



## **INTERNATIONAL U18 MOUNTAIN RUNNING CUP – 21 JUNE 2026**

### **Overview and background**

This policy describes the process for the selection of team members to represent Denmark at the International U18 Mountain Running Cup in European Off-Road Championships in Gagliano del Capo, Italy on 21 June 2026

The Competition is open to boys and girls born in 2009 and 2010

This will be the first time that Denmark will send athletes to this competition

Mountain Running is less developed in Denmark. We intend to build this discipline as part of our overall endurance strategy. This is challenging given the terrain and topography of the country and it will be necessary for athletes to travel to other countries to gain relevant experience.

We recognise that orienteers often have relative fitness and skill to transition into Trail and Mountain running. Therefore, we will consider orienteering results along with Trail and Mountain Running results when making the selections

The course will be 4600m and over hilly terrain on trails, roads and grass

Training days, in Denmark, will be organised to prepare for the event

### **Aim**

Danish Athletics intends to select athletes for this competition (up to 4 athletes per gender) where the selection panel believe the athlete can achieve a result in the top two-thirds of the race.

The athlete contribution for the International Youth Cup will be DKK 3000

### **QUALIFICATION**

Trial races will be the primary means of selection. Athletes are strongly encouraged to compete in the Mountain Race Trials unless they have extenuating circumstances.

The trials will take place on the weekend of 18<sup>th</sup> April 2026. Day, time and venue TBC.



## **SELECTION**

### **ELIGIBILITY FOR CONSIDERATION FOR SELECTION**

To be considered for selection, athletes must satisfy the Eligibility Criteria set out in Appendix 1 – Eligibility Criteria

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

1. The first placed eligible athlete at the Trials will be automatically selected subject to being considered of a standard able to contribute to achieving the Policy aims of finishing in the top two-thirds of the field. For the avoidance of doubt, if the first athlete at the Trials decline selection (through injury or any other reason) their automatic selection will NOT be offered to the next eligible athlete at the Trials. Their place will be reallocated based on point 2 below.
2. The Panel will select athletes to fill the remaining team places based on the aims of the Selection Policy and on the following criteria (criterion) 'Performance at the Trials' has priority; the other criteria below are not listed in any priority order):
  - a. Performance at the Trials
  - b. Athletes' current form and fitness from 1st January 2026
  - c. Consistency of performances in cross country or orienteering races
  - d. Track performances over 3000m. As a guideline 3000m should be faster than 10-00 for male and faster than 11-00 for female runners.
  - e. Any other factors the selection panel deem relevant to this competition
3. The Selection Panel may take injury and illness into account when making selection decisions, including as a reason for non-selection. Injury or illness do not exempt an athlete from the requirement to demonstrate form and meet the performance criteria
4. Aligned to the aims of the selection policy, the Selection Panel reserve the right to not select teams/full teams.



## **SELECTION PANEL**

1. Selections will be made by the Danish Athletics selection panel comprising:

- Danish Athletics Sportschef (voting)
- Danish Athletics Trail and Mountain Running Team Leader (voting)
- Event Group Lead for Endurance (voting)

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.

## **DE-SELECTION**

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

- The athlete ceasing to comply with the eligibility criteria set out in this Selection Policy, or other strategy document or policy communicated by Danish Athletics.
- Failure to agree to the Code of Conduct or Team Member Agreement.
- Failure to comply with any conditions set by the Selection Panel.
- The athlete not complying with any selection conditions set by Danish Athletics.
- Any anti-doping rule violation or provisional suspension or failure to complete any required antidoping action, including training or courses.
- Any serious misconduct or suspension due to misconduct.
- A breach of any Danish Athletics policy.
- 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
- Failure to opt-in to team training or events



## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Danish Athletics reserves the right to amend this Selection Policy at any time in its sole discretion and will make any amended version publicly available (including the date on which any amendment was made)

Key Contacts

Policy: Jackie Newton ([jackie@dansk-atletik.dk](mailto:jackie@dansk-atletik.dk))

Championships logistics: Sive Brassil ([sive@dansk-atletik.dk](mailto:sive@dansk-atletik.dk))

Final selections can only be expected by 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Anyone who sees themselves as potential candidates for the 2026 International U18 up should contact the Team Leader, Bashir Hussain, on [bh122c@gmail.com](mailto:bh122c@gmail.com)

Your email should list your recent endurance results along with your normal training week and a contact (email/phone) for your coach.

## **APPENDIX 1 – GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

1. Be eligible to compete for Denmark and be the holder of a full and current Danish passport.
2. Comply with all World/European Athletics and competition rules relevant to the category and/or event they wish to compete in.
3. Is not serving a period of ineligibility from the sport (as determined by Danish Athletics) or from any other sport. For example, due to misconduct and/or disciplinary reasons.
4. Not under investigation or been charged by Danish Athletics or any other relevant organisation with misconduct or any disciplinary, safeguarding or criminal offence.
5. Completed all anti-doping requirements.
6. Not committed a criminal, disciplinary or safeguarding offence that in the reasonable opinion of the Board of Danish Athletics renders the athlete unsuitable for selection.
7. Has not, whether by an act or omission, brought Danish Athletics into disrepute.
8. Meet the standards and behaviour expected by Danish Athletics, as published in the Code of Conduct <https://dansk-atletik.dk/atleter/elite-og-talent/code-of-conduct/>