

North Belfast Harriers A.C. | Established 1896

www.northbelfastharriers.com

Charity Nr XT30207



European Clubs Selection Policy

Updated 23/11/2024

Background

The Irish National Even Underage and Senior Cross Country Championships takes place one of the last Sundays in November every year. In recent years the top two teams in the Men's U20 & Senior and Female's U20 & Senior races have been given the opportunity to represent Ireland and send teams to the appropriate races in the European Clubs Cross Country Championships in Europe in February of the following year.

A team for the European Clubs Cross Country Championships is four to run with three to score. In addition, a club is expected to name an additional two reserves that will not compete unless one/two of the named four person team cannot compete.

In 2023 and 2024 NBH's Senior Men's team earned the opportunity to represent Ireland in the Senior Men's European Clubs Cross Country Championships having finished second in the National Male Senior Cross Country Championships.

Club's Commitment to Teams competing in the European Clubs Cross Country Championships.

The Committee of NBH and the club acknowledge the honour it is for a team from our club to represent Ireland at the European Clubs Cross Country Championships. It brings not just joy, positivity, honour and good publicity to those who competed to afford the club the opportunity but to all those that run and volunteer with the club. It clearly illustrates to all our members and particularly our young members that the club has a pathway to excellence and international competition for those athletes that have the ability and aptitude to seek that.

Competing at the European Clubs Cross Country Championships is often expensive and if a Team from the club is selected to compete they will be expected to generate some of the income themselves, via sponsorship, to contribute to the costs.

To aid teams in generating the funds to compete at the European Clubs Cross Country Championships the Club will consider contributing to a team's costs if they are unable to source all the necessary funding from sponsors.

Selection Policy

Having outlined the club's commitment to the European Clubs Cross Country Championships and in line with our inclusivity and team ethos our selection policy for a team to represent the club at the European Clubs Cross Country Championships is:

- The team should be selected in the order that they finished in the National Cross Country Championships i.e. the First four team members in the National Cross Country Championships will be the competing team. The fifth and sixth club placers at the National Championships will be the reserves (in the order of their finishing from the Nationals). If an individual indicates they cannot compete in the European Clubs Cross Country Championships their slot will go to the person that finished behind them in the National Cross Country Championships.

- If a number of people indicate they cannot compete in the European Clubs Cross Country Championships the above policy will be applied until all 8 individuals that competed in the National Championships have been offered the spots. If all 8 have been offered a spot and there is still a spot available to compete in the European Clubs Cross Country Championships a spot will be offered to the individual showing the best Cross Country form in the current season as proposed by the Race Committee and agreed by the club committee.
- The above policy will be strictly adhered to except in the exceptional circumstances that a club team could compete very well in the European Clubs Cross Country Championships and an individual that is pivotal to the success of the team cannot compete in the National Championships because of circumstances that the Race Committee believe to be reasonable and acceptable and which is agreed to by the Club Committee. That individual if available to compete at the European Clubs Cross Country Championships will be offered a spot on the four person team. However, this will be agreed prior to the Irish Championships and communicated to all those competing at the Irish Championships prior to their participation.