



Ireland Team – Youth European Championships – Lead.

Selection Policy – Published December 2024

The 2025 European Youth Championships for Lead Climbing takes place in Zilina on 4th – 7th September.

Ireland Team:

Purpose – The purpose of this competition, within the context of the Mountaineering Ireland Performance Pathway, is to prepare climbers for future international competition and work towards creating sustainable success.

Places per events – Up to four (4) competitors split evenly between male and female in the below categories:

U21 (born 2005 and 2006)

U19 (born 2007 and 2008)

U17 (born 2009 and 2010)

Selection Panel:

Selections will be made by the Mountaineering Ireland Climbing Selection Panel comprising:

- Jackie Newton, Mountaineering Ireland Performance Lead (Chair)
- Tobias Preisler, Mountaineering Ireland Head Coach (Selector)
- Philip Duke, Mountaineering Ireland S&C Coach (Selector)
- Victoria Watterson, Mountaineering Ireland Physiotherapist (Selector)
- Darragh O'Connor (Selector)

The Chair may also (at their discretion) seek assistance (in a non-voting capacity) from anyone else they feel may be of help.

Any voting member of the Selection Panel shall declare his or her conflict of interest in respect of any selection issue and shall not be entitled to vote on that issue.

The role of the Chair is to:

1. Nominate to the panel a pool of available athletes (whether currently within the Irish Teams or not) for selection, based on the criteria described in this document.
2. Ensure selections reflect the Performance programme's aims set by Mountaineering Ireland
3. Ensure up-to-date information is available to Selection meetings for all relevant climbers, including from coaches, and other experts (e.g. medics) as appropriate.



4. Maintain a full record of all performance information relevant to the selection criteria, and make sure this is available at Selection meetings.
5. As requested, provide support to the panel in matters of selection. This may include providing selection proposals ahead of the meeting, if asked to do so.
6. This is a voting position.

The role of a Selector is to:

1. Provide advice to the Panel, based on the criteria described in this document
2. Challenge the selections presented to the Panel and ensure selections reflect and apply the selection philosophy, overview and criteria set by Mountaineering Ireland
3. As requested, provide support to the Chair in matters of selection.
4. This is a voting position.

The role of a Selection Advisor is:

1. As per the Selector, but this is a non-voting position. In short, advisors advise, but selectors decide.

Eligibility

To be eligible for selection:

1. Climbers must compete in the **Irish Lead Championships on 7th and 8th June**. The only exception for this will be if a climber has been given a dispensation from the Performance Lead.
2. Climbers must have experience at European Youth Cup or European Cup level in Lead competitions.

Selection Criteria

1. Mountaineering Ireland are under no obligation to send climbers who have not achieved results that show the potential to finish in a top 30 or top third of the field (whichever is higher) in this competition. Climbers may be considered where there is evidence of progression towards achieving this standard within 2 years. Selections will be based on the following points in no priority order:
 - a) Performance at Irish and Scottish Lead Championships (Head-to-Head)
 - b) Evidence of progression throughout 2023 and 2024
 - c) European rankings
2. Results in the following events will be used to rank climbers against a) evidence of progression and d) consistency of performance:
Any test event that has been organised in the lead up to this event
Irish Lead Championships



Scottish Lead Championships
European Cups

Final Selection will be made during the week beginning 4th August 2025.