



**DeaflympicsGB**

# **Great Britain Deaf Golf Tokyo 2025 Deaflympics Player Selection & Appeals Policy**

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**Players seeking to play in the DeaflympicsGB squad for the Tokyo 2025 Deaflympics should read this document.**

## **Preamble**

Great Britain Deaf Golf (GBDG) is the golf association affiliated to UK Deaf Sport and DeaflympicsGB and oversees all golfing matters relating to golf at the Deaflympics. The association is a joint venture between the deaf golf governing bodies in England, Scotland, and Wales. Players in Northern Ireland have the choice to play for GB if they have a British passport, or Ireland if they have an Irish passport.

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

Players will be selected for representational duties primarily - but not exclusively - from athletes who are nominated for the three National Teams. The criteria outlined in clauses 5,6 and 8 of this policy will be used to assess the performance of squad members and their peers over time to aid the selection process. A player not being in a National Squad is not precluded from consideration for selection in any team or event.

## **1. Aim**

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

## **2. DeaflympicsGB Squads**

The players are selected to represent at the following events:

- a. Men's Deaflympic Individual event
- b. Women's Deaflympic Individual event
- c. Other golf competitions included at the Deaflympics

### 3. Selection

The GBDG 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

Players for the Deaflympics shall be announced a minimum of 6 months prior to the commencement of the respective competition. For the 2025 tournament this will be 17<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

### 5. Events to Play for Selection Consideration

Players who are seeking selection in representative squads for the Deaflympics will be assessed on their performances in at least one of the following events:

- a. **Mainstream Golf Events:** Player's performances in their respective club and regional, national and international events will be taken into consideration.
- b. **Deaf Golf Events:** Player's performances in regional, national and international events will be taken into consideration.

### 6. Power to Amend Selection Policy

This policy can be amended at any time by GBDG for reasons determined to be in the best interests of GBDG, UKDS, DeaflympicsGB and the sport of golf.

### 7. Athletes Responsibility to Read

While every effort will be made to promote this policy and its contents to potential DeaflympicsGB squad members, it remains the individual athlete's responsibility to read this document and seek clarification on any points from the GBDG. An athlete who is selected for the DeaflympicsGB squad must sign the UK Deaf Sport DeaflympicGB Team Agreement & 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 12 years of age at the start of the Deaflympic competition 2025.\* Born on or before 18 November 2013.

- 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. **Handicap:** The player must confirm their handicaps. Men 10.4 or under. Women 22.4 or under. (ICSD Tech Regulations)\*.

\*The minimum age requirement and handicaps may be subject to change by the ICSD Golf Technical Director. But they are correct at the time of releasing this policy document.

GBDG will also examine a combination of other objective and subjective criteria. In the case of subjective criteria, Selectors will use their absolute discretion, and will consider, but not limited to considering the following:

- a. **Performance:** The players performance over the previous 12/24 months.
- b. **Participation:** The players participation at nominated events as published in this document (Clause 5).
- c. **Prior Record:** the player's prior record in nominated events (Clause 5).
- d. **National Ranking:** the players current standing.
- e. **Game Suitability:** the players Game Suitability to the type of golf course and weather conditions at which the competition is being held including the format of the event (stroke/match play).
- f. **Behaviour:** The players general on-course & off-course behavior (including use of social media).
- g. **Physical Fitness:** The player's physical fitness to compete at the elite level and within the Deaflympic tournament programme.
- h. **Training Programmes:** The players attendance, performance, and attitude at any squad/team training programmes/ camps/events
- i. **Team Co-operation:** The player's ability to work within a team. environment including taking direction from Managers & Coaches.
- j. **Opinion of GBDG Selection Panel:** The collective opinion of the Selection Panel as to the potential of the player to represent GB at the highest level.

Ideally, selection will be by unanimous decision of the Selection Panel. Otherwise, selection will occur by majority vote. If the vote is tied, the nominated Chair 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 Golf 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 DeaflympicsGB squad**

A selected athlete may be removed from the DeaflympicsGB squad if that athlete:

- a. Breaches or fails to observe this policy.
- b. For reason of illness or injury 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 of the UKDS DeaflympicsGB 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**

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 Golf 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 golf.

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 player (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 GBDG Selection Appeals Committee convened by GBDG.
- 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 GBDG Selection Appeals Tribunal. Only in exceptional circumstances, where no resolution is made, may an appeal be referred 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 GBDG 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 GBDG 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 GBDG 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 GBDG 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 GBDG 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 GBDG 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**