



SELECTION POLICY 2027

Olympic Qualifiers | 2027 Competition Year



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Introduction

This Selection Policy sets out the process by which Boxing Ireland will select athletes to represent Ireland at the 2027 Olympic qualification events and the 2027 competition season.

The policy applies to the Olympic qualification pathway and to selection for non-Olympic weight categories at the 2027 World Championships in Astana, Kazakhstan, in April 2027; and for Olympic weight categories only at the 2027 European Games in Istanbul, Türkiye. The World Championships will serve as the first of three global Olympic qualification events (two in 2028), with the European Games serving as a continental qualification event.

This policy has been approved by the Boxing Ireland Board of Directors.

European Games Selection and Nomination

The European Games are overseen by the Olympic Federation of Ireland (OFI). Accordingly, athletes who successfully meet the requirements for selection under this policy will be nominated by Boxing Ireland to the OFI Selection Committee for consideration.

Boxing Ireland's role is to nominate athletes; all final decisions regarding selection to Team Ireland for the European Games rest with the OFI.

The exact process for qualifying for the European Games is subject to amendment based on the qualification guide to be published by the European Olympic Committee and World Boxing. Any changes will be communicated at that point. A separate Boxing Ireland nominations policy will be published in due course.

Principles & Objectives

The objective of this policy is to identify and select athletes with the demonstrated performance capability to succeed at the 2027 Olympic qualification events and maximise Ireland's opportunity to qualify athletes for the 2028 Olympic Games.

Selection will be guided by the following principles:

- Performance-focused – selection will be based on observable and objective performance outcomes.
- Competitive – athletes must demonstrate the ability to compete successfully at the required level.
- International experience – proven performance and experience against international Elite-level opposition will be an important consideration.
- Transparency – athletes will have a clear understanding of the selection process, requirements and potential outcomes.
- Fairness – athletes will be provided with appropriate opportunities to demonstrate their ability within the parameters of this policy.
- Athlete empowerment – wherever possible, selection will be determined through objective performance opportunities that allow athletes to influence selection decisions through their own performances and results.



Eligibility

To be eligible for selection under this policy, an athlete must:

- Be eligible to represent Ireland in accordance with World Boxing eligibility and nationality regulations.
- Hold a valid Irish passport with at least six months' validity remaining at the relevant international competition.
- Meet the applicable World Boxing age requirements for Senior Elite competition.
- Be a registered Boxing Ireland member in good standing for the 2026 and 2027 season.
- Compete in the 2027 National Elite Championships and register a result; athletes must weigh in - except where an athlete qualifies for re-entry under the provisions of this policy.
- Complete and sign all required Boxing Ireland athlete selection declarations and agreements.
- Comply with all applicable Boxing Ireland rules, policies and codes of conduct, and the World Anti-Doping Code.
- Not be subject to any current disqualification or suspension, whether provisional or otherwise, imposed by Boxing Ireland, World Boxing or under the World Anti-Doping Code.
- Comply with all required preparation activities associated with selection, including medical screening, training, sparring and other performance requirements.

Note: Boxers born in Northern Ireland may identify as Irish, British, or both under the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Good Friday Agreement).

Athletes must maintain these eligibility requirements throughout the selection process and subsequent period of selection.

Selection Process

Stage 1 - National Elite Championships

The 2027 National Elite Championships will be the first stage of the selection process and will provide the primary domestic competition through which Boxing Ireland identifies the strongest athletes within each weight category.

To be considered for selection under this policy, an athlete must compete at the 2027 National Elite Championships and progress to the final of their respective weight category, except where the Carded Athlete Re-Entry or Exceptional Circumstances provisions contained within this policy apply.

Performance at the National Elite Championships will provide the first objective evidence within the selection process. Winning the National Elite Championships does not, however, provide an automatic right to selection. Selection will also recognise demonstrated international performance and experience, consistent with the objectives and principles of this policy.

Accordingly, the National Elite Champion and, where applicable, the National Elite Championship Runner-Up may progress for further consideration under the subsequent stages of this policy.

The selection process recognises that an athlete may emerge through the 2027 National Elite Championships without an established record of Senior Elite international performance.



Where an athlete demonstrates a high level of performance in winning the National Elite Championships, the Selection Panel may identify that athlete as a breakthrough athlete and consider them for further selection.

In making this determination, the Selection Panel will consider observable performance evidence at the National Elite Championships alongside relevant previous international experience and results across age-group competitions.

Breakthrough athlete status does not provide an automatic right to selection.

Stage 2 – Progression Following the National Elite Championships

Following the National Elite Championships, athletes will progress under one of two scenarios. Previous international performance and experience will be used to determine whether the National Elite Championship Runner-Up is brought forward alongside the National Elite Champion.

For the purposes of this policy, an athlete will be considered to have demonstrated the required level of previous Senior Elite international performance where they meet at least one of the following:

- Recognised within the Sport Ireland International Carding Scheme in 2026 or 2027.
- 2026 Strandja International Tournament – a minimum of two bout wins and a medal.
- 2026 World Boxing Cup 1 or World Boxing Cup 2 – a minimum of two bout wins.
- 2026 Elite European Championships – a minimum of two bout wins.

These criteria provide objective evidence that an athlete has demonstrated the ability to compete successfully against Senior Elite international opposition. Athletes deemed not to have the required international experience may be offered a place on the Targeted Pathway Athlete Programme, see Schedule 7, below.

Scenario 1 – National Elite Champion Only

Where the National Elite Championship Runner-Up does not meet any of the international performance criteria above, they will not progress to Stage 2.

The National Elite Champion will progress as the sole athlete from that weight category, provided they meet the required international performance criteria or have been identified as a breakthrough athlete under this policy.

Where these requirements are met, the National Elite Champion will be selected for the 2027 World Championships and progress within the selection process for the European Games, subject to any applicable Carded Athlete Re-Entry provisions.

Scenario 2 – National Elite Champion and Runner-Up

Where the National Elite Championship Runner-Up meets at least one of the international performance criteria above, they may be brought forward into Stage 2 alongside the National Elite Champion.

Meeting these criteria establishes the Runner-Up as a credible Senior Elite international performer and provides eligibility for further consideration within the selection process. It does not provide an automatic right to selection.

Where both athletes progress to Stage 2, the National Elite Champion will be selected to represent Ireland at the 2027 World Championships. The Champion's performance at the World Championships will then determine the subsequent selection process for the European Games.



Stage 3 - World Championships Performance

Where both the National Elite Champion and Runner-Up have progressed within the selection process, the National Elite Champion will represent Ireland at the 2027 World Championships.

Performance at the World Championships will then determine whether the Champion secures their position for the European Games or whether the Runner-Up is brought back into the selection process.

The required World Championship performance benchmark is:

- A minimum of two bout wins; and
- A top-eight placing.

Where the National Elite Champion achieves both requirements, they will secure selection for the European Games, subject to the nomination requirements of the Olympic Federation of Ireland.

Where the National Elite Champion wins one bout or fewer at the World Championships, the National Elite Championship Runner-Up will be brought back into the selection process. A box-off between the National Elite Champion and Runner-Up will then determine which athlete progresses for European Games selection.

The box-off will take place at the National Stadium or another appropriate venue, with independent judges appointed where considered appropriate. It may take place at any stage up to the closing date for submission of the European Games shortlist to the Olympic Federation of Ireland.

The winner of the box-off will progress for European Games selection, with the other athlete designated as the reserve.

The selection outcomes outlined above remain subject to the Carded Athlete Re-Entry provisions contained within this policy.

Carded Athlete Re-Entry

The Carded Athlete Re-Entry provision recognises that an athlete's status within the Sport Ireland International Carding Scheme is an objective reflection of demonstrated international performance. Athletes who have achieved Podium, World Class or International Carding status have established their ability to perform successfully at Senior Elite international level, including winning medals and/or consecutive bouts at recognised high-level international competition.

Consistent with the principles and objectives of this policy, re-entry recognises proven performance while ensuring that selection remains competitive, performance-focused, fair and transparent.

The provision is intended to protect an eligible Carded athlete whose opportunity to compete at, or complete, the 2027 National Elite Championships has been removed by a genuine and independently verified injury. It is not intended to provide an athlete who has been legitimately defeated with an alternative route back into the selection process.

Governance of Carded Athlete Re-Entry

Eligibility for re-entry will be determined by the athlete's recognised Sport Ireland Carding status, the Olympic weight category in which that status was achieved, and independent medical verification of the injury.

Re-entry rights cannot be transferred to another weight category. The athlete must demonstrate that they were medically unable to compete at, or complete, the National Elite Championships due to a genuine and verifiable injury. The burden of proof rests with the athlete with all injuries being independently verified by Boxing Ireland's medical team.



For the purposes of this provision, an eligible injury may include:

- An injury sustained before the National Elite Championships that prevents the athlete from competing.
- A cut sustained during the National Elite Championships where the bout is officially recorded as RSC-I and the injury prevents the athlete from continuing in the Championships.
- An injury sustained as a consequence of an illegal blow or other rule violation by an opponent, where that injury prevents the athlete from continuing in the Championships.

The provision is not intended to provide a second opportunity to an athlete who has been legitimately defeated through the normal competitive actions of an opponent.

Podium Level Carded Athletes

An eligible Podium-level Carded athlete who is unable to compete at, or complete, the National Elite Championships may access one of the following re-entry opportunities:

- A box-off against the National Elite Champion before the World Championships; or
- Where return-to-performance timelines do not permit this, a box-off against the athlete who emerges from the selection process for the European Games, before the applicable shortlist deadline.

The Carded athlete must be medically cleared to compete when the relevant opportunity arises.

World Class and International Level Carded Athletes

An eligible World Class or International-level Carded athlete will retain a re-entry opportunity for the European Games.

This opportunity will be activated where the athlete representing Ireland at the World Championships does not achieve the required benchmark of a minimum of two bout wins and a top-eight placing.

Where a National Elite Championship Runner-Up has progressed within the selection process, the Champion and Runner-Up will first complete the applicable box-off. The Carded athlete will then, once medically cleared, box the athlete who emerges from that process.

Where no Runner-Up has progressed, the Carded athlete will box the National Elite Champion directly.

Medical Fitness and Forfeiture

All re-entry opportunities are conditional upon the athletes being medically fit when the relevant box-off is scheduled.

Where either athlete is medically unfit when the relevant opportunity arises, the opportunity will be forfeited in favour of the medically fit athlete. No further or alternative re-entry opportunity will be provided.

Internal Ranking Following Selection

Where both the National Elite Champion and National Elite Championship Runner-Up are selected into the process, the National Elite Champion will be ranked as the Number 1 athlete in that weight category for the 2027 season.

The Runner-Up will be selected into the High Performance Programme as the First Reserve athlete for that weight category.



This ranking will remain in place unless the Runner-Up subsequently secures an Olympic quota place at either of the 2027 Olympic qualification events. In such circumstances, the internal ranking will be reviewed to reflect the athlete who has secured the Olympic quota place.

The Selection Panel

All selection and nomination decisions made under this policy will be considered by a properly constituted Selection Panel.

For Olympic qualification events, including Olympic Qualifying tournaments and the European Games, the Selection Panel will be constituted in accordance with Rule 32 of the Boxing Ireland Rule Book.

The Selection Panel will comprise:

- High Performance Director.
- High Performance Head Coach.
- Two High Performance Coaches.
- One nominated representative of the Boxing Ireland Board of Directors, who will hold voting rights.

Operation of the Selection Panel

The Selection Panel will apply the provisions of this policy consistently and consider each weight category separately against the eligibility requirements, selection factors and performance criteria contained within this policy.

Each member of the Selection Panel will be entitled to one vote for each weight category under consideration. Selection and nomination decisions will be determined by a simple majority.

The Selection Panel will:

- Apply the selection criteria and performance requirements contained within this policy.
- Consider any applicable Carded Athlete Re-Entry provisions.
- Ensure decisions are consistent with the objectives and principles of this policy.
- Formally record the outcome and rationale for each selection or nomination decision.

Conflicts of Interest

All Selection Panel members must declare any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest before participating in the selection process and on an ongoing basis throughout the Panel's deliberations.

Where a Panel member has a conflict relating to an athlete or weight category, they will take no part in the discussion or decision relating to that athlete or weight category.

All declared conflicts and any resulting actions will be recorded in the official Selection Panel minutes.

Selection Factors

The Selection Panel will have regard to the following selection factors. These factors will be objectively weighted and applied consistently to all athletes under consideration, see Schedule 2, below. The final weighted scores will inform the Selection Panel's selection decisions.



- Results at the 2027 National Elite Championships – Athletes must, at a minimum, progress to the final of the Championships, except where the Exceptional Circumstances provisions contained within this policy apply.
- Previous International Performance – demonstrated international performances and results during the 2026 season at recognised senior Elite international competitions as outlined above.
- Conduct and Behaviour – the athlete’s conduct and behaviour throughout the 2026 season. Any documented disciplinary sanction applied during this period will automatically result in a reduction of the athlete’s score under this factor.
- Injury and Health Status – consideration of any injury or health issue that may affect the athlete’s ability to train, prepare or compete safely at Senior Elite international level.
- Weight Management and Athlete Health – athlete health and safety will take precedence where an athlete’s intended competition weight, weight-management practices, or ability to safely make and maintain the required weight raises serious health or welfare concerns.

Duty of Care

Boxing Ireland has a duty of care to protect the health, safety and welfare of athletes participating in the selection process and representing Ireland in international competition.

Accordingly, selection will not be based solely on competitive results. An athlete will not be selected, or progressed within the selection process, where there are legitimate and evidenced concerns that they are not of the required standard or cannot safely meet the demands of Senior Elite international competition.

In exercising its duty of care, the Selection Panel may consider:

- The athlete’s physical and medical readiness to train and compete.
- Injury or health concerns that may affect safe participation.
- The athlete’s ability to safely make and maintain the required competition weight.
- Weight-management practices that raise serious health or welfare concerns.
- The athlete’s level of experience at Senior Elite level and whether they have sufficient experience and competitive readiness to safely meet the demands of international Senior Elite competition.

Where concerns arise, Boxing Ireland may require further medical, performance or fitness assessment before confirming or maintaining selection.

Discretionary Decision-Making

The Selection Panel may exercise discretion where a selection decision cannot be determined solely through the objective outcomes or weighted selection factors contained within this policy.

Discretion will not replace or override the established selection process. It will support informed decision-making where additional context is required and must be based on relevant evidence and available information rather than personal opinion or preference.

In exercising discretion, the Selection Panel may consider:

- The athlete’s weighted selection scores and the evidence underpinning those scores.
- Previous Senior Elite international performances and results.



- Relevant recent performance trends and competitive history.
- Sport Ireland International Carding status and the performance evidence underpinning that status.
- The athlete's experience and demonstrated ability to perform against Senior Elite international opposition.
- Relevant medical, injury, health or weight-management information.
- Documented conduct or disciplinary information.
- Any other relevant performance information directly related to the objectives and requirements of this policy.

Where discretion is exercised, the Selection Panel must be satisfied that the decision is reasonable, evidence-informed, consistent with the objectives and principles of this policy, and applied fairly and consistently to all athletes under consideration.

The evidence considered, rationale for the decision and final decision will be formally recorded in the Selection Panel minutes.

Exceptional Circumstances – Consideration of Other Athletes

Where neither the National Elite Champion nor Runner-Up in a weight category meets the international performance and experience requirements contained within this policy, the Selection Panel may, in exceptional circumstances, consider another athlete who competed in that weight category at the 2027 National Elite Championships.

This provision will only be applied where the Selection Panel considers that there is clear and compelling evidence that another athlete within the weight category has demonstrated a greater capacity to perform successfully at Senior Elite international level and that their consideration is consistent with the objectives of this policy.

In making such a determination, the Selection Panel must consider relevant evidence, including:

- previous Senior Elite international performances and results;
- Sport Ireland International Carding status;
- performances during the 2026 international season;
- the athlete's performance at the 2027 National Elite Championships;
- previous head-to-head results, where relevant;
- experience and demonstrated competitiveness against Senior Elite international opposition; and
- the weighted selection factors contained within this policy.

This provision does not provide an automatic right to selection and will not ordinarily be used to overturn the competitive outcome of the National Elite Championships. It provides a limited exceptional mechanism where the National Elite finalists do not meet the international performance requirements necessary to progress under this policy.

Any decision made under this provision must be supported by clear performance evidence, agreed by the properly constituted Selection Panel, and the rationale for the decision formally recorded.



De-selection

An athlete may be withdrawn from the selection process, or de-selected following selection, where they no longer meet the requirements or standards necessary to represent Boxing Ireland.

De-selection may occur for the following reasons:

- Eligibility – where an athlete becomes ineligible to represent Ireland or fails to maintain any of the eligibility requirements contained within this policy.
- Breach of Boxing Ireland Policies – where an athlete breaches this Selection Policy, the Athlete Code of Conduct, Athlete Agreement or any other applicable Boxing Ireland policy or code.
- Training and Preparation – where an athlete fails to meet the required standards of training and preparation, including failure to participate in required squad training, preparation activities or other obligations contained within their Athlete Agreement.
- Fitness to Perform – where there are evidenced concerns regarding an athlete's ability to train or compete safely at the required Senior Elite international level.
- Injury or Medical Status – where injury, illness or another medical issue means the athlete is no longer medically fit to prepare for or compete at the relevant international event.
- Weight Management and Athlete Health – where there are serious concerns regarding an athlete's ability to safely make and maintain the required competition weight or where their weight-management practices present a health or welfare concern.

Where concerns regarding fitness to perform arise, Boxing Ireland may require the athlete to undertake an appropriate fitness or medical assessment. The nature of any assessment will be determined by the High Performance Director and National Head Coach and may include input from the High Performance medical team.

Any decision to de-select an athlete will be based on relevant evidence and formally recorded, including the reasons for the decision.

Schedules

The Schedules to this policy form part of the policy and should be read in conjunction with the main provisions.

Schedule 1 - Appeals

Appeals

An athlete may appeal a decision not to select them under this policy. An appeal is concerned with whether the selection process was properly followed and implemented; it is not a reconsideration of the sporting merits of the Selection Panel's decision.

Grounds for Appeal

The only grounds for appeal are that this Selection Policy was not properly followed and/or implemented.

An appeal cannot be made on the grounds that:

- The athlete or another person disagrees with the decision or recommendation of the Selection Panel.



- A decision of a referee or judges at the National Elite Championships or any other competition forming part of the selection process was incorrect.

Appeal Procedure

An appeal will generally be considered on the basis of the athlete's written submission and the records of the Selection Panel.

The athlete must:

- Submit the appeal in writing to the CEO of Boxing Ireland within 48 hours of the selection decision being announced or communicated to the athletes concerned.
- Pay an appeal fee of €200, which will be refunded where the appeal is upheld.
- Clearly identify the grounds for appeal and provide a detailed explanation of how the athlete believes this Selection Policy was not properly followed or implemented.

Appeals Panel

Boxing Ireland will appoint an independent Appeals Panel comprising:

- A barrister or solicitor, who will act as Chairperson.
- A person with a thorough knowledge of boxing.
- A person from another sport with experience of international athlete selection processes.

No person may serve on the Appeals Panel where they were a member of the original Selection Panel or have an actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest relating to the appeal.

The Appeals Panel may call witnesses or request oral evidence where it considers this necessary to properly determine the appeal.

Appeal Decision

The Appeals Panel will consider whether the Selection Policy was properly followed and implemented based on the evidence available to it.

The Appeals Panel will provide its decision as soon as reasonably practicable. A written decision will be provided to Boxing Ireland, the appellant athlete and any other relevant parties affected by the decision.

The decision of the Appeals Panel will be final and binding.

Schedule 2 – Selection Factors Weighting

The weighted score is intended to inform Selection Panel decision-making and does not, in itself, confer an automatic right to selection or override any eligibility, performance or other requirements contained within this policy.

The Selection Panel will apply the following weighting system. The maximum available score is 100 points, with a minimum threshold of 65 points.

National Elite Championships – Maximum 45 points

- Winner – 45 points.
- Runner-Up – 40 points.



International Performance (Elite level World & European Championships in 2026 only) – Maximum 35 points

- Gold medal – 25 points.
- Silver medal – 20 points.
- Bronze medal – 15 points.
- Two bout wins without a medal – 10 points.
- One bout win – 5 points.
- Points are cumulative across recognised events and capped at 35 points.

Conduct and Behaviour in 2026/2027 – Maximum 10 points

- Exemplary/compliant – 10 points.
- Minor documented disciplinary issue (first strike sanction) – 5 points.
- Serious documented breach (includes but not limited to 2nd and 3rd strike sanctions) – 0 points.
- Disciplinary matters must have been established through an official disciplinary process.

Injury and Health Status – Maximum 5 points

- Fully fit – 5 points.
- Minor limitation – 2 points.
- Not fit – 0 points.
- Fitness must be confirmed by the Boxing Ireland medical/physiotherapy team.

Weight Management and Athlete Health – Maximum 5 points

- Fully compliant – 5 points.
- Minor issue resolved – 2 points.
- Unsafe/non-compliant – 0 points.

Total Possible Score – 100 points

Minimum Threshold – 65 points

Schedule 3 – World Boxing Eligibility Rules

To be considered for selection under this policy, an athlete must be eligible to participate in Senior Elite international competition in accordance with World Boxing Competition Rules and any applicable event-specific requirements.

Athletes must:

- Be eligible to represent Ireland in accordance with World Boxing nationality and sporting nationality requirements.
- Hold a valid Irish passport and satisfy any passport validity requirements applicable to the relevant competition.



- Be a registered member of Boxing Ireland in good standing.
- Meet the World Boxing Senior Elite age requirements. For competition in 2027, athletes must be born between 1 January 1987 and 31 December 2008 inclusive.
- Be eligible to compete in the applicable weight category.
- Satisfy the applicable World Boxing sex eligibility requirements.
- Meet all World Boxing medical and competition-entry requirements.
- Successfully complete all required Boxing/Sport Entry Checks.
- Comply with World Boxing rules, policies and anti-doping requirements.
- Meet any additional eligibility, qualification or entry requirements specified for the relevant World Championships, Olympic qualification event or European Games.

For the European Games, athletes must also satisfy any additional eligibility, nomination and entry requirements established by the Olympic Federation of Ireland and the relevant Games authorities.

Eligibility must be maintained throughout the selection, nomination and competition process. An athlete who ceases to meet the applicable eligibility requirements may be removed from the selection or nomination process.

Schedule 4 – Carding Criteria

Podium

- Medallist at the Olympic Games.
- Medallist at the World Championships.
- Gold or Silver at the European Championships.
- Gold or Silver at the European Games.

World Class

- 5th–8th place at the Olympic Games.
- 5th–8th place at the World Championships.
- Bronze at the European Championships.
- Bronze at the European Games.

International

- Qualification for the last 16 at the Olympic Games.
- Qualification for the last 16 at the World Championships.
- 5th–8th place at the European Championships.
- 5th–8th place at the European Games.
- Gold, Silver or Bronze at the Strandja A Grade multi-nations event.*
- 5th–8th place at a World Olympic Qualifying Tournament.**



Notes

- Pathway to Olympic weights either boxing above or under, an Olympic weight may be considered.
- Funding may be provided to two athletes at the same Olympic weight category, if one is at Podium or World Class, and the other at a lower level.
- Consideration may be given to supporting additional athletes who achieve criteria on a case-by-case basis.
- In all benchmark competitions as per above, athletes must have won at least two bouts to achieve criteria.
- The achievement of criteria does not guarantee funding.
- * At the nominated A Grade event Strandja International, athlete must win at least 2 bouts to achieve the criteria.
- ** In the Olympic year, at World Olympic Qualifying Tournaments where an athlete does not qualify for the Olympic Games, but wins at least two bouts finishing 5–8, consideration may be given to this performance as criteria.

Schedule 5 – Non-Olympic Weights

Non-Olympic weight categories will be subject to the same performance-based selection principles and criteria as Olympic weight categories.

National Elite Champions in non-Olympic weight categories will be selected for the 2027 World Championships where they meet the international performance and experience requirements contained within this policy.

Breakthrough athletes competing in non-Olympic weight categories will be considered in accordance with the same breakthrough athlete provisions that apply to Olympic weight categories.

All selections will remain subject to the eligibility requirements, selection factors and Duty of Care provisions contained within this policy.

For the avoidance of doubt, the non-Olympic weight categories are:

- Men: 50kg, 75kg and 85kg.
- Women: 48kg, 80kg and +80kg.

Non-Olympic weight categories are not contested at the European Games and will therefore have no further involvement in the selection or nomination process for that event.

Following the 2027 European Games, non-Olympic weight categories will be treated in the same manner as Olympic weight categories for the remainder of the 2027 international competition season.

Athletes competing in non-Olympic weight categories should be aware that the primary focus of the High Performance Programme throughout 2027 and 2028 will be Olympic qualification and preparation for the 2028 Olympic Games. Consequently, operational priorities and available budgets will determine the level of international competition and travel opportunities available to non-Olympic weight categories following the 2027 World Championships.



Schedule 6 - Role of the First Reserve Athlete

Where an athlete is designated as the First Reserve, they will be ranked as the Number 2 athlete within the High Performance Programme for their selected weight category.

The Number 1 ranked athlete will have first refusal on all targeted international tournaments identified by the High Performance Programme. Where the Number 1 athlete is unable to attend a targeted international tournament, the First Reserve may be called upon to take their place.

First Reserve status does not provide an automatic right to selection for any international tournament. The First Reserve will only attend a targeted tournament where formally selected or called upon by the National Performance Director.

To maintain First Reserve status, the athlete is expected to:

- Remain actively engaged with the High Performance Programme and training at the High Performance Unit.
- Maintain regular communication with the High Performance Programme.
- Maintain an appropriate level of training and competition readiness.
- Remain available to be called upon where the Number 1 athlete is unable to attend a targeted international tournament.

An athlete who disengages from the High Performance Programme, does not maintain appropriate contact, or is no longer considered to be maintaining the required level of readiness may be removed as the First Reserve athlete.

Where budgetary and operational circumstances allow, Boxing Ireland may provide the First Reserve with opportunities to compete at international tournaments as part of their ongoing development and to maintain international competition readiness.

First Reserve athletes will also be encouraged to access appropriate international competition opportunities through their clubs. Where a club intends to enter an athlete in an international tournament, the High Performance Programme must be informed in advance and the athlete must receive approval for release from the programme.

A First Reserve athlete will only be offered international competition opportunities by the High Performance Programme in the weight category in which they were originally selected as First Reserve.

Schedule 7 - Targeted Pathway Athlete Programme

Athletes Requiring Further International Development

An athlete who wins the 2027 National Elite Championships but is deemed not to have sufficient international exposure or experience to compete effectively at Senior Elite international level will not progress through the Olympic qualification selection process.

Where this occurs, the athlete may be offered a place on the Targeted Pathway Athlete Programme (TPAP).

The purpose of the TPAP is to provide identified athletes with structured opportunities to develop the experience and competitive readiness required for future Senior Elite international competition.



Placement on the TPAP does not provide an automatic right to selection for any international competition or future national team.

The Targeted Pathway Athlete Programme (TPAP) provides identified athletes with structured exposure to the Boxing Ireland High Performance environment to support their progression towards Senior Elite international level.

The programme provides targeted opportunities to:

- Train alongside Senior Elite athletes.
- Receive coaching from High Performance Unit coaches.
- Experience the standards, expectations and demands of a Senior Elite high-performance environment.
- Access relevant development opportunities, tournaments and workshops where appropriate.

The TPAP is a developmental programme and does not constitute selection to a national squad or team. Inclusion does not provide an automatic right to international competition, future selection or progression within the High Performance Programme.

Access to the programme is managed by the High Performance Unit and will reflect athlete readiness, developmental need and the operational capacity of the programme.

END.

**BUILT
DIFFERENT** 