**ARMY ELITE SPORT PROGRAMME (AESP)**

**TALENTED ATHLETE SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME (TASS) SELECTION BOARD**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

1. **General**.TASS[[1]](#footnote-1) is an initiative that receives funding from Sport England with the following mission: *‘A world leading partnership between education and sport to help talented athletes in England fulfil their potential and balance their sporting development with their education and training.’*  TASS supports athletes who are currently unfunded by UK Sport and sit somewhere close to the standard required for entry into Podium/World Class Development programmes - although entry criteria can be agreed/set in consultation with stakeholders.  The Army Elite Sport Programme (AESP) has entered into an arrangement with TASS whereby Army athletes can receive TASS services either regionally in a TASS Accredited Centre (TAC)[[2]](#footnote-2) local to their unit or in the Army Elite Athlete Performance Centre in Aldershot. The Army’s TASS placements are funded by Army Sport through the Army Elite Sport Programme (AESP).

2. **Objective**. The principal objective of the AESP TASS Selection Board is to consider and select Regular and Reserve Army athletes for TASS placements in line with agreed funding and the baseline selection criteria outlined in paragraph 6 below.

3. **Tasking Authority**. CEO Army Sport, as Chairman of the AESP Project Board, is the Tasking Authority for the TASS Selection Board.

4. **Membership**. The ex-officio members of the AESP TASS Selection Board are:

a. CEO Army Sport - **Chairman**.

b. SO1 Workforce Policy, Pers Pol (A).

c. CO ASPT.

d. SO2 PD, Pers Pol (A).

e. TASS HQ – National Operations Manager.

f. Army Elite Sport Performance Manager (AESPM) - **Secretary (non-marking)**.

5. In addition, subject matter experts may be invited to attend as necessary.

6. **TASS Selection Criteria**. To be considered for TASS placement individuals must have a current recommendation from their Commanding Officer and the Operations Manager of the respective Army sport. Selection will be assessed against at least one of the following baseline criteria:

a. Great Britain athlete who is not part of UK Sport Podium/Podium Potential funded programme.

b. Home Country (HC)/Foreign and Commonwealth (F&C) representative athlete[[3]](#footnote-3).

c. An athlete who is recommended for a HC/F&C programme with sufficient evidence from the National Governing Body (NGB) of future potential/headroom to reach HC/F&C representative standard[[4]](#footnote-4).

d. Exceptional potential identified via Army Sport Operations Manager and/or UK Sport national recruiting campaign[[5]](#footnote-5).

e. An official whose sport requires a high level of physical fitness and is operating above UKAF sport at a national and/or international level[[6]](#footnote-6). There should be physical standards that must be met before the official can be selected to perform at this level. For instance, both Rugby Union, Rugby League and Association Football are examples where the Governing Body has set physical standards required of its officials.

7. **Submission Process**. Army Sport Operations Managers are to initiate the application at Annex A Part 1 and liaise with the athlete to complete Part 2 prior to submitting it to the respective Unit Chain of Command. The application should be returned to Head AESP after completion of Part 3. The application must be finalised by **Fri 21 Jun 24** ahead of the TASS Selection Board. Full contact details for Head AESP are as follows:

Lt Col (Retd) Tom Scarr

Head Army Elite Sport Programme

Mackenzie Building

Fox Lines

Queen’s Avenue

Aldershot

Hampshire GU11 2LB

Tel: 01252787056

Mob: 07940734675

Email: tscarr@britisharmysport.com

8. **Selection Board**. The AESP TASS Selection Board meets annually and this year it will sit on **Wed 10 Jul 24**. Selected personnel assume TASS placements in Sep 24 (in line with the academic year). Results of 10 Jul 24 Board will be announced on **Wed 24 Jul 24**.

9. **Army Elite Athlete Briefing Day**. The briefing day will take place on **Thu 26 Sep 24** in Aldershot. All selected athletes are expected to attend this event.

**Head AESP**

Annex:

A.Army Elite Sport Programme (AESP) Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme (TASS) Athlete Application V9 Dated 02 Apr 24.

**ARMY ELITE SPORT PROGRAMME (AESP)**

**Annex A to**

**TASS SB ToRs**

**Dated 02 Apr 24**

**TALENTED ATHLETE SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME (TASS) APPLICATION**

**(forward this section only)**

|  |
| --- |
| **Part 1 – Army Sport Operations Manager Comments:**  |
| Ranking in sport:Performance:Potential:Other relevant information: |
| **If there is more than one individual in this sport applying for TASS support, where is the applicant placed in order of precedence? Number: …..of……** |
|  | **Date:** |  | **Name:** |  |
|  | **Phone Number:** |  |

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| **Part 2 – Athlete Personal Details:** |
| Army Number: |  |
| Held Rank: |  |
| Forenames: |  |
| Surname: |  |
| Unit: |  |
| Regt/Corps: |  |
| Your main trade: |  |
| Date of Birth: |  |
| Unit and personal contact details: | Unit AddressPersonal Mobile:Personal Email: |
| **Principal Sport**: |  |
| Short Summary of Sporting Profile and Key Achievements: |  |
| State your coach’s name and contact details (mob phone and email). |  |
| Do you currently represent GB and/or a Home Country (if yes include as much detail as possible (e.g. full international or age group athlete)). |  |
| Have you been selected for a forthcoming major championship (if yes provide details *e.g. Olympic Games, World Championships, European Championships, Commonwealth Games, other*)? |  |
| **Athlete’s Comments (include what do you want to achieve in the coming year):** |  |
| **Date:** |

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| **Part 3\* – CO’s Comments:**  |
| The SP remains in a unit PID. Consider career/trade impact of up to three TASS engagement opportunities per week if successful (please delete on completion of comments).  |
|  | **Date:** |  | **Name:** |  | **Appointment:** |  |
|  | **Phone (Mil and Mobile):** |  | **Email:** |  |
|  | **Adjutant:****Phone (Mil and Mobile):****Email:** |  | **RCMO:****Phone (Mil and Mobile):****Email:****Return to Hd AESP once completed.** |  |

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| **Part 4 - Sporting NGB Comments:**  |
| Where is the applicant in terms of development in the sport; are they heading towards Home Nation or GB representation (please delete on completion of comments).  |
|  | **Date:** |  | **Name:** |  | **Appointment:** |  |
|  | **Phone:** |  | **Email:** |  |

**\*Indicates to be returned to the AESP Manager after Part 3 is completed. Applications must be returned by Fri 21 Jun 24.**

**Email:** **tscarr@britisharmysport.com**

**Mobile: 07940 734675**

1. TASS provides athlete support in the areas of Strength and Conditioning (S&C), Nutrition, Sport Psychology, Physiotherapy and Lifestyle Coaching. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. There are currently 33 TACs in England but also approved delivery sites in Scotland, Wales and NI. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. GB, England, Scotland, Wales, NI and F&C countries. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. This information is derived from the athlete training history questionnaire and recent competition results. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. This could be as part of Talent Identification (TID), Talent Transfer (TT) or Talent Confirmation (TC) programmes. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Agreed at the last AESP PB in Oct 20. The ASCB Trustees have granted additional funds in order to enable this new aspect of the AESP. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)