



Athlete Talent ID Program

The recent poor results of the Junior Squad at the 2008 European and Junior Worlds Championships have illustrated the necessity to change strategies to produce athletes capable of producing competitive World Class Performances

Current conditions limiting the ability of young athletes being able to produce World Class Performances:

Clubs

- Lack of training time
- Lack of success or absence of a Long Term Athlete Plan
- Lack of Professional Educated Coaches
- Lack of Club Leaders with current international knowledge of what is necessary to produce results at the Junior or Comen Cup age
- Lack opportunity to compete internationally

Education

- Current educational system lacks the willingness to allow athletes to combine full time training and part time school
- Lack of Educational Leaders with the vision to allow flexibility in individualising education for athletes

The Athlete Talent ID Program has been developed to address many of the current issues

- Increase training time to allow World Class development of Talent Identified young athletes
- Follow a proven successful training program
- Provide the opportunity for young athletes to train part time and attend school part time – school dependent
- Opportunity for coach education by working with NPD
- Increase the athletes opportunity to participate at Comen/Junior and Senior events
- Individualised training to prepare the athletes for International Competition and produce World Class Performances.
- Athletes will need to live in the area of the HPTC. All current selected athletes meet this requirement
- Increase GB results in the Senior/Junior and Comen age competitions.
- Athletes will be eligible to compete for GB in the Junior and Senior competitions. Comen Cup if age eligible.



Athlete Talent ID Program

Criteria for athlete's eligibility: Age 13 – 18 (must not exceed age 18 in the competitive year. Comen or Junior age eligibility)

Senior athletes are ineligible athletes for this program.

Up to 4 athletes per year will be selected to receive £1000 APA by the NPD.

Talent ID athletes will be considered for selection to Junior, Senior and Comen events.

Talent ID athlete/s will automatically receive invites to HPTC Selection camps

The Talent ID athletes selected by the NPD they will have the following 3 options:

1. **Full participation to the HPTC** – The athlete then becomes a full time HPTC athlete and receives the appropriate APA award
2. **Part time participation to the HPTC** – APA award at 50 % of the APA level. Amount to increase based on training at the HPTC percentage. Train 70% at the HPTC = 70% of APA
3. **APA and remain at their respective clubs.** £1000 APA level with the opportunity to be invited to the HPTC by the NPD

Option 2. Part Time Participation:

- Full participation at selected competitions (NPD to identify the selected competitions)
- Full participation at selected camps (NPD to identify selected camps domestically and abroad)
- Part time participation at the HPTC – schedule to worked out with athlete and HPD. Training hours to be determined by NPD but must not be less than 50% of pool time and 50% of dry land time. The pool hours must be completed at the HPTC in regular training hours
- Current 2008 hours are:
- *Strength and Conditioning Total time = 16 hours at 50% = 8 hours*
- *Pool time = 29 per week at 50% = 14.5 hours*
- *Minimal time allowed = 22.5 hours*
- Athlete will be considered for the HPTC routines at the discretion of the NPD/HC
- Athlete will represent GB in the Comen/Junior? Senior events depending on selection by the NPD
- Athlete may represent her club at the British Championships if sanctioned to attend by the NPD. This will depend on the competition schedule each year.
- The athlete will be responsible to augment her training as directed by the NPD



Option 3. APA and remain at their respective clubs.

- Athletes remain with their clubs under the supervision of the NPD
- Athletes are invited to train with the HPTC on Saturdays at Bisham Abbey.
- Athletes will receive £1000 APA
- 2 Talent ID athletes may be added to the HPCT. In 2009 from June 1 to July 31 for the World Championships. The selection of these 2 athletes will be at the discretion of the NPD.
- The talent ID athletes selected by the NPD to the HPTC will have the opportunity to be selected to the Worlds Team and participate in International competitions. In 2009 the World Championships in Rome. Should the number of HPTC athletes exceed 12 athletes with the inclusion of the Talent ID athletes the number of athletes selected to World Championships will remain at 12. The selection of these 12 athletes will take place during the final preparation phase for the World Championships. This final selection for the Worlds Team may take place any time between June 1, 2009 and July 15, 2009.