

England Athletics Selection Policy for Antrim Half Marathon 2026 v1

23rd August 2026

Overview

The Antrim Half Marathon represents an excellent opportunity for athletes to gain their first international selection or develop their international experience within a high-quality field competing against other international teams. The race takes place in Antrim through sections of the town and coast and is renowned for its fast times. Event website is [here](#)

Eligibility

To be considered for selection for this team:

- 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 have achieved one of the stated qualification standards within the qualification period. Standards must have been achieved in a ratifiable UKA or World Athletics competition under standard race licensing and competition rules.
- Athletes must be aged 18 or over on 22 August 2026 (day of travel)
- 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 Any athlete failing to do so before the date of the competition will result in their selection being withdrawn.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 23:59 31 May 2026. Link to expression of interest can be found [here](#).

Qualification Standards

Men	Event	Women
1:05:00	Half Marathon	1:15:30
2:18:00	Marathon	2:38:00
29:30	10km	33:45

Qualification performances must be achieved between 00:01 (GMT) 1 August 2025 & 23:59 (GMT) 31st May 2026

Selection Process & Criteria

- The team will be selected in the week commencing 1 June 2026. Selected athletes will be notified on this date and will be required to confirm their selection ASAP.
- Up to four men and four women athletes may be selected. Two non-travelling reserve athletes may also be selected for each team.
- Athletes wishing to be considered for selection must complete the [expression of interest](#) by 23:59 31 May 2026.

- The selection panel will comprise of voting and non-voting members including:
 - EA Event Group Leads or representative.
 - Independent Observer.
 - Team Leader.
 - EA Team/Programme staff.
 - EA Coaching staff (where required).
- 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 period for performances is from 01/08/2025 - 31/05/2026
- The panel will select athletes against the following criteria (in no ranked order)
 - Current competitive form. This focus will be performances from 01/01/26 - 31/05/2026. Current form can be demonstrated through performances at different race distances or surfaces.
 - Relevant head to heads from races within the selection window.
 - Current UK ranking over the race distance of 10km, Half Marathon, Marathon
 - Consistency of performance defined by the number of times athletes have met the listed selection standards
 - Future potential to represent England or Great Britain at major championships.
 - Injury status
- 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.
- There shall be no right of appeal to the selection of the England Team made by the Selection Panel. The provisions of the UK Athletics Selection and Nomination “Fast” Appeals Procedure” do not apply to the England team selections for this event.
- In exceptional circumstances only, England Athletics reserve the right to select athletes without a current standard or athletes from outside the expressions of interest.

Additional Notes

- Where possible, athletes will be expected to travel as a team with the team managers. There will be 2 x designated airports (one in the North, one in the South). If the team travel arrangements do not suit individuals due to location/work commitments etc, athletes will be permitted to travel independently. With this, athletes will be expected to arrange their own travel (flights and transfers) and will be reimbursed up to £100.
- 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
- Accommodation will be provided on the 22 August by the race organiser. The team hotel is - [Ulster University Nelson's Place](#). All team members will be expected to stay in this hotel.
- England Athletics will provide competition kit to any athletes that haven't received such kit within the last 2 years.
- England Athletics reserve the right to deselect athletes who the selection panel or team management feel are not ready to compete in the final weeks before the event.
- 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.
- 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 require additional information, please contact Andrew Heyes – aheyes@englandathletics.org