

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** All Players & Coaches

**From:** Margaret Hicks - BJA Performance Director  
Patrick Roux - BJA Head Coach

**Date:** 12 April 2011

**Subject:** **2011 Player Pathway**

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As we move towards the final year in the Olympic cycle, we intend to identify an Elite 'A' group of players and an Elite 'B' group of players.

### **Elite 'A' and Elite 'B' Groups**

The Elite 'A' group will comprise of players who have won at least 1 medal at the following IJF/EJU events in 2010 or 2011 ie World Cups/Grand Prix/Grand Slams/Europeans/Worlds/Masters. At their discretion the Performance Directorate may also consider players who have had an exceptional results history (i.e previous Senior World or European Medallist), also dependant on their current status regarding training and competition fitness.

The Elite 'B' group will comprise of players who have won a medal at a European Cup, or top 8 place at an U23 European Championship, Junior European Championships or Junior World Championships in 2010 or 2011, or with an exceptional results history (i.e. previous Senior World or European Medallist). This group may also contain players who have been on long term rehab, players with development potential for Rio 2016, or players who have not yet made the transition to the senior elite level.

We are communicating these performance criteria to all players and coaches ahead of the 2011 Senior European Championships, so individuals know what they need to achieve in order to be considered for the Elite A Group. The Elite A + B Groups will be finalised after the Europeans 21-24 April 2011. We have also agreed with UK Sport to undertake reviews with all funded players after the European Championships.

In order to provide players in the Elite 'B' group further opportunities to demonstrate their progression and to break in to the Elite 'A' group, the Performance Directorate have identified 2 World Cups, where players will be able to self fund their attendance at Lisbon (women) 11-12 June and Tallinn (men) 11-12 June. The criteria and process for self funded World Cup entry is now on the performance website section – approval for successful applications will be confirmed just after the 2011 British Open European Cup on the week commencing Monday 16 May.

In addition to this, at their discretion, the Performance Directorate may consider selecting any player from the Elite 'B' group to attend a funded World Cup, if they consistently produce medals at the European Cup level and/or a top 5 place at World Cup Level in 2011. World Cup selections may also be considered for development players who place top 8 in the European Under 23s/Junior European Championships/Junior World Championships in 2010-2011.

### **Selection criteria for World Championship Paris 2011**

After the 2011 European Championship, the Performance Directorate will review the results and performance of all players and will decide whether or not to pre-select any players from the Elite 'A' group, for the 2011 World Championships in Paris (in accordance with the Major Events Selection Policy). For all players not pre-selected, performances and results will be considered primarily from the 2011 IJF events.

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To reinforce now we have agreed performance selection criteria with the British Olympic Association for London 2012; the prime consideration being consistency of medals and performances at the IJF Qualifying Ranking events - this is the performance standard we are seeking from senior elite players. With the opportunity for players to self fund to a World Cup, plus opportunities to gain selection to World Cup events, there is a pathway for all players to work towards selection for the Major Events and ultimately consideration for London 2012.