

Selection Criteria for the Great Britain and Northern Ireland Life Saving Team for Rescue 2010

1. One of the key issues is determining the criteria for selection to the GB Life Saving Team. Competitors want to know what they have to do to be selected. However, team selection these days is not easy for a variety of reasons. Perhaps the key fact is that with team sizes limited, each team member must be proficient at more than one or two events. To be the champion in one event may not be enough to gain selection for the team unless that team member can contribute in several other areas.
2. Competitors also have to understand that the selection of the team will depend on the overall balance and what each competitor can offer to the team as a whole. For that reason, the team selected for the **World Championships** may well be very different from that selected for the **European Championships**. There is no hard and fast rule.
3. Both RLSS UK and SLSGB agree that the overall aim of any GB & NI Team is to achieve the best results that are possible taking the actual events **and** calibre of the other teams into account. Given that this is the overriding factor, the policy must be to select the best team that is available from those people eligible to compete for Great Britain.
4. It has been agreed therefore that any British competitor, wherever they reside, if able to participate, and worthy of their selection should be selected provided they are in membership of either SLSGB or RLSS UK, and are in 'good standing' with both organisations. Any athletes not in good standing will be notified in writing and it is their responsibility to make appropriate arrangements to correct.
5. To consider if a person is suitable for selection, any performances in a recognised national or international competition within 12 months of the Championships being contested and up to the point where the team is selected, should be taken into account by the selectors.

World Championships 2010

(an appendix will be published later for Junior European Championships selection)

6. For **Rescue 2010** any performance in any national event of either the SLSGB or RLSS UK, and any other recognised international event will be considered. There will be an initial squad formed based on the teams for the last World and European championships (including reserves) and the results and performances from the following events:

All 2009 National and International Results

What does this mean for the competitors?

7. What this means for the competitors is that all performances that they demonstrate in any recognised national or international event in the periods stated will be considered for selection. Turning up to specific events is not a pre-condition for selection. However, attendance at any of the events listed does give every competitor the opportunity to show what they can do in a variety of conditions and events.
8. Similarly, attendance at every event is not a guarantee of selection; neither is winning any specific race in any specific event.

9. As stated above, the selectors need to consider the following:
- The status of the event being contested
 - The potential for achieving the best result for Great Britain and Northern Ireland Lifesaving Team across the range of events
 - The potential for medal performances
 - The potential for qualifying for finals
 - Previous experience of reaching finals and medalling in international events
 - The overall balance of the team required for the event
 - The performance contribution that each member can make to the team overall
10. Participation in the events listed above will assist selectors in determining each individual's potential to contribute performance to the team, qualify for finals and ultimately win medals, but it is not a guarantee of selection, nor a pre-condition for entry.
11. The events will be held when stated and it is for individual to decide whether to participate or not. With the ranking series, points gained across the range of events might well be crucial to determining selection when competitors are closely ranked. However, there is no hard and fast rule. It is the performances in the events listed that will ultimately need to be considered by the selectors.
12. The aim is to achieve the best results possible *for* the GB Team. World Championships should not be used for "development" purposes. There are other international events to which both SLSGB and RLSS UK, and our Regional colleagues in Wales, Scotland, England and Northern Ireland are invited to attend (such as the Nivea Cup in Germany, the German Cup, and the Commonwealth Championships) where teams can be selected for development purposes.

GB Training Squads

13. Potential competitors will develop through being part of a training squad that will be selected on an ongoing basis. Whenever it is possible to get the squad together this will happen. However, being in the squad is no guarantee of selection. Similarly, a competitor who is not part of the training squad could still be selected if the performances put in merit selection.
14. Attendance at GB Training Squad events will enable the team management and selectors to see how competitors develop and check that their attitude and behaviours are right for the tight team spirit that needs to be generated. It will also allow the team management to monitor the fitness levels of those with a potential for selection.

Who selects the team?

15. The RLSS UK and SLSGB ***have jointly appointed a GB Team Manager***/Chief Coach and either one or two Assistant Team Coaches for each team that is to be selected. The ***Manager*** will lead the selection panel and his/her Assistant Coaches will also be members of the panel. The GB Performance Director will oversee the selection process.
16. A GB Team Administrator may also be appointed, though this person will not be a member of the panel.

17. ***The Management Team for Rescue 2010 have been appointed. These are: Manager/Chief Coach Andrew Young, Everyone is therefore now*** aware of who is involved, and you can expect to see them in attendance at the national events of both organisations in future.

18. **Appeals are only accepted where the selection criteria has not been adhered too. Appeals are to the National team steering group to SLSGB and RLSS.**

Finally, if you have any questions about these criteria or the process, please email Rob Phillips robo@portreathslsc.org.uk or for any other enquiries to the Team Manager Andrew Young andrew@coastalsurf.co.uk