



International Cross Country Selection Policy, CrossCup de Hannut, Belgium 22nd January 2023

Introduction

Athletics Ireland is pleased to announce an International Cross-Country opportunity for U20, U23 and senior Athletes. Recognising the importance of Cross-Country in the development of endurance athletes and the importance of gaining exposure to international level competition, athletes will be selected to compete in the World Athletics Cross-Country tour meeting, CrossCup de Hannut, Belgium on 22nd January.

The intention is select 4 male and female athletes in the 2023 U20, U23 and Senior age groups. England Athletics will send u20 and senior teams to compete and we anticipate strong local opposition as well as international athletes from around Europe and beyond. Athletic Ireland believes this is an opportunity for athletes to increase their experience of International level competition in preparation for future International championships particularly given the next edition of the European Cross Country will be run in Belgium.

TEAM OBJECTIVES AND SELECTION PHILOSOPHY

Participation in the race allows an opportunity for high-level competition for those athletes looking to extend their cross country season into the New Year, particularly any athlete that may be seeking selection for the World Cross Country Championships in February. It is also considered to be an opportunity to prepare athletes that may feature on Irish teams in the 2023 European Cross Country. So overall the fixture aims to make a positive contribution to individual athlete development to successfully transition age-category athletes through the categories and into full senior international championships in the coming years. The intention is to select teams as described below:

- Sen (4 athletes male & female)
- U23 (Born 2001, 2002, 2003) (4 athletes male & female),
- U20 (Born 2005, 2006, 2007) (4 athletes male & female)

1. SELECTION PROCESS:

1.1 Eligibility

In order to be eligible for selection all athletes must:

- 1.1.1 Fill out a [National Team Declaration Form](#) (NTDF) on Athletics Ireland High-Performance website before 22nd November.
- 1.1.2 Satisfy all World Athletics eligibility and nationality participation rules.
- 1.1.3 Be a registered member of Athletics Ireland.
- 1.1.4 Remain in "good standing" with Athletics Ireland and at all times comply with any established code of conduct or athlete agreement and otherwise conduct themselves in a way that does not bring their sport or the National Team into disrepute.
- 1.1.5 Selected athletes will be asked to complete the European athletics [Irunclean](#) online program.

Performance Period

1.3 Selection will be principally based on the performance on 20th November 2022 at the National Cross Country Championships. If an athlete declines selection or subsequently becomes unavailable then places may be offered to other athletes at the discretion of the National Endurance coordinator considering wider performance data and taking into account the selection philosophy objectives.

General Selection Criteria

1.4 Athletes that qualify for the European XC Championships can also be selected for the CrossCup Hannut.

Commented [PM1]: ask Davy to add this to the NTDF

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1.5 Following the National Cross-Country championships athletes will be selected according to the criteria set out for specific age groups in section 1.7.

1.6 In the event that athletes that have demonstrated a suitable performance level are not available in a given age group, fewer than 4 athletes may be selected in that age group and places may be redistributed to select more athletes in another age group if that is perceived to serve the objectives of the selection philosophy.

1.7 Age group selection Criteria

- 1.7.1** The first four eligible athletes male and female over the line in the **u20 race (Born 2004/2005/2006)** in National XC November 20th will be offered selection. In the event that any of these athletes are not available the next available finisher from the National Interclub XC will be offered selection.
- 1.7.2** The first four eligible athletes male and female over the line in the **u23 race (Born 2001/2002)** in National XC November 20th will be offered selection. In the event that any of these athletes are not available the next available finisher from the National Interclub XC will be offered selection provided they finished in the top 30 in the combined u23 and Senior race at the National XC November 20th. If 4 athletes are not selected and available that meet these criteria then further selections may be made at the discretion of the National endurance coordinator including athletes born in 2003 that competed in the **u20 race** in National XC November 20th.
- 1.7.3** The first four eligible athletes male and female over the line in the National XC November 20th, not already selected as u23 athletes, will be offered selection. In the event that any of these athletes are not available the next available finisher from the National Interclub XC will be offered selection provided they finished in the top 20 in the combined u23 and Senior race at the National XC November 20th. If 4 athletes are not selected and available that meet these criteria then further selections may be made at the discretion of the National endurance coordinator.

1.8 Selection Queries

U20, u23 and Senior Athletes can query (i.e. seek clarification regarding selection and/or requirements regarding what they need to do to meet selection requirements) with the National endurance coordinator (endurance@athleticsireland.ie).

2. GENERAL INFORMATION:

2.1 The criteria may be amended at any time by the Directors of Athletics Ireland if Athletics Ireland is of the opinion that such amendment is necessary in the best interests of Athletics Ireland or as a result of any change in participation rules and/or guidelines. Any amendment to the criteria will be published on the Athletics Ireland website.

2.2 Gear: Selected athletes will be provided with competition singlet and shorts and track or equivalent.

N.B Those that have previously received Joma Irish team kit for any competition will wear that gear and will not receive a new set of gear.

2.3 Substitutions: Following selections substitutions may be made in the event of an athlete being sick or injured & unable to compete and this will be at the discretion of the National Endurance Coordinator.

2.4 Appeals: No non-selection appeals will be considered for this development event.

2. Athletes that are not selected but wish to compete may be able to enter via the event website <https://crosscup.be/fr/hannuit/>

2.7 Notification of Selection: Provisional Selection will be announced by 30th November 2023.

2.8 Accommodation and travel: Selected athletes will travel from Dublin on Saturday 21st January and return on the evening on Sunday 22nd January, Athletes will be expected to make their own arrangements for travel to the airport and travel costs to the airport will not be covered.

2.9 Following selection:

Athletics Ireland reserve the right to cancel any and all selections up to the races due to any welfare, health, organisation or performance concerns that mean the individual selection or team participation no longer aligns with the objectives of the selection philosophy.