



2026 WORLD ATHLETICS U20 CHAMPIONSHIPS: 5-9 AUGUST 2026 EUGENE, OREGON

SELECTION POLICY – published January 2026

Overview

- The key purpose of the age-group championships is the development of athletes to senior global championships. Research indicates that most senior medallists did not achieve medals in the U20 category but were at a level to participate and gain international experience in these championships.
- As such, selection standards will be as per the championship standards. ALL athletes who qualify will be selected (subject to form/fitness/max. entry restrictions).
- The Selection Panel therefore aims to select athletes who will make the most of this competition experience, with the aim of maximising top 24 places
- The World Athletics U20 Championships is partly funded by Danish Athletics. The athlete contribution for this competition will be DKK 7000 (TBC)

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Be eligible to compete for Denmark and be the holder of a full and current Danish passport;
2. Be born in 2007, 2008. In exceptional circumstances only, athletes born in 2009 or 2010 may be considered for discretionary selection for the relay. To be eligible, an athlete must have shown consistent level of performance and have previous experience at a major age-group international championship.
3. Have achieved, at minimum, the World U20 entry standard, except in cases where athletes are selected solely for relay purposes.
4. Meet all World Athletics Eligibility and Qualification event requirements, including but not limited to Female Athlete Category Testing (FACT) (<https://worldathletics.org/about-iaaf/documents/book-of-rules>).
5. If competing in an endurance event (800m – marathon), complete Team Denmark/DAF RED-S screening and comply with any follow-up action.
6. Comply with all World Athletics and competition rules including but not limited to any rules relevant to the category and/or event they wish to compete in.
7. 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.



8. 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.
9. 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.
10. Completed all anti-doping requirements;
11. Has not, whether by an act or omission, brought Danish Athletics into disrepute.
- 12.** Sign the Danish Athletics Athlete 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/>
13. Athletes who may want to compete in more than one individual event ('double up') at the World Athletics U20 Championships must inform the Selection Panel prior to the selection meeting of any desire to double up and in which events, stating their 'main event'.

STRY GENE TESTING - IMPORTANT NOTE FOR ALL FEMALE ATHLETES

New World Athletics Female Athlete Category Testing ('FACT') is now an Eligibility requirement. Female athletes should note that they must have an SRY Gene Test to be eligible to compete. They should contact the Team Denmark Doctor Mads Karlsson, (mmka@teamdemark.dk)



QUALIFICATION

To be considered as part of the selection process qualification performances must be achieved from 1 January 2026 and 23:59 (BST) on 19 July 2026.

Target number	Men	Event	Women	Target number
64	10.50	100m	11.78	64
64	21.25	200m	24.35	64
56	47.40	400m	55.20	56
48	1:50.00	800m	2:09.00	48
45	3:47.50	1500m	4:27.00	45
20	8:04.00	3000m	9:27.00	20
18	14:08.00	5000m	16:25.00	18
30	9:00.00	3000m SC (0,91m-0,76m)	10:36.00	30
56	14.05	110mH (0,99m) 100mH (0,84m)	14.10	56
56	53.00	400m H (0,91m-0,76m)	1:00.75	56
34	20:50.00 (43:30.00)*	5,000m RW	24:00.00 (49:20.00)*	34
28	2.12	High Jump	1.81	28
28	5.12	Pole Vault	4.05	28
28	7.58	Long Jump	6.22	28
28	15.45	Triple Jump	13.00	28
28	18.30	Shot Put (6kg-4kg)	14.50	28
28	56.00	Discus Throw (1,75kg-1kg)	49.00	28
28	68.00	Hammer Throw (6kg-4kg)	57.50	28
28	68.50	Javelin Throw (800g-600g)	49.50	28
24	7100	Decathlon/Heptathlon	5280	24
24	No standard	4x100m Relay	No standard	24
24	No standard	4x400m Relay	No standard	24
24	No standard	4x100m Relay Mixed		
24	No standard	4x400m Relay Mixed		

* For the 5000m Race Walk, 10km and 10000m times will be accepted as will all road performances for both distances.

SELECTION

Final selections will take place on 20 July 2026

A maximum of two athletes may be selected in each individual event. Up to 6 athletes may be selected for each relay event. The composition of those relay athletes must include the athletes who are selected in the relevant individual event. Any other athlete who is selected in any other event may then be able to participate in the relay event.

The team will be announced on Thursday 23 July 2026



Selection Process

1. The team will be selected in one selection meeting on Monday 20 July 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. Danish Athletics will select no more than 2 athletes for each individual event



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

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, WA 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.
- Sprints are timed using photo finish and sprints and jumps all use a wind gauge.



- Race walking performances achieved in road events must be achieved on WA certified courses.
- 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

Diego Marcano – World Athletics U20 Team Leader

Sive Brassil – World Athletics U20 Team Manager