



Introduction

The aim of the GB Heavyweight Programme is to build upon and compliment the Club and Home Nation foundation, to transfer athletes onto the World Class Performance Programme (WCPP). Athletes that are most likely to progress and challenge for medals at Senior European, World, Olympic and Paralympic Games through providing the appropriate environment, experiences and opportunities to engage in meaningful, deliberate, quality practice.

The GB Heavyweight Programme endeavours to develop players across the 3 key pillars:

- (1) Trademarks
- (2) Physicality
- (3) Mind-set

Composition and Ages

To be eligible for identification, an athlete should meet the age criteria below. In addition, an athlete shall hold or be eligible to hold a British passport and be eligible to represent Great Britain in the Olympic Games.

Athletes should be eligible to compete as a cadet or junior on the year of identification.

A provisional number of athletes will be 8 from the 5 categories however identification is based upon the quality of athletes and the needs of the programme at the point of identification. The Identification Panel may exercise their discretion to not invite a full cohort, based on what the programme needs and the desire to maintain quality.

British Judo may decide to include out of age athletes within team training at their discretion. Athletes falling into this category are encouraged to apply and will be eligible for consideration for a discretionary place subject to evaluation under the criteria laid out within this document.

British Judo aims to ensure that all athletes are treated on an equal basis irrespective of gender, disability, race, religious belief or social status. All athletes will be identified on their ability or potential ability shown as stated in the identification criteria.

Identification Criteria

Weight Categories

Athletes competing in within the categories below will be considered for identification:

Cadet	Male Under 81kg, Male Under 90kg, Male Over 90kg & Female Under 70kg, Female Over 70kg
Junior	Male Under 100kg, Male Over 100kg & Female Under 78kg, Female Over 78kg <i>(or potential to compete in these weight categories)</i>

1. Athletes will **be considered** for the Heavy Weight Programme based on performances at UK and International Events that are used for the Cadet Identification List and the Junior Ranking List.

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Athletes should be ranked in the **top 3** in either list from the previous year and should also have competed at the British Championships.

2. All eligible athletes are considered against the additional factors listed below:
 - 2.1. Potential to compete as a senior in the Male -100kg, +100kg or Female -78kg, +78kg.
 - 2.2. Observed Performance Behaviours
 - 2.3. Ability and potential to progress against the British Judo Trademarks
 - 2.4. Previous performances in competition as a Cadet and / or Junior
 - 2.5. Ability to meet performance targets within 18-24 months to move onto the WCPP

3. Additional factors which may be considered include:
 - 3.1. Current weight management and future competition weight
 - 3.2. Current level of physical fitness and current medical/injury status
 - 3.3. Future potential as a Junior and Senior athlete
 - 3.4. Suitability as a member of the programme (past behaviour)
 - 3.5. Current Home Nation programme engagement

Identification is at the discretion of the Identification Panel and based upon meeting performance and physiological performance together with WCPP and Home Nation Programme Lead feedback, irrespective of previous programme membership and applies to all athletes.

The Identification Panel shall comprise of the Performance Director, Performance Pathway Manager, Academy Coach and other relevant WCPP/Home Nation Staff.

Programme Identification Panel & Process

The identification process will use two phases to nominate and confirm athletes for the GB Heavyweight Programme (1) Nomination phase and (2) Identification phase.

Nomination Phase

Home Nation Lead or GB HWP Lead Coaches will nominate athletes against the criteria outlined above. Athletes should discuss their nomination with the Home Nation beforehand, as both athletes and Home Nations should input into the nominations.

Identification Phase

The Identification Panel will review the nominated athletes from the Home Nations applications.

Chairperson: The Chair of the Identification Panel (normally the Performance Pathway Manager) will be responsible for ensuring that due process is followed and identifications are made in adherence with the policy.

BJA Performance Staff (Minimum of 2): The Performance staff, comprised of BJA Performance Coaches (Normally 2 -3) and a member of the GB Performance Leadership Team (PLT). Each will be entitled to one vote each in the selection.

The Chair and the Recording Officer will be responsible for compiling results and other relevant details on all nominated athletes being considered for identification. In the event of a tied vote, the Chair of the panel will have the deciding vote.

In the event a BJA Performance coach is unavailable a HN Lead may be invited to take their place on the ID Panel.

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Recording Officer: The Recording Officer of the identification panel will document the decisions as appropriate. The Recording Officer will not be involved in the discussions other than to provide advice on non-technical matters and will not be entitled to vote.

4.3 Communication of Nominations

The Chairperson of the Selection Panel will provide the identification recommendations, together with any material that the Identification Panel considers appropriate to justify such nominations, to the Performance Leadership Team (PLT) for ratification. The PLT shall ratify the nominations if the correct procedures were followed by the Identification Panel in the decision-making process.

Once nominations have been ratified by the PLT, these will be immediately communicated to the relevant athletes by email and published on the BJA website.

Identification and Programme Overview

Please note the timings below are provisional and subject to change. For the latest dates please see the British Judo Website.

This will include dates for:

- International Competitions & Camps
- Domestic Training Camps
- Profiling Days
- Induction Days

December 1st	Nomination Process Opens - Athletes to discuss with HN Lead
December	British Championships - (Self-funded)
January 1st	Nomination Process Closes
January	Profiling Day
January 31st	Invites for programme made
February	Induction Day / Training Camp
March - November	Competition and Training Programme both International and Domestic ONST Athletes are expected to attend Home Nation Opens on a self-fund basis.

Important Information

Please note that British Judo reserves the right:

- Not to identify/assess a nominated athlete at any stage of the process
- Not to identify an athlete who they feel is unsuitable as a member and ambassador for the BJA
- Not to identify an athlete whose Home Nation does not endorse their application
- Not to identify an athlete where there is an underlying physical issue that poses a serious long-term illness/injury risk.

Appeals

Individuals may appeal the process of identification via the British Judo Association Fast Appeals Proceeds, available on the British Judo Website.

Please note an adaption for GB Pathway Identification Policies mean that the Appeals Panel will be made up by members of the British Judo World Class Performance Programme's, Performance Leadership Team (PLT).