

**INTERNATIONAL ROWING REPORT**

**To Executive Committee on Tuesday 9 November 2004**  
**and Council on Saturday 27 November 2004**

**1. World Class Programmes 2005-9**

The ARA's World Class Start & Potential and World Class Performance Programmes for the new Olympiad 2005-9 have been submitted to UK Sport as appendices to the Whole Sport Plan.

**2. Selection Policy**

The ARA's Selection Policy will be reviewed in the next few weeks and any proposed changes made in time for consideration at the February Council meeting.

**3. 2004 Review**

The Internal Review of the 2004 Season is now almost complete and Strategy documents for the 2005 teams will be produced in December.

**4. Personnel**

- Paul Thompson has been appointed as Chief Coach for Women. For the time being he will also take responsibility for Lightweights.
- We are advertising for a High Performance Coach to work with Women and Lightweights and hope to make an appointment by early December.
- Hamish Burrell joins the ARA in early November as a Talent Development Coach based in Agecroft / Manchester.
- Anna Smith has joined the International Office as the Office Administrator for World Class Start.

David Tanner  
**International Manager**

November 2004





## **8. STRATEGY STATEMENT**

Strategy Statements for Seniors and for Juniors are prepared annually and will be issued by December in each year. They will outline the strategy, calendar and training requirements for each squad for that season. The Strategy may only be amended subsequently with Executive Committee approval and registered squad members will be informed in writing of any such change that affects them.

## **9. CLUB REPRESENTATION**

At the time of registering athletes are required to nominate the Club that they wish to represent at International Regattas during that season which may then not be changed for that season. A separate form for this purpose is attached at Annex 'B'. Wherever possible the name of the nominated Club will appear on communications with the media and in regatta entries.

## **10. SPONSORSHIP**

The ARA has the sole right to determine the use of advertising or sponsorship in association with any Great Britain rowing squad or team. An athlete or team official may not associate a sponsor or organisation with a GB squad or team, nor enter into a personal sponsorship agreement if this results in a connection with a GB squad or team, without the prior agreement in writing of the International Manager.

David Tanner  
**International Manager**

November 2004

Amateur Rowing Association

GB ROWING SCHEMES

## **INTERNATIONAL TEAMS' SELECTION POLICY**

***The Amateur Rowing Association has adopted the following Selection Policy for British Senior, Under 23 and Junior teams. It will be reviewed in the season following an Olympic Games and may only be altered by a vote of the ARA's Council.***

### **1. OBJECTIVE**

The ARA's objective is to be in the leading rowing nations in the world as measured by the medal tables at the World Championships and Olympic Games. For Juniors and Under 23s the objective is to establish young rowers on the pathway to success at senior level, so that they, and the coaches and support staff working with these groups, have the opportunity to develop at international level.

To this end the ARA will select crews with the best medal prospects, drawing together the best crew combinations. This policy is designed so that athletes, coxes and coaches must demonstrate their ability and suitability when required to do so.

### **2. SCOPE**

This policy will apply to all teams representing Great Britain in rowing at a World Championships (or equivalent) or Olympic Games. These will include:

- World Rowing Championships including Adaptive events
- Olympic Games
- World Under 23 Regatta
- World Junior Championships

Where there is no crew or sculler in a particular event capable of achieving these standards, a crew comprised of athletes with future potential or a single sculler may be selected.

### 3.6.3 OLYMPIC GAMES

The BOA has responsibility for the selection of the boats which have qualified for the Olympic Games under the IOC/FISA quota. In other respects the criteria applying to the selection for a World Championships apply.

### 3.6.4 WORLD UNDER 23 REGATTA AND WORLD JUNIOR ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS

To be selected to represent Great Britain a crew or sculler must:

- (a) in the opinion of the Chief Coach, or equivalent, be of at least a standard to achieve a place in the top 8. Where the entry is likely to be 8 or less they must be capable of contending for a medal.
- (b) be the fastest British crew in the event.

Exceptionally a crew ~~or sculler~~ comprised of athletes with future potential, or a single sculler, may be selected.

## 4. NATIONAL LOTTERY ATHLETE GRANTS

The International Manager is responsible for Athlete Grants within the parameters set by UK Sport / Sport England following consultation with the relevant Chief Coach. In the case of a dispute an appeal may be made to the ARA Appeals Panel through the Chairman of the ARA.

## 5. SELECTION OF TEAM OFFICIALS

- (a) The selection of coaches is the responsibility of the Chief Coach and International Manager.
- (b) The selection of support staff is the responsibility of the International Manager.

## 6. EXEMPTIONS AND EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Where a crew or sculler has represented Great Britain in the previous year with exceptional results the Chief Coach may waive part of the selection criteria. However, such crews or scullers will not automatically be assured of selection. Any exemption will be made in writing.

## 7. APPEALS PROCEDURE

The appeals procedure is attached as Annex 'A'.

From time to time other Championships are held (e.g. World University Championships) and in this case a specific selection policy document for the event will be prepared and be subject to Council's approval.

In the case of Adaptive boats we will consider athletes with physical, sensory or learning impairments who are eligible under the minimal disability criteria set out in the ARA's Adaptive Categories of Rowing.

In the case of Junior events other than the World Junior Championships (e.g. Coupe de la Jeunesse, GB-France Under 16 Match) the emphasis will be placed on participation, and criteria will be drawn up by the Chief Coach for Juniors and the International Manager.

In the case of other representative events / matches the criteria will be drawn up by the International Manager.

### **3. SELECTION**

#### **3.1 *Process***

Selection will be made only from registered athletes who have complied with the requirements of the Chief Coach and with the registration agreement.

The Chief Coaches are responsible for crew formation and selection in their respective squads.

In forming crews, the Chief Coach will base his judgement on an athlete's performances:

- in small boats (2- 1x 2x)
- on the ergometer
- in the racing boat
- in seat-racing or a time trial.

These performances may be assessed:

- at a squad training session
- at formal trials, tests and assessments
- at international regattas.

While the Chief Coach will take all reasonable steps to base his decisions on the objective criteria available, he will also use his own experience and judgement when forming crews, assessing crew compatibility and making selections.

For particular events a Selector may be appointed other than a Chief Coach. In this case the reference to Chief Coach applies equally to the Selector.

### **3.2 *Lightweights and Coxes***

Lightweights and coxes will be expected to weigh in at Assessments, Trials and Regattas within the weights set out in the Strategy Document, and demonstrate that they can race within their target weight without impairing their performance or health.

Selection of coxes will be based on their skills in steering and on the contribution the Chief Coach and crew coach believe they can make to the crew's performance.

### **3.3 *Factors affecting Performance***

An athlete will be expected to produce his or her best performance at any trial, assessment, or in a race. If there is a medical reason why an athlete or crew cannot perform at their best the International Manager must be notified in writing at the International Office in advance, together with a medical certificate if appropriate. The nature of the illness will be established and monitored at an early stage by the Team Doctor or nominee, who will advise the Chief Coach and International Manager accordingly. While the Chief Coach will take account of an illness affecting performance, he is not bound to delay or alter the selection process as a consequence. Conversely, if there is any reason why an athlete or crew need not race or perform at maximum the Chief Coach will say so in writing if appropriate in advance.

### **3.4 *Deterioration in Performance***

If the performance of an athlete deteriorates after selection the Chief Coach may replace him or her at any time prior to the World Championships or Olympic Games.

### **3.5 *Mandatory Selection Trials***

All candidates for selection are required to participate in the assessments, trials and tests which are set out in the Strategy Document.

### **3.6 *Selection Standard***

#### **3.6.1 GENERAL STANDARD**

The Predicted Gold Medal Times for each event will be reviewed annually and published in the Strategy Statement. The schemes have as their top priority the selection of crews who perform at or very close to the Gold Medal standard. Boats will therefore be prioritised to achieve this end, and the best available talent will be concentrated in the leading boats.

#### **3.6.2 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

To be selected to represent Great Britain at World Championships a crew or sculler must:

- (a) in the opinion of the Chief Coach, be of at least a standard to finish in the top half of the predicted entry. Where the entry is likely to be 8 or less they must be capable of contending for a medal.
- (b) be the fastest British crew in the event.