



2026 EUROPEAN ATHLETICS U18 CHAMPIONSHIPS - RIETI, ITALY - 16-19 JULY 2026

SELECTION POLICY – published January 2026.

Overview

- The European U18 Championships is our priority competition for the U18 age-group.
- Selection standards for the European U18 Championships are as per the championship standards. All athletes who qualify will be selected subject to form/fitness/Danish athletics maximum team size (20).
- Due to the fluctuating standards in this age group, a maximum team size is set each year – usually no more than 20.
- By competing in their specific age group, athletes gain the right experience at the right time in their development. The long-term goal is to support each athlete's journey towards future senior international success and ultimately competing at the Olympic Games.
- The Selection Panel therefore aim to select athletes who will make the most of this competition experience, with the aim of maximising top 16 places
- The Danish team will travel to the Championships as a single team.
- The athlete contribution fee for the European Athletics U18 Championships is DKK 7000

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be considered for selection, athletes must satisfy the following:

1. be eligible to compete for Denmark (i.e. full Danish passport holder);
2. be born in 2009 or 2010;
3. If competing in an endurance event (800m – marathon), complete Team Denmark/DAF RED-S screening and comply with any follow-up action.
4. must not currently be serving a period of ineligibility or a provisional or permanent suspension for a doping violation or for any other reason of misconduct.
5. not have committed a criminal, disciplinary or safeguarding offence that in the reasonable opinion of the Board of Danish Athletics renders the athlete unsuitable for selection.
6. have demonstrated a consistent level of performance in line with the aims of the policy.



7. sign the Danish Athletics Code of Conduct and abide by its terms and conditions. Any athlete failing to do so prior to the first date of competition will result in their selection being withdrawn. The current version of the Code of Conduct can be found online at <https://dansk-atletik.dk/atleter/elite-og-talent/code-of-conduct/>
8. have received and hold a valid certification for having completed European Athletics Anti-Doping Education Programme – I Run Clean.

QUALIFICATION

Qualification performances must be achieved between 00:00 (CET) 1st January 2026 and 23:59 (CET) 28 June 2026.

Hurdle Heights Men - 110m H 91cm; 400m H 84cm / Women - 100m H 76cm; 400m H 76cm

Women's/Men's – 3kg/5kg Shot, 1kg/1.5kg Discus, 3kg/5kg Hammer, 500g/700g Javelin

Steeplechase Barrier Height- Men 0.838/Women 0.762m



European Athletics U18 Championships 2026
Rieti/ITA, 16 - 19 July 2026
 (as of May 2025)

Entry Standards

Athletes	Rounds	Men	Event	Women
32	3	10.85	100m	12.05
32	3	22.10	200m	25.00
32	3	49.40	400m	57.00
32	3	1:54.20	800m	2:12.80
24	2	3:55.00	1500m	4:30.00
15	1	8:24.00	3000m	9:44.00
32	3	14.25	110/100m Hurdles	14.05
32	3	55.00	400m Hurdles	1:02.30
24	2	6:00.00	2000m SC	7:00.00
25	1	23:30.00	5,000m Walk	26:10:00
16	2	NES	Medley Relay	NES
24	2	2.01	High Jump	1.74
24	2	4.60	Pole Vault	3.65
24	2	7.00	Long Jump	5.90
24	2	14.10	Triple Jump	12.20
24	2	16.80	Shot Put	14.40
24	2	52.50	Discus	40.50
24	2	63.00	Hammer	58.00
24	2	62.00	Javelin	46.00
20		6700	Heptathlon/Decathlon	5200

Selection Process

1. The team will be selected in one selection meeting on Monday 29 June 2026
2. Selections will be made by the Danish Athletics selection panel comprising:
 Voting members:

- Danish Athletics Team Leader for this event
- Danish Athletics Event Group Leads and/or Pathways Leads. One per event group:



- Sprints, hurdles and relays
- Endurance
- Throws
- Jumps
- Combined Events

Non-voting

- Chairperson
- Other Event Group/Pathways specialists
- Futures physiotherapists (as required)
- Note takers
- Any other person named by the chairperson

The Chair of the Panel may also (at his/her discretion) seek assistance (in a non-voting capacity) from anyone else he/she feels may be of help.

3. In the event of an actual, potential, or possible conflict relating to any voting member of the Selection Panel, it should be reported to the Chairperson of the selection meeting who shall determine whether the voting member in question should be permitted to take part in relation to any selection decision(s).
4. In any event including but not limited to conflict of interest or absence, the Chairperson may appoint an alternative voting member if necessary.
5. Voting of the Selection Panel shall be by simple majority. The Team Leader shall have the casting vote, if required. If the Team Leader is unable to vote due to a conflict the Chairperson shall nominate the panel member with the casting vote if required. For discretionary selections, if the Team Leader has a conflict, the Chairperson will decide on which voting member shall have casting vote.
6. The Selection Panel may make any selection subject to the athlete completing a performance requirement or test set by the Panel.
7. The team will be announced on Wednesday 1 July 2026.
8. Danish Athletics will select qualifying athletes up to a maximum team size of 20. No more than 2 athletes for each individual event will be selected. *Note – the Danish team size is subject to budgetary constraints and as such Danish Athletics reserves the right to increase or decrease the maximum team size as necessary.



Selection Criteria

Selection decisions will be based on the Panel's consideration of a combination of the following criteria, as well as any other factors that may be deemed relevant.

The criteria below are not listed in any priority order.

- 1.1. Current form;
- 1.2. Head-to-heads;
- 1.3. Previous major competition history;
- 1.4. Relay skills and experience
- 1.5. Competition timetable considerations
- 1.6. Injury and health status
- 1.7. Any other criteria that the Panel deems relevant

Relay

2. A maximum of 6 (six) athletes may be selected for the medley relay, which can include those selected as individuals.
3. Athletes may be selected to the medley relay (as medley relay only athletes, or from previously selected individual athletes) based on the Panel's consideration of a combination the same criteria, as well as any other factors that may be deemed relevant.
4. Athletes selected for the medley relay do not need to have achieved the qualification standard.

DESELECTION

Following selection, an athlete may be de-selected by the Selection Panel or Danish Athletics in the event of:

1. The athlete ceasing to comply with the eligibility criteria set out in this Selection Policy, EA rules and regulations
2. Failure to sign the Athlete Code of Conduct
3. Failure or partial failure to comply with any conditions or part of conditions of selection set by the Selection Panel.
4. Any anti-doping rule violation or provisional suspension.
5. Any serious misconduct or suspension due to misconduct.
6. A breach of any Danish Athletics policy.



7. Danish Athletics reasonably considering that the athlete will be unable to perform at the level required or expected due to any reason including loss of form or failure to recover fully or as expected from injury or illness, or:
8. Failure to opt-in to team training or team activity.

CONDITIONS

- Qualifying standards can only be achieved at World Athletics permitted events.
- Wind-assisted performances (or OUTDOOR performances achieved at events where wind measurement was not available) will not be accepted. The interpretation of a wind assisted Combined Events performance will be based on the most recent version of the WA rule book (at the time of selection), unless the relevant organising committee state otherwise.
- Performances achieved in mixed events held completely in a stadium will not be accepted.
- Hand-timed performances in 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 100m/110m Hurdles and 400m Hurdles will not be accepted.
- Indoor performances for all field events and for races of 400m or longer will be accepted.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Danish Athletics reserves the right to amend this Selection Policy at any time at its discretion and will make any amended version publicly available (including the date on which any amendment was made) at <https://dansk-atletik.dk/atleter/elite-og-talent/mesterskabskrav/>

TEAM MANAGEMENT

Julie Sørensen – European Athletics U18 Team Leader

Sive Brassil – European Athletics U18 Team Manager