



Olivia Weedon selected as Flagbearer for the Sarajevo and East Sarajevo 2019 European Youth Olympic Festival

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Olivia Weedon will have the honour of leading Team GB at the Opening Ceremony of the Sarajevo and East Sarajevo 2019 European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) after being announced as Flagbearer.

Weedon, who competes as a short track speed skater, was selected by her fellow athletes for the role after best displaying the One Team GB values at the pre-event Team Assembly.

The Hounslow-born skater will follow in her uncle Jon Eley's footsteps, after he carried the Union Flag into the Opening Ceremony of the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games.

Weedon will compete in the 500m, 1000m and 1500m, as well as the 3000m Mixed Relay alongside her teammates Theo Collins, Sophie Robertson and Ollie Rowe.

Sunday's Opening Ceremony will take place at the Koševo Stadium in Sarajevo, with 911 athletes from 46 countries expected to march.

The Games run between the 9th – 16th February and Team GB will be represented by 27 athletes across seven of the eight disciplines.

Lizzy Yarnold, Team GB's most successful ever Winter Olympian, participated in the pre-Games Team Assembly as an Athlete Ambassador, sharing her expertise and multi-sport experiences with the team ahead of their departure.



insight into the experience proving invaluable to all athletes.

"I'm pretty shocked to have been chosen, but I'm also very excited because I can actually present Team GB to everyone, said 16-year-old Weedon.

"It's such a massive honour, just to be able to walk out first with the flag. I can't even imagine what it's going to feel like.

"Lizzy Yarnold was telling us all about her experience and by listening to her - I can't wait for that to be me.

"I'll probably give my uncle a quick call and ask him for some tips. Everyone has said to try and hold the flag with one hand but I'm not sure that's going to be a good idea, but I'll definitely ask him how not to drop it!"

Lewis Coggins, Team GB's Chef de Mission for Sarajevo 2019 said, "Being voted by your peers as Flagbearer is a huge honour, so Olivia should be extremely proud to lead the team out at this Sunday's Opening Ceremony and I hope she enjoys the experience.

"The team arrived in the Athlete Village today and have settled into the environment very quickly. We look forward to starting with the sport on Monday in what hopefully is a successful Games for Team GB."

Team GB at Sarajevo 2019:

Alpine Skiing:

- Charles Rankin – aged 17 from Bonnyrigg, Midlothian
- Daisi Daniels – aged 16 from Rochdale, Greater Manchester
- Edouard Guignonnet – aged 17 from Les Menuires, France
- Oliver Weeks – aged 17 from Leamington Spa, Warwickshire
- Olivia Foster – aged 18 from Leatherhead, Surrey
- Owen Vinter – aged 17 from Glasgow, Scotland
- Sarah Woodward – aged 17 from North Warnborough, Hampshire
- Victoria Palla – aged 18 from Moedling, Austria

Biathlon:

- Shawna Pendry – aged 16 from Font Romeu, France

Cross-Country Skiing:

- Alexander Franks-Penty – aged 17 from Hvalsted, Norway
- Beinn Horsfall – aged 17 from Quaix-en-Chartreuse, France

Curling:

- Angus Bryce – aged 16 from Kelso, Scotland



Robyn Williams – aged 16 from Stranraer, Scotland

Figure Skating:

Genevieve Sommerville – aged 16 from Derby, Derbyshire

Joseph Zakipour – aged 16 from Nottingham, Nottinghamshire

Short Track Speed Skating:

Olivia Weedon – aged 16 from Twickenham, London

Ollie Rowe – aged 15 from Ashford, Middlesex

Sophie Robertson – aged 15 from Newark, Nottinghamshire

Theo Collins – aged 15 from Guildford, Surrey

Snowboarding:

Ethan Smith – aged 15 from Southampton, Hampshire

Gabe Adams – aged 15 from Bridgnorth, Shropshire

Lara Cabrera-Myram – aged 15 from Houston, Scotland

Leon Drynan – aged 16 from Lochwinnoch, Scotland

Lewis Moore – aged 15 from Glasgow, Scotland

Luca Lane-Hopkins – aged 16 from Swansea, Wales

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