

UK Deaf Golf Deaflympics 2017 Player Selection & Appeals Policy

Players seeking to play in the GB Deaf Golf squad for the Deaflympics should read this document.

Preamble

UK Deaf Golf (UKDG) is the golf association affiliated to UK Deaf Sport and oversees all golfing matters relating to golf at the Deaflympics. The association is a joint venture between Deaf golf governing bodies in England, Scotland, and Wales.

The Team manager reports to the UKDG Board and ultimately to UKDS.

Players will be selected for representational duties primarily – but not exclusively- from athletes who are nominated into the three National Teams. Where appropriate an order of merit system will be used to assess 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 athletes to represent Great Britain.

2. GB Squads

The players are selected to represent at the following events

- a. Men's Deaflympics Individual event
- b. Women's Deaflympics Individual event

3. Selection

The UKDG Panel Chaired by the designated Team Manager will conduct selection. In addition, any coaches may be co-opted as ex-Officio to the Panel.

4. Timing of Selection

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

5. Events to Play for Selection Consideration

Players who are seeking selection in representative squads for the Deaflympics should have participated in at least three of the following events:

- a. **Mainstream Golf Events:** Players performances in their respective club and regional, national events will be taken into consideration.
- b. **National Deaf Golf Events:** Players will compete in their respective National championships prior to the announcement of the relevant teams for the Deaflympics.
- c. **European Deaf Golf Championships:** Players will compete in the European Championships prior to the relevant Deaflympics

- d. **World Deaf Golf Championships:** Players will compete in the World Championships prior to the relevant teams for the Deaflympics

6. Power to Amend Selection Policy

This policy can be amended at any time and from time to time by UKDG for reasons determined to be in the best interests of UKDG, UKDS and the sport of Golf.

7. Athletes Responsibility to Read

While every endeavour will be made to promote this policy and its contents to potential GB squad members, it remains the individual athlete's responsibility to read this document and seek clarification on any points from the designed Chair of UKDG. An athlete who is selected for the GB squad must sign the UK Deaf Sport Deaflympics Team Agreement & Code of Conduct.

8. Selection Criteria/Method of Selection

In considering the selection, UKDG may take into account a combination of objective and subjective criteria. In the case of subjective criteria, Selectors will use their absolute discretion, and will take into account, but not limited to considering the following:

- a. **Eligibility:** The player must be a British Citizen
- b. **Hearing Loss:** The player must have an hearing loss of 55dB or greater in the better ear (ICSD Technical Reg, 2.2 Eligibility)
- c. **Handicap:** The player must confirm their handicaps. Men: 10.4 or under. Women 22.4 or under.
- d. **Performance:** The players performance over the previous 12 months
- e. **Participation:** The players participation at nominated events as published in this document (Clause 5)
- f. **Prior Record:** the player's prior record in National and International events.
- g. **National Ranking:** the players current standing
- h. **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)
- i. **Behaviour:** The players general on-course & off-course behavior (including use of social media)
- j. **Physical Fitness:** The players physical fitness to compete at the elite level
- k. **Training Programmes:** The players attendance, performance and attitude at any squad/team training programmes/ camps/events
- l. **Team Co-operation:** The player's ability to work within a team environment including taking direction from Managers & Coaches.
- m. **Opinion of UKDG 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 Chair will have the deciding vote.

The Selectors decision will then be subject to UK Deaf Sports approval before players are officially named as members of the GB Deaflympics 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 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
- d. Breaches or fails to observe either of the UKDS Deaflympics Team Agreements/ Codes of Conducts
- e. Fails to adhere to a specified training programme

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 UK 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 UKDG Selection Appeals Committee convened by UKDG
- c. UK Deaf Sport will determine appeals against the UKDG Selection Appeals Tribunal.
- d. The sole ground for that appeal is that the selection policy was not followed and/or implemented

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 UKDG 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 UKDG 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 UKDG 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 UKDG 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 UKDG Selection Panel again consider the selection of the relevant individual
- h. Subject to Clause 9 (Removal from the GB squad) – of this Policy, any further selection decision of the UKDG 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

END.