



Great Britain Deaf Swimming Club Tokyo 2025 Deaflympics Selection & Appeals Policy

Introduction

Great Britain Deaf Swimming Club (GBDSC) is the swimming association affiliated to UK Deaf Sport and DeaflympicsGB, and oversees all matters relating to swim at the Deaflympics.

The Team Manager reports to the GBDSC Board and ultimately to DeaflympicsGB.

1. Aim of Policy

This document sets out the policy and procedures for selecting swimming athletes to represent Great Britain at the Tokyo 2025 Deaflympics.

2. Event and GB Squads

The athletes are selected to represent at the following event:

- a. Tokyo 2025 Deaflympics, 15-26 November 2025.

3. Selection

The GBDSC Selection Panel will conduct the selection. In addition, any coaches or other advisors may be co-opted as ex-Officio to the Panel to advise on selection.

4. Timing of Selection

Athletes for the Deaflympics shall be announced a minimum of 6 months prior to the commencement of the respective competition.

5. Selection Consideration

Athletes who are seeking selection in representative squads for the Deaflympics should be at least 14 years old at time of selection and meet

the Recommended Qualifying times shown below and attend the required training and squad weekends.

Recommended Qualifying Times

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOMEN</u>
50m Freestyle	27.60	29.29
100m Freestyle	56.13	1.05.70
200m Freestyle	2.02.59	2.24.15
400m Freestyle	4.25.61	5.07.03
800m Freestyle		10.40.94
1500m Freestyle	18.52.03	
50m Backstroke	31.00	34.42
100m Backstroke	1.06.26	1.16.79
200m Backstroke	2.30.46	2.44.51
50m Breaststroke	33.07	39.60
100m Breaststroke	1.11.59	1.30.13
200m Breaststroke	2.41.35	3.14.50
50m Butterfly	27.99	30.63
100m Butterfly	1.01.05	1.13.86
200m Butterfly	2.26.71	2.50.53
200m Individual Medley	2.23.87	2.44.27
400m Individual Medley	5.06.72	6.05.50

6. Power to Amend Selection Policy

GB Deaf Swimming Club Executive Officers can make amendments to this policy at any time for reasons determined to be in the best interests of GBDSC, UKDS, DeaflympicsGB and the sport of swimming.

7. Athletes Responsibility to Read

While every endeavor will be made to promote this policy and its contents to potential squad members, it remains the individual's responsibility to read this document and seek clarification on any points from the GBDSC Executive Board. Every athlete who is selected for the squad must sign the UK Deaf Sport Deaflympic Athlete/Team Agreement and Code of Conduct.

8. Selection Criteria/Method of Selection

In considering the selection, there are minimum requirements that must be satisfied:

- a. **Age:** The minimum age permitted is 14 years of age at time of selection.
- b. **Eligibility:** The player must be a British Citizen (with valid British passport).

- c. **Hearing Loss:** The player must have a hearing loss of 55dB or greater in the better ear (ICSD Technical Reg, 2.2 Eligibility).
- d. **Performance:** The athlete's performance over the previous 24 months and competition results.
- e. **Prior Record:** The athletes' prior record, attitude, commitment and communication in previous competitions and training weekends.
- f. **Event Suitability:** The athlete's ability to:
 - Meet the selection time or times.
 - Ability to attend the event at the given dates.
- g. **Technical Ability:** The athlete's overall ability in terms of:
 - Perform at the correct level of training and competition.
 - Know the rules of all swimming strokes.
- h. **Behavior:** Athletes to conduct themselves in a manner as expected by the GB Deaf Swimming Club (including use of social media).
- i. **Physical Fitness:** should have the correct level of training and competition commitment for this standard of competition.
- j. **Training Programmes:** The athlete's attendance, performance and attitude at any squad/team training weekend/events.
- k. **Team Co-operation:** Should be able to communicate with all team members regardless of age and ability.

*The minimum age requirement is set by ICSD and is outlined in the Tokyo 2025 Deaflympics Technical Regulations.

Ideally, selection will be by unanimous decision of the Selection Panel. Otherwise, selection will occur by majority vote. If the vote is tied, the Head Coach will have the deciding vote.

The Selectors' decision will be subject to UK Deaf Sports / DeaflympicsGB approval before players are officially named and announced as members of the DeaflympicsGB Swim Team.

The Selection Panel may at its discretion give weight to extenuating circumstances that may prevent an athlete from competing in an event/events or attendance at training or training camps.

In the case of injury or illness an athlete may be required to undergo a medical examination or provide proof of injury or illness by way of a medical certificate.

The Selection Panel may, at its absolute discretion, add players to any squad, subject to that athlete meeting the selection criteria.

9. Removal from the GB squad

An athlete may be removed from the GB squad if that athlete:

- a. Breaches or fails to observe this policy.
- b. For reasons of illness or injury and is unable to perform to the required standard in the opinion of the Selection Panel.
- c. Breaches or fails to fulfill a requirement of the Anti-Doping Policy of UK Deaf Sport/ DeaflympicsGB.
- d. Breaches or fails to observe either GB Deaf Swimming Club or UKDS Deaflympics Athlete/Team Agreements/Codes of Conducts.
- e. Fails to adhere to a specified training programme after being selected for the UKDS DeaflympicsGB Team.

10. Selection Appeals Tribunal

Selection Appeals should be submitted to the GBDSC Executive Committee.

The role of the Selection Appeals Tribunal is to deal with any formal appeal by a player against a non-selection decision by the Selection Panel. The Selection Appeals Committee is to consist of three (3) persons appointed by GB Deaf Swimming Club and includes:

- a. One person who is appointed to chair the tribunal.
- b. One person who has experience in dispute resolution.
- c. One other person from a sporting background and with knowledge of the sport of swim.

No member of the Selection Appeals Committee may be party to or directly interested in the matter under consideration.

11. Appeals Process

The process for dealing with appeals against non-selection will be as follows:

- a. Consultation and mediation whereby the parties meet to discuss the decision (Ideally within 24 hours of the selection announcement and typically involving the Chair of Selectors and the athlete (With Parent/Guardian in the case of a player under the age of 18).
- b. Only where the parties do not reach agreement via consultation and mediation will a non-selected athlete be allowed to appeal to the GBDSC Selection Appeals Committee convened by GBDSC.
- c. The sole ground for that appeal is that the selection policy was not followed and/or implemented.
- d. UK Deaf Sport / DeaflympicsGB will determine appeals against the GBDSC Selection Appeals Tribunal. Only in exceptional circumstances, where no resolution is made, may an appeal be re-

ferred to the UK Deaf Sport DeaflympicsGB Selection Appeals Procedure 2025.

12. Appeals Procedure

The appeals process is to generally be in accordance with the following:

- a. Any appeal against a decision by the Selectors must be made within 48 hours of the mediation meeting referred to above (Clause 11 Appeals process).
- b. The appeal must be lodged in writing with the designated officer of GBDSC and must set out:
 - i. The decision of the Selectors Panel in question.
 - ii. The grounds on which the appeal is being made.
 - iii. The reasons or circumstances supporting the alleged grounds of appeal.
- c. Nothing in this Policy prevents the withdrawal of the appeal at any time in writing.
- d. On receipt of an appeal in accordance with the policy the designated officer of GBDSC will forward the appeal documentation immediately to the Selection Appeals Committee.
- e. The Selection Appeals Committee shall convene a meeting to hear the appeal and shall:
 - i. Give the aggrieved person (With Parent/Guardian in the case of a player under the age of 18) and the GBDSC Selection panel every opportunity to be heard.
 - ii. Give due consideration to any written statement by the aggrieved person (co-signed by a Parent/Guardian if player under 18).
 - iii. Allow the aggrieved person to be present (with Parent/Guardian if player under 18) and /or provide such evidence as is available.
 - iv. Request or require any Witness (With Parent/Guardian if under 18 years old) to attend the meeting and/or provide such evidence as available.
 - v. Following consideration of all the relevant and available information shall arrive at a finding by majority vote.
 - vi. Provide a written response to the designated officer of GBDSC within 24 hours of the meeting.
- f. The athlete shall be notified of the decision of the Selection Appeals Committee within 7 days of the hearing.

- g. If the Selection Appeals Committee considers the grounds alleged by the aggrieved person to be satisfied, it shall recommend that the GBDSC Selection Panel again consider the selection of the relevant individual.
- h. Subject to Clause 9 (Removal from the DeaflympicsGB squad) – of this Policy, any further selection decision of the GBDSC Selection Panel under the direction of the Selection Appeals Committee shall be final and no further appeal shall be available to the aggrieved person in respect of that selection.
- i. Only in exceptional circumstances, where no agreement or resolution is made may an appeal be referred to the UK Deaf Sport DeaflympicsGB Selection Appeals Procedure 2025.

END

February 2025