

British Curling (BC) Paralympic Development Programme
Season 2017-18

Rationale

The British Curling Paralympic Development Programme aim is to invest programme support in athletes who are committed to a Development Programme and with the prospect to progress to the World Class Programme. Inclusion on the British Curling Development Programme should be seen as “investment” for future potential at World Championships during the 2022 and 2026 Paralympic Cycles and for 2022/2026 Winter Paralympics. The ultimate outcome is to be able to medal at World/Paralympic level.

Please bear in mind that the key question that will be asked when making any selection decision is:

“Is there realistic potential of this athlete being World Class Medal standard at the identified events?”

Structure and delivery of British Curling Paralympic Development Programme

- Maximum 8 athletes
- Delivery of Programme by identified Coaches
- Personal Development Plan
- On Ice Sessions (minimum 1 per month)
 - Delivery Analysis
 - Practice Drills
 - Technical Execution Testing
 - Shotmaker Testing
- Off Ice workshops may include
 - Tactics
 - Nutrition
 - Physiotherapy
 - Psychology
- Potential to compete in International Invitation Events
- Strength and Conditioning (athlete to access local facilities and arrange fitness programme - standard fitness programme template and guidance will be available for athletes to obtain)
- Practice Training – each athlete is expected to take responsibility for arranging their own on ice practice at least once per week to improve technique

Selection Criteria

- Eligible to compete for Great Britain or Home Nation Team at International Competitions and have made a commitment to do so
- Be a British national/British passport holder;
- Likelihood of attaining international classification
- Competed within the national events programme and/or international invitation events
- Commitment to the British Curling Paralympic Performance Programme
- Key Factors
 - Skill Progression - evidence of potential or genuine improvement in technical skills through objective testing and subjective analysis of any or all of the following:
 - Delivery Technique using video analysis and drills
 - Weight Control using video analysis and drills
 - Shot Making
 - Performance/Potential - ability to demonstrate consistent success leading to future potential at medal level. Results and Performance Statistics from the undernoted identified events:
 - SWCA National Events (National Pairs, Scottish Wheelchair Curling Championship, Friendship Trophy, British Open)
 - International Invitation Events
 - International Championships (WWhCC, WWhBCC)

- Commitment/Mindset - evidence that the athlete is actively maximising their potential by making choices that develop and improve their performance including:
 - Attitude and a willingness to improve technical and tactical ability
 - Commitment to engaging with the Performance Programme
 - Life Choices and Circumstances
 - Professional Life Style
 - Performance Development Mindset
 - Sportsmanship, Etiquette and the Spirit of Curling

Training Days

The following dates have been provisionally booked for Season 2017-18 and will be held at the National Curling Academy in Stirling:

- Saturday 14th October
- Saturday 11th November
- Saturday 9th December
- Saturday 6th January
- Saturday 3rd February
- Saturday 3rd March
- Saturday 31st March

Application Process

1. Application Process opens Friday 25 August 2017.
2. Athlete Application Deadline 17:00hrs, Friday 15 September 2017. The application form provided must be completed and submitted by e-mail to be considered for selection (late submissions will not be accepted).
3. Selection Panel to meet week beginning 18 September 2017 to select a maximum of 8 athletes team and/or invite prospective athletes to attend a Selection Day/Initial Training Day.
4. Selection Day/Initial Training Day will to be held at the National Curling Academy (Stirling) on Saturday 14th October.
5. All athletes will be notified of the Selection Panels decision within 1 week of the Panel meeting or the Selection Day/Initial Training Day.

Selection Decisions

Decisions about which athletes are selected to the programme from the period 1st October 2017 will be made by the 'British Curling Paralympic Selection Panel' comprising:

Voting members

- Performance Director (Chair)
- Head Coach
- Assistant Coach

Non voting Members

- British Curling Board representative
- Support staff/ Coaches – as required
- Note taker(s) - as required

To make their decisions the selection panel will use this document and:

- a) their expert knowledge of the sport and the target Games/Championships;
- b) where available and/or applicable:
 - previous individual conditions and/or targets set for the athlete;
 - information from Selection Day
 - information included in the Programme Athlete Selection criteria.

Appeals Relating to British Curling Programme Selection Decisions

The following procedures have been adopted by British Curling in consideration of any appeal made by or on behalf of any athlete wishing to appeal his or her non-nomination to/ de-selection from the British Curling Programme can be found in appendix 1.

Any athlete seeking a review of a non-nomination/de-selection decision should be aware of the time limits contained in the policy which are designed with the intention of resolving issues in a timely, fair and transparent manner.

All athletes should read this policy carefully and satisfy themselves that they are eligible to appeal in the first instance. Any appeals which do not satisfy the grounds of appeals will be dismissed automatically.

The parties agree not to commence, continue, maintain any legal challenge to any matter falling under the jurisdiction of the review panel before any court of law or dispute resolution body without first following this procedure.

Appendix 1

Decision Review Process

1. An athlete may request a review of a selection decision by submitting a written request to the Performance Director for a review within 3 working days of the announcement of the selection decision, stating the grounds for the review.
2. Reviews will only be considered on the grounds of;
 - (i) The selection policy process was not followed
 - (ii) Misconduct of selectors

There are no appeals allowed against the content of the published selection criteria and therefore against the actions of the selection panel, provided they follow the selection criteria. The criteria for appeal may not include any alleged error of judgment of the selectors.

3. The review will be coordinated by Performance Director and comprise of a panel consisting of the COO of British Curling; The Chairs of British Curling & the respective Home Nation Curling NGB(s) (or an agreed representative of either) within 7 days of receipt of the request for a review and may at the Review Panel's absolute discretion, include a meeting with the relevant athlete/ Coach(es).
4. The Review Panel can make one of two decisions can be made at this stage. The panel can:
 - Uphold the appeal and request the Selection Panel to reconsider its selections
 - Reject the appeal

The Review Panel must make full justification of any decision made.

6. The decision of the Review Panel is final and binding on all parties, as the review process is an exercise of discretion in the matter of selection. It is not a disciplinary or 'judicial' finding and as such, is not subject to further appeal.