SELECTION POLICY – PARIS 2024 PARALYMPIC GAMES



1. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. GB Badminton have delegated responsibility to manage the Great Britain Para-Badminton Performance Programme to Badminton England. With the guidance of ParalympicsGB as the Great Britain National Paralympic Committee (NPC), GB Badminton have used the qualification regulations of the Badminton World Federation (BWF) and the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) Eligibility Code, to set the selection criteria for the 2024 Paralympic Games to be held in Paris, France ("the Games"). N.B Whilst Badminton England have delegated responsibility, GB Badminton will be responsible for nomination of athletes to the ParalympicsGB.
- 1.2. During the Games, there will be fourteen Medal Events as listed below:

Male	Female	Mixed	Total
7	7	2	16
Men's Singles WH1	Women's Singles WH1	Mixed Doubles SL3-SU5	
Men's Singles WH2	Women's Singles WH2	Mixed Doubles SH6	
Men's Singles SL3	Women's Singles SL3		
Men's Singles SL4	Women's Singles SL4		
Men's Singles SU5	Women's Singles SU5		
Men's Singles SH6	Women's Singles SH6		
Men's Doubles WH1-2	Women's Doubles WH1-2		

1.3. Final selection is at the sole discretion of ParalympicsGB and will be based on GB Badminton nominations made against this selection policy. Nominations will be submitted to ParalympicsGB and the team will be announced following ratification from and in accordance with the Paralympic Qualification Protocol entered into with ParalympicsGB.

2. ELIGIBILITY

2.1. To be eligible for selection for a singles event, athletes must have participated in a minimum of three (3) designated qualifying BWF tournaments counting towards the 'BWF Road to Paris Paralympic Games Singles Ranking List' published on 2 April 2024. Exception is made if a player qualifies in doubles or mixed doubles and is required to play singles.

- 2.2. To be eligible for selection for a doubles event, athletes must have participated in a minimum of three (3) designated qualifying BWF tournaments counting towards the 'BWF Road to Paris Paralympic Games Doubles and Mixed Doubles Ranking List' published on 2 April 2024. Exception is made if the BWF invites qualified singles players to create a doubles or mixed doubles pair.
- 2.3. To be considered for selection under this Policy, an athlete must be eligible to represent Great Britain under ParalympicsGB and IPC rules in place from time to time, including, but not limited to being:
 - 2.3.1. a holder of a valid British passport; and
 - 2.3.2. eligible under the provisions of the IPC Athlete Nationality Policy published in the IPC Handbook; and
 - 2.3.3. be a current member of and in good standing with the respective Home Nation National Governing Body; and
 - 2.3.4. eligible under any other eligibility criteria imposed by the IPC and/or ParalympicsGB including in respect of anti-doping; and
 - 2.3.5. be internationally classified with either a 'Confirmed' sport class status or a 'Review' sport class status with a fixed review date after 31 December 2024.

3. PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE

3.1. Qualification slots will be accepted by ParalympicsGB and sport selection nominations will be endorsed for athletes who show demonstrable medal potential at this Games or the next.

4. SELECTION PROCEDURE

- 4.1. The Race to Paris Paralympic Ranking Lists published on 2 April 2024 will be used to determine who is eligible for selection to ParalympicsGB for the Games.
- 4.2. The Selection Panel will convene on 5 April 2024 following the allocation of qualification slots in Doubles and Mixed Doubles disciplines, based on Ranking List allocation method by the BWF. The Selection Panel will convene again on 19 April 2024 following the allocation of qualification slots for Singles, based on Ranking List allocation method by BWF. The below dates GB Badminton to nominate athletes in a timely manner to ParalympicsGB and in accordance with the deadlines for nominations noted within the IPC Qualification Regulations for Para-Badminton.
- 4.3. Please note that final entries will be submitted to the Paris 2024 Organising Committee by the BWF no later than **5 August 2024**.

Bipartite Commission Invitations

4.4. Between 2 April and 30 April 2024 (final deadline to submit Bipartite Commission applications), subject to the NPC being notified of the

opportunity to apply for Bipartite slots, an athlete/s could be nominated by the Selection Panel to ParalympicsGB for their consideration for a Bipartite application based on the following IPC guiding principles and in respect to the Performance Objective noted in section 3 of this Policy. Note that BPA will primarily consider applications if the athlete meets the below criteria, as well as the primary IPC criteria "allowing the participation of top athletes who may not have had the opportunity to qualify through other methods due to extraordinary circumstances"

- 4.4.1. To ensure participation of top athletes who may not have had the opportunity to formally qualify through other methods due to extraordinary circumstances
- 4.4.2. To ensure the representation of athletes with high support needs
- 4.4.3. To ensure medal events will have sufficient representation for viability; and/or
- 4.4.4. To enable greater representation by gender
- 4.5. Please note, there are no grounds for appeal in relation to an athlete not being nominated by GB Badminton, to ParalympicsGB, for a Bipartite slot.
- 4.6. Additionally, all Bipartite Commission Invitation decisions by the IPC are final with no opportunity for protest or appeal of declined applications. Reference 6.6-6.8 of this policy regards Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation.

Announcement of Selection

- 4.7. ParalympicsGB will formally announce selection to the Team on xxx (unless such date is varied by agreement between ParalympicsGB and GB Badminton).
- 4.8. Nominated/selected athletes are not permitted to make any announcements to the media or the general public in any form whatsoever (including via any social media platforms) of their possible or confirmed selection or non-selection prior to official announcement by ParalympicsGB of such selection.
- 4.9. All dates in this clause 4.1 may be subject to variation. Any such variations will be notified to all athletes eligible for selection.

5. SELECTION PANEL

- 5.1. A GB Badminton Paralympic Selection Panel comprising of five voting representatives, plus an independent non-voting Chair, will be responsible for the administering of this policy. The Panel comprises of:
 - Independent Chair (Non-voting)
 - GB Team Leader (Voting)
 - GB Paralympic Head Coach (Voting)
 - GB National Para Coach (Voting)

- GB Badminton Board Representative (excluding Badminton England) (Voting)
- Home Nations Para Technical Representative (Voting) (excluding Badminton England)
- British Elite Athlete Association representative (Non-voting)
- Representative from British Paralympic Association (Non-voting)

Role of the Independent Chair will be to ensure the integrity of the selection process and that the Selection Policy is adhered too and manages the panel accordingly

6. MAXIMUM ENTRY PER NPC

- 6.1. An NPC can enter a maximum of one (1) Doubles pair comprised of two (2) athletes per Doubles event which must have qualified via the "BWF Race to Paris Paralympic Doubles Ranking List". Exceptions may be granted via the Bipartite Commission Invitation method or if the BWF in its sole discretion invites players already qualified in the singles events to create a doubles pair to be added to the events. Not more than 2 doubles pairs per NPC can enter a double events.
- 6.2. An NPC can enter a maximum of one (1) Mixed Doubles pair comprised of two (2) athletes in the Mixed Doubles event which must have qualified via the "BWF Race to Paris Paralympic Mixed Doubles Ranking List". Exceptions may be granted via the Bipartite Commission Invitation method or if BWF in its sole discretion invites players already qualified in the singles events to create a mixed doubles pair to be added to the events. Not more than two (2) mixed doubles pairs per NPC can enter a mixed doubles event.
- 6.3. An NPC can enter one (1) eligible athlete per Singles event if they qualify via the "BWF Race to Paris Paralympic Singles Ranking" qualification method.
- 6.4. Athletes invited through Bipartite Commission Invitation may enter an event even if there are already two athletes invited via other qualification methods. Not more than three (3) players from the same NPC will be entered into a singles event.

Entry into Singles Events from Doubles

- 6.5. Both players from a Wheelchair pair that qualifies for their Men's or Women's Doubles event automatically gain entry into their respective Singles events and are obligated to play in those events.
- 6.6. Every male SL3, SL4, SU5 and SH6 player who qualifies in the Mixed Doubles event automatically gains entry into their respective Singles event and is obligated to play in that event.

6.7. Every female SL3, SL4, SU5, SH6 player who qualifies in the Mixed Doubles event automatically gains entry into their respective Singles event and is obligated to play in that event.

Entry into Doubles Events from Singles

- 6.8. If qualified athletes in singles in WH1 and WH2 (both male and female) come from the same NPC the BWF may decide in its sole discretion to invite a maximum of two (2) WH1-WH2 Doubles pairs per NPC (in both male and female) to enter. If more than two (2) Doubles pairs with athletes from the same NPC can be created from the athletes qualifying in singles the Bipartite Commission in its sole discretion will decide how many and which Doubles pairs will be invited to enter.
- 6.9. If qualified athletes in singles in SL3, SL4 and SU5 (both male and female) come from the same NPC the BWF in its sole discretion may decide to invite additional SL3-SU5 Mixed Doubles pairs to enter. If more than two (2) SL3-SL5 Doubles pairs with athletes from the same NPC can be created from the athletes qualifying in singles the Bipartite Commission in its sole discretion will decide how many and which SL3-SU5 Doubles pairs will be invited to enter.
- 6.10.If qualified athletes in singles in SH6 (both male and female) come from the same NPC the BWF in its sole discretion may decide to invite additional SH6 Mixed Doubles pairs to enter. If more than two (2) SH6 Mixed Doubles pairs with athletes from the same NPC can be created from the athletes qualifying in singles the Bipartite Commission in its sole discretion will decide how many and which SH6 Mixed Doubles pairs will be invited to enter.
- 6.11. The following entry requirements apply for Doubles pairs:

Event	Sport Class	Points	Combinations permitted	Combinations NOT permitted
Men's Doubles Women's Doubles	WH1 & WH2	A maximum of 3 points	WH1 + WH2 WH1 + WH1	WH2 + WH2
Mixed Doubles	SL3 - SU5	A maximum of 8 points	SL3 + SL3 SL3 + SL4 SL3 + SU5 SL4 + SL4	SL4 + SU5 SU5 + SU5
Mixed Doubles	SH6		SH6 + SH 6	No other combination of classes permitted

6.12. The following minimum entry numbers will be observed:

M	en	Wo	men	Mix	ed
MS WH1	9	WS WH1	9	XDSL3-SU5	6 pairs
MS WH2	6	WS WH2	6	XDSH6	6 pairs
MS SL3	6	WS SL3	6		
MS SL4	6	WS SL4	6		
MS SU5	6	WS SU5	6		
MS SH6	10	WS SH6	10		
MD WH1- WH2	6 pairs	WD WH1- WH2	6 pairs		

Note: Actual entry numbers may be higher (depending on qualified and eligible athletes).

7. PARALYMPIC DOUBLES RANKING LIST ALLOCATION

- 7.1. The Paralympic Doubles Ranking List Allocation method is used to allocate qualification slots as follows:
 - 7.1.1. Men's Doubles WH1-WH2: the six (6) highest ranked Doubles pairs on the "BWF Race to Paris Paralympic Ranking List" published on 2 April 2023 each obtain two qualification slots for their NPC. Only one (1) pair per NPC will qualify via this method.
 - 7.1.2. Women's Doubles WH1-WH2: The six (6) highest ranked Doubles pairs on the "BWF Race to Paris Paralympic Ranking List" each obtain two (2) qualification slots for their NPC. Only one (1) pair per NPC will qualify via this method.

8. PARALYMPIC MIXED DOUBLES RANKING LIST ALLOCATION

- 8.1. Mixed Doubles SL3:SU5: the six (6) highest ranked Mixed Doubles pairs on the "BWF Race to Paris Paralympic Ranking List" published on 2 April 2023 each obtain two qualification slots for their NPC. Only one (1) pair per NPC will qualify via this method.
- 8.2. Mixed Doubles SH6: The six (6) highest ranked Doubles pairs on the "BWF Race to Paris Paralympic Ranking List" each obtain two (2) qualification slots for their NPC. Only one (1) pair per NPC will qualify via this method.

9. PARALYMPIC SINGLES RANKING LIST ALLOCATION

9.1. Following the Doubles Ranking allocation, further slots will be allocated to the highest ranked athletes (not yet qualified) on the "BWF Race to Paris Paralympic Singles Ranking List" published on 2 April 2024 according to the matrix below. Only one (1) player per NPC will qualify via this method.

The allocation per event is as follows:

Class	Men	Women
WH1	3	3
WH2	3	3
SL3	5	5
SL4	5	5
SU5	5	5
SH6	4	4

10. BIPARTITE COMMISSION INVITATION ALLOCATION

10.1.Bipartite slots will be allocated primarily to ensure event viability and accordingly to the following matrix.

Class	Men	Women
WH1	3	3
WH2		
SL3		
SL4	7	7
SU5		
SH6	1	1

- 10.2.One male and one female Bipartite slot are reserved for the host country. In case the host country obtains any slot(s) via the allocation methods above, the Bipartite slot reservation for the respective gender automatically expires.
- 10.3. One male and one female Bipartite slot are reserved for each continent. If a continent obtains any slot(s) via the allocation methods above, the Bipartite slot reservation for the respective gender automatically expires.
- 10.4.To be considered for a Bipartite slot, NPCs (including host country) must submit an official application in writing to the BWF by 30 April 2024 with notification in writing of the awarding of slots to be made to NPCs on 23 May 2024.

11. WITHDRAWAL

- 11.1.Prior to the entry deadline (5 August 2024), no athlete will be nominated to ParalympicsGB if, at the time of nomination and in accordance with Clause 3.1:
 - 11.1.1. They are injured or unfit, unless they can satisfy to the Selection Panel that they will be able to compete in the Games to the best of their ability (this may include carrying out a pre-determined sports specific physical assessment and a medical examination by GB Para-Badminton Medical Officer and/or ParalympicsGB Chief Medical Officer.
 - 11.1.2. They have not demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Selection Panel their full commitment to the required training and competition programme, and are not subject to any disciplinary or conduct investigation.
- 11.2.In the event of there being a query from GB Performance Director with support from GB Medical team over the ability of an athlete to be able to compete to the best of his/her ability due to an injury or illness post 5 August 2024, the following procedure will be adhered to:
 - 11.2.1. the ParalympicsGB Chief Medical Officer can require an athlete to undergo a medical examination to determine his/her fitness to participate which at this stage will be determined based on an assessment of whether or not the injury and/or illness is such that the athlete risks causing medical harm to him or herself, or endangering other competitors, officials or spectators. The ParalympicsGB Chief Medical Officer will carry out this examination or another doctor delegated by him/her. If the athlete fails the medical examination he/she will be withdrawn from the Team.
 - 11.2.2. if the athlete passes the medical examination carried out in accordance with (i) above but GB Badminton and/or ParalympicsGB have concerns over whether or not the athlete is able to compete to the level ordinarily expected of them due to the underlying injury or illness, the Team GB Chef de Mission can require the athlete to undergo a set of predetermined sports specific performance tests. Those tests will be agreed in advance following consultation with the Team Leader, a physiotherapist and ParalympicsGB's Deputy Chef de Mission for Performance.

12. APPEALS

12.1.In the event that an athlete wishes to appeal against a decision made by GB Badminton in relation to selection or deselection, the athlete shall have the right to appeal in accordance with the "GB Selection and Nomination Appeals Procedure" (Appendix 1). It should be noted that an athlete may only appeal against a decision of GB Badminton on the grounds that the procedure set out in this policy has not been applied correctly.

12.2.In the event that:

12.2.1. ParalympicsGB fails to select an athlete nominated by GB Badminton.

GB Badminton shall have the right to appeal in accordance with ParalympicsGB's "Selection Appeals Process".

ParalympicsGB February 2023

Appendix 1

Selection and Nomination Appeals Procedure – Paris 2024 Paralympic Games

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This document sets out the Selection Appeals Procedure for selection decisions in respect of athlete nominations to the British Paralympic Association for the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games. It applies equally to such nomination decisions as if each reference to the "selection" was replaced with "nomination" unless otherwise stated. This document will remain in place until superseded or amended by GB Badminton from time to time.
- 1.2. For the purpose of this document, reference to Badminton England relates to its role as Lead Home Nation for the management and delivery of the Paris 2024 Paralympic cycle.
- 1.3. Anyone wishing to lodge an appeal under this procedure must be fully familiar with the detailed provisions of the Selection Policy for the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games.
- 1.4. This is intended to be an accelerated procedure to enable any challenge to be resolved as quickly as is reasonably possible. There is considerable potential for "knock on" to athlete preparation related to the outcome of the appeal. Accordingly, the aim of this procedure is to return a decision on appeal as soon as workable.
- 1.5. This is the only applicable appeals procedure and forms the entire agreement between each athlete and GB Badminton (together "the Parties") as to how selection decisions are to be challenged. The Parties agree to submit any dispute concerning any matter connected with or arising out of selection issues to binding arbitration in accordance with the provisions of this Selection Appeal Procedure. The Parties agree that they will not commence, continue or maintain any legal challenge to any matter falling under the jurisdiction of this Procedure, or any decision made under this Selection Appeals Procedure, before any court of law or other dispute resolution body. The Parties will treat all decisions under this Selection Appeals Procedure as final and binding upon them.
- 1.6. The Parties agree that this Selection Appeal Procedure is to be treated as an arbitration procedure under Part 1 of the Arbitration Act 1996 ("the Act") and the provisions of clause 1.4 above amount to a binding arbitration agreement

for the purposes of section 6 of the Act. The seat of the Arbitration shall be England.

2. PARTIES

2.1. This Selection Appeals Procedure is binding on GB Badminton and on each athlete who is seeking selection to the GB Badminton Team.

3. HOW TO APPEAL

- 3.1. The arbitration shall be administered by Sport Resolutions exclusively.
- 3.2. This Appeals Procedure is commenced when an athlete affected by a selection decision makes a formal written appeal (the 'Notice of Appeal') to both Sport Resolutions and GB Badminton on resolve@sportresolutions.com and appeals@badmintonengland.co.uk respectively. This must be done within 72 hours of the selection being announced or communicated to the athlete. If the athlete fails to submit the Notice within the time limit set out in this Procedure he or she will have lost their right of Appeal under this Procedure, save in wholly exceptional circumstances which will be judged by the Appeal Panel in their absolute discretion.
- 3.3. The Notice of Appeal must set out the full details of the Appellant Athlete's ground(s) of appeal and include:
 - 3.3.1. An email address for correspondence;
 - 3.3.2. Details of any representative.
 - 3.3.3. Details of the decision which the athlete is appealing;
 - 3.3.4. Details of the ground(s) of appeal upon which the athlete replies, including the precise manner in which the Appellant Athlete alleges that such ground(s) apply (see Paragraph 4 below for applicable Grounds of Appeal;
 - 3.3.5. Any documents or written evidence upon which the Appellant Athlete replies in support of his or her appeal.

4. GROUND OF APPEAL

- 4.1. An athlete may appeal against a selection/nomination relating to the Paralympic Games, only on the grounds that:
 - 4.1.1. There has been a failure to follow the process outlined in the Selection Policy. 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.

- 4.1.2. The Paralympic Selection Panel, or any member of it involved in making the relevant selection decision, lacked the required independence and has shown actual bias when making the decision;
- 4.1.3. The Paralympic Selection Panel reached a decision on the basis of an error of fact; or
- 4.1.4. The decision is unreasonable and one that no reasonable decision maker could ever have reached. Please note, this ground cannot be used simply because an athlete believes the Panel made the wrong choice. The decision would need to be so unreasonable that no reasonable person/panel (acting reasonably) could have made it. It would not be sufficient to prove that the decision was merely unreasonable.
- 4.2. If none of these grounds are met the appeal will be dismissed.

5. APPEAL PANEL

- 5.1. Following receipt of a Notice of Appeal, Sport Resolutions shall, within 3 working days appoint an appeal panel consisting of a single arbitrator and notify the parties of the identity of the arbitrator.
- 5.2. All Appeal Panellists must be free of conflicts of interest. Any Panellist must disclose the existence of such conflicts before accepting an appointment to sit on a Panel. If an Athlete wishes to object to the membership of a particular Panellist on a Panel, he/she must do so within 3 working days of the notification to him/her of the identity of that Panellist. In the absence of an objection, the Appellant Athlete will be deemed to have waived, finally and irrevocably, any ability to object to the Panellist, save as to conduct in the course of the reference. If a party intends to challenge any appointment that party shall, within seven days of notification by Sport Resolutions of the appointment, submit in writing to the Chairman of Sport Resolutions' Panel Appointments and Review Committee (the "PARC") (with a copy to the Appeal Panel and Sport Resolutions) the reasons why that party is challenging the Arbitrator. Unless the challenged Arbitrator withdraws or the other party agrees to the challenge, the Chairman of the PARC shall decide on the challenge in accordance with Sport Resolutions' procedures for the appointment and removal of Arbitrators and that decision shall be final.
- 5.3. The Appeal Panel shall determine its own procedure and may issue such directions as it considers necessary for the just and efficient disposal of the appeal, including:
 - 5.3.1. to set, abridge or amend any timings set out herein, or made by the Appeal Panel itself;

- 5.3.2. to request all and any documents in the possession of GB Badminton or the Appellant Athlete;
- 5.3.3. to determine the matter by an oral hearing, on the papers, or by video conference; and
- 5.3.4. to draw all and any appropriate inferences from the behaviour of the Appellant Athlete, the failure to disclose documents, or the failure to comply with any order made by the Panel.

6. CONDUCT OF THE APPEAL

- 6.1.GB Badminton shall file its response to the Notice of Appeal with Sport Resolutions by email (with a copy to the Athlete) within 3 working days of receipt of the Notice of Appeal.
- 6.2. Where it appears to GB Badminton that the interests of any Third Party may be affected by the appeal, they will notify the Appeal Panel, and contact the Third Party of the appeal, provide him/her with a copy of any appeal submissions (and any other relevant documents). Where appropriate, they will invite the Third Party to make any submissions within 24 hours of receiving the notification. A Third Party shall be under no obligation to make any submissions, but if the Third Party makes any comments the Appeal Panel will give the Appellant Athlete a copy of these submissions and a limited period of time to make any further submissions in response.
- 6.3. The Appellant Athlete or GB Badminton may request that the appeal be heard at an oral hearing. The request for a hearing must be sent to Sport Resolutions within 3 working days of GB Badminton filing its Response.
- 6.4. Sport Resolutions shall then arrange a hearing on a date suitable to the parties and the Appeal Panel. The hearing shall take place within 2 weeks of the request for a hearing and shall be conducted by video conference unless there is a good reason for the hearing to be held physically or on the papers.
- 6.5. In the event no hearing is requested, the Appeal Panel shall consider the case on the pleadings. It may ask the parties for such other information or documents it requires.
- 6.6. The Appeal Panel will seek to reach its conclusion no later than 7 days of receipt of the Notice, and will inform all interested parties in writing and by telephone (or such other method of communication as the Appeal Panel shall decide) as soon as possible.

7. REMEDIES

- 7.1. The Appeal Panel will be entitled to rescind the decision of the Selection Panel and confirm the selection of the Appellant only in clear cases where the Selection Policy has not been followed and it is plain that had it been followed the appellant would have been selected.
- 7.2. The Appeal Panel shall be entitled to confirm the decision of the Selection panel and reject the Appeal.
- 7.3. The Appeal Panel may also quash the selection decision and remit the matter back to the Selection Panel identifying the errors they have identified in the conduct of the Selection process and requesting that a new decision is made within one week.

8. MINOR AND NON-CONSEQUENTIAL BREACHES OF THIS PROCEDURE

8.1. Save that the time limit for commencing this Procedure by the Appellant shall be strictly enforced, where any party deviates from any requirement of this Procedure it shall not invalidate the Procedure or the decision of the Appeal Panel, unless there is a clear and significant risk that the deviation has affected the decision of the Appeal Panel.

9. CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROCEEDINGS AND PUBLICATION OF DECISION

- 9.1. GB Badminton, the Appellant and any Third Party are under an obligation of confidentiality in respect of any appeal proceeding under this Procedure. Save as permitted under this Selection Appeals Procedure none of these Parties will make any public statement or disclosure of the contents of the Notice, or any other matter referred to by any of the parties during the course of these Proceedings.
- 9.2. GB Badminton will be entitled to publish the decision of the Appeal Panel where it upholds the Appeal (or any element of it) in such manner and to such extent as is necessary to inform all properly interested and effected parties of the status of the selection decision previously published and the resulting position as to selection.

10. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS TO THIS PROCEDURE

10.1. GB Badminton will be entitled to amend this procedure from time to time and such amendments will take effect from the first date of publication of the complete amended procedure on the respective Home Nations' websites.