or
  - b) rejecting the Appellant's Appeal and explaining its reasons for the decision.
- 6.4. If an Appellant is not satisfied with the outcome of the Selection Panel's further deliberations, then the Appellant may make a further Appeal ("the Second Appeal Notice") to a different panel, the Appeal Panel ("the Appeal Panel"), based on the same grounds of Appeal and Appeal Notice.
- 6.5. Outcomes available to the Appeal Panel are:
- 6.5.1. to confirm the Selection decision under Appeal and reject the Appeal; or
  - 6.5.2. to refer the Selection decision under Appeal back to the Selection Panel, identifying errors they have made in their deliberations or process, (as per the grounds outlined in clause 6.2), and requesting a new decision is made, or the original decision is confirmed correcting any errors made by the Selection Panel within a timeframe which allows their conclusions to be implemented.

### **How to Appeal**

- 6.6. An Appeal Process is commenced by the Appellant, addressing an email to the Chair of the Selection Panel appealing against a decision made by the Selection Panel that resulted in the athlete not being selected. ("Notice of Appeal"). The email should be sent to [appeals@britishsurfing.com](mailto:appeals@britishsurfing.com) . The email must be sent within 2 business days of the notification of Selection/non-Selection. Please refer to the British Surfing website for the publication of the Selection.
- 6.7. The Notice of Appeal must clearly set out the details of the decision which is being appealed and include full details of the Appellant's ground(s) of Appeal. The Notice of Appeal should attach any documents or written evidence relevant to the grounds of Appeal and which are relied upon by the Appellant.
- 6.8. All Appeals must be accompanied by a bank transfer of £250 which will be refunded should the Appeal be upheld under Clause 6.5.2 above. Information regarding the bank transfer of the £250 will be stated in the response email from [appeals@britishsurfing.com](mailto:appeals@britishsurfing.com).
- 6.9. Following the Appellant being informed of the outcome of the Selection Panel's further deliberations under Clause 6.4, the Appellant can raise a Second Appeal Notice if they do not agree with the outcome of the Selection Panels further deliberations. The Second Appeal Notice is reviewed by an independent Appeal Panel. The Second



Appeal Notice must be made via email to [appeals@britishsurfing.com](mailto:appeals@britishsurfing.com) and be received by British Surfing within 1 business day of the Appellant being informed of the Selection Panel's decision under Clause 6.4.

- 6.10. In the event of any Appeal, minutes of the Selection Panel's Selection decisions or of any Appeal hearing will be made available to the Appellant upon request and will be provided within one business day of such request. In some cases, it may be necessary to redact elements of the relevant minutes.

### **The Appeal Panel**

- 6.11. British Surfing will nominate an Appeal Panel of at least 3 members, none of whom sat on the Selection Panel, and none of whom are conflicted. The members will select a Chair of the Appeal Panel.
- 6.12. The Appeal Panel must receive the Second Appeal Notice within the time frames stated in Clause 6.9. The only fee required is when the Appellant first makes an Appeal to the Selection Panel. A second fee is not required if the Appeal reaches the Appeal Panel.
- 6.13. The Chair of the Appeal Panel will convene a meeting to take place within 2 business days of the Second Appeal Notice, (Squad Selection) or, if urgent for reasons of a specific event, then to take place within a time frame which allows their conclusions to be implemented.
- 6.14. The Appeal Panel will investigate the grounds of Appeal set out in the Second Appeal Notice and establish, to their reasonable satisfaction, which of the outcomes set out in Clause 6.5 is appropriate. The Chair of the Appeal Panel will notify the Selection Panel and the Appellant of their decision immediately after the meeting.
- 6.15. The decision of the Appeal Panel, and if required, subsequent review by the Selection Panel, following the Second Appeal Notice is final. No further Appeal of the same initial grounds of appeal will be considered.

## **7. ISA Short Board World Games 2023 Selection Criteria**

### **Athletes**

- 7.1.1 To be proposed for the ISA World Games 2023 any athlete must meet the eligibility criteria set out in Section 4 of this Selection Policy.
- 7.1.2 The selection panel will select 5 female and 5 male athletes (3 quota places plus 2 Non-Travelling reserves) utilising the selection criteria below.
- 7.1.2.1 The highest ranked male and female athletes on the WSL European Regional Qualifying Series (ERQS) as it stands on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2023 will be automatically selected to compete at the ISA World Games.

7.1.2.2 The next two highest ranked male and female surfers on the ERQS shall be selected for the ISA World Games Squad. Selection via 7.1.2.2 does not automatically secure the selected athletes a quota spot. (see 7.1.3)

7.1.2.3 The remaining two male and female athletes will be selected for the ISA World Games Squad by the panel. In making their decision the panel shall consider the following (in no specific order). Selection via 7.1.2.3 does not automatically secure the selected athletes a quota spot (see 7.1.3)

- WSL / ISA ability to score good/excellent waves within the last two seasons
- Results in British National Federation Events, European National Federation Events and Worldwide National Federation Events within the last two seasons
- WSL / ISA individual results from the last two seasons
- Specific skills relating to performance in El Salvador (see appendix 1)
- Likelihood (in the opinion of the Selection panel) to qualify an Olympic quota spot
- Athletes who may benefit from ISA World Games experience for future major international events in line with clause 2.1.2

7.1.2.4 Any athletes who sit outside of ERQS but appear on other RQS rankings are required to submit video and contest evidence. The evidence provided should include relevant results from other RQS surfing events as well as demonstrating, via video footage, the specific skills relating to performance in El Salvador. (see Appendix 1)

It is the responsibility of the individual athlete to submit this evidence by March 20<sup>th</sup> 2023. Selection via 7.1.2.4 does not automatically secure the selected athletes a quota spot. (see 7.1.3)

7.1.2.5 In exceptional circumstances the panel is prepared to receive video and contest evidence from athletes wishing to put themselves forward for selection. In such circumstances video and contest evidence may be submitted to the selection panel for deliberation. The evidence provided should include relevant results from other RQS, National and International surfing events as well as demonstrating, via video footage, the specific skills relating to performance in El Salvador. (see Appendix 1)

It is the responsibility of the individual athlete to submit this evidence by March 20<sup>th</sup> 2023. Selection via 7.1.2.5 does not automatically secure the selected athletes a quota spot. (see 7.1.3)

7.1.3 Following the first selection meeting for the World ISA Games, all selected athletes will be invited to a Squad preparation camp in Hossegor, France between 22<sup>nd</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> April. During the camp the coaches will assess the performance standard of each athlete not already automatically selected to compete under clause 7.1.2.1. Athletes will be

assessed in relation to the specific requirements of the conditions expected in El Salvador.

*For the avoidance of doubt;*

- the highest ranked athlete on the ERQS on April 10<sup>th</sup> 2023 will be selected compete at the ISA World Games.
- All other athletes will be selected for the final team on or around May 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 from a combination of the original basis of an athlete's selection and performances at the preparation camp in Hossegor, France.

7.1.4 On or around May 1<sup>st</sup> the Selection panel will re-convene to select the final ranking team of 3 male and 3 female athletes that will travel to the ISA World Games 2023 and will also put in rank order the non-travelling reserves in case of injury or illness. In making their selections the panel will consider (in no order);

- The original basis of an athletes selection
- Coaching reports and feedback from the ISA World Games Preparation camp

## **8 ISA World Longboard Championships 2023 Selection Criteria**

### **Athletes**

8.1 To be proposed for the ISA World Longboard Championships 2023 any athlete must meet the eligibility criteria set out in Section 4 of this Selection Policy.

8.2 The Selection Panel will select 2 female and 2 male athletes utilising the selection criteria below.

8.2.1 The highest ranked male and female athlete on the WSL International Longboard Tour as it stands on 13th March 2023 will be automatically selected to compete at the ISA Longboarding World Games.

8.2.2 The highest ranked male and female athlete from the 2022 British Longboard Union (BLU) Longboard Tour as it stands on 13th March 2023.

In the event that selected athletes from 8.2.1 & 8.2.2 do not take up their quota, this quota could be passed down to the 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> place male / female athlete from the 2022 BLU rankings **or**, pursuant with 2.1.2, to athlete(s) who have shown future medal winning potential. In this instance the panel will look at results from the events stated below;

- Results from British National Federation Events, European National Federation Events and Worldwide National Federation Events
- Results from the B.L.U. Longboard tour seasons 2022 & 2021

## **9 Team Support Staff for ISA World Games**

9.1 Selection of British Team Coaches and Managers for the ISA World Games 2023 and ISA World Longboard Championships 2023 is at the discretion of the British Surfing Selection Panel; provided they meet the following accreditation standard:

- Demonstrated relevant experience at International Events.
- All support staff must have an approved current DBS check.
- Agree to and sign the British Surfing code of conduct.

9.1.2 If neither coach nor manager selected is female, and if any of the athletes are under 18 years of age, a female chaperone will be taken as part of the team. This role is to be selected by the British Surfing Selection Panel but will not be a parent of a selected athlete.

### Addendum – British Cup 2023

Whilst the 2024 Selection Policy will be published later in 2023, it should be noted that among other factors, results of the 2023 British Cup will be taken into consideration when selecting athletes for the 2024 ISA World Games.

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