

Information regarding selection criteria for International Events supported by IMRA in 2024

Subject to committee approval on budget, during 2024, IMRA intends to select teams for the following events:

- Trail du Guerledan, France, May [development event]
- European Athletics Off-Road Running Championships, France, May/June [junior and senior world championship event]
- U18 International Youth Cup, Spain, June [junior world championship event]
- Snowdon, Wales, July [development event]
- British and Irish Junior Mountain Running Championships, Ireland, September [development event]

General Criteria for the selection of teams or individual athletes

Selection will be carried out on the following basis.

- The primary source of selection will be based on the performance of athletes in races identified as trial races for the above events.
- Target times for male and female athletes will be set out in advance for these trial races
- Those athletes completing the race quicker than this time will be considered for selection according to the order in which they finish
- Achieving the target time is not a guarantee of selection
- Where no athletes complete the race within the target time the HP committee may, at their discretion, select athletes who ran the trial in order to complete a team, develop promising newcomers to hill running or account for particularly tough weather or course conditions on the day of the trial.

Performance in alternative races to the trial races will only be considered for selection where:

- The athlete has contacted the selectors ***in advance of the trial race***, via email to selection@imra.ie, to inform them of their inability to attend the trial race, along with reasons why.
- If the HP committee agrees to consider the athlete, they will need to agree with the HP committee an alternative race to be used to judge form at the time of the trial race.

NB: While the above steps need to be taken in advance of the particular trial race, selection priority will always be given to the athletes that participate in the trial races and their performance at the trials over those that did not attend the trial race.

- Athletes who are ranked at an elite level according to WMRA rankings maybe considered for pre-selection.

Please pay particular attention to the following criteria which must be adhered to in order to be considered for selection.

Selection to represent Ireland is contingent on the athlete being in possession of a valid Irish passport before taking part in a trial race.

We expect all Irish-based athletes to volunteer at least once with IMRA in 2024 before taking part in a trial race. If you are unclear about this aspect, please contact any member of the HP committee.

If selected to represent Ireland, we will require each athlete to sign a contract with IMRA committing to adhere to the rules and guidelines set out by the HP committee in preparation for the event and during the international trip itself.

In all circumstances HP committee will have the option to select full teams, individual athletes, or no athletes for any of the above international race events. When making final selections the HP committee will consider the panel of runners available, the financial backing available to support teams being sent and the potential for success of a team made up from the available runners. Only when the funding is available, has been approved by the IMRA executive committee and athletes of sufficient standard are available will individuals or teams be selected to represent Ireland.

If you have any queries on the above, please do not hesitate to contact any member of the HP committee:

- Robbie Williams, HP Officer, highperformance@imra.ie
- Elizabeth Wheeler, Junior Development Officer, juniors@imra.ie
- Richard Nunan, WMRA and AI rep, international.rep@imra.ie
- Leo Mahon, HP committee member, mahonleo55@gmail.com
- Miriam Maher, President, president@imra.ie