

# 2026 Para European Championships

## Selection Policy

Rome, Italy 28 April – 3 May 2026

Abbreviation	Definition
AGB	Archery Great Britain
CMO	Chief Medical Officer
UKSI	UK Sports Institute
KME	Key Milestone Event
H2H	Head-to-Head
MQS	Minimum Qualification Score
TBC	To Be Confirmed
TUE	Therapeutic Use Exemption
WA	World Archery
WRS	World Record Status
WADA	World Anti-Doping Agency
TMA	Team Member Agreement
APA	Athlete Performance Award
FRD	Fixed Review Status

Table 1. Definitions of abbreviations

### 1. Context and aim of event selection

- 1.1. The 2026 Para European Championships is one of Archery GB's Key Milestone Events of the Los Angeles cycle, and the aim of this selection policy is to select a team that has medal potential at this event and LA 2028.
- 1.2. In selecting a team, consideration will be given to the following objectives:
  - 1.2.1. Selecting athletes with the potential to win a medal either individually or as part of a team
  - 1.2.2. Selecting development athletes with demonstrable future potential to win a Paralympic medal in LA 2028 and beyond

### 2. European Championship competition format/s

- 2.1 Individual
- 2.2 Team
- 2.3 Mixed Team

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## **Maximum places per category available as follows:**

- 2.4** Recurve Men x3
- 2.5** Recurve Women x3
- 2.6** Compound Men x3
- 2.7** Compound Women x3
- 2.8** W1 Men x3
- 2.9** W1 Women x3

## **3. General points of eligibility**

### **3.1.** Athletes are eligible for consideration provided:

- 3.1.1. They are an Archery GB member in good standing and are not under any current disciplinary processes or sanctions
- 3.1.2. Have satisfied all eligibility under the rules of World Archery (WA) and subject to any changes it may introduce after the publication of this policy
- 3.1.3. Are eligible to compete for Great Britain
- 3.1.4. They hold a valid passport that cannot be more than 10 years old from the date of issue regardless of expiry date and is valid for 6 months after the event
- 3.1.5. Are available for selection for the stated events
- 3.1.6. Are fit, healthy, and at the required level of performance readiness to compete.
- 3.1.7. Have met the required criteria to be considered for selection or a wildcard as identified in section 9 of this policy
- 3.1.8. Fulfil any other eligibility rule or requirement from WA, WADA, or any other relevant international or national governing body or organisation
- 3.1.9. Sign a Team Member Agreement (TMA) when required by AGB

## **4. Classification**

- 4.1.1. Archers must hold an International Classification with a Confirmed status (C) or with a Fixed Review Status (FRD).
- 4.1.2. Any athlete who does not hold an international classification and intends to submit their scores for selection consideration must notify Katy Cumming (katy.cumming@archerygb.org) no later than 1 month before classification deadline for the event (dates TBC upon publication of classification deadlines).

### 5. Selection criteria

5.1.1. Athletes wishing to be considered for selection must evidence a minimum of two of the following:

5.1.2. **International pedigree (performance outcome)** demonstrable medal potential based on proven ability to win medals within the preceding 12 months

5.1.3. **International competitiveness (performance indicator/tier scores)** performance and results at international competition within the preceding 12 months

5.1.4. **Future potential (trajectory, behaviours, and performance skills)** positive performance trajectory and history over the preceding 12 months that demonstrate medal potential. Consideration will first be given to international trajectory, followed by domestic trajectory. Performance skills and behaviours will be considered alongside all.

### 6.0 Event attendance/score eligibility

6.1.1. To demonstrate an ability to compete in different environments and to self-manage in a variety of conditions over prolonged periods, athletes must complete a minimum of **6** separate domestic or international WA50m/70m WRS events during the selection window.

6.1.2. **Complete** – you must complete the event you have entered – i.e., if it is a double 720 then you must finish both 720s. If the event you have entered only has appropriate rounds on one day (i.e. 1440 on the second day) you just need to complete the full day of the relevant 720(s) &/or H2Hs.

6.1.3. **Event** – all of the competition elements being held at one venue. e.g., competitions holding a 720 & H2Hs one day and a double 720 the other is still classed as one event if held at the same venue, even if national ranking levels differ.

6.1.4. **W1 Athletes** are required to shoot 2 x H2H scores due to the reduced opportunity to obtain scores on a full size 80cm face at the majority of domestic World Record Status shoots. W1 athletes may use alternative UKRS events and/or other competitions with prior approval. All requests must be submitted to Head of Performance, Rachel Bayley ([rachel.bayley@archerygb.org](mailto:rachel.bayley@archerygb.org)) by the close of play on 31 January 2026.

### 7 Selection window

7.1 The window for obtaining the eligibility scores 1 January 2025 to 31 January 2026

## 8 Registration

- 8.1 Expression of interest form can be found [here](#)
- 8.2 Submission must include the link to the official competition results to evidence eligibility scores.  
Any submission without this will not be considered. With the exception of W1 category, as previously outlined in 6.1.4, other agreed evidence will be required, for example, a signed photograph of the scoresheet.

## 9 Wildcards

### Medical Wildcard:

- 9.1 Awarded in exceptional circumstances, for long-term injury/illness/new medical conditions, based on the following criteria.
  - 9.1.1 Fully unavailable to shoot for 2-4 weeks due to injury/illness/medical condition and/or
  - 9.1.2 Restricted with same injury/illness/medical condition for more than 1 month.
  - 9.1.3 Has demonstrated an ability to achieve the Eligibility Scores in the 12 months prior to their illness/injury/medical condition.
- 9.2 Although the above criteria are minimum, before a Medical Wildcard is approved, additional consideration would be given as to the time of the season in which the injury/illness has taken place, and whether the injury/illness/medical condition has led to the athlete having not had the same opportunity to compete as other athletes.
- 9.3 An athlete who is awarded a Medical Wildcard must have in place a performance readiness plan to demonstrate that they have returned to full fitness and are competitive in the respective category by an agreed date with the Head of Performance.
- 9.4 To apply for a medical wildcard, athletes must apply in writing to the Performance Director: [mark.beecher@archerygb.org](mailto:mark.beecher@archerygb.org) no later than 12:00 noon on 6 February 2026.
- 9.5 Applications must state which of the criteria has been met. Athletes will also need to provide medical evidence to support their application for the AGB medical teams review who may require further information or access to medical records.

### Selection wildcard:

- 9.6 Can be awarded where an athlete may have been unsuccessful in achieving the criteria but is deemed to be at a highly competitive level. Examples of where a selection wildcard may be offered include, but are not limited to:

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- 9.6.1 having less opportunity to achieve selection criteria due to representing GB at international target events within the selection window
- 9.6.2 having demonstrable medal winning potential based on previous performance pedigree within the past 2 years
- 9.6.3 having had a rapid upward performance trajectory

9.7. The ultimate decision on a Selection Wildcard is made by the Performance Director in consultation with the Selection Panel

9.8. To apply for a selection wildcard athletes must apply in writing to the Performance Director: [mark.beecher@archerygb.org](mailto:mark.beecher@archerygb.org) no later than 12:00 on 6th February 2026

## 10 Nomination and selection panel

- 10.1. The following selection meeting will take place as part of the selection process:
  - 10.1.1 Selection Meeting 9 February
- 10.2. The representatives at the selection meetings will be made up of the following:
  - 10.2.1 Performance Director (Chair) or other nominated member of Performance Management Team
  - 10.2.2 Head of Performance
  - 10.2.3 Performance coaches working within the WCPP
  - 10.2.4 Independent performance expert(s)
  - 10.2.5 A member of the British Elite Athletes Association
- 10.3. In selecting a team that is in line with section 1, the panel will consider all available performance criteria information detailed in section 5. As well as consistency of performances, medal target, recent performance pedigree (including international medals won), future potential, trajectory, behaviour, contribution, and impact on the team both at the event and within the day-to-day environment.
- 10.4. Archery GB is not required to fill all available spaces. The selection panel may choose to select as many athletes as it considers appropriate.

## 11 Reserves

- 11.1. To ensure that we can field a team for the team event the selection panel may nominate up to 2 reserves per category.
- 11.2. It would be a condition of acceptance that identified reserves take part in identified and agreed Para European Championships Preparation Plan as well as a requirement to maintain an agreed training programme.

## 12 Team announcement

12.1 Selected team members and any identified reserves must agree not to make any announcement to the media or public in any form (including on any social or other media) regarding their nomination until after AGB have announced the selection.

## 13 The 'team'

13.1 The 'team' refers to athletes, coaches, medical support personnel, team leaders and managers, and any associated members of the World Class Programme staff as selected by AGB.

## 14 Injury/illness/wellbeing

14.1 At any stage following the selection announcement, should there be a doubt over the ability of an athlete to compete to the best of his/her ability due to an injury/physical/mental health or performance blockers, the following procedure will be followed:

14.1.1 In the case of physical injury/ill health, the athlete will be referred to the Archery GB approved medical personnel to undergo a medical examination. This examination will assess the severity of the injury/fitness level, in particular to determine whether 1) the athlete is physically unable to compete, 2) can meet the demands of the competition, 3) the athlete is at risk of causing medical harm to themselves, and 4) whether the participation of the athlete would endanger other competitors, officials, or spectators.

14.1.2 If the athlete passes the medical examination but the Medical Personnel and/or Archery GB have concerns over whether the athlete is able to compete to the best of his/her ability due to the underlying injury or illness, the athlete will be required to undertake an Archery GB agreed Performance Readiness plan, which would include "fitness test(s)".

**14.1.2.1** The fitness test(s) will require the athlete to compete under 'controlled competition conditions', as a minimum, in the distance and format which replicates the required competition demands and demonstrate a return to competitiveness. The athlete will be allowed two attempts to satisfy these requirements.

14.1.3 In the case of an athlete suffering from a performance block the coaches and performance

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psychologist will assess the severity of the block, the impact on performance and what support would need to be put in place. An Archery GB agreed Performance Readiness Plan will be put in place, which would include a “fitness test”.

**14.1.3.1** The fitness test(s) will require the athlete to compete under ‘controlled competition conditions’, as a minimum, in the distance and format which replicates the required competition demands and demonstrate a return to competitiveness. The athlete will be allowed two attempts to satisfy these requirements, the timeframes for this will be set dependent on the entry requirements of the Para European Championships.

- 14.2 In the case of any concerns around an athlete’s mental health, Archery GB may be required to seek expert advice and input from the UKSI Mental Health Expert Panel. In certain situations, this may require the athlete to undergo a mental health assessment either with the CMO, through the Mental Health Expert panel or identified external specialist, which may include the development of an agreed plan to manage any identified risks and maximise positive mental health until the conclusion of the event.
- 14.3 If an athlete fails to complete the fitness test(s) to the required standard, or it is deemed they are not fit to compete from a physical health/mental health/performance block or wellbeing perspective, the Performance Director/CMO may recommend that the selected athlete be deselected and replaced with a reserve, such reserve to be selected at Archery GB’s sole discretion.

## 15 During and on the conclusion of the selection process

- 15.1 Throughout the selection process, and once selections have been confirmed by the Performance Director/Head of Performance, all selected athletes (including any identified reserve(s) must agree not to withhold any information on training fitness, injury status or physical/mental health that could affect training or competition at any time until the conclusion of the event.
- 15.2 All selected athletes must declare any medications they are taking, in particular the use of any restricted medications and must demonstrate a valid Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE), which can be produced when required by the relevant authority.
- 15.3 All team members will be required to sign up to the relevant Code of Conduct or Athlete Agreement, and any breach of this may result in disciplinary action including removal from the team and possible early return home from an event. In this case, any team member sent home will be invoiced for the full cost of their entry into the event and any additional cost incurred in sending them home.

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- 15.3.1 Decisions on these matters are open to appeal as allowed by the relevant Archery GB disciplinary process effective at the time of the incident.
- 15.4 All athletes/team members are required to complete/attend all necessary anti-doping education.
- 15.5 Selected athletes are required to attend all related training camps and competitions as laid out by the Performance Director/Head of Performance and coaching team from the selection announcement onwards, including attendance, in person, at a mandatory pre-event medical.
- 15.6 Athletes and other team members will be expected to demonstrate they can actively contribute to the team unity required to be a successful international team.
- 15.7 If, in the period between the selection announcement and the Para European Championships, there is a significant decline in the performance level of a selected athlete, the Performance Director retains the right to deselect an athlete due to poor performance and select another athlete to take their place in line with Section 1 of this policy.

## 16 Appeals

- 16.1 Any selection appeal must be registered in line with the process identified in the 'Selection Appeals Policy', which can be found [here](#).

#### Appendix 1 – Performance Standard Para Archery

The amount of data available for Paralympic categories is significantly less than that of Olympic categories due to the number of events held and the number of entries at these events. As such, the recurve categories will remain using a set score average as an indicator of performance level rather than a 1 arrow average.

The Qualification Zone represents where circa 80-90% of medallists qualify in the ranking round, and the Performance Zone (PZ) in Elimination Matches represents the scores that would win circa 90% of matches. These elimination scores are in zones as the score required to win circa 90% of matches in the 1/32 elimination is lower than that required to win circa 90% of matches in a 1/4 final. This is due to the standard increasing throughout the competition, the average is therefore what is looked at across all elimination matches.

<b>Paralympic Performance Standards – Tier 1 Events</b> <b>(Paralympic Games, Para World Championships)</b>									
	<b>W1M</b>	<b>W1W</b>	<b>W1X</b>	<b>CMO</b>	<b>CWO</b>	<b>CXO</b>	<b>RMO</b>	<b>RWO</b>	<b>RXO</b>
<b>Perf. Zone Qualification</b>	Top 7 (653)	Top 6 (628)	Top 4 (1278)	Top 5 (698)	Top 8 (687)	Top 4 (1383)	Top 9 (644)	Top 6 (613)	Top 4 (1245)
<b>Perf. Zone Ems</b>	Av. 136 2 x H2H	Av. 130 2 x H2H	Av. 137 -	Av. 144 3 x H2H	Av. 142 3 x H2H	Av. 152 -	Av. 27* 6 x H2H	Av. 26* 6 x H2H	Av. 34* -

<b>Paralympic Performance Standards – Tier 2 Events</b> <b>(Para European Cup / Para European Championships)</b>									
	<b>W1M</b>	<b>W1W</b>	<b>W1X</b>	<b>CMO</b>	<b>CWO</b>	<b>CXO</b>	<b>RMO</b>	<b>RWO</b>	<b>RXO</b>
<b>Perf. Zone Qualification</b>	Top 7 (631)	Top 4 (625)	Top 4 (1241)	Top 8 (687)	Top 8 (677)	Top 6 (1347)	Top 8 (629)	Top 6 (602)	Top 6 (1208)
<b>Perf. Zone Ems</b>	134-142 (138 Av) 2 x H2H	123-137 (130 Av) 2 x H2H	128-138 (130 Av) -	143-147 (145 Av) 3 x H2H	140-146 (143 Av) 3 x H2H	151-155 (153 Av) -	27* 6 x H2H	26* 6 x H2H	35* -

\*Qualification scores are derived from the average of the top and bottom ranking score within the zone for each category (Example: W1M Top 7) across the two events at each tier (Example: T1 – Paralympics 2024 & World Championships 2025/T2 – European Championships 2024 & European Para Cup 2025) held most recently.

\*Performance Zones have been derived from data analysis (conducted by UKSI data team) that demonstrates finishing position provides the greatest indicator of those that go on to achieve a podium finish at each respective tiered event.

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### Appendix 2 – Medical Personnel Approved by Archery GB

<u>Name</u>	<u>Role</u>
Sasha Bloomfield	Archery GB Physiotherapist
Lisa Hyland	Archery GB CMO or any UKSI regional Doctor nominated by AGB
UKSI/UK Sport Mental Health Expert Panel	