



2023 Annual Performance Strategy

GB Senior Squad and Team
Lead, Boulder & Combined

HEALTH. PERFORMANCE. RESPECT

IFSC Senior in Lead, Boulder & Combined

1. Purpose of the Annual Performance Strategy

- 1.1. To outline and describe the approach that the GB Climbing Senior program will take in aspiring to achieve our high-level performance objectives.
- 1.2. Communicate with clarity all relevant performance standards and parameters to athletes and coaches.
- 1.3. The annual performance strategy will be published each year during the pre-season period.

2. Performance Ambitions & Objectives

2.1. Our overarching long-term ambition is to:

Establish GB Climbing as the World's Leading Competition Climbing Nation by 2032.

2.2. Within the next 3 years, GB Climbing will:

Develop a **sustainable performance system** that:

- Can produce a cohort of athletes who can consistently qualify for finals and semi-finals at Senior World and/or European Cups or qualify to the finals at Junior World Championships, and who have gained the skills and experience needed to progress into and thrive within a GB Climbing environment.
- Learns, iterates, and improves; to ensure that it can continue to produce GB athletes that are ready to win on the world stage.

2.3. Our Performance Ambitions are:

CYCLE	OLYMPIC GAMES	SENIOR PERFORMANCE	JUNIOR PERFORMANCE
2020-2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x Athlete Qualified to the Paris Summer Games (Dual Combined) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x Senior World Cup Medalists • 2 x European Championship Medalists • IFSC Team World Ranking of Top 8 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x World Youth Championship Medalists • 4 x European Youth Cup Medalists

2.4. Our 2023 Strategic Objectives are to:

- 2.4.1. Accelerate athletes achieving relevant performance standards to maximum quota places for the 2024 Paris Olympic Games, Boulder & Lead Combined event;
- 2.4.2. Accelerate athletes achieving relevant performance standards and achieve Paris 2024 medal success;
- 2.4.3. Continue to evolve the GB Climbing High Performance Programme by provide opportunities and experiences for the long-term development of athletes who have the ability to deliver podium success at future world level competition including, LA 2028 and Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games.
- 2.4.4. Field a competitive World Cup team with athletes capable of attaining a top 40 World Ranking.

3. 2023 Season Strategy

GB Climbing will implement the following tactics to support the delivery of these strategic objectives:

- 3.1. Utilise Individual Athlete Development Plan (IADP) process to strategically optimise both individual training cycles and international competition attendance.
- 3.2. Select a focused team of athletes who are ready to compete at an international standard as evidenced by performances at the National Team Trials and their previous competition performance history. (As set out in 2023 GB Senior Team Selection Framework)
- 3.3. Use a progressive selection process¹, utilising international data throughout the season to select for international competition and provide opportunities for “in-form” athletes.
- 3.4. Prepare for 2023 Olympic qualification by selecting combined athletes as a priority to World Cups, European Cups, and World Championships.
- 3.5. Identify competitive opportunities for junior athletes to breakthrough into the senior team to gain international exposure and integrate with set up.
- 3.6. Reduce the financial impact on self-funded athletes by creating logistics plans against IADP’s, providing opportunity for cost efficiency.

¹ See table in appendix 1

4. Strategy Considerations

- 4.1. Following the 2020/21 COVID-19 global pandemic, we anticipate minimal but potential on-going impacts with regards to international travel, competition cancellation and testing requirements. As such, GB Climbing will need to be flexible and adaptable to ensure the achievement of performance objectives.
- 4.2. As health is our first value, GB Climbing must be in a position to achieve the requirements set out in the Campaign Principles in order to field a team to any World Cup or European Cup event. As such, GB Climbing may choose to not field a team if Risk Assessment standards cannot be satisfied
- 4.3. To achieve our strategic objectives, GB Climbing may prioritise high performing athletes when attending international competition. E.g.) World Cup Team athletes may be prioritised at European Cup events where required.
- 4.4. Confirmed quota places, by competition

Competition	Male Boulder	Male Lead	Female Boulder	Female Lead
World Cup	4 Max Milne, prequalifies as Top 10 athlete	5	3	3
European Cup	4	4	4	4
European Games	2	1	0	1
World Championships	5	5	5	5

- 4.5. Key selection events are compulsory meets for all athletes who wish to be eligible for international competition. These include:
- National Team Trials (Boulder) – 18th/19th February (The Climbing Works)
 - National Team Trials (Lead) – 11th/12th March (Awesome Walls Sheffield)

5. Performance Standards

- 4.1. Our performance standards represent a set of clearly defined performance levels that provide athletes with a clear understanding on what to strive towards. These standards also allow us to ensure a clear trajectory to the achievement of key objectives and our overarching long-term team goals.
- 4.2. Performance standards will iterate, improve and shift to best reflect our understanding of what it takes to achieve on an international level, as well as our evolving performance objectives. The term capability describes the performance output that it is believed the athlete can achieve internationally based on the evidenced data points.
- 4.3. Our performance standards also serve a pragmatic function by informing the international selection process. The Selection Panel will use the performance standards to assist in selection decision making for the 2023 team squad and international events/competitions - World and/or European Cup and/or European Games and/or World Championship and/or European Continental Olympic Qualification Teams, as demonstrated within a competition and selection environment.

4.4. Performance Standards 2023 - Male Lead

Competition Standard	Qualification (Semi Final Progression)		Semi Final (Final Progression)		Final (Podium Finish)		Evidence
	Progression Standard	Performance Capability	Progression Standard	Performance Capability	Podium Standard	Performance Capability	
World Championship	8b+-8c Flash	75%	8c+-9a Onsight	80%	8c+-9a Onsight	75%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Results • Selection Events • Domestic Competitions • Coach perspective
World Cup	8b+-8c Flash	75%	8c+-9a Onsight	80%	8c+-9a Onsight	75%	
European Cup	8b+ Flash	75%	8b+-8c Onsight	80%	8b+-8c Onsight	75%	

4.5. Performance Standards 2023 - Female Lead

Competition Standard	Qualification (Semi Final Progression)		Semi Final (Final Progression)		Final (Podium Finish)		Evidence
	Progression Standard	Performance Capability	Progression Standard	Performance Capability	Podium Standard	Performance Capability	
World Championship	8a+-8b+ Flash	70%	8b+-8c Onsight	75%	8c-9a Onsight	80%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Results • Selection Events • Domestic Competitions • Coach perspective
World Cup	8a+-8b+ Flash	70%	8b+-8c Onsight	75%	8c-9a Onsight	80%	
European Cup	8a-8a+ Flash	70%	8b Onsight	75%	8b-8b+ Onsight	80%	

4.6. Performance Standards 2023 - Male Boulder

Competition Standard	Qualification (Semi Final Progression)	Semi Final (Final Progression)	Final (Podium Finish)	Evidence
	Progression Standard	Progression Standard	Podium Standard	
World Championship	3 Tops 5 Zones	2 Tops 4 Zones	3 Tops 4 Zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Results • Selection Events • Domestic Competitions • Coach perspective
World Cup	3 Tops 5 Zones	2 Tops 4 Zones	3 Tops 4 Zones	
European Cup	2 Tops 3 Zones	2 Tops 3 Zones	2 Tops 3 Zones	

4.7. Performance Standards 2023 - Female Boulder

Competition Standard	Qualification (Semi Final Progression)	Semi Final (Final Progression)	Final (Podium Finish)	Evidence
	Progression Standard	Progression Standard	Podium Standard	
World Championship	3 Tops 5 Zones	3 Tops 4 Zones	3 Tops 3 Zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Results • Selection Events • Domestic Competitions • Coach perspective
World Cup	3 Tops 5 Zones	3 Tops 4 Zones	3 Tops 3 Zones	
European Cup	2 Tops 3 Zones	2 Tops 3 Zones	2 Tops 3 Zones	

4.8. Performance Standards 2023 – Boulder & Lead Combined

Competition Standard	Primary Discipline Capability	Secondary Discipline Capability	Evidence
World Championship	Top 20% field finish	Top 30% field finish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Results • Selection Events • Domestic Competitions

* Percentage expression above is based on the evidenced balance between each discipline and for each gender.

5. GB Climbing Performance Pathway

The GB Climbing Performance Pathway aims to clearly define our progressive performance focus through a framework within which talented athletes can thrive towards future success behind a clear shared vision.

Pathway Tier	UKS Program	Level	Target	Performance Focus
Sustained Success	Podium	IFSC World Cup	Finals and Podiums	World Class Excellence – podium performance
Success	Academy		Consistent Semi Finals and Finals	World Class – finals consistency
Competitive	Confirmation		Semi Finals	Highly competitive – stepping up to perform at WC semi-final standard
		European Finals	Compete at European level to develop performance capabilities	
Breakthrough		IFSC European Cup	European Semi Finals	Gaining exposure in senior competition as a transitioning junior

6. UK Sport Funded Program

6.1. From 2022 GB Climbing will be working closely with UK Sport to access athlete support investment where appropriate. This support will be aligned to high potential individuals to prepare them for a life in high performance sport. An essential part of this will be the support of athletes looking to be ready for Academy level, targeting the LA 2028 or Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games.

7. Confidentiality

7.1. Athletes, coaches and parents must not disclose any information regarding the Annual Performance Strategy nor share its details with wider parties.

8. International Competition Targets – Boulder & Lead

8.1. In 2023 GB Climbing will look to take a strategic approach to the attendance of international competition to balance the achievement of performance objectives. As such, the following represents the proposed international campaign:

Competition Category	Competition
World Cup Boulder	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hatchioji (JPN) 2. Seoul (KOR) 3. SLT (USA) 4. Prague (CZE) 5. Brixen (ITA) 6. Innsbruck (AUT)
World Cup Lead	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Innsbruck (AUT) 2. Villars (SUI) 3. Chamonix (FRA) 4. Briancon (FRA) 5. Koper (SLO)
European Continental Cup Boulder	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Liebana (ESP) 2. Loveral (BEL)
European Continental Cup Lead	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Zilina (SVK)
World Championships and Major Games	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bern (SUI) – WCH 2. Krakow (POL) - EG
Olympic Qualification Events	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Laval (FRA)

Appendix 1 - Progressive selection process overview and proposed dates for team selection

		Boulder			
Information	Selection Stage 1	Selection Stage 2a	Selection Stage 2b	Selection Stage 3	Selection Stage 4
Date	Wk commence 20/03/2023	Wk Commencing 10/04/2023	Wk commence 01/05/2023	Wk commence 10/07/2023	TBC – Oct/Nov 2023
Target Competitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chambery BCC Liebana BCC Hatchioji BWC Seoul BWC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loveral BCC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prague BWC Brixen BWC Innsbruck BWC Krakow European Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bern WCH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selection to 2024 GB Senior Team
Information Used	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2023 National Trials 2022 International Data 2022 Domestic Performance Coach Perspective 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2023 International Data 2023 National Trials 2022 International Data Coach Perspective 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2023 International Data 2024 National Trials 2023 Domestic Competition Coach Perspective
		Lead			
Date	Wk commence 25/04/2023	Wk commence 10/07/2023	Wk commence 15/08/2023	TBC – Oct/Nov 2023	
Target Competitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Innsbruck LWC Villars LWC Chamonix LWC Briancon LWC Zilina LCC Krakow Euro Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bern WCH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Koper LWC Laval Olympic Continental Qualifier 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selection to 2024 GB Senior Team 	
Information Used	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2023 National Trials Welsh Open Lead 2022 International Data 2022 Domestic Performance Coach Perspective 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2023 International Data 2023 National Trials Welsh Open Lead 2022 International Data Coach Perspective 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2023 International Data 2024 National Trials 2023 Domestic Competition Coach Perspective