

England Athletics Selection Policy for World Athletics Race Walking Challenge – Madrid

31st May 2026

Overview

England Athletics values the importance of competitive race-walking opportunities for developing athletes looking to gain international experience and therefore intend to select athletes for competitive opportunities who the Selection Panel believes have the potential to make future England and Great Britain teams at major championships on the track or road.

Eligibility

To be considered for selection for this team:

- Athletes must be U20 or Senior.
- DOB for Junior
 - U18 (2009/2010 Year of Birth)
 - U20 (2008/2007 Year of Birth)
- Athletes must be eligible to compete for England in accordance with [World Athletics eligibility rules](#). This includes holding a full British passport.
- Athletes must not be currently serving a period of ineligibility or a provisional or permanent suspension for a doping violation or for any other reason of misconduct.
- Athletes must be currently registered as a member with England Athletics, directly or through a club.
- Athletes will be required to sign the England Athletics Team Members' Agreement ("TMA") and abide by its terms and conditions. Any athlete failing to do so before the date of the competition will result in their selection being withdrawn.
- Athletes wishing to be selected must complete an expression of interest by 18:00 on Friday 10th April 2026. The link to the expression of interest can be found [here](#).

Events

England Athletics may select up to 1 senior + 2 juniors per event

- U20/U18 Men – 5km
- U20/U18 Women - 5km
- Senior Men – 10km
- Senior Women - 10km

Qualification Standards

<u>Men</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Women</u>
15:45/13:00	3000m U18/U20	17:30/14:45
26:30/23:00/21:30	5000m U18/U20/Sen	30:00/27:30/26:00
42:00	10,000m	48:30

U23 can apply and 10,000m QS are 44:25 for men and 52:15 for women

Selection Process & Criteria

- The selection meeting will take place w/c 13th April. Selected athletes will be notified straight after the selection meeting. None travelling reserves will also be selected and notified.
- The selection panel will comprise of voting and non-voting members including:
 - EA Event Group Leads or representative.
 - EA Team/Programme staff
 - Team Leader
 - EA Coaching staff (where required)
 - Independent Observer
- The panel may also (at their discretion) seek assistance from anyone else that may be of help. (N.B any voting member of the panel shall declare his/her conflict of interest in respect of any selection issue and shall not be entitled to vote on that issue.
- The consideration window for performances is from 1st May 2025. Performances from both road and track will be accepted.
- The panel will select athletes against the following criteria (in no ranked order)
 - Current competitive form (specific focus on performances from 1st January 2026)
 - Head-to-head performances within the past 12 months
 - Consistency of performance
 - Previous National & International Championship history
 - Illness/injury status
- There is no appeal process in operation for this selection.
- England Athletics reserves the right to amend or vary this Selection Policy where necessary at any time. Any such amendments or variations will take effect from the first date of publication of the amended Selection Policy on the England Athletics website.

Other Information

- Junior Athletes will be required to travel as a team with the team manager. Travel details will not be confirmed until post selection. Athletes must be prepared to travel to the departure airport. There will not be an expectation for senior athletes to travel with the team however this will be strongly encouraged. Senior athletes choosing to travel independently will be reimbursed a contribution towards travel and will be required to meet the team at the team hotel at a set time. Logistics of this independent travel will be the responsibility of the athlete.
- England Athletics will not provide financial assistance for domestic assembly for international races (e.g. travel to or parking at an airport) or meals at the airport. Athletes based overseas will be expected to pay their own travel back to the UK to join the team on departure dates. Flights, hotels and transfers will be covered for the selected team.
- England Athletics will provide competition kit to any athletes that have not received such kit within the last 2 years. If selected, there will be an opportunity to purchase additional Kukri performance kit.
- Any selected athlete with doubts over their fitness in the lead up to the event may be required to evidence a fitness test. England Athletics reserve the right to deselect athletes who the selection panel feel are not fit or competitive enough in the final weeks before the event.

- Athletes who withdraw themselves for reasons other than illness or injury may also be liable to cover the costs of their flights or a change of name to the ticket where there is the option to substitute.
- If you have any questions or wish to clarify anything in this policy please contact Vicky Griffiths – vgriffiths@englandathletics.org.