



Athlete Support Award: TASS Award (BWL – Para-Powerlifting)

Date: September 2023 – September 2024

1. Overview

This selection policy has been created to provide an opportunity for eligible British Para Powerlifters to access bespoke development support from the Sport England - Talented Athlete Support Scheme (TASS) and BWL, providing they demonstrate the potential to contribute towards:

- Paris 2024 qualification, Victoria 2026, and Los Angeles 2028.
- Medals at Major senior international events in the future.

British Weight Lifting (BWL) seek to select athletes who are likely to transition onto the funded BWL World Class Program (WCP) within three years of receiving this TASS award. The TASS award is a Sport England funded partnership between talented athletes, delivery sites (find one near you <https://www.tass.gov.uk/tass-supported-sites/>) and NGB's (national governing bodies) of sport.

The services that TASS provide can include:

- strength and conditioning
- physiotherapy
- lifestyle support
- psychology
- nutrition
- access to mental health support

The services that you apply for need to be discussed with your personal coach. Please see more information here on the above services (<https://www.tass.gov.uk/athlete-support/>).

2. Minimum Eligibility Criteria

To be considered for an SE TASS award, athletes must satisfy the following criteria:

2.1 A citizen of the United Kingdom and hold a valid British passport prior to initial entry deadline and can demonstrate one of the following criteria:

2.1.1 *Born in England*

2.1.2 *Live and train in England*

2.2 Athlete must have submitted a TASS award application by 11/08/2023 at 12:00 to connor.macdonald@britishweightlifting.org.

2.3 [Athlete must send a clear photocopy of their passport via email to connor.macdonald@britishweightlifting.org no later than 11/08/2023 at 12:00.](#)

- 2.4 A current member of British Weight Lifting (BWL)
- 2.5 Athlete must not be in dispute with BWL, affiliated bodies or stakeholders.
- 2.6 Compliant with the BWL and WADA Anti-Doping Controls and Procedures and complete all relevant UKAD Education & Training required by BWL and WPPO
- 2.7 Display behaviours in-line with BWL's vision and values and consistently demonstrate appropriate performance related behaviours BWL squad events based on WCP learnings:
 - 2.7.1 Athletes with adequate performance levels and development trajectory,
 - 2.7.2 Athlete willingness and/or capacity to engage in a collaborative partnership with the WCP. This looks like proactive and clear communication followed by timely action in the pursuit of learning and optimised preparation and performance.
 - 2.7.3 The ability to balance the performance and personal demands of long-term engagement with the WCP. Athletes must develop themselves as people at the same time as well as recognise the investment of public money into their journey and give back through positive societal impact in the form of voluntary appearances and collaboration with the NBG and its commercial partners.
- 2.8 Athletes should be a member of the BWL Development pathways or be eligible for the Paris Paralympic games and/or Victoria 2026 Commonwealth Games.
- 2.9 Have competed in at least two competitions, either of which can be BWL approved or WCP hosted trial events or international events between 1st July 2022 and the 11th August 2023.
 - 2.9.1 If an athlete pulls out of all competitions within this period which is not due to an injury, then BWL have the absolute discretion to deselect the athlete from receiving TASS support.
- 2.10 Not be receiving individual world class programme funding.
- 2.11 If the Athlete meets the Minimum Eligibility criteria at the time of selection but subsequently, prior to or during the year fails to meet them, then BWL shall have absolute discretion to deselect the Athlete from receiving TASS support.

Any queries about the 'Minimum Eligibility Criteria' for this Squad should be sent to BWL Pathway Development Coach (connor.macdonald@britishweightlifting.org) no later than 11/08/2023 at 12:00.

3. Selection Process

The selection panel will convene to select athletes during the week beginning 14/08/2023 (subject to change by BWL). The selection process will be conducted by a BWL selection panel. The Selection process will take place as outlined below.

- 3.1 BWL has been offered (4) full awards for Para-Powerlifting by SE TASS.
- 3.2 If the athlete achieves the minimum eligibility criteria (2.0), they will be considered for selection
- 3.3 BWL selection panel must determine the athlete's performance potential to medal at international championships events (see section 1) in the future considering the following;
 - 3.3.1 *The athletes recent international or domestic competition performance standard if this took place within the 8 weeks prior to selection.*
 - 3.3.2 *The athlete's current predicted 1RM based on recent training data/footage collected by BWL.*
 - 3.3.3 *The athlete's development trajectory based on progress documented to BWL during 2022 training processes**
 - 3.3.4 *The athlete's Vision & Mission (outlined in their TASS application form)*

3.3.5 *The athlete's engagement with BWL Squads & Camps*

3.4 If the number of athletes who submit applications is greater than the maximum number of full awards (3.2), the selection panel at their discretion reserves the right to select the athletes who have demonstrated the greatest potential to medal at Paris 2024 and/or Victoria 2026.

3.5 Athletes must consistently display performance related behaviours, which provide the selection panel with confidence that they have the capability to achieve their development objectives.

3.6 The selection panel at their discretion reserves the right to deselect an athlete at this stage if reasonable doubts exist about any athlete's behaviour, which they feel could negatively impact;

3.6.1 The athlete's ability to achieve performance or development objectives.

3.6.2 The experience or engagement of other BWL Pathway squad members

3.6.3 The reputation of BWL

* Development trajectory will be calculated using two performances in competition or trials which are at least 6 months apart. The most recent performance prior to nomination deadline on the 11th August 2023 and the first performance in excess of 6 months ago will be used to calculate trajectory. The difference in load lifted at each event will be divided by the number of whole months (4 x 7 days = 28days) between each moment in time.

3.7 After the selection panel has convened, nominations by name will be sent to TASS for inductions to begin in September 2023.

4. Obligations

Selected athletes will be required to:

4.1 Attend agreed team camps or activities

4.2 Wear appropriate apparel as specified by BWL at all camps/events

4.3 Submit training information as requested by BWL

If engaging on social media platforms, continually promote a positive message about the sport in Great Britain.

5. Selection Panel

The selection panel will comprise of:

8.1 BWL Performance Director

8.2 BWL Lead Performance Coach

8.3 BWL Pathway Development Coach

Other members of BWL may be in attendance in a non-voting capacity to supply background information and technical or medical information.

All conflicts of interest will be declared. A conflicted individual will not vote on that selection but may participate in the general selection discussions, at the discretion of the Performance Director.

In the event of a tied vote the Performance Director will cast the deciding vote.