



BRITISH ROWING

FISU WORLD UNIVERSITY ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2020

27-29 AUGUST 2020 - ZAGREB, CROATIA

SELECTION STRATEGY



GB
STUDENTS

TEAMWORK

OPEN TO ALL

COMMITMENT



INTRODUCTION

British Rowing has accepted the BUCS's invitation to be responsible for the selection of the GB Team for the FISU World University Rowing Championships in 2020. It will work closely with the BUCS to ensure that the best possible team represents Great Britain in 2020.

We will select crews with the best medal prospects drawing together the best combinations. This policy is designed so that rowers must demonstrate their ability and suitability when required to do so.

A. SELECTION ELIGIBILITY AND STANDARD

A.1 Eligibility Criteria

The following criteria are required to be met;

- Students who are currently officially registered as proceeding towards a Level 4 qualification (on the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland) or equivalent or above*
- Be a national of the country they represent (therefore hold a full 10 year UK passport)
- Be at least 18 and no older than 25 years of age on 31 December of the year of the event (i.e. born between 01/01/1995 and 31/12/2002).

*Students graduating in 2019 will be eligible to compete in 2020, as former students who have obtained their qualification in the calendar year preceding the event.

See also detailed eligibility information at the end of this document in **Appendix I**.

BUCS is responsible for deciding any issue concerning academic qualification status and rowers must have completed the online registration and returned the required documentation to be considered for selection. This should be returned to The BUCS International Department **by Friday 13 December 2019**.

British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS)
20 – 24 King's Bench Street, London, SE1 0QX
Tel: 0207 633 5080
GBStudents@bucs.org.uk

A2. Standard

To be selected a boat must be composed of rowers who are eligible and, in the opinion of the selector, be capable of finishing in the top six at the Championships in an event expected to have 9 or more boats. For an event expected to have 8 or fewer boats, the boat must be capable of contending for a medal.

Medal target

The aspiration for the GB Rowing Team and BUCS is to win 3 medals including at least 1 Gold medal in 2020 with all boats in the top 6. In 2018 we won 6 gold and 1 silver with all boats in the top 6.

Priority Boats

Long term planning/development will be considered when forming boats for the WRU23C and FISU to maximise the performance and potential of the rowers making themselves available for selection. As a result certain boat classes may be prioritised for FISU once it is clear what talent is available for selection.

Ergometer

Except for U20s (born in 2000 and 2001) rowers who wish to be considered for selection and will need, as a minimum, to meet the GB Rowing Team ergometer standards for U23s for the ergometer assessments to be eligible to compete in the water assessments. Please see the GB Rowing Team Strategy for Seniors and U23s for 2020 which will be published in November 2019.

B. SELECTION STRATEGY

B1. Boat Classes

The following boat classes are currently planned to be offered* at the FISU World University Championships:

Open		Lightweights	
Men	Women	Men	Women
1x	1x	1x	1x
2x	2x	2x	2x
2-	2-		
4-	4-		
8+	8+		

**Rowers and coaches should be aware that FISU may approve changes to the boat classes offered between now and the Championships.*

B2. Selection Principles

B2.1 Context and Key Information

British Rowing's Director of Performance, Brendan Purcell, has appointed Peter Sheppard as the selector for this event. He is accountable to the Director of Performance for this selection.

University coaches with proven ability in High Performance Rowing will be invited by GB Rowing Team to assist the nominated selector in the process of crew formation.

Crews will be measured by their performance against the Gold Medal Times for seniors set out in the 2020 GB Rowing Team Strategy for Seniors and U23s and shown below.

<i>Boat Class</i>	<i>M Time</i>	<i>W Time</i>	<i>LM Time</i>	<i>LW Time</i>
<i>1x</i>	6:30	7:05	6:38	7:17
<i>2x</i>	5:57	6:34	6:04	6:42
<i>2-</i>	6:08	6:47	-	-
<i>4-</i>	5:36	6:12	-	-
<i>8+</i>	5:17	5:50	-	-

This event is seen as an excellent opportunity for rowers with future GB potential to try for selection and is clearly seen as one of the priority events on the Olympic development pathway. We would like to encourage as many rowers as possible who can show the standard to do this.

B2.2 Lightweights

Lightweights will be required to weigh in at any trial according to the procedure established in the GB Rowing Team's 2020 Strategy Statement for Seniors and U23s which will be published in November 2019 and rowers must follow these. The weights for the November 2019 Assessment and the GBRT Senior/U23 Trials are shown below.

		<i>LM</i>	<i>LW</i>
<i>Nov 2019 Assessment</i>	Max Weight	75kg	61.5kg
<i>GBRT Senior/U23 & FISU Trials, April 2020</i>		70kg	57kg

Candidates for lightweight selection must demonstrate that they can race at weight without impairing their health or performance and a rower who cannot meet these requirements will not be considered for selection.

The racing weights for lightweights at the World University Championships are:

	LM	LW
Crew Average	70kg	57kg
Max Individual Weight	72.5kg	59kg

B2.3 Coxes

The selection of the coxes will follow British Rowing policy i.e. a male cox for the M8+ and a female cox for the W8+. Selection will be based on their skills in steering and on the contribution the selector and crew coach believe they can make to the crew's performance.

A cox must weigh a minimum of 55kgs which may include up to 15kg of "deadweight".

B3. Selection

Selection will be made only from eligible rowers who have complied fully with the 2020 Season GB Rowing Team's Selection process for Seniors and/or Under 23s.

In forming crews, the selector will base his judgement on a rower's performances in some or all of:

- small boats (1x, 2x, 2-)
- the ergometer
- the racing boat at a regatta or trial
- seat-racing or a time trial

While the **selector** will take all reasonable steps to base his decisions on the objective performance information available, he will also use his own experience and judgement when forming crews, assessing crew compatibility and making selections.

Factors affecting Performance

A rower will be expected to produce his or her best performance at any trial, assessment or in a race. If there is a medical reason why a rower or crew cannot perform at their best the Director of Performance must be notified in writing at the GBRT Office in advance, together with a medical certificate if appropriate. While we will take account of an illness affecting performance, we are not bound to delay or alter the selection process as a consequence.

Deterioration in Performance

If the performance of a rower deteriorates after selection the selector may replace him or her at any time prior to the World University Rowing Championships, subject to the Director of Performance's agreement.

Mandatory Selection Trials

All candidates for selection are required to participate in the assessments, trials and tests which will be set out in the relevant GB Rowing Team 2020 Strategy Documents.

B3.1 Selection Process

B3.1.1 Until April 2020

All Rowers living in the UK must follow and have complied with the GB Rowing Team Selection path for U23s and Seniors as described in the GB Rowing Team Strategy for Seniors and U23s for 2020 which will be published by November 2019. Please note that key dates for the 2020 season assessments and trials are available under the trials section of the GB Rowing Team webpages. For these rowers:

- This includes
 - Winter On-Water Assessments
 - Winter Ergometer Tests

These ergometer scores and On-Water Assessment results will be taken into account in the selection process

- Rowers must perform at a standard to gain an invitation to the GB Rowing Team Senior/U23 & FISU Trials in April 2020 to be eligible for selection.

- If invited to the GB Rowing Team Senior/U23 & FISU trials, they must accept the invitation to remain eligible. Unless rowers are being considered for a GB Rowing Team Senior boat, all candidates for FISU are required to be available for testing at Caversham April 10-12 and then to follow and work alongside the U23 crew formation process (Crew Boat formation April 13-17).
- We recognise the importance of the BUCS Championships in May 2019 for many student rowers and encourage GB Rowing Team candidates to race there. We will work with University coaches to achieve a good balance between their wish to race at this event and the U23/FISU selection pathway. Performances in a small boat (1x, 2-, 2x) at BUCS Regatta may be taken into consideration in the team formation process.
- In an exceptional case a rower who is fully part of an overseas club / university programme or is a genuine new talent s/he may have part of this procedure waived by the Director of Performance in consultation with the Chief Coach. In such a case this will be confirmed in writing in advance by the Director of Performance (See B4 below).

B3.1.2 After April

All U23s resident in the UK are required to make themselves available for the GB U23 Team and it is unlikely that an U23 rower would be selected for FISU if they have not demonstrated they are of the standard to gain U23 selection.

Due to the dates of FISU and the WRC and WRU23C it is unlikely that rowers will be selected for both events, however in exceptional circumstances this will be considered.

We will take time to develop the crew boats over the course of the summer period. This, as in 2018, will involve good communication and trust between coaches of rowers, the GB Rowing Team staff, and BUCS coaches involved with the crew formation process. We will look at what is practically sensible for all those rowers who are being considered, so that they can be deployed in the best way possible for the best results for the team.

We understand that all students have significant academic pressures in the summer period and will do our best to take account of these in the selection process.

After Henley Royal Regatta (HRR) there may well be a period of final crew formation prior to team selection. Rowers must be fully available for testing and training between HRR (July) and FISU (August).

B4. Exceptional Cases

The GB Rowing Team is looking to increase the opportunities for unfound rowers and those with British passports currently studying abroad to have an opportunity to represent Great Britain and to make a step on the pathway towards the Olympic Team.

B4.1 Unfound Rowers and Genuine New Talent

We are prepared to look at exceptional cases of athletes who are a genuine “new find”, have developed late in the season and have demonstrated a significant performance. Any such case will need to be made to the Director of Performance who will make the final decision.

B4.2 Rowers studying abroad

The exception to the above is rowers currently studying full-time abroad. The GB Rowing Team and BUCS are very keen to enable those rowers currently abroad to have the opportunity to make themselves available for selection for GB and for this reason in 2020 we see FISU as an important priority for rowers aspiring to be on the Olympic pathway. We would like to have a longer preparation/training period for all crews and provide opportunities for those studying abroad to make themselves fully available from mid-June onwards to commit to rowing for GB. Rowers studying abroad will need to complete all the ergometer tests as set out in the Senior/U23 Strategy, make themselves fully available for training and water assessments from Tuesday 2nd June onwards and have their programme agreed by the Selector in advance.

B5. Appeals Process

Any Appeal will be held under the British Rowing appeal process, details of which are available from the GB Rowing Team Office.

For further information please contact:

Brendan Purcell brendan.purcell@britishrowing.org / 020 8237 6767
British Rowing Director of Performance

Vikki Campbell / Claire Powell GBStudents@bucs.org.uk / 020 7633 5080
International Co-ordinators, BUCS

Peter Sheppard peter.sheppard@britishrowing.org / 020 8237 6767
or 07764-684117
Chief Coach – U23s/Juniors

Brendan Purcell
Director of Performance

October 2019

Appendix 1 - Eligibility for World University Competition 2020

FISU Eligibility Regulations:

Only the competitors who satisfy the following conditions may take part in a FISU events:

- students who are currently officially registered as proceeding towards a degree or diploma at the university or similar institute, the status of which is recognised by the appropriate national academic authority of their country (e.g. *the Department for Education in the UK*); or former students of the institutions mentioned before, who have obtained their academic degree or diploma in the calendar year preceding the event
- be a national of the country they represent (i.e. *hold a full 10 year passport*)
- be at least 18 and no older than 25 years of age on 31 December of the year of the event

Students studying abroad are eligible for selection provided they satisfy the above criteria.

Students attending courses franchised out from a registered institution providing the also conform to the additional eligibility criteria.

BUCS Academic Eligibility Regulations:

The minimum level of study has been set at Level 4 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, or equivalent. Level 4 is equivalent to Higher National Certificates (HNC) and Certificates of Higher Education (CertHE). *In Scotland this is generally equivalent to Level 7. Please contact BUCS with any queries.*

Exemptions to permit the selection of student athletes studying below Level 4 can be considered where:

1. The student still meets the FISU eligibility regulations
2. There is no direct financial implication to BUCS
3. It can be demonstrated that this inclusion encourages additional benefit to Level 4 students

The inclusion of students studying below Level 4 should not be at the expense of a student studying at Level 4 or above.

Appendix 2

Key Dates for World University Rowing Championships (FISU), Zagreb 2020

Provisional Calendar

2019			
Sep	Sun	1 st	Start of 2019-2020 Season
Nov	Sat/Sun	2 nd /3 rd	1st Assessment, Boston <i>2k ergo test; 5k water assessment</i>
Dec	Sat	7 th	British Rowing Indoor Championships
Dec	Sat – Sun	14 th – 22 nd	Provisional – U23/FISU Crew Training & Education Camp
Dec	Fri	13th	Registration* completed and required documentation returned to The BUCS International Department by Friday 13th Dec 2019 <i>* Registration is an online process via www.bucs.org.uk and also requires supporting documentation (passport pictures, copy of passport, a signed/stamped Certificate of Academic Eligibility from the athlete's institution)</i>
Dec	Sat	14 rd	2nd Assessment, Caversham <i>(by invitation)</i>
2020			
Feb	Sat	15 th	3rd Assessment, Boston <i>5k water assessment</i>
Feb	Sat/Sun	22 nd /23 rd	BUCS Head
March	Sat	7 th	Women's Head of the River Race
March	Sat	21 st	Men's Head of the River Race
April	Fri – Sun	10 th – 12 th	GB Rowing Senior, U23 & FISU Trials, Caversham (by invitation)
April	Mon - Fri	13 th – 17 th	U23/FISU Crew Formation
May	Sat - Mon	2 nd – 4 th	BUCS Regatta, Nottingham
May	Fri - Sun	9 th – 10 th	Amsterdam Regatta
May	Fri - Sun	9 th – 10 th or 16 th – 17 th TBC	U23/FISU Speed Order Testing
May	Sat/Sun	30 th /31 st	Metropolitan Regatta
June	Fri – Sun	19 th – 21 st	Henley Women's Regatta
July	Wed - Sun	1 st – 5 th	Henley Royal Regatta
July	Mon	6 th onwards	U23/ FISU Crew Formation & Training
Aug	Sun - Fri	16 th – 21 st	World Rowing U23 Championships, Bled, SLO
Aug	Thu - Sat	27 th – 29 th	World University Championships (FISU), Zagreb, CRO