



# THE UNITED KINGDOM MUAYTHAI FEDERATION LIMITED

TEAM GB SELECTION POLICY  
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## **Selection onto the United Kingdom Muaythai Federation Team GB**

### **Introduction**

This Policy sets out the process by which The United Kingdom Muaythai Federation Limited (UKMF) will select athletes onto our Team GB Programme.

The programme will provide both Male and Female athletes from England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to be selected onto Team GB. Both Junior & Senior (Elite) athletes will be selected based on the International Federation of Muaythai Associations (IFMA) age and weight categories.

Separate stand-alone policies may also cover selection of teams for other major events (such as the Europeans or Baltics) under Team GB. The purpose of these events is to develop athletes for the major international events.

### **UKMF Team GB Programme**

UKMF Team GB Coaching staff will use their discretion to continue and assess athletes for the remainder of a ten month period and consider their eligibility based on the Selection policies. The UKMF deselection process can be engaged at any period prior to the subsequent year selection process beginning.

Selection onto the Programme does not guarantee any Muaythai Competitor for the inclusion of any international events, nor does it confer any rights onto a Muaythai Competitor for kit or squad training. Team GB Squad Training and meets will be at the discretion of UKMF Coaching Staff.

All athletes are reminded that their place on Team GB is a privilege and not a right and they are expected to remain fully committed to their training and attend all UKMF activities they are invited to.

All funding support will be collectively provided to the selected teams and there is no individual funding support available.

### **Selection Policy Aim**

There is currently a two-tier program for selection.

#### **1. World Class / Elite Athletes**

The UKMF aims to select athletes who are world class or have the potential to be world class and are capable of winning medals at relevant international events that calendar year.

#### **2. Talent Pathway**

The UKMF will support those athletes who have qualified but still require development to successfully progress onto the world stage in subsequent years.

Muaythai Competitors will be placed in a phase which is most appropriate to them in the expert opinion of Team GB Selectors and coaching staff. The decision of the UKMF committee are final and no appeals will be dealt with.



## **Athlete Eligibility**

All candidates for selection must meet the following criteria:

1. Must hold a valid UKMF License
2. Be members of a Muaythai gym registered with the UKMF
3. Be medically fit and clear of any suspensions (Athletes with TKO/KO must be certified as medically fit by the doctor)
4. Have attended/participated in the UKMF selection trials.
5. Hold a valid United Kingdom Passport
6. In the case of Juniors one parent or legal guardian must accompany the athlete on tour.

## **Coach Eligibility**

All coaches attending international championships must meet the following criteria:

1. Be registered instructor with the UKMF
2. Have a valid Enhanced DBS Certificate (Valid 3 Years from Issue)

## **Selection Process**

At the start of every year, ahead of each Team GB Trials, all Muaythai Competitors (both Juniors & Seniors) currently on Team GB in that respective age category will be removed from the UKMF squad and the selection process will start a fresh.

If there are any overlapping events which do not allow for a new team to be selected the current team will have already been organized for the event.

An exception may apply when Muaythai competitors who were selected for a major competition in the previous calendar year will retain their place at the discretion of the Team GB Selection Committee (outlined further below).

## **World Class & Elite Athlete Selection Process**

Muaythai Competitors who are chosen to represent the UK under the UKMF at the International IFMA Championship Finals, are selected at the discretion of our Selection Committee. Our process is consistent with the requirements of the IFMA World Finals which include:

1. All-round quality of skill and effectiveness demonstrated on the day of the competition. The variety of techniques utilised throughout.
2. Performance, consistency desire, and determination.
3. Competitors respect towards their opponent, conduct and respect throughout the tournament. Gym Etiquette.
4. Consistent compliance with all UKMF rules, and regulations.
5. Other factors are also a consideration, which are entirely at the discretion of the selection committee.



## Talent Pathway Squad Development and Selection

The UKMF are keen to develop U.K Muaythai with a structured pathway with international opportunity. By supporting the development from grass roots through to seniors correctly, we will be on par with the best international competition. A coaching program will be in place to ensure that all athletes have the opportunity to be challenged and develop.

Selection onto the talent pathway will then be through a number of routes as detailed below. In summary these are:

1. As mentioned, those selected for a major championship the previous year will retain their place where possible;
2. Thai boxers can achieve selection through their performance at the National Trials
3. boxers can be scouted, invited to Team GB activities and assessed for selection
4. Junior and Youth boxers can apply to participate in regional IFMA shows, if they meet certain criteria, and then be assessed for selection

### De-Selection

Any athletes maybe deselected from the UKMF Programme for the following reasons;

**Fitness and Injury:** Where fitness or injury issues are identified with any athlete during squad training or competition the athlete may require an assessment. Athletes maybe required to undertake a fitness test to determine whether the athlete is capable of performing to the level required. Where an athlete is injured prior or during a event he/she must notify Team GB Head Coach immediately.

**Training:** Athletes may also be deselected if they fail to adhere to training and weight management with 2 kgs of their qualification category.

**UKMF Policies:** Athletes or their coaches breaching any of the UKMF policies, codes of conduct, Anti-doping policies or agreements may be de-selected. Any such actions which result in bringing the sport of Muaythai, or IFMA into disrepute, or conduct unbecoming an athlete of representing the United Kingdom Muaythai Federation.

### Future Plans for Development and Selection Process

The UKMF are working on a muaythai blueprint for the next decade and beyond. To plan a framework and structure fit for the future of UK Muaythai is imperative.

Work is under development in regards to: -

1. Regional / National Coaching Qualification & Training
2. Scouting & Talent Spotting
3. Safeguarding Policies
4. An athlete training programme to Excel, Challenge & Discover the best athletes
5. Further a more technical approach to squad development and fitness testing and monitoring
6. Anti-Doping implementation plan
7. Appeal Procedure