



# BRITISH ATHLETICS

## **British Athletics Teams** **Personal Coach Guidance**

We understand that it is a source of great pride/achievement for a coach when their athlete(s) achieve selection for a British Athletics team – be it senior, age-group or event-specific. We also recognise that personal coaches want to do everything in their power to ensure their athlete receives the best possible support in preparation for, and at the relevant championships themselves – and as such, many will wish to travel with their athlete(s) to the competition in question.

However, for a number of reasons, providing personal coaches with accreditation is not always possible – below are some of the reasons why:

- Team staff size limitations by IAAF/European Athletics/IPC Athletics;
- Availability/existence of Personal Coach accreditations;
- Budgetary restrictions;
- Athlete security/welfare considerations (particularly relating to age-groups);
- Logistical considerations relating to management of Personal Coaches and resourcing appropriate support (i.e. accommodation, transport etc.); and
- Athlete performance considerations relating to individual (and historical) relationships.

As such, different approaches will be taken regarding Personal Coach accreditations for each British Athletics team. The specific process adopted for each Championships will be communicated throughout the appropriate season, and again following selection. For virtually all championships, there will be a limited number of Personal Coach accreditations, and in some instances, none will be offered. Where accreditations are available (but limited) – passes will usually be allocated to Personal Coaches using the following basic principles:

- Performance need – coaches of clear medal potential athletes (now or in the future) will always take priority; and
- Technical need – i.e. events with a higher technical coaching requirement (where there is not sufficient coverage within the Team Coaches) will also be prioritised.

Where a Personal Coach is not offered an accreditation to support their athlete at a major championships, we ask that they:

- Be courteous and respectful in all communications with the relevant British Athletics Team Leader/Team Manager(s) regarding accreditations. We understand that access for Personal Coaches is a sensitive issue but please understand that we simply cannot accommodate everyone;
- Do not fraudulently attempt to gain access to the controlled warm-up/competition areas;
- Do not access the warm-up area (by any means) whilst wearing current or previous British Athletics kit, and do not claim to be a member of the British Athletics team (unless otherwise advised otherwise in advance by the relevant British Athletics Team Leader/Team Manager). This is vital to ensure that our important relationships with the international federations and competition organisers are not damaged; and
- At all times at the competition and/or holding camp venue, conduct themselves in a professional and appropriately respectful manner that reflects positively on themselves, their athlete, the British Athletics team and UK Athletics as a whole.

Where any of the above principles are not followed/are abused, British Athletics reserves the right to take any actions it deems necessary to maintain the integrity of the Governing Body and to ensure the effective operation and performance of current and/or future British Athletics teams.