



Selection Policy

Commonwealth Rowing Association Beach Sprint Championships, 2025

Updated: 12/05/2025 (Updates highlighted in yellow)

Updated: 03/06/2025 (Updates highlighted in green)

Updated: TBC/07/2025 (Updates highlighted in blue)

1. Introduction

The [Commonwealth Rowing Association](#) Beach Sprint Championships (Commonwealth Championships) sees Commonwealth Nations from around the world come together to compete.

British Rowing is dedicated to helping athletes achieve their goal of competing in the 2028 LA Olympics and beyond. We believe the CRABCS is an excellent development opportunity for developing English athletes striving for future Olympic success and will send a team to represent England with these themes in mind.

2. Objectives

- 2.1. To provide developing Athletes and Coaches aiming to represent Great Britain at the 2028 and/or 2032 Olympic Games with a positive development experience that supports their progress on the GB Pathway toward making the GB Rowing Team.
- 2.2. To select athletes who can perform with distinction at the Commonwealth Championships, who are ideally not representing Great Britain in this current season and give them an opportunity to gain international beach sprint experience.

3. Commonwealth Rowing Association Beach Sprint Championships (Commonwealth Championships)

- 3.1. The Commonwealth Championships will take place on **Friday, 21 to Sunday, 23 November 2025** at **Browne's Beach, Carlisle Bay, Bridgetown, Barbados**.
- 3.2. Each nation is allowed a maximum of 8 Athletes and 3 Support Staff.
- 3.3. The following categories will be offered at the Commonwealth Championships:

U19's	CUI9M1x, CUI9W1x, CUI9Mix2x
U21's	CU21M1x CU21W1x, CU21Mix2x
Seniors	CM1x, CW1x, CMix2x, Team Relay (One relay event only - can be a combination of U19, U21 and Open athletes)

Note: At the Commonwealth Championships, the U21 and U19 categories will be combined for a Development Team Competition. Due to the 8 Athlete team limit, England Rowing will select U21 athletes only. This is to priorities U21 development, given the wider range of opportunities for U19 athletes.

- 3.3. Racing will take place on a beach sprint course including running sprint, 250m slalom out, 250m straight back and running sprint to the finish.
- 3.4. The Commonwealth Championships will be run under [World Rowing rules](#).
- 3.5. Boats & blades will be provided by the host nation.

4. England Team

4.1. The England Team will be comprised of 11 members as follows:

- 4.1.1. 8 Rowers (2 Senior Men, 2 Senior Women, 2 U21 Men and 2 U21 Women)
- 4.1.2. 2 Coaches (1 Senior and 1 U21)
- 4.1.3. A Team Manager ([James Andrews](#), British Rowing | England Pathway Manager)

4.2. **Reserves:** If a selected athlete is unable to travel (e.g. due to injury/illness) a reserve athlete will take their place. Reserve athletes will be chosen from the 2025 England Home International Rowing Beach Sprints Team.

4.3. All team members will also act as boat handlers.

4.4. The team size and boats selected will depend on the strength and capabilities of rowers taking part in the trials process. Only rowers able to fulfil the eligibility criteria ([Section 5](#)) as set out in this policy will be selected to represent England. Selected individuals will race in one boat type.

4.5. If selected, the total cost per individual to attend is predicted to be £1600. The cost includes flights from Heathrow Airport, transfers, 6 nights' accommodation, meals whilst at the accommodation and a basic kit bundle. (Additional team kit will be purchasable through Kukri and will be at additional cost). This cost includes a significant subsidy from Sport England to help reduce the cost for the whole team.

England Rowing receives talent funding from Sport England. To address inequalities and ensure equitable access, we are trialling a tiered financial support process based on confidential financial assessments for those requiring additional assistance. See [Appendix B](#) for further information.

Note: After selection the Team Manager will arrange a virtual team meeting where they will finalise important information and logistics for the event for selected athletes and coaches.

5. Eligibility for England

5.3. **Athletes and Coaches** will be asked to confirm eligibility requirements set out below to be considered for selection. Those who do not meet the criteria set out or cannot provide the correct documentation when asked will not be considered for selection.

5.4. **Athletes** must, at all times, meet the following conditions:

- 5.4.1. be citizens of or subjects of England AND must be qualified by one of the following conditions:
 - 5.2.1.1. having been born in England (proof of birth certificate required); OR
 - 5.2.1.2. having a parent born in England; (proof of birth certificate for parent(s) and rower);
OR
 - 5.2.1.3. having a grandparent born in England; (proof of birth certificate for grandparent(s) and rower); **OR**
 - 5.2.1.4. continuously resided in England for a minimum of 3 years prior to the competition. (proof of address through utility bills, mortgage statement, bank statements etc.)
- 5.4.2. be eligible under the [World Rowing Rules of Racing](#) Appendix R1 byelaw to rule 13 men's and women's events.

- 5.4.3. have a current [British Rowing RACE Membership](#)
- 5.4.4. hold a valid British Passport.

5.5. **U21 Athletes** must have been born on or between 1 January 2005 and 31 December 2006.

5.6. **Athletes and Coaches** must, at all times, meet the following conditions:

- 5.6.1. not be subject to any current disciplinary proceedings or ban;
- 5.6.2. not be subject to any period of ineligibility or provisional suspension due to an anti-doping rule violation;
- 5.6.3. have reached their eighteenth birthday by 31 August 2025;
- 5.6.4. be a fit and proper person to represent England Rowing;
- 5.6.5. must be available to travel with the team from Monday, 17 November 2025 prior to the Commonwealth Championships until Monday, 24 November 2025;
- 5.6.6. must not have been selected to represent Great Britain (not including reserves) between 1 January 2025, and the England selection meeting, currently scheduled for the week commencing 1 September 2025, will not be eligible for selection.
- 5.6.7. Must confirm they have read, understood and agreed to abide by [World Rowing & British Rowing's Rules of Racing, Code of Conduct and all other relevant Policies and Guidance](#)
- 5.6.8. must have completed Clean Sport education since 1 January 2025 prior to the Commonwealth Championships. ([See section 9 for opportunities to attend Clean Sport education.](#))

5.7. **Coaches**, must at all times, meet the following conditions:

- 5.7.1. have a current [British Rowing COACH Membership](#)
- 5.7.2. hold a valid passport (British or otherwise).
- 5.7.3. must have completed UK Coaching's [Safeguarding Adults in Physical Activity and Sport](#) training (valid for three years).
- 5.7.4. must have a current/in date practical Emergency First Aid training course which includes CPR.

Note: There are many Emergency First Aid training providers, for example [St Johns Ambulance](#) and [Red Cross](#), however your local authority or club may also organise first aid training. Depending on the provider the duration the training is valid for may vary. All coaches should ensure at a minimum the training includes practical CPR (not online learning).

- 5.7.5. must ensure that all clearances and documents have been received (and where appropriate recorded as an active [credential on their British Rowing ClubHub profile](#)) by the close of registration ([See section 6](#)).

5.8. **Expectations of selected Coaches:**

- 5.8.1. To liaise with the Team Manager to arrange appropriate training where possible for the boats they have been allocated between confirmation of selection and the Commonwealth Championships.
- 5.8.2. To create training programme and lead the coaching of your designated group of athletes at Commonwealth Championships.
- 5.8.3. To ensure the safety and welfare of all athletes in the England Team.

6. Registration & Selection Process

- 6.3. **Athletes and Coaches** must register using this [registration form](#), which must be completed in full no later than **23:59 Sunday, 31 August 2025**.

Note: Late registrations, those with missing or incorrect documentation or persons unable to meet all requirements set out in [section 5](#) cannot be considered for selection.

- 6.4. The selection panel will comprise of three individuals, being the **British Rowing England Pathway Manager**, the **GB Head Coach (Beach Sprints)** and **Eira Parry (Independent)**. This group will oversee selection of the full team and select by majority vote.

6.5. Athletes Selection:

- 6.5.1. The following Beach Sprint events **ONLY** will be considered for selection:

- Welsh Beach Sprint Championships (Senior) – 3 May
- England Beach Sprint Regatta (Studland) – 17 - 18 May
- Jersey Coastal Championships (St Helier) – 20 - 22 June
- [GB Beach Sprint Selection Trial](#) (Seniors Invitation Only, Juniors Open for Race-off, Littlehaven Beach, South Shields, North East England) – 19 - 22 July
- Scottish Coastal Championships (Ayr Beach) – 16 - 17 August
- [British Rowing Beach Sprint Championships](#) (Bournemouth) – 30 - 31 August

Note: Athletes need only attend one event to be considered for selection.

- 6.5.2. The selection panel will consider the following for selection:

- Event results as outlined in section 6.3.
- Potential for future development in the format.
- Probability of representing Great Britain at the 2028 and/or 2032 Olympic Games.
- Compatibility and availability for training with other athletes registered.

- 6.5.3. Only athletes deemed to be competitive and have the potential to represent Great Britain at the 2028 and/or 2032 Olympic Games by the selection panel will be chosen.

If the selection panel believes there are no athletes from the events outlined in section 6.3.1 that meet the objectives outlined in [section 2](#) other registered athletes will be considered using their regatta history this current season.

- 6.5.4. The decision on which boats the rowers will race in will be at the discretion of the selection panel.

6.6. Coach Selection:

- 6.6.1. 2 coaches (1 U21 & 1 Senior) will be selected to travel with the team and we encourage coaches from all backgrounds to register. Coaches will be asked to act as boat handlers. The final decision will be made by the selection panel in collaboration with the British Rowing Coach Developer – Olympic Pathway and will consider:

- Coaches with selected athletes.
- Coaching experience and the development opportunity for the coach.

- Availability for crew training.
- Team Compatibility.
- The ability to bring additional skills to the team.

7. Appeals

- 7.1. Registered coaches or athletes are entitled to appeal against the outcome of the selector's decision (in their selection only) if they feel the selection process has not been followed.

Note: *The nature of the selection process means that selections to the team can often be made close to the regatta. As such the outcome of an appeal can have a significant impact not just on athletes directly involved in an appeal but on the preparation of other members of the team. The Appeals process is therefore designed to operate quickly and minimise impact to athlete preparation. Athletes should carefully consider if an appeal is justified, before making one.*

- 7.2. The appeal process can only be used to determine:

- 7.2.1. Whether the correct procedures have been followed in the implementation of the Selection Policy.
- 7.2.2. Whether the selectors have acted reasonably, fairly and without bias in making a decision.
- 7.2.3. Whether a selection decision was reached based on an error of fact.

- 7.3. The right to appeal a selection decision is provided on these grounds only and must not be seen as an opportunity to dispute the opinion of the Selectors, who will be regarded by the Appeals Panel as experts.

- 7.4. **Making an Appeal:** The appeal must be raised within forty-eight hours of a "Selection Decision". A Selection Decision is defined as:

- 7.4.1. Either the publication of the names of members of the Provisional Team
- 7.4.2. Or formal written communication between the Team Manager and the athlete that it is the intention of the selectors to no longer consider the athlete for selection.

- 7.5. An appeal should be initiated by emailing the Head of Governance, Safeguarding and Integrity at governance@britishrowing.org (Subject: ENG Appeal) setting out full details of the basis upon which the athlete is appealing including:

- 7.5.1. The appellant's name, address and contact details. If the Athlete is under eighteen years of age it shall also include their date of birth and the name(s) and contact details of their parent or legal guardian.
- 7.5.2. Details of the decision being appealed.
- 7.5.3. Details of the ground(s) of appeal upon which the Athlete relies, including the precise manner in which the Athlete alleges that the selection criteria have not been applied or in which the procedure set out in the applicable selection Policy or Process has not been followed; and
- 7.5.4. Any documents or written evidence upon which the Athlete relies in support of his or her appeal. These documents must be relevant specifically to the Athlete's grounds of appeal.
- 7.5.5. An email or postal address for correspondence.

- 7.6. If the athlete fails to submit an appeal within the time limit, they will automatically lose the right of appeal.

- 7.7. An appeals hearing will take place virtually by videocall on Thursday 11 September 2025 (or additionally 12 September 2025 as required). The appeal will be conducted by written and/or verbal submissions on behalf of the Appellant and British Rowing only. The Appeals Panel may request further information during this hearing. The Appeals Panel may make their deliberations in person or remotely as they in their absolute discretion decide.
- 7.8. The Appeals Panel will either:
- 7.8.1. Reject the appeal and confirm the decision of the selectors.
 - 7.8.2. Uphold the appeal and inform the Selectors that errors have been identified in the conduct of the selection process and request that a new selection decision be made as soon as is reasonably practicable.
- 7.9. The Appeals Panel will seek to reach its conclusion within twenty-four hours of the appeal hearing and will inform all interested parties as to their decision via email as soon as possible.
- 7.10. **Appeals Panel:** Three members of the British Rowing Disciplinary & Grievance Panel will be selected to form the Appeals Panel. Any individual directly involved with the athlete making the appeal or who was involved with the selection process may not sit on the Appeals Panel.

8. Anti-Doping Policy

- 8.1. **All Athletes, Coaches and Support Personnel** are bound by the UK Anti-Doping Rules as adopted by British Rowing. The full Anti-Doping Policy can be found on [British Rowing's Policies and Guidance webpage](#).
- 8.2. **All Athletes** selected for the England Team must attend a British Rowing iRowClean education workshop in the current season of the Commonwealth Championships. **Parents/Carers** of competitors are also welcome to attend the workshop, and a [Clean Sport e-handbook for parents/carers](#) is available.
- 8.3. **All Coaches and Support Personnel** selected for the England Team are strongly encouraged to attend an iRowClean Sport education workshop in the current season of the Commonwealth Championships, but as a minimum must hold a current UKAD Coach Clean certificate (coaches) or UKAD Introduction to Clean Sport certificate (support personnel). These courses are available by registering on the [UKAD Clean Sport Hub](#). FAQs are available [here](#).
- 8.4. iRowClean Education workshops for selected **Athletes** (including Parents/Carers) and **Coaches** will take place at:

8.4.1. 19:30 Wednesday, 1 October 2025

Note: Attendance to an iRowClean education workshop is mandatory for all Selected Athletes. A sign-up link will be shared with Selected Athletes. If you have already attended a workshop, please inform the Team Manager. If you have not attended a course in this current season, you will forfeit your right to represent the England Rowing team.

Note: For further Anti-Doping information please visit [British Rowing Clean Sport](#) or [UK Anti-Doping](#).

Appendix A: Contacts

British Rowing		
England Pathway Manager & Team Manager	James Andrews	james.andrews@britishrowing.org
Contact for:	Information or questions relating to the overall strategy for England Rowing Teams and Selection Policy.	
Safeguarding and Integrity Education Officer	Richard Nunn	cleansport@britishrowing.org
Contact for:	Information or questions regarding the Anti-Doping or iRowClean training.	
Head of Governance, Safeguarding and Integrity		governance@britishrowing.org
Contact for:	Information or questions relating to the appeals process.	

Appendix B: Financial Support

British Rowing and the England Rowing team are committed to supporting talented athletes, facing financial hardship who might otherwise be unable to meet the costs of competing if selected as outlined in [Section 4](#). We recognise that representing England can be a significant financial commitment. While some costs are subsidised through Sport England funding, the program relies heavily on self-funding.

To ensure equitable access and to deliver system-wide change to tackle inequalities, we are trialling a tiered financial support process based on a confidential financial assessment. This confidential assessment will determine the level of subsidy an athlete receives, falling into one of three tiers.

Group	Subsidy Level
Highest Need	Indicative range of 60% up to a maximum of 90% (depending on circumstances)
Moderate Need	Indicative range of 20% up to a maximum of 60% (depending on circumstances)
Minimal Need	Unlikely to receive financial support.

Any athletes (or the parent/guardian of junior athletes) wishing to apply for funding support should complete this [Financial Support Form](#) when registering to represent England. The form will request the following information:

- Name of Athlete.
- Date of Birth.
- Contact Information.
- Home address (including postcode)
- Educational Background.
- Evidence of means tested benefits (E.g. Free School Meals, Universal Credit etc).
- A description of any financial circumstances that might impact your ability to participate in this event. (e.g. Household income, Caring responsibilities, additional travel costs due to proximity to departure location, etc.)
- Information regarding other (if any) financial support you will receive to support your participation at this event. (E.g. from your Club, School, College, Regional Rowing Council, Active Partnership, etc).
- What is the maximum amount you could realistically contribute towards these costs?
- Supporting letter from Club Chair or Captain.

A conditional funding offer, based on the information provided in your financial assessment, will be communicated within one month of form completion. This funding offer is contingent upon successful selection to the team. You will then have one week or until the selection decision (whichever is sooner) to accept the conditional offer.

We encourage athletes facing financial hardship to explore additional funding opportunities. Below are some suggestions for those seeking additional funding:

1. Previous athletes and coaches have been successful in applying for financial help from their club/school/university or their [regional rowing council](#).
2. Active Partnerships: Some Active Partnerships allocate small grants for talented sports people, and we are happy to write supporting letters to successful team members who apply for funding. Find your local Active Partnership [here](#) (external link).



3. Go Fund Me / Crowdfunding: Consider setting up a crowdfunding page to raise funds from friends, family, and community members.
4. Local Businesses: Approach local businesses for sponsorship or support. Many businesses are willing to support talented young athletes in their community.