

WARRIOR GAMES 2020: SELECTION POLICY

Overview

The Department of Defense (DoD) Warrior Games were created in 2010 and designed to introduce wounded, ill and injured service members and veterans to competitive sports. The Marine Corps' Wounded Warrior Regiment will host the 2020 Warrior Games.

Competing against Marine Corps will be teams from the United States Army, Navy Air Force and SOCOM, as well as athletes from the Australian, Canadian, Netherlands and Denmark, as well as Team UK.

The Games will feature 11 adaptive sports: archery, athletics, cycling, golf, indoor rowing, powerlifting, shooting (using Olympic competition pellet guns), sitting volleyball, swimming, wheelchair basketball and wheelchair rugby.

Help for Heroes will be taking 20 competitors as part of Team UK out to the Warrior Games in September 2020.

Competitor Eligibility

Help for Heroes beneficiaries are subject to eligibility checks through the examination of medical documentation. Team UK competitors are also subject to the same eligibility checks and must supply the required documentation in order to meet the selection criteria.

Please be aware that eligibility will be confirmed as part of an individual's application process. For further information on eligibility, please read the Eligibility Policy (<https://www.helpforheroes.org.uk/media/442675/wg19-eligibility-policy-final.pdf>) or contact sportsrecovery@helpforheroes.org.uk.

Selection Principles

Help for Heroes fund and deliver Team UK to the Warrior Games with a focus on supporting individuals to have a positive experience at an international sports competition, which will empower and inspire them to move forward on their recovery journey. With this in mind, the primary selection principle for Team UK is *Recovery*.

Determining the potential benefits an individual may gain from attending an international sports competition from an application form alone is not simple. To aid this discussion, competitors submitted answers to the following questions, which will be taken into consideration:

Competitor Recovery Statements

- Why are you applying for the Warrior Games?
- What positive recovery benefit are you hoping to achieve from competing at the Warrior Games?
- Aside from the Warrior Games, what other recovery goals are you working towards in the next six months?
- Is there anything else Help for Heroes could be doing to support you in achieving these goals?

A new initiative in recent years is to include the option of providing a 'Referee' to support their application. Competitors could choose from the following list, including Charity Case Worker or Key Worker, Sports Coach, Medical Professional or to select 'I don't have anyone to ask'. For those who provided referees, the below statements will be considered as part of their application.

Referee Supporting Statements

- How well do you know the applicant?
- What positive recovery benefit do you believe the applicant could achieve from competing at the Warrior Games?
- Aside from the Warrior Games, what other recovery goals is the applicant working towards in the next six months?
- Is there anything else Help for Heroes could be doing to support the applicant in achieving these goals?
- Is there any further information that you would like to share with us?

Each competitor will be discussed with applicant names deleted from the statements, to try and ensure everyone is given a fair opportunity to represent their current potential recovery benefits without bias from previous experiences on Help for Heroes trips.

These principles will be assessed by a selection panel on 12th March 2020, comprising of:

- Team Manager (H4H staff)
- Sports Manager (H4H staff)
- Fellowship (H4H staff)
- Sports Lead (H4H staff)
- Welfare (H4H Staff)

Successful and non-successful applicants for Team UK for the Warrior Games 2020 will be alerted end of March 2020.

Further Information

For any questions regarding Team UK or the Warrior Games Programme run by Help for Heroes, please contact sportsrecovery@helpforheroes.org.uk or call 01980 844 270.