



Youth Commonwealth Games, Trinidad and Tobago, 4th – 11th August 2023 Volleyball England Selection Policy

1. Overview

- 1.1 Volleyball England is the representative body with the mandate from the Commonwealth Games England (CGE) to nominate athletes and teams to compete at the Youth Commonwealth Games in Trinidad and Tobago 04 - 11 August 2023.
- 1.2 This document outlines the information about selection for Team England at the Youth Commonwealth Games 2023 (“the Games”) and details the process by which Volleyball England (“VE”) will arrive at its decisions to nominate athletes for selection for the Youth Commonwealth Games 2023. These nominations will then be submitted to Commonwealth Games England (CGE), for Team England ratification for the Games.
- 1.3 Subject to athletes fulfilling the eligibility criteria and meeting the qualifications requirements, VE will nominate the maximum team size it can (4 athletes - 2 male and 2 female) within the quotas given by CGE. The Games tournament is set to be a 12-team tournament in both genders. Each team selected by VE to go to the Games, will be assigned one team official per gender. The appointment and selection of the team officials is detailed in section 9.

2. Objective

- 2.1 The aim of the VE Commonwealth Games selection policy is to select the best athletes, who will become pairs, to compete at the 2023 Youth Commonwealth Games.
- 2.2 VE will nominate athletes to CGE for ratification. CGE reserves the right not to ratify an athlete nominated by VE. (See appeals section 8).

3. Eligibility Criteria

- 3.1 To be considered eligible for selection, athletes must;
 - 3.1.1 Be a British Passport holder.
 - 3.1.2 Athletes must have been born in one of the following years: 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 or 2009.
 - 3.1.3 Be eligible to represent England at the Games in accordance with the CGF Eligibility requirements. (<https://thecgf.com/sites/default/files/2018-03/constitution.pdf>)
 - 3.1.4 Sign up to and comply with the Team England Team Members Agreement and CGF EEC form.
 - 3.1.5 Agree to and comply with pre-games preparation policies and plans which will be published nearer the time and determined by VE at their absolute discretion.



4. Selection Criteria

To be considered for selection, athletes must:

1. Attend the 3 Selection Camps that will be held on*:
 - i. Saturday 1st April 2023 (Venue TBC) – Open**
 - ii. Saturday 1st May 2023 (Venue TBC) – Invite Only***
 - iii. Saturday 3rd June 2023 (Venue TBC) – Invite Only
2. Compete in at least 3 UK BT Events (1,2,3,4 or 5*) prior to Saturday 3rd June 2023.
3. Be available to attend the Holding Camp and Games from 31st July – 14th August 2023

**If an athlete is unable to attend any of these events due to any unforeseen circumstances a decision will be made by the Beach Performance Manager, Coaching Team and VE Talent to their continued selection eligibility.*

***Where numbers exceed the venue/camp capacity, the selection board has the right to select athletes on experience, physicality, and previous rankings.*

****The selection board will reduce the number of athletes selected as the selection camp's progress. This will be done using the Performance Criteria in section 6.*

5. Additional Factors for Consideration

- 5.1 Adherence to the VE 'Code of Conduct' for national athletes.
- 5.2 Adherence to high performance behavior.
- 5.3 The attitude and commitment of athletes in preparing and competing for England.
- 5.4 The performance record of athletes at major events.
- 5.5 The performance record of athletes in pressure situations at international tournaments.
- 5.6 All tournament results during the 'qualification period' (the athlete has the responsibility to provide VE with evidence and information when asked in a timely fashion).
- 5.7 Illness and Injury record during the qualification period.
- 5.8 Any disciplinary history.

6. Selection Framework

6.1 Beach Volleyball is a pair sport. While each athlete can do a great deal to develop themselves as an individual, ultimately, they must be able to realise their potential and perform within a pair. Acknowledgement is made that in selecting for a pair sport, combinations of athletes, the balance of a pairing and the ability of athletes as a duo are also considered alongside individual skill level.

6.2 Final selection will be based upon the following **Performance Criteria**: athlete experience, athlete technical skill, commitment to the England Talent Pathway programme, physical profile, mental



skills, role in the team, impact on the programme and the objectives, wellbeing, and any testing data available. See Annex A.

6.3 Final selection will take place after the Selection Camp to be held on 3rd June 2023 by the Selection Board consisting of:

- i. The Beach Performance Director
- ii. Junior Beach Coaching Team
- iii. Talent Team

6.4 All athletes nominated for selection must have completed all required Anti-Doping education as per the Clean Games policy.

6.5 All athletes nominated for selection must have completed all required medical certifications.

6.6 VE will send their nominations to CGE by 12th June 2023.

6.7 Final selection to compete at the Games as part of Team England is dependent on receipt of all relevant information, as required by CGE.

7. De-selection

7.1 Athletes can be de-selected from their nominations to CGE and selection for Team England in the following instances;

- 7.1.1 **Anti-Doping violations** – Athletes suspended by VE due to ongoing or concluded anti-doping violation allegations, will not be nominated or considered for selection. If already nominated or selected, they will be deselected from Team England.
- 7.1.2 **Injury** – If injury issues are identified at the time of or after nomination/selection, a fitness test may be required to determine whether the athlete is capable of performing to the level that they were selected for the Games. The format of this test will be determined jointly by CGE, VE and the Beach Volleyball Team staff. The test will be specific to Beach Volleyball, the condition of the athlete and may include input from CGE medical staff. Any selection or deselection decision resulting from this test will be final.
- 7.1.3 **Breaches of Conduct** – Athletes in breach of CGE, VE and Team England policies, code of conducts and athlete agreements may be deselected.

8. Appeals

8.1 Appeals against non-nomination for the Games by VE is strictly between the individual athlete and VE, in accordance with VE's own appeals procedures. This will also take into account the CGE ratification criteria and any agreed sport specific standards and conditions.



8.2 VE is to notify all potential nominees in writing of the final decisions and of the athletes nominated to CGE by 7th June 2023. Any athletes who have not been nominated to CGE have the right to appeal this decision. This appeal must be done in writing, including the grounds upon which the appeal is to be made. This must be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at VE offices by 17:00 on the 10th June 2023. Any appeals will be considered on the 11th June 2023 and individuals will be informed of the outcomes on the 12th June 2023.

9. Team Staff Appointments

9.1 The Team Leader will be appointed by VE. They will be responsible for all administration for the games and the safety and performance support for the athletes during Games time.

9.2 Beach Volleyball staff, such as the coaches and support staff, will be appointed by VE. The decision on the individuals appointed to this role, is to be made with the best interests of the athletes selected, the policy for coach selection will be available at a later date.