

TEAM IRELAND IN TOKYO

Heather Boyle

OLYMPIC FEDERATION OF IRELAND heather@olympicsport.ie

CONTENTS

PREAMBLE.....	2
17 JUNE 2021	2
TEAM IRELAND SELECTION PROCESS	2
6 STEP PROCESS FOR ATHLETES	2
SUMMARY STATUS	2
OVERVIEW.....	2
SPORT IN DETAIL.....	4
ATHLETICS	4
Marathon and 50km RACE WALK TEAM.....	4
QUALIFICATION STANDARDS MET	4
STATUS OF NON-QUALIFIED ATHLETES	5
BOXING	6
BADMINTON.....	6
CANOE SLALOM.....	6
CYCLING ROAD	6
CYCLING TRACK	7
DIVING.....	7
Athletes to watch	7
EQUESTRIAN	7
HOCKEY	8
GOLF.....	8
GYMNASTICS - ARTISTIC.....	8
JUDO.....	8
MODERN PENTATHLON	9
ROWING	9
MEN’S RUGBY 7s	9
SAILING.....	9
SHOOTING - SHOTGUN	10
SWIMMING.....	10
TIMES ACHIEVED	10
TAEKWONDO.....	11
TRIATHLON	11

QUALIFICATION STATUS: TOKYO 2021

PREAMBLE

17 JUNE 2021

This document is intended to provide guidance for planning and research only and provides ongoing updates and information on the qualification status of Team Ireland athletes aiming for Tokyo 2020, following the postponement of the Olympic Games in 2020.

TEAM IRELAND SELECTION PROCESS

6 STEP PROCESS FOR ATHLETES

Below is the process involved in officially selecting athletes for Team Ireland.

1. The sport or athlete meets qualifying standard set out by IOC
2. The sport or athlete meets qualifying standard set out by the National Federation (NF)
3. The National Federation nominates athletes for participation in the Olympic Games
4. The OFI selects athletes based on review of the nominations by National Federations
5. The athletes are informed on their selection
6. The OFI announces the team in stages

SUMMARY STATUS

The qualification process started in 2018 and continues to July 2021 for some sports. In many sports qualification of a spot does not guarantee automatic selection of the athlete who qualified the spot.

OVERVIEW

83 athletes qualified to date - 9 HORSES - 10 named athletes - 12 sports

To date IOC qualification standards/quotas have been met by 63 Irish athletes in the following:

Athletics - Race Walk and Marathon (7)	Race Walkers - 2 (qualification times achieved by: Brendan Boyce 50km, Alex Wright 20km) Marathon - 5 (qualification times achieved by: Fionnuala McCormack, Aoife Cooke, Paul Pollock, Stephen Scullion, Kevin Seaward) Officially Selected HERE .
Athletics - Track and Field (7)	Track & Field - Women 1500m 1 (Ciara Mageean 1500m) Mixed Relay 4 (qualified at the World Athletics Relay by Thomas Barr, Chris O'Donnell, Phil Healy, Sharlene Mawdsley on 1 May 2021) Men's 400mh (Thomas Barr) Women's 3000sc (Michelle Finn)
Badminton (1)	Men's Singles (Nhat Nguyen) Officially selected HERE .
Boxing (6)	Flyweight 52kg male (Brendan Irvine) Officially selected HERE Welterweight male (Aidan Walsh) Light Heavyweight male (Emmet Brennan) Flyweight women (Michaela Walsh) Lightweight women (Kellie Harrington) Middleweight women (Aoife O'Rourke)
Canoe Slalom (1)	Liam Jegou officially selected for the Canoe Slalom C1 event

	See HERE
Cycling Road (4 quota, 3 athletes)	3 road racers - 1 of whom will also compete in time trial
Cycling Track (4 athletes)	Men's Madison (Felix English, Mark Downey) Women's Madison (Emily Kay, Shannon McCurley) 1 of each team also competes in the omnium Officially selected
Equestrian (9 athletes)	Dressage team (3 + horses + 1 reserve) Eventing team (3 + horses + 1 reserve) Show jumping team (3 + horses + 1 reserve) 9 horses All places have been secured in equestrian - names tbc
Gymnastics (1)	Men's Pommel - Rhys McClenaghan (nomination and selection process still to be completed)
Hockey (16)	Women's Team (+2 reserve) Names TBC
Modern Pentathlon (1)	Women's event Qualified by Natalya Coyle, also being contested by Sive Brassil.
Rowing (6 boats, 13 athletes)	Women's Single (W1x) qualified by Sanita Puspure Women's Pair (W2-) qualified by Aileen Crowley and Monika Dukarska Men's Lightweight Double (LM2X) qualified by Paul O'Donovan and Fintan McCarthy (reserve Gary O'Donovan) Men's Double (M2X) qualified by Philip Doyle and Ronan Byrne Women's Four (W4-) qualified by Aifric Keogh, Eimear Lambe, Fiona Murtagh, Emily Hegarty Women's Lightweight Double (LW2X) - Aoife Casey, Margaret Cremen
Sailing (3)	Women's Laser Radial - NF Nomination Annalise Murphy Men's 49ers - Qualified by Robert Dickson & Sean Waddilove
Swimming (8)	Darragh Greene in 100m & 200m Breaststroke (nominated by sport) Shane Ryan in 100m Backstroke (nominated by sport) Daniel Wiffen (800m Freestyle) Mona McSharry (100m Breaststroke) Men's 4 x 200 Relay (Qualified by Jack McMillan, Jordan Sloan, Fionn McKeever, Gerry Quinn)
Taekwondo (1)	Men's 58kg - Jack Woolley officially selected HERE .
Triathlon (2)	Women's Individual Triathlon Men's Individual Triathlon

All of these are now subjected to NF selection criteria. The OFI will not officially confirm the selection of athletes until the selection process has been followed.

[LIST OF OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED ATHLETES HERE](#)

SPORT IN DETAIL

ATHLETICS

Qualification is ongoing for Athletics, athletes can qualify in two ways:

1. By virtue of their World Athletics world ranking position at the end of the qualification period
2. Achieving the entry standard within the qualification period.

Entry standards are set for the sole purpose of qualifying athletes with exceptional performances unable to qualify through the IAAF world rankings pathway.

The qualification window for athletics runs right up to the end of June for some events, making the athletics team one of the last sports to be confirmed and announced.

MARATHON AND 50KM RACE WALK TEAM

The first of the Athletics Team Announcements was the Marathon and the 50km Race Walk. With seven athletes selected to compete. Full announcement [HERE](#).

QUALIFICATION STANDARDS MET

WHO	DISCIPLINE	WHEN AND WHERE	ADDITIONAL NOTES
Brendan Boyce	50km Walker	Lithuania May 2019	PB of 3:48.18 Competed in London and Rio. Was first Irish athlete to achieve a Tokyo standard across all the sports.
Alex Wright	20km Walker	La Coruna, Spain, June 2019	1:20.50 Competed in Rio
Ciara Mageean	1500m	Monaco, July 2019 Doha, Sept 2019	Qualified with PB 4:19.03 - Competed in Rio Achieved faster again time of 4:00.15 in the 1500m.
Fionnuala McCormack	Marathon	Chicago Marathon October 2019	PB with 2:26.47 - almost 4 seconds off her previous best.
Paul Pollock	Marathon	Valencia Marathon, December 2019	PB with 2:10.25 - 5 minutes faster than his previous best.
Stephen Scullion	Marathon	Houston Marathon, January 2020 London Marathon, Oct 2020	PB with 2:11.52 - 9 seconds faster than his previous best. Secured the standard based on his top five finish in a gold label road race. Achieved the qualifying time standard with 2.09.49
Kevin Seaward	Marathon	Seville Marathon, February 2020	PB with 2:10.10 - second fastest time ever, second only to John Treacy's 2:09.15 in 1984. His previous best was 2:13.39.
Aoife Cooke	Marathon	Cheshire Elite April 2021	PB with 2.28.30, becoming fourth best Irish time ever.
Mixed Relay Team	Mixed Relay	World Athletics Relay May 2021	Qualified by Barr, O'Donnell, Healy, Mawdsley in what is a new event on the Olympic calendar
Thomas Barr	M400h	Finland 7 June 2021	Qualified with a time of 48.39 in Paavo Nurmi Stadium, Turku (FIN)
Michelle Finn	W3000sc		Qualified

STATUS OF NON-QUALIFIED ATHLETES

The best tracker for the current ranking status of athletes is [HERE](#).

CURRENTLY INSIDE RANKING (as of 17 June):

NAME	DISCIPLINE AND RANKING
Leon Reid	M200 m currently 38 (56 qualify)
Marcus Lawler	M200m currently 43 (56 qualify)
Mark English	M 800m currently 37 (48 qualify)
Andrew Coscoran	M 1500m currently 45 (45 qualify)
Phil Healy	W 200m currently 41 (56 qualify)
Phil Healy	W 400m currently 46 (48 qualify)
Nadia Power	W 800m currently 28 (48 qualify)
Siofra Cleirigh Buttner	W 800m currently 59 (48 qualify)
Sarah Healy	W 1500m currently 51 (45 qualify)
Kate O'Connor	W Heptathlon currently 23 (24 qualify)
David Kenny	M 20km Race Walk currently 56 (60 qualify)

CURRENTLY OUTSIDE RANKING:

Sarah Lavin	W 100mh currently 40 (40 qualify)
Rhasidat Adeleke	W 200m currently 79 (56 qualify)
Ciara Neville	W 100m currently 57 (56 qualify)
Eilish O'Flanagan	W 3000 SC currently 52 (45 qualify)
Kerry O'Flaherty	W 3000 SC currently 65 (45 qualify)
Christopher O'Donnell	M 400 currently 79 (48 qualify)
John Fitzsimons	M 800m currently 56 (48 to qualify)
Luke McCann	M 1500m currently 61 (45 to qualify)
Seán Tobin	M 5000m currently 47 (42 to qualify)
Brian Fay	M 3000m SC currently 65 (45 to qualify)
Colin Quirke	M Discus currently 54 (32 qualify)
Eric Favors	M Shot Putt currently 64 (32 qualify)
Brendan Boyce	M 20km Race Walk currently 67 (60 qualify)
Sharlene Mawdsley	W 400m currently 72 (48 qualify)
Louise Shanahan	W 800m currently 67 (48 qualify)
Phillipa Rogan	W High Jump currently 58 (32 qualify)
Anne Marie McGlynn	W Marathon currently 101 (80 qualify)
Ireland Team	W 4x100m currently 26 (16 qualify)
Ireland Team	W 4 x 400m currently 36 (16 to qualify)
Ireland Team	M 4x400m currently 49 (16 qualify)

BOXING

Boxing has undergone a new restructure, with the boxing in the Olympic Games being run by a task force under the IOC rather than AIBA.

Boxers were originally meant to have two opportunities to qualify for the games - the European Qualifier, and the World Qualifier. In February 2021 it was announced that the World qualifier would not be held, and that the European event, which was postponed after day two in 2020, would take place in London from the 4-8 June 2021. Six boxers have qualified through this event, with Kurt Walker waiting on final rankings. To date only one Irish boxer has been officially selected in the Men's Fly 48-52kg category. [FAQ HERE](#).

Brendan Irvine	Men's Fly	Qualified March 2020
Aidan Walsh	Men's Welterweight	Qualified June 2021
Emmet Brennan	Men's Light Heavyweight	Qualified June 2021
Michaela Walsh	Women's Flyweight	Qualified June 2021
Kellie Harrington	Women's Lightweight	Qualified June 2021
Aoife O'Rourke	Women's Middleweight	Qualified June 2021

[TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT FOR BRENDAN IRVINE HERE](#)

BADMINTON

In Badminton ranked events have officially closed, with Nhat Nguyen qualifying a spot for Ireland by finishing 26th in the final rankings, with the top 38 counting towards the 44 quota spots for Tokyo 2020 in the Men's Singles. Sam and Chloe Magee fell short of Olympic qualification in the Mixed Doubles. [TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT HERE](#).

CANOE SLALOM

Ireland has qualified one boat with Liam Jegou already selected for the C1 Slalom. The men's C1 boat was qualified via Robert Hendrick at the World Championships in 2019 - however, it was won in internal trials by Liam Jegou, who has been officially selected.

Liam Jegou was the first Team Ireland Announcement for Tokyo - [TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT HERE](#).

CYCLING ROAD

Qualification has ended for Road Cycling - with three spots being allocated to Ireland, with one athlete also competing in the Time Trial. The Road Cycling criteria is based on world nation ranking with UCI the year prior to the Games. 122 spots are allocated to men, 62 for women, with special provisions for highly ranked individuals whose nations do not make the ranking. Japan get 2 guaranteed spots in both the men's and women's road race as the host nation.

For the Time Trial the host nation must have qualified for the road race, and the top 30 men, and top 15 women in the world rankings may enter a time triallist. The 2019 World Championships offered an additional 10 places per gender, and each NOC can have a max of 2 time triallists.

Ireland qualified 3 athletes for the road race, with one of these also competing in the time trial.

CYCLING TRACK

Qualification has ended for Track Cycling - with four athlete spots being allocated to Ireland - a men's Madison team (of two) and a women's Madison team (of two). Each of these teams will also allow one athlete to compete in the Omnium, making it four events and four athletes.

Ireland qualified both the men's and women's teams via the UCI Track Cycling Rankings which concluded at the World Championships last year.

[TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT HERE.](#)

DIVING

Oliver Dingley was the first Irish diver to compete at the Olympics in 68 years when he competed in Rio. Dingley, Ciara McGing, Clare Cryan and Tanya Watson are seeking qualification. A strong showing by Tanya Watson and Oliver Dingley in the Final World Cup in Tokyo served them well and they await final rankings in June.

ATHLETES TO WATCH

WHO	DISCIPLINE	WHEN AND WHERE	ADDITIONAL NOTES
Tanya Watson	Women's 10m Platform	Tokyo at the FINA DIVING WORLD CUP	Finished 16 th in Prelims with a score of 271.85 points. Top 18 qualified
Oliver Dingley	Men's 3M Springboard	Tokyo at the FINA Diving World Cup	Made the finals of the FINA Diving World Cup

EQUESTRIAN

Tokyo 2020 will be very special for the Equestrian team, as it will be the first time that three teams will have qualified for the Olympic Games; dressage, eventing and showjumping.

DISCIPLINES	WHEN	WHERE
<u>Eventing</u>	11-9-28 to 23-9-18	2018 FEI World Equestrian Games, Tryon, USA
Dressage	19-8-19 to 25-8-19	European Dressage Championships, Rotterdam, NL
Showjumping	3-10-19 to 6-10-19	2019 Jumping Nations Cup Final, Barcelona, Spain

Each team will include a reserve athlete and horse.

HOCKEY

The Irish women's hockey team made history in November 2019 when they became the first Irish women's hockey team to qualify for the Olympics, beating Canada in Ireland.

There was heartbreak for the men's team who narrowly missed out on the one available spot in the qualifiers against Canada.

There will be a squad of 16 athletes competing, with two reserves travelling.

GOLF

Qualification for both the men's and women's competition is based on world ranking with the IGF.

The Olympic field is restricted to 60 players for each of the men's and women's game. The top 15 world ranked players will be eligible for the Olympics, with a limit of four players from a given country. Beyond the top 15 players will be eligible based on the world rankings, but with a maximum of two eligible players from each country that does not already have two or more players among the top 15.

Allocations for this will be late, and at this stage the rankings look as follows in [THIS LINK](#):

Men's Golf:

7th - Rory McIlroy,

19th - Shane Lowry

Women's Golf:

35th - Leona Maguire

37th - Stephanie Meadow

GYMNASTICS - ARTISTIC

Rhys McClenaghan secured qualification in the pommel following his bronze medal performance at the World Championships in 2019.

There are also male and female athletes in contention in the All Around event - with Adam Steele heading up the male event and has an opportunity to qualify at the European Championships in 2021.

Megan Ryan is currently first reserve, following her performance at the World Championships in 2019. Emma Slevin is second reserve, finishing just behind her at the World Championships. Should a nation who has already qualified a spot ahead of Ireland withdraw, this position will be offered to Ireland.

JUDO

Judo has three athletes on the qualification journey - Ben Fletcher (Men's -100kg), Megan Fletcher (Women's 70kg Middleweight) and Nathon Burns (Men's 66kg Half-Lightweight). All three are based in the UK, with Ben having competed in Rio for Team GB.

Host nation Japan can have one spot in all events. Qualification is earned through the IJF Ranking system as of May 2021. An additional 100 athletes will be qualified then based on continental representation across weight categories and gender, and athletes with the highest ranking points across the disciplines. Only one NOC spot per category, the top 18 in ranking will qualify for each. Both Ben and Megan Fletcher are sitting inside qualification currently (they are brother and sister).

The final rankings will be released shortly, with the hope being that we have two allocations as the last rankings had:

Ben Fletcher - ranked 17th in the 100kg category

Megan Fletcher - ranked 16th in the 70kg category

Nathon Burns - ranked 45th in the 66kg category.

MODERN PENTATHLON

At the European Championships 2019 Natalya Coyle was successful in qualifying a spot for Ireland in the Open Women category. Thirty six spots are available in each of the men's and women's events and up to two athletes from a NOC in each event.

Ireland has accepted a women's qualification allocation, which will be announced shortly.

ROWING

Rowing has qualified a record number of boats for the Olympics, with six boats heading to Tokyo, and still a good chance to get one or two more in the final qualification regatta before the Games.

The boats are:

Women's Single Scull - Sanita Puspure finished first in the World Championships 2019

Men's Lightweight Double Scull - Paul O'Donovan and Fintan McCarthy finished first in the World Championships 2019

Men's Double Scull - Philip Doyle and Ronan Byrne finished second in the World Championships 2019

Women's Pair - Aileen Crowley and Monika Dukarska finished seventh in the World Championships 2019

Women's Four (W4-) - qualified by Aifric Keogh, Eimear Lambe, Fiona Murtagh, Emily Hegarty

Women's Lightweight Double (LW2X) - qualified by Aoife Casey and Margaret Cremen

MEN'S RUGBY 7S

The men's team have one more chance to qualify, at the final Olympic Tournament next year, where there is one spot available. The Repechage competition is likely to take place in Monaco 2020 from 19-20 June (to be confirmed officially).

If they qualify it will be the first time Ireland will have competed at the Olympics in Rugby.

SAILING

Ireland has qualified two boats for Tokyo.

1. The Women's Laser Radial, which was achieved via Aisling Keller at the World Championships in 2019 - this position is set to be filled by Annalise Murphy, who has been nominated by the National Federation. Selection will be made once the process has been completed.
2. The 49er which was qualified by Robert Dickson and Sean Waddilove.

SHOOTING - SHOTGUN

Ireland's focus will be on the Men's and Women's Trap for Tokyo. There is still one remaining opportunity for Ireland to qualify - at the European Championships. Qualification for Tokyo is based on results in selected competitions, the process began in 2018. Host nation Japan is guaranteed one spot in each event.

Four quota places (two top teams per NOC) will be awarded to shooters competing in each of the mixed team events (rifle, pistol and trap), while the highest-ranked shooter, who has not qualified yet or whose NOC does not have a berth in any of the twelve individual events, will obtain a direct Olympic quota place through the World Rankings. The remaining twenty-four quota places are available to the eligible NOCs under the tripartite Commission invitation, with two in each event, including the trap. The NOC may assign a different shooter in each event, provided they achieve a minimum score.

There are still two spots available via the European Championships, one in the Olympic ranking, and two in the Tripartite invitation.

In the past Ireland has received invitations via a wildcard, and should receive an allocation.

SWIMMING

In January 2021 as a result of the COVID-19 related upheaval to the sporting calendar, the Swim Ireland selection criteria for the Olympic Games has been updated to allow for the adjusted event. This means that swimmers who achieved a FINA A Standard between 2019 and 2020 can be considered for Olympic nomination and selection. The remainder of the athletes must gain an A Standard at the Irish Open Championships in April (20th - 24th).

Shane Ryan and Darragh Greene have both achieved the A Standard and have been nominated. Mona McSharry and Daniel Wiffen have also achieved FINA A Standards.

Ireland also qualified a Men's 4 x 200m freestyle relay team which was qualified by Jack McMillan, Finn McKeever, Jordan Sloan, Gerry Quinn.

TIMES ACHIEVED

Darragh Greene (100m Breaststroke, 200m Breaststroke),

Shane Ryan (100m Backstroke),

Daniel Wiffen (800m Freestyle),

Mona McSharry (100m Breaststroke)

TAEKWONDO

Jack Woolley secured qualification for the Tokyo Olympics based on his final Olympic rankings in January 2020. There are still three spots available in other weight classes in the European Qualification Tournament scheduled for January 2021.

There are 8 taekwondo divisions at the Olympics, 4 male and 4 female. 16 will compete in each category.

Jack is the first Irish person to qualify to compete in Taekwondo at the Olympics, and he will be competing in the Men's -58kg category.

He has been officially selected. Team Announcement [HERE](#)

TRIATHLON

The qualification period will run up until May 2021 (TBC) and 55 athletes will compete in the men's and in the women's events. A max of 3 athletes can compete for each nation, and as host nation, Japan gets two spots in each event.

World Triathlon have announced that the window will open again for six weeks from May - June 2021.

Two spots per gender will be awarded based on the Tripartite Commission Invitation.

The current status of the athletes are as follows:

Men

Sitting inside qualification - Russell White - [currently ranked 59](#)

Con Doherty - [currently ranked 110](#)

Women

Sitting inside qualification - Carolyn Hayes - [currently ranked 52](#)