

1. Preamble

- 1.1. Skateboard GB (SBGB) is the national governing body for skateboarding in Great Britain and is affiliated with World Skate (WSK). SBGB selects athletes for domestic and international skateboarding events.
- 1.2. This document sets out the process and criteria used by SBGB to select athletes to represent Great Britain at the 2026 World Skate Games (WSG) Vert competition.
- 1.3. WSK will stage the WSG Skateboard Vert competition between the 29th September and 3rd October at the Palacio de López Esplanade, Asunción, Paraguay.
- 1.4. In accordance with WSK event regulations, SBGB may register up to twelve (12) athletes per gender for the WSG Vert competition.
- 1.5. SBGB reserves the right to amend this policy and country quota allocation based on updated WSK guidance.
- 1.6. WSK has introduced a minimum age requirement for participation in sanctioned competitions:
 - 1.6.1. 2026: Minimum age 12
 - 1.6.2. 2027: Minimum age 13
 - 1.6.3. 2028: Minimum age 14
- 1.7. This ruling applies to all WSK-sanctioned events. Athletes below the minimum age will not be considered eligible for selection.
- 1.8. Country quota places will be allocated by the SBGB Selection Panel in accordance with this policy.
- 1.9. There is no obligation on the Selection Panel to fill country quota places. The number of allocated WSK WSG quota places will be determined by the Head of Performance and Pathway and validated by the Selection Panel in line with the objectives and purpose of this policy.
- 1.10. This document will be subject to periodic review and may be amended to reflect changes to applicable rules, policies or relevant feedback. Any amended version of this policy will be published on the SBGB website.

2. Objectives

- 2.1. The primary objective of this process is to:
 - 2.1.1. Maximise SBGB's medal potential in Vert, with a focus on winning and winning well.
- 2.2. The secondary objective of this process is to:
 - 2.2.1. Provide international competition experience for athletes who demonstrate the potential to win medals at future WSK-sanctioned Vert competitions.
- 2.3. Selections made under this policy are intended to contribute not only to short-term performance goals but also to SBGB's long-term performance strategy by developing athletes who show future medal and performance potential.
- 2.4. For the avoidance of doubt:
 - 2.4.1. The primary objective is the foremost consideration.
 - 2.4.2. The secondary objective will only be considered if the primary objective is unlikely to be met.
 - 2.4.3. In some cases, no athletes may be selected if neither objective is satisfied.

3. Eligibility

Athletes must submit an application to be considered for selection. To be eligible to compete in the WSG Vert competition, each athlete shall:

- 3.1. Be a British citizen and hold a British passport which expires no less than six (6) months after the conclusion of the event.
- 3.2. Meet the minimum age requirements outlined by WSK for the 2026 season (minimum age 12).
- 3.3. If selected, become a current member of SBGB :

<https://skateboardgb.org/membership/skateboarder-membership/>
- 3.4. Be an ambassador of SBGB and be supportive of the organisation in its strategic objectives.

- 3.5. Manage their relationship with SBGB in a manner that promotes openness, honesty, collaboration, mutual trust and respect, while demonstrating the highest professional, behavioural and ethical standards.
- 3.6. Remain in good standing with SBGB. Athletes must conduct themselves in a manner that does not bring themselves or SBGB into disrepute. Where the Selection Panel determines that an athlete is not in good standing, it may, at its absolute discretion, determine that the athlete is ineligible for selection.
- 3.7. Sign and return a copy of SBGB's Code of Conduct. For athletes under 18, a parent or chaperone must also sign the accompanying athlete and chaperone agreement.
- 3.8. Be compliant with the anti-doping policies of the World Anti-Doping Association (WADA), UK Anti-Doping (UKAD), SBGB and WSK and not be banned or suspended from competition due to an anti-doping rule violation (ADRV) ruling on an investigation.
- 3.9. Complete the required UKAD or WADA education. All athletes must upload a valid Anti-Doping Certificate (issued between 2024 and 2026) as part of the WSK registration process.
- 3.10. Not be subject to a suspension, ban or disqualification imposed by SBGB, WSK or any other authority with jurisdiction over the athlete or event.

If, for any reason, an athlete is unable or unwilling to fully comply with SBGB's eligibility criteria, this policy, or behaves in a manner deemed detrimental to SBGB, they will not be considered for selection.

4. Selection Types

- 4.1. This policy is primarily concerned with event selection.
 - 4.1.1. **Event Selection:** Allocation of country quota places for WSK competitions.
 - 4.1.2. **National Team Selection:** Formal selection to represent SBGB's national team.
 - 4.1.3. **Support Selection:** Type and level of logistical/programme support. For example, UK Sport Athlete Performance Awards.

5. Selection Panel

- 5.1. All WSK country quota place allocations are made by the SBGB Selection Panel. SBGB's Head of Performance and Pathway will chair the Selection Panel.
- 5.2. The Selection Panel will consist of three voting members:
 - 5.2.1. SBGB Head of Performance and Pathway (Chair)
 - 5.2.2. SBGB Performance Coach
 - 5.2.3. SBGB Pathway Coach
- 5.3. Country quota places will be allocated by majority decision of the Selection Panel.
- 5.4. A non-voting independent observer will also attend the Selection Panel, providing confidence in the fairness and objectivity of the process.
- 5.5. Selections will be made without prejudice or discrimination, and, as such, any conflicts, real or perceived, must be declared and recorded. A disclosed conflict will not preclude a Selection Panel member or attendee from participating in deliberations. Depending on the nature of the conflict, a Selection Panel member may have to abstain from voting. In those circumstances, the Selection Panel shall decide whether a further panel member should be appointed.
- 5.6. At present, skateboarding does not operate a sufficiently robust domestic ranking system to support selection through objective ranking alone. Given the absence of consistent, comparable British events and the inherently subjective nature of judging, SBGB will apply a Selection by Qualified Discretion approach.
- 5.7. Selection by Qualified Discretion refers to a process in which selection decisions are made by experienced and qualified individuals (the Selection Panel), applying their professional judgement to weigh both objective performance data and subjective assessment criteria. This approach supports fairness and consistency while aligning with the strategic goals of SBGB, particularly in the current context, where a standardised domestic ranking system is not in place.
- 5.8. A summary of panel minutes will be recorded and stored confidentially.

6. Selection Process and Criteria

6.1. Please refer to Appendix A, which sets out the discipline and gender-specific selection process and criteria.

6.1.1. **Appendix A:** WSK WSG Vert Selection Process and Criteria 2026.

7. Selection Outcomes

7.1. Athletes will be notified in writing by email of the panel's decision. Selected athletes must:

7.1.1. Confirm acceptance of their selection within the timeline provided.

7.1.2. Comply with all event and team registration requirements.

7.1.3. Remain eligible through the event period.

7.1.4. Athletes who are not selected for a country quota place may request feedback on their application. Feedback will be provided within 30 days of the request.

8. Support Allocation

8.1. Skateboard GB does not currently receive funded programme investment for the Vert discipline. Athletes selected under this policy should therefore expect to self-fund their participation. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Competition entry fee (currently USD \$150)
- Flights
- Accommodation
- Meals
- Local transport
- Insurance
- Equipment
- Other associated competition costs

8.2. Following selection, Skateboard GB will:

- Confirm athlete nominations.
- Complete World Skate registration.
- Submit athlete entries through the WSK Infinity platform.
- Communicate relevant event information.

8.3. There is no obligation on a selected athlete to accept or use their allocated country quota place. Athletes remain responsible for determining whether

they have the financial resources, practical arrangements and personal support necessary to attend the event.

9. Chaperones and Personal Coaches

- 9.1. All athletes under the age of 18 are required to travel with a designated chaperone, in line with our safeguarding policies and expectations.
- 9.2. Personal coaches/chaperones will not be accredited as SBGB coaches or staff at WSK-sanctioned events.
- 9.3. WSK provides one (1) chaperone accreditation for athletes under the age of 18. This allows chaperones to accompany athletes within the competition environment.
- 9.4. Chaperone accreditation and access are managed by WSK and may be updated in line with their evolving event protocols. SBGB has no authority or influence over these decisions. Any changes made by WSK will be communicated to athletes and chaperones as soon as they are confirmed.
- 9.5. SBGB supports the World Skate chaperone accreditation process and recognises the important safeguarding and athlete welfare benefits it provides. When a chaperone is present in a competition setting, we expect that they work collaboratively and respectfully with SBGB and WSK staff to help maintain a positive, professional, and supportive team environment. Chaperones, like athletes, represent Great Britain and Skateboard GB while attending international competitions.
- 9.6. All chaperones and personal coaches are required to sign SBGB's associated Codes of Conduct before attending any WSK-sanctioned event.
- 9.7. Failure by a chaperone or personal coach to follow the Codes of Conduct may result in the athlete's eligibility to compete at the event being reviewed. In serious cases, this may lead to withdrawal of accreditation or removal from the competition environment.

10. De-Selection

- 10.1. If, for any reason, an athlete is unable or unwilling to fully comply with SBGB's eligibility criteria or this policy generally or behaves in a way deemed detrimental to SBGB, they may be de-selected. A majority vote of the Selection Panel will decide on de-selection in these circumstances.
- 10.2. Athletes who become unfit due to illness or injury following their WSK WSG country quota place selection must notify SBGB immediately. This may result in the athlete being de-selected at the complete discretion of the Head of

Performance and Pathway following consultation with the Selection Panel, where appropriate.

11. Appeals

- 11.1. Any appeal against a decision of the Selection Panel must follow the procedures detailed in the appeal process and apply to this selection policy.
- 11.2. The only grounds upon which reasons for an appeal can be made are as follows:
 - 11.2.1. The Selection Panel has failed to apply the selection criteria set out in this policy.
 - 11.2.2. The Selection Panel has failed to adhere properly to the selection procedure set out in the policy; and
 - 11.2.3. The Selection Panel's discretion has not been exercised reasonably, and such discretion was exercised to be prejudicial to the appellant.
- 11.3. The athlete does not have the right to appeal against the content of the selection policy.

How to Appeal

- 11.4. The appeals process is commenced when an athlete affected by a selection decision or the athlete's authorised representative submits a formal written appeal ("the Notice of Appeal") to the SBGB's CEO, James Hope-Gill, at the following email address: james@skateboardgb.org.
- 11.5. The notice of appeal must be submitted within 72 hours of the selection decision being announced or communicated to the athlete, whichever is later.
- 11.6. If the athlete fails to submit the notice of appeal within the time limit set out in this appeals process, they will have lost their right of appeal, save in wholly exceptional circumstances, which the Appeal Panel (defined below) will agree to in their absolute discretion.
- 11.7. The notice of appeal must set out full details of the athlete's ground(s) of appeal and include:
 - 11.7.1. Details of the decision to which the athlete is appealing.
 - 11.7.2. Details of the grounds upon which the athlete relies, including the precise manner in which the athlete alleges that the selection criteria

have not been applied or the procedure set out in this selection policy has not been followed.

- 11.7.3. Any documents or written evidence upon which the athlete relies in support of their appeal. These documents must be relevant to the athlete's grounds of appeal. Athletes should be aware that appeals are usually conducted solely by reference to the written Notice of Appeal and supporting documents. The athlete (or their authorised representative) will not usually be allowed to attend the Appeal Panel meeting in person. Therefore, the athlete should ensure that the Notice of Appeal is as comprehensive as possible.

12. Appeal Panel

- 12.1. The SBGB CEO will appoint the Appeal Panel. The Appeal Panel will be composed of three members, namely:
- 12.2. Two SBGB board of directors (who were not part of the Selection Panel), from whom one shall be nominated as chair of the Appeal Panel, and
- 12.3. An external person with high performance and elite sports knowledge/experience.
- 12.4. The SBGB CEO shall ensure that, when selecting the Appeal Panel, those appointed have no actual or perceived conflict of interest regarding the appeal.
- 12.5. No Selection Panel member will be appointed to the Appeal Panel.
- 12.6. If any member of the Appeal Panel has any involvement with, or is related to, an appellant or any athlete who might be affected by the outcome of the appeal, or had any involvement with the selection decision under appeal, or is in any way placed in a position of conflicting interests in respect of the appeal, they shall be disqualified from sitting on the Appeal Panel. They will be replaced by an alternate whom the SBGB CEO shall nominate.
- 12.7. Upon receipt of the notice of appeal, the SBGB CEO will circulate it as soon as reasonably practicable to all Appeal Panel members. The SBGB CEO will also request written comments on the Notice of Appeal from the Head of Performance and Pathway and will circulate those comments to the Appeal Panel members.
- 12.8. The chair of the Appeal Panel will convene a meeting to take place as soon as practicable and, in any event, within five working days of receipt of the notice of appeal, at which the Appeal Panel will consider the notice of appeal.

- 12.9. The Appeal Panel will investigate the grounds set out in the notice of appeal and establish to their reasonable satisfaction whether or not any of the grounds for appeal set out in this policy have been established.
- 12.10. The Appeal Panel, when considering the notice of appeal, shall be entitled to take advice (including legal advice) as they see fit.

13. Appeal Decision

- 13.1. In reaching its decision, the Appeal Panel shall make one of the following determinations:
 - 13.1.1. Confirm the selection decision that is subject to appeal and thereby reject the appeal;
 - 13.1.2. Rescind the selection decision that is subject to appeal and remit the matter back to the Selection Panel for further consideration. The remittance of the Selection Panel shall identify the issue(s) with the selection decision that the Appeal Panel have identified and request that a further decision of the Selection Panel (accounting for the issue(s), which may have been found to be immaterial) be made within 72 hours; or
 - 13.1.3. Rescind the selection decision that is subject to appeal and allocate the appellant a country quota place.
- 13.2. The appeal decision shall be reached by a majority vote of the Appeal Panel, with each Appeal Panel member having one vote.
- 13.3. In the case of a frivolous or vexatious appeal, the Appeal Panel reserves the right to seek remuneration against the appellant to cover the costs of the appeal.
- 13.4. The SBGB CEO will, in writing, inform all parties about the appeal decision.
- 13.5. The appeal decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

14. Updates

- 14.1. SBGB reserves the right to amend this policy where reasonably necessary to remain aligned with WSK, UK Sport or other applicable regulations.
- 14.2. This document will be subject to periodic review and may be amended to reflect changes to external regulations or to incorporate relevant feedback. Any amended version of this policy will be published on the SBGB website.

15. Interpretation

- 15.1. This policy should be read in conjunction with all applicable WSK regulations, event bulletins and SBGB policies.
- 15.2. Where WSK introduces changes to event regulations, registration requirements or eligibility criteria following publication of this policy, SBGB reserves the right to amend this policy where reasonably necessary to remain compliant with those requirements.
- 15.3. Any matters not provided for within this policy, or where there is any ambiguity in its interpretation, shall be determined by the Head of Performance and Pathway in consultation with the Selection Panel and, where appropriate, the SBGB Board of Directors.