



WHOC 2026
HOOPERS TEAM GB
TRY OUTS & SELECTION CRITERIA
1 October 2025

Hoopers Team GB is formed under the ethos of equality, diversity and inclusion. The team will be ambassadors for Hoopers in Great Britain, acting under a spirit of outstanding sportsmanship and positive camaraderie both within the team and amongst those from other European teams.

Team selection will take place following a single Try Out to occur April of 2026, where those wishing to be in the team will have the chance to run WHOC course(s) based on the latest trends in European competition. In order to be considered for the team, attendance at the Try Outs is essential. Only in extenuating circumstances will handlers be considered for the team without attending the Try Outs, for example but not limited to: - serious illness, death of a close relative, family breakdown, environmental factors beyond the control of the participant. In such instance, application must be made in writing within 48 hours of the Try Outs to the management committee explaining the circumstances under which attendance wasn't possible. The cost of attending the Try Out is at the participants own expense. The date of the Try Out will be set no less than 2 months before the event.

Handler and dog partnerships will be assessed on the day. As guiding principles only, assessment may be based on the following factors: -

- steadiness on the startline
- distance competency/confidence of the dog
- distance handling box competency
- distance handling skills of the handler
- current skill competency as demonstrated on the course
- potential to learn gaps in skills
- course running accuracy, speed and competency
- a course win is notable but is not sufficient to automatically guarantee a place, multiple criteria will apply.

The selection committee reserve the right to not solely base selection on the achievements of a single day of Try Outs but may consider other factors such as: -

- Handlers and dogs experience e.g. current hoopers grade
- Performance at End of Year National events e.g. Tri-Score or National Finals
- Sporting attitude towards teammates and the team
- Willingness to contribute towards the functioning of the team both before and during the event
- All handlers must be at least 15 years of age
- Contribution towards fundraising efforts
- Whilst efforts are being made to raise funds towards the cost of attending the event, these cannot be guaranteed. As such all handlers must have the ability to self-fund the trip. This will include but is not limited to the costs of travel to and from the competition venue, accommodation and team kit.
- All handlers must be able to organise their own travel.

Team member invitations will be made at the end of April via email.

Queries regarding the Try Out and/or Selection Criteria can be made to: teamgb@caninehoopersuk.co.uk

More information can be found at <https://caninehoopersuk.co.uk/team-gb/> and <https://whoc.dog/>