

**2021 Olympic Marathon Trial**  
**26 March 2021**  
**Kew Gardens, London**

**Overview**

Following the publication of the updated Tokyo Selection Policies, UK Athletics has confirmed that the Olympic Games marathon trial event will take place on a multi-lap course at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, on Friday 26 March 2021.

The venue was selected due to its ability to minimize issues that may arise as a result of the current pandemic. Following lengthy consultations across a host of stakeholders, the need to stage a race that could continue to be deemed viable under the potential of tightening Covid restrictions was a priority.

Due to Covid restrictions entry is via invitation only, with limited field sizes (circa 30 per gender) for Men and Women. The details of how athletes will be invited are outlined below.

**Athlete Invitations**

Athletes who achieve a British Athletics qualification standard within the qualification period will be invited to compete at the Olympic Marathon Trial.

1. Qualification performances must be achieved between 00:00 (GMT) 1 January 2019 and 23:59 (GMT) 6 December 2020.
2. The British Athletics qualification standards are as follows:

Men	Event	Women
64:30	Half Marathon	75:00
2:19:00	Marathon	2:42:00

3. In exceptional circumstances, athletes who feel they are genuine contenders to be selected for the 2021 Olympic Games Marathon but have not achieved a British Athletics qualification standard within the qualification period, may be considered for an invitation. Athletes who feel they meet this criteria should express an interest in competing to Maddy Ibbett ([mibbett@britishathletics.org.uk](mailto:mibbett@britishathletics.org.uk)) by 7 December 2020. Expressions of interest will be considered by the British Athletics Performance team.
4. Initial invitations will be sent directly to athletes on 25 November 2020 and athletes will have until 11 December 2020 to accept their invitation to compete.
5. Following the deadline for athletes to respond to their invitation, British Athletics will assemble a waiting list for athletes who have not achieved a qualification standard. These athletes may be invited to the race should places in the race become available. Athletes who wish to be considered for the waiting list should contact Maddy Ibbett ([mibbett@britishathletics.org.uk](mailto:mibbett@britishathletics.org.uk)) by 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020.