



British Lacrosse

British Lacrosse Performance Program

Selection Policy 2025 - FAQs

The British Lacrosse World Class Program Selection Policy is designed to cover all aspects and detail of athlete selection to the WCP. All athletes are advised to read the full policy in full, however the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) below will hopefully help athletes, coaches and anyone interested in Olympics 6s Lacrosse, to understand the main points of the selection policy and some of the key issues related to the WCP.

A) What is the Performance Program?

Thanks to funding from UK Sport and the National Lottery, British Lacrosse operates a Performance Program (known in short as the 'BLPP') which enables us to provide and co-ordinate services to support the ongoing development of identified athletes towards achieving Olympic success. There are different levels within the BLPP...

- **Podium and Podium Potential**

These athletes have demonstrated their ability to deliver results on the world stage. British Lacrosse's PP provides bespoke support (including domestic and international training and competition, world class coaching and sport science support), which will enable athletes to consistently deliver medal success at major world cups and championships.

- Development

These athletes will have been recognised as having world class potential and the chance of success at future Olympic games. British Lacrosse's PP provides a program of world class coaching to support training plans and sport science support catered to athlete needs. The aim of the Development Team is to support athletes to Podium Potential level and to competing on the world stage against the world's best.

B) How do I get onto the Performance Program?

All athletes in contention for selection to the BLPP go through a formal selection process all of which is outlined in the policy which is available on the website. This process happens at the end of each competitive season however, discussions and monitoring of athletes in relation to BLPP selection happens all year-round through the athlete review process. This, along with input from coaches and the analysis of performance scores and data is considered by an expert British Lacrosse PP selection panel who apply a set of criteria to all athletes to assess whether they should be selected for the BLPP and at what level. There are slightly different criteria for podium/podium potential levels and for the development team but these are the soul basis for selection and all athletes aspiring to be on the BLPP should be fully aware of these. All selection decisions are made by the selection panel alone.

C) How is selection to the BLPP different to being selected to represent Great Britain?

Although the processes are quite similar, selection to the BLPP is separate to being selected to the Great Britain team for a major competition. Whereas GBR team selection is focused on picking a team of athletes for a certain event, BLPP selection is about identifying athletes who will access a program of support designed to accelerate them towards Olympic success. Whilst the majority of athletes on the BLPP do represent GBR regularly, it is very important to remember that any athlete, whether they are on the world class program/talent pathway or not, has the potential to be selected for Great Britain. There are two separate policies for BLPP and Major competitions (GBR) selection. Both however have very clear selection criteria within them that the relevant selection panels abide by when making their decisions. The Major competitions selection policy can be found on our website.

D) What are the criteria for being selected to the BLPP?

The BLPP Selection Panel will use different criteria as the basis for player selection. These criteria are the only things considered by the panel during selection. All criteria across all levels are underpinned by objective (data) evidence which informs the decisions of the panel.

Please see our selection policies for full details.

E) Who makes up the selection panel for the BLPP when do they make the decisions?

The BLPP selection panel is made up of a group of experts from across Lacrosse. Their job, using the BLPP selection criteria is to exercise their judgement as to which of the eligible athletes should be selected onto the BLPP. There are 3 voting members on the panel:

- BL Performance Director– Currently Chris Russell (Chair)
- Head Coach (womens team) – Currently Ailsa Stott
- Head Coach (mens team) – Currently Tom Wenham

There is also two other members of the panel who does not vote but are present at selection meetings. One of these is known as a Procedural Advisor who will usually be someone from a legal background. Their job is to ensure that procedures are followed fully and the selection criteria are correctly applied in all situations. The other is known as an Independent Athlete Representative who may be someone from an organisation like the British Olympic Association (BOA) or the British Elite Athletes Association (BEAA – formally the BAC). Their job it is to provide an athletes view to proceedings and be able to provide reassurances to athletes that the process has been conducted fairly. Both of these roles act to ensure there is fairness and transparency at the heart of the selection.

F) What support will I receive if I am selected to the BLPP?

The BLPP is all about supporting athletes to take ownership of their development and drive their path towards success on the world stage. The BLPP aims to add value on this journey which can be about supporting athletes to lead their own program, facilitating access to crucial aspects such as world leading coaching and support services and supporting training and competition costs. This can look different for each athlete depending on their needs and will differ between podium, podium potential and development.

Being part of the BLPP can involve these aspects...

- Access to GBR coaching through group and individual training
- Individualised athlete development plan and regular performance feedback and de-brief
- Sports science and medicine support via training camps/designated High Performance Centres
- International competitive opportunities
- National and international training camp opportunities

G) How long will I be on the BLPP for?

Membership of the BLPP essentially lasts for a 12-month period before the selection process happens again. Once selected, athletes discuss and agree a set of 'performance goals' which they are then assessed against throughout the season and then at their end of season review. These performance goals are linked to the BLPP selection criteria and are therefore to whether an athlete continues on the BLPP.

H) What happens if I don't get selected and want to appeal?

British Lacrosse is striving to create a culture of transparency and openness in selection and has consulted coaches and athletes in making the BLPP selection policy in order to make it as fair as possible. We also recognise that any athlete is entitled to appeal a selection decision and there's lots of detail of how to do this in the policy. We recommend if you are in a position where you would like to lodge an appeal, you go to the appeals section of the policy and read through the steps carefully.

I) When will selection take place for 2025?

BLPP selection will be announced formally at the start of April 2025.

J) Where do I find more information?

The British Lacrosse website is a great place to find out more about the BLPP and in the policies section you can find the full policies for selection to the BLPP and the GBR teams.

Any questions on selection can be sent to us at performancedirector@britishlacrosse.org