

Team England (BWL) 2018 Commonwealth Games Selection Policy

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1. Purpose

The Policy has been established to select the best athletes who can **medal in Gold Coast 2018** and, as such, has been based on the following premises:

- That the best English athletes will be selected on their likelihood to win a medal at the Games
- All selected athletes must demonstrate appropriate fitness in the months leading up to the Games and must work with the England Team Leader, England Coaches and nominated medical staff in all matters designed to assess their fitness to compete to the best of their ability

The above considerations are not the selection criteria but are included here merely as a guide to the general principles that have been followed in formulating this policy.

2. Preface

The England Weightlifting Team (“the Team”) for the 2018 Commonwealth Games (“the Games”) will be nominated by British Weight Lifting (BWL) to the Commonwealth Games England (CWE) who will make the final selection. Nominations will be made in accordance with this Commonwealth Games Selection Policy (“the Policy”) as laid out below.

3. Qualification background

The IWF has set out an Athlete Allocation System whereby an athlete has to earn quota places based on two methods:

Direct Qualification at the 2017 Commonwealth Championships

The Gold medal winner of each bodyweight category at the 2017 Commonwealth Senior Championships will be eligible to earn a direct qualification slot. Such award will be issued to the CGA but in the name of the specific athlete, and is valid only for the Medal Event in which the qualification slot was attained.

In the case where a Gold medal winner at the 2017 Commonwealth Senior Championships is from the Home Nation (Australia), the direct qualification slot will be awarded to the Silver medallist.

These slots are non-transferable. It should be noted that Commonwealth Games England does not have to accept the award of any of the slots earned via this method and a decision to not accept a slot will be based on criteria in this selection policy. In the event a CGA does not accept the award of any and/or all slots earned via this method, the slot/s will be redistributed via the Reallocation Policy.

Commonwealth Ranking Database

The opportunities to lift a total that is eligible for the Commonwealth rankings is limited to IWF sanctioned events between 24 October 2016 and 31 October 2017 and the 2017 British

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Championships. Given this, currently performances at the following events (subject to change based on decisions by the IWF/EWF) will be eligible for the ranking database:

- 2016 Commonwealth Championships
- 2016 World University Championships
- 2016 European Junior and U23 Championships
- 2017 English Championships
- 2017 World Youths Championships
- 2017 European Youth Championships
- 2017 British Senior Championships
- 2017 World Junior Championships
- 2017 European Senior Championships
- 2017 World University Championships
- 2017 Commonwealth Championships

*There are potential further home nation qualification opportunities which are to be confirmed with confirmation from the IWF and the home nation bodies.

The IWF Commonwealth Ranking Database as of 31 October 2017 will be used to allocate twelve (12) slots per medal event in accordance with the following process:

For each Medal Event in which England has already earned a qualification slot through the 2017 Commonwealth Championships and the named athlete is selected as per this policy, they will be removed from the IWF Commonwealth Ranking database;

- a. Each Country will be capped at **one athlete per Medal Event** within the IWF Commonwealth Ranking Database.
- b. In the event the final slot of **qualification has been achieved by more than one athlete** with the same result; count-back (1. lighter bodyweight, 2. result achieved first) will be applied;
- c. Athletes shall only appear once within the IWF Commonwealth Database (irrespective of bodyweight category).
- d. CGAs with an **athlete/s appearing in more than one bodyweight category** will be requested to **identify which Medal Event** the athlete will elect to compete in. Duplicates will then be removed replaced with the next ranked eligible athlete by the CGA;
- e. Only IWF sanctioned events will be recognised for the purpose of the IWF Commonwealth Ranking Database. The qualification period is from **31 October 2016 to 31 October 2017**

- f. With the prior approval of the IWF and in compliance with WADA regulations, the British Senior Championships on July 15th & 16th shall be recognised for the purpose of the IWF Commonwealth Ranking Database

***** IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT METHODS 1) AND 2) ABOVE ARE PART OF THE IWF ATHLETE ALLOCATION SYSTEM AND ARE NOT THE SELECTION CRITERIA BUT ARE NECESSARY AS PART OF ESTABLISHING THE ELIGIBILITY OF AN ATHLETE TO COMPETE AT THE GAMES*****

4. Eligibility

To be considered for selection under this Policy, an athlete must be eligible to represent Commonwealth Games England (CGE) under CGE and International Weight Lifting Rules (IWF) and other BWL requirements, including but not limited to:

1. achieving a top 12 rank in the Commonwealth ranking database (refer to section 3)
2. informing BWL of their intent to qualify and be selected by 1st January 2017 by completing and returning the "Expression of Intent" form by 1st January 2017
3. being a citizen of the United Kingdom and holding a valid British passport.
4. being a member of British Weight Lifting and eligible to represent England in International Competitions under the rules of the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF)
5. being eligible to represent England at the Commonwealth Games under the rules of the CGF & IWF
6. being a participant in the BWL's anti-doping programme, including UK Sport's online whereabouts system, and being registered on this as soon as the participant confirms their intention to seek nomination
7. complying with selection decisions relating to the IWF athlete allocation system
8. agreeing to the Confirmation of Fitness requirements and any other criteria set out in this selection policy, and signing the CGE Team Members' and the BWL Team Members' Agreement

5. Selection Panel

The panel shall consist of the following members:

- (1) Chair of the BWL Performance Committee (Chairperson)
- (2) BWL Performance Director
- (3) Team England Team Leader
- (4) England Team Coach
- (5) England Team Coach

Each member of the selection panel has 1 vote

A representative from CGE and an independent person may also be in attendance in an observatory non-voting capacity and will ensure that the provisions of this policy are properly adhered to.

Any member of the selection panel that has a conflict of interest, including, but not limited to, an athlete, or a coach will declare a conflict of interest, remove him/herself and not seek to influence others regarding the discussions and voting.

6. Selection Process

The selection of the team will take place in four rounds and will be based on:

1. Ensuring the best English lifter in a category is selected to represent Team England at the 2018 Commonwealth Games
2. Selected in a category so that there is only one English lifter per category in the Commonwealth ranking database
3. Not exceeding a maximum team size of 14
4. For lifters ranked 7th to 12th in the Commonwealth ranking evidence exists that
 - a. winning a medal at the 2018 Commonwealth Games is possible or;
 - b. winning a medal at the 2022 Commonwealth Games is possible

Regardless of any other provision, no athlete will be nominated to the CGE if they are injured or unfit, unless they can present evidence that will satisfy the selection committee that they will be able to compete in the Commonwealth Games to the best of their ability, and BWL in these circumstances will be entitled to impose conditions relating to the athletes return to full fitness.

Provisional selection will take place following the end of the qualification period on 31st October 2017, with the final selection of athletes being confirmed by the 21st of November 2017.

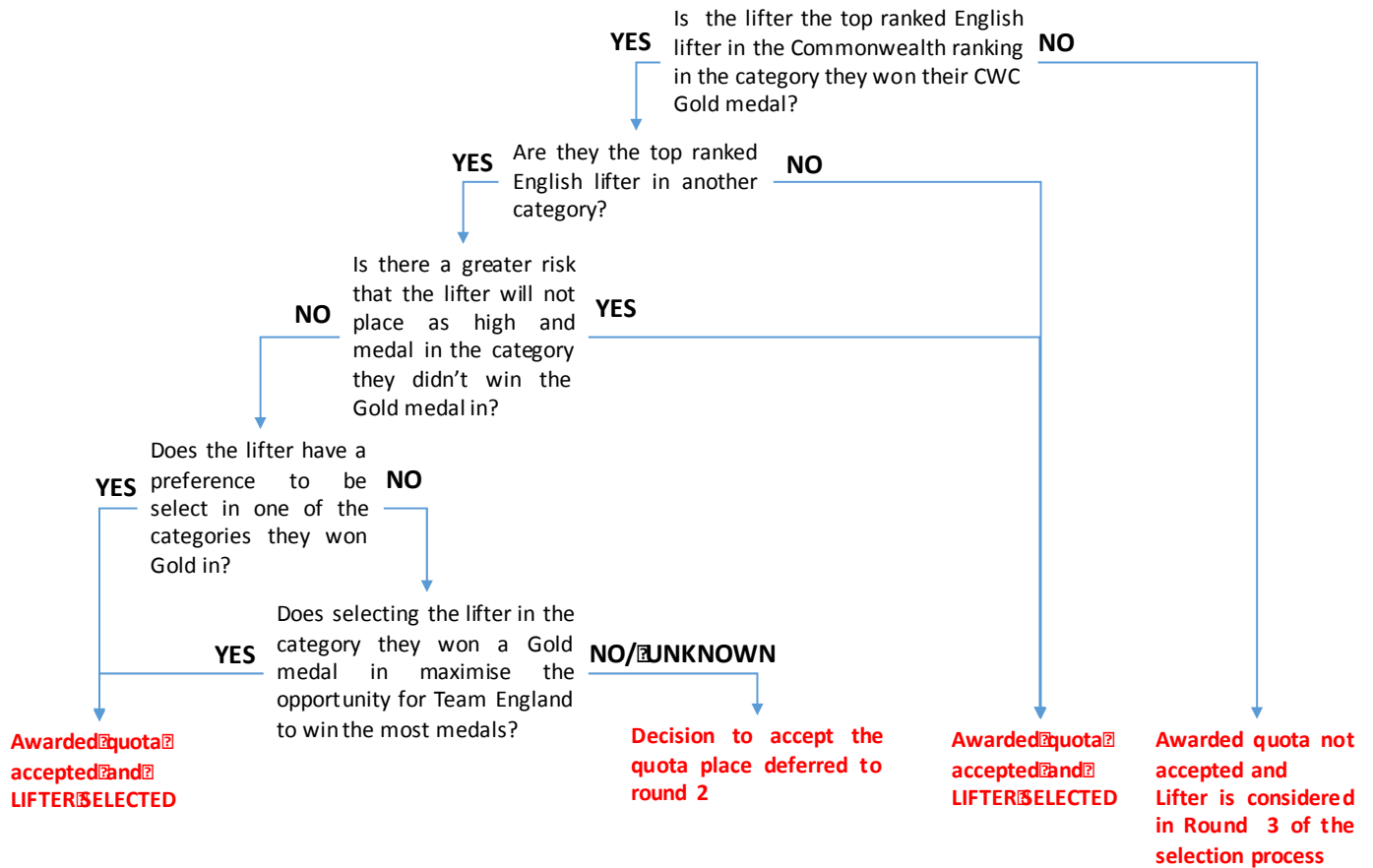
Round 1. Considers the English Gold Medallists from the 2017 Commonwealth Championships (CWC)

Given the basis for selection, winning a Gold Medal at the CWC does not guarantee selection. If a lifter has not exceeded the the top ranked English lifter after their performance at the CWC their quota slot will not be accepted and they will not be selected in this round.

In this round:

- a. The awarded quota place as a result of the lifter winning a Gold medal at the CWC will be accepted and lifter will be selected if they are the top ranked English lifter in the Commonwealth Games Ranking database by the 31st of October 2017 in the category they won a Gold Medal in **and**;
- b. Their gold medal was won in a category they are most likely to place highest and win a medal at the Commonwealth Games

To establish this the following process will be followed:



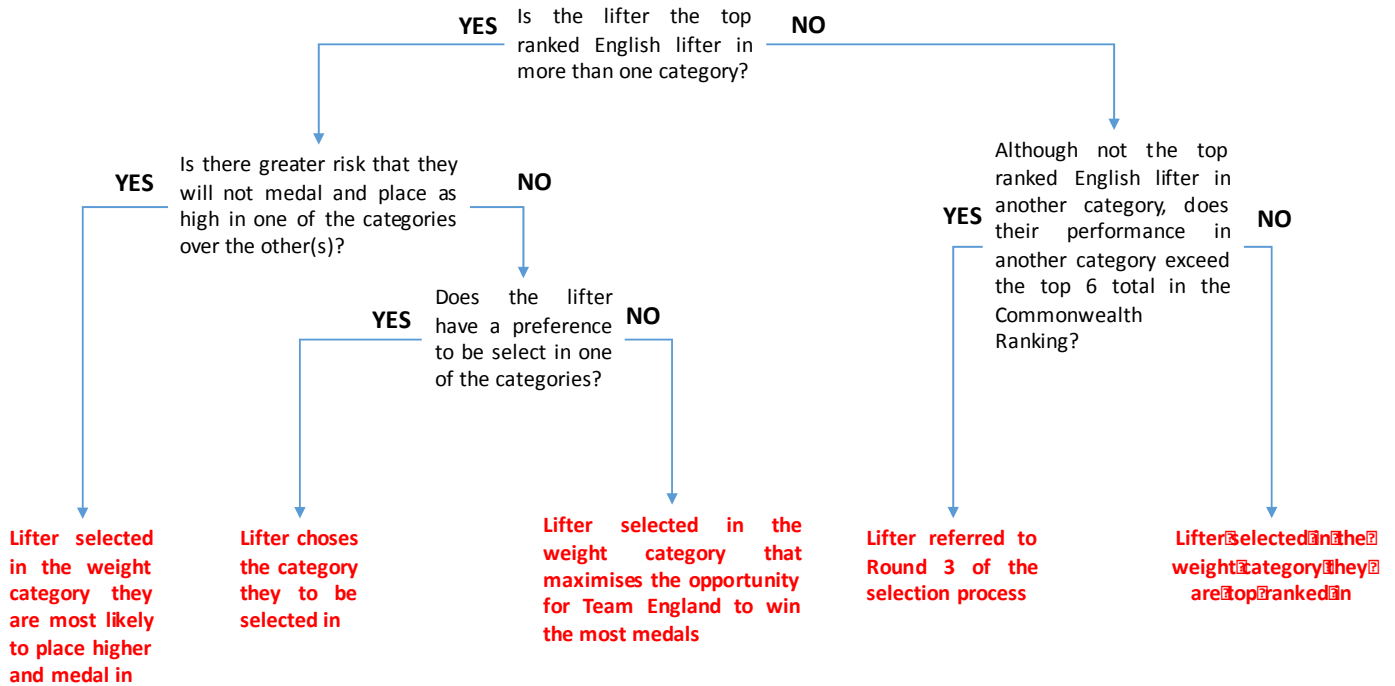
Round 2. Category selections for top ranked English lifters who are also ranked top 6 in the Commonwealth ranking

For the purposes of this selection policy a one-lifter per country Commonwealth ranking will be used.

Following round 1, duplicate names of lifters selected in round 1 will be removed from the categories they were not selected in and the lifters considered will be:

1. any lifter who won a Gold Medal at the CWC with a top 6 final Commonwealth ranking and who is the top ranked English lifter in another category to the one they won Gold in at the CWC
2. lifters who didn't compete or win a Gold at the Commonwealth Championships but are the top ranked English lifters after duplicate names are removed following round 1 and who are top 6 in the Commonwealth ranking

In round 2, selection can only be for categories where no English lifters were selected in round 1 through the following process:

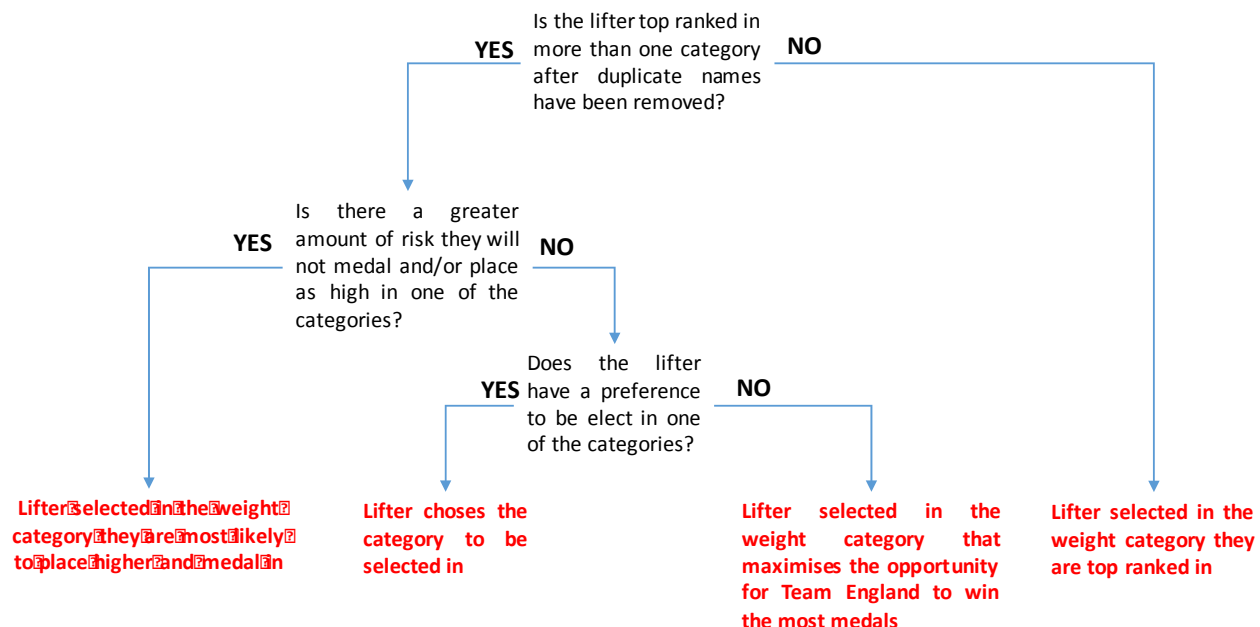


Round 3. After selections in round 1 & 2 and duplicate names have been removed this round will consider top ranked English lifters who are ranked top 6 in the Commonwealth ranking in categories where no selections have taken place

In round 3 a lifter can only be selected in a category if they are the top ranked English lifter in that category after duplicate names have been removed after selections in round 1 and 2. Additionally, after duplicate names have been removed they have to be ranked top 6 in the one-lifter per country Commonwealth ranking.

Categories can be considered for selection where no English lifters were selected in rounds 1 and 2

The following process will apply in this round:



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Round 4. After rounds 1 to 3 duplicate names will be removed from the Commonwealth ranking and consideration will now be given to lifters ranked in the top 6 not selected in previous rounds and any lifter ranked top 7 to 12 in the Commonwealth rankings

Categories can only be considered for selection where no English lifters were selected in rounds 1 to 3.

The one lifter per country ranking will be used for the purposes of round 4. As only one English lifter will appear on a this ranking, if there are more than 2 lifters with performance levels that are higher than the 12th ranked position the additional lifters will have an equivalent ranking based on their performance relative to the ranking list. As an example and for the avoidance of doubt the top ranked English lifter will appear in the ranking list, but say they are ranked 8th and the 10th and 11th place ranked lifters have a 210kg and 207kg total respectively then another English lifter with a 209kg total will have an equivalent ranking of 11th and therefore be considered to have a top 12 ranking.

The purpose of this round is to ensure that the English team has the most competitive team at the 2018 Commonwealth Games and also considers lifters who have a positive age profile and performance trajectory that is evidence of their potential to medal in 2022.

For the avoidance of doubt, a lower ranked lifter could be selected over a higher ranked lifter if the higher ranked lifter has made insufficient or no progress and there is evidence to suggest that the lower ranked lifter has a greater likelihood to medal in 2018 or 2022.

The below criteria are not to be assessed in order of priority; rather, the selection panel shall give due consideration to all of the criteria set out below in reaching selection decisions which shall, in the panel's opinion and at their absolute discretion, provide the best possible chance of achieving the purpose set out on page 1 of this policy

- a. The maximum team size will be 14
- b. Evidence of a lifters potential to medal at the 2018 Commonwealth Games
 - i. Performance trajectory during the CWG qualification period and based on this the predicted level of performance at the 2018 CWG
 - ii. Past international performance levels since January 2015 compared to likely CWG medal winning performances
 - iii. Current injury status
- c. Athlete personal management
 - i. The athlete's ability to make weight consistently and effectively at International events
 - ii. Injury and illness history prior to major championships
 - iii. Athlete engagement with BWL to support injury risk management, rehabilitation and improvements in performance. Feedback from support staff and coaches will be used as evidence for this

- iv. Attitude in training and international competition. Arena Coaches feedback will be used as evidence for this
- d. Evidence of a lifter's potential to medal at the 2022 Commonwealth Games
 - i. Number of years in the sport
 - ii. Progress and Performance trajectory since January 2016 and based on this the likelihood to medal in 2022

7. Team Announcement

Athletes are prohibited from making any announcement to the public or to the press or other media regarding nomination or selection unless and until such selection has been officially notified by the CGE to BWL and any appeals have been considered and any official joint press conference by the CGE and BWL has taken place.

8. Confirmation of Fitness and Deselection

BWL retain the right to deselect or not to nominate an athlete who has failed to prove their form or fitness or who has otherwise failed to adhere to the terms of this selection policy

At the time of their conditional selection by the BWL selection panel, all athletes will undergo an examination with a nominated Medical Doctor and/or a physiotherapist and a nutritionist to determine their medical, musculoskeletal and body composition/weight status.

In addition to any other provision of this Policy, all selected athletes at the request of the BWL Performance Director will undergo medical, body composition/weight and performance assessments to ensure that they have maintained an adequate level of fitness to perform to the best of their ability at the Games.

Any cause for concern over injury, illness, strength or body composition/weight arising from an examination or otherwise will lead to the athlete needing to demonstrate their fitness by undergoing a fitness assessment, regardless of whether they have done so previously.

If an athlete has an injury or, in the reasonable opinion of the BWL, lacks fitness or displays a poor attitude prior to their formal selection to the Team by CGE, then designated medical, coaching, sport science personnel and/or the England Team Leader (as appropriate) will be entitled to make an assessment of the athlete's management of their injury, rehabilitation, preparation and/or their commitment and adherence to training and rehabilitation with a view to determining whether the athlete can achieve full fitness and perform optimally at the Games.

The Performance Director will be entitled to specify any reasonable method requiring a selected athlete to confirm their continued health and fitness, which might include, participating in certain competitions, attending meetings or squad training or undergoing a fitness assessment.

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All nominated athletes will be expected to attend all preparation camps where they must demonstrate through their training performance and training plan that they are on target to, as a minimum, lift equal to their personal best at the Games.

9. Additional Obligations

Selected athletes will be required to:

1. Inform the England Team Leader (ETL) immediately should their preparation be interrupted in any way subsequent to nomination
2. Inform the ETL of intentions to go on holiday or to have a break from training and that for any break from training to be agreed by the ETL

10. Appeals

Athletes have the right to appeal their non-selection in accordance with the “BWL Appeals Policy”. A copy can be obtained by contacting the BWL main office. Appeals may only be made on the grounds that the procedure outlined in this policy has not been adhered to.

The notice of appeal must be accompanied by a deposit of £250, payable to BWL, as a contribution towards administrative costs of processing the Appeal.

11. Selection Timeline

The following dates are a timeline of the when key events will take place in the selection process, these are subject to change and will be updated accordingly;

- 31 October 2017 IWF Qualification period deadline
- 31 October 2017 BWL Selection Meeting and provisional selection of athletes
- 1-2 November 2017 Athlete appeal period
- 7 November 2017 GOLDOC to notify CGE of qualified slots
- 21 November 2017 CGE deadline to confirm acceptance of qualified slots

If you have any questions regarding the selection policy please contact dan.wagner@britishweightlifting.org.