SELECTION POLICY

Selection Policy, Armagh International 5k Road Races, 11th February 2027

Introduction

Athletics Ireland is pleased to announce an International 5km road race opportunity for early 2027. Recognising the importance of continuing to develop athletes over shorter road distances, and building a pipeline for 10km and cross country competition, Athletics Ireland will field teams to compete against other international teams at the Armagh International 5k Road Races, hosted by Armagh Athletic Club on Thursday 11th February 2027. For 2027 the organisers have added an Elite/International Women's 5k to the event schedule alongside the Men's International 5k, and Athletics Ireland has been invited to select a team of four men and four women. Both races will incorporate an International team element as well as strong fields of elite internationals from other nations. The selection of Irish teams to compete will be used as an opportunity for developing athletes to increase their experience of International level competition and an International team competition environment.

TEAM OBJECTIVES AND SELECTION PHILOSOPHY

This is a development event. It is envisaged that Ireland's top-tier senior endurance athletes will not be seeking selection, and the teams are aimed at developing senior athletes who are building towards future international representation. We are aiming for a successful outcome both in terms of a) final team and individual performances which should be reflective of Ireland's strong tradition in road running, and b) making a positive contribution to individual athlete development - specifically for athletes with the potential to compete at Global and European 5km, 10km, and cross country championships in the future. We will aim to select full teams as described below:

- Irish Women's Team (4 athletes)
- Irish Men's Team (4 athletes)

1 SELECTION PROCESS:

1.1 Whilst Athletics Ireland will endeavour to send full teams to this event, nothing in the policy obliges Athletics Ireland to select a full contingent of athletes for the teams.

Eligibility

1.2 In order to be eligible for selection all athletes must:

1.2.1 Have competed in the senior race at the National Senior Cross Country Championships, Abbotstown, on Sunday 22nd November 2026.

1.2.2 Complete the National team declaration form prior to Friday 27th November 2026 and contact the National Endurance Lead with any updates after the form is submitted.

1.2.3 Satisfy all World Athletics eligibility and nationality participation rules.

1.2.4 Hold a valid and current Irish passport.

1.2.5 Be a registered member of Athletics Ireland.

1.2.6 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.

1.2.7 Selected athletes will be asked to complete the European athletics Irunclean online program.

1.2.8 Should a Northern Ireland and Ulster team also compete, athletes offered selection for the Northern Ireland and Ulster team will not be selected for the Irish team for this competition.

Performance Period

1.3 Selection will be based solely on finishing positions in the senior races at the National Senior Cross Country Championships, Abbotstown, on Sunday 22nd November 2026. No other races or performances will be taken into consideration.

General Selection Criteria

1.4 The first four eligible and available women and the first four eligible and available men across the line in the senior races at the National Senior Cross Country Championships will be selected. In the event that an athlete declines selection or is unavailable, the place will be offered to the next eligible athlete in finishing order. Selections will be confirmed by the National Endurance Lead.

1.5 Selection Queries

Athletes can seek clarification regarding selection and/or requirements regarding what they need to do to meet selection requirements from the National Endurance Lead .

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**.**

Gear:

2.2 At a minimum, selected athletes will be provided with competition singlet and shorts or equivalent. N.B Those that have previously received Adidas Irish team kit will wear that gear and will not receive a new set of gear.

Substitutions:

2.3 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 Lead.

Appeals:

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

Notification of Selection:

2.5 Selection will be announced in December 2026. NB: Elite field entry is limited; athletes not selected may contact the race director, Craig Troughton (armaghinternationalroadrace@gmail.com), to be considered for a place.

Accommodation and travel:

2.6 Accommodation in Armagh will be provided for selected athletes on request. Athletes will be expected to make their own travel arrangements to Armagh.