

Selection Policy

Part 1

The Gymnastics Ireland Selection Policy is divided into two parts:

Part 1 - A generic document for all disciplines

Part 2 - Outlines the technical criteria for the target event

The following documents support the Selection Policy:

- (i) Expression of Interest Form
- (ii) Financial Agreement
- (iii) Delegation Nomination Form

Selection Policy Part 1

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Definitions

BOGI	Board of Gymnastics Ireland
CEO	Chief Executive Officer (Gymnastics Ireland)
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)	Form completed by club for entry of gymnast and adults to international selection process
FIG	Federation Internationale de Gymnastique
UEG	European Union of Gymnastics
OFI	Olympic Federation of Ireland
IOC	International Olympic Council
SP	Sport Ireland
GI	Gymnastics Ireland
GI MEMBER (Gymnast)	In order to compete in/for Ireland a gymnast must be a GI registered “Competitive Member” and attached to a club.
GI MEMBER (Adult)	Must be a GI member
HEAD COACH	Lead coaching role that may be appointed and who will travel to an international event
FINANCIAL AGREEMENT (FA)	A signed agreement by the gymnast (& parent/guardian) to pay costs outlined in the financial agreement
HEAD OF DELEGATION (HOD)	The person, selected by GI, who has overall responsibility for taking the team to an international event
HOJ	Head of Judging
HP	High Performance
HP Committee (HPC)	The Committee appointed by the BOGI responsible for the ongoing development of the GI HP strategy/policy, HP operational and financial plans, oversight on HP funding applications and the development and implementation of GI selection policies.
NPC	The appointed National Performance Coach of a discipline
PTM	Performance & Technical Manager (Gymnastics Ireland)
PWM	Policy Welfare Manager (Gymnastics Ireland)

1.0 Expression of Interest Form	
1.1 Event Category	Event clubs wish to nominate persons for.
1.2 Performance Planning	Profiles of Gymnasts/Coaches to be completed by clubs.
1.3 Club and Facility	Facility availability and suitability in terms of producing performance.
1.4 The Adult/Coach Profile	Qualifications, knowledge/experience, and ability to plan & prepare gymnasts, the capacities and ability to meet all requirements of a coach when travelling to international events.
1.5 The Gymnasts Profile	<p>Capacities</p> <p>Technical: Ability to meet/maintain the technical standards.</p> <p>Mental: Able to cope with the environment, pressures of competition, travelling and staying away.</p> <p>Physical: Must be fit and strong enough to cope with the skill and competition level.</p> <p>Lifestyle & Personal: A gymnast's lifestyle and personal capacities are taken into consideration.</p>
1.6 Long Term Development	Gymnast development goals. (Gymnasts year plan must be submitted with their intended international pathway outlined).
1.7 Financial Agreement	To be returned by the deadline stated on any FA form provided for the event.

2.0 Competition Goals	The target(s) for competitions are highlighted on the Selection Policy Part 2
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3.0 Selection Process	
<p>A Selection Policy Part 2 will be developed and published for FIG & UEG competitions and Games for competing disciplines.</p> <p><i>Selection Policies Parts 1 and 2 support selection to the following international events in line with FIG criteria:</i></p> <p>FIG/UEG Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ European Championships ➤ World Championships ➤ World Games ➤ World Student Games <p>Olympic Event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ European Youth Olympic Festival ➤ European Youth Olympic Games ➤ European Games ➤ Olympic Games <p>NB - If Ireland qualify a country quota from a qualifying event through to a major international such as an Olympic Games Test Event, Olympic Games, World Games, European Games or other championships specified, Part 2 of the Selection Policy will be published outlining the specific selection criteria.</p> <p>The PTM will develop Part 2 of the Selection Policy and forward the policies to the HPC for ratification and subsequently to the OFI/relevant agency for final ratification.</p> <p>Exceptions are Senior World Cup/Grand Prix events and friendly internationals whereby selection will be decided by the PTM in conjunction with NPC.</p>	

Completion of selection process: Achieving a performance standard/score or rank gives no right or guarantee of selection. The final selection decision will be taken by the PTM and relevant NPC bearing in mind gymnast(s) rank following completion of selection process and with consideration of identified capacities as outlined in this document (1.5) with the final decision being submitted to the HPC for ratification.

Post selection all gymnasts must maintain standards or they could be de-selected by the PTM and NPC.

A gymnast's training may be viewed at any point.

At the targeted event/competition the PTM and NPC/Head Coach will have the final decision on a team/gymnast's running order and apparatus selection. This may only be finalised following podium training in line with FIG rules.

3.1	The approved GI Selection Policy and EOI Form (and FA form, where applicable) will be issued to clubs normally 3 weeks before the first trial. The EOI form will have an entry closing date inserted (normally 1 week before trial). Gymnasts on the HP program can express interest through their personal year plan.
3.2	The trial process should not exceed 4 months.
3.3	All trials must follow FIG/UEG rules; the use of soft landings or presence of a coach may be approved in special circumstances on skills above a certain value, requests for this must be submitted to the PTM for approval.

4.0 Gymnast Qualification – A gymnast could achieve a qualification score by one of the following methods:

4.1 International Competitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Score from a FIG/UEG recognised competition approved by PTM or ➤ Score from International competition approved by PTM <p><i>N.B. A score could be achieved after a named trial or approved event and put into rank order but must be achieved before the selection announcement date.</i></p> <p>Gymnasts who have not achieved the selection score as above or who rank lower than other gymnasts scores and wish to improve rank must compete in the trial.</p>
4.2 Competitions/ trials outlined in Part 2	<p>Gymnasts must achieve the total qualification score as per Part 2 of the Selection Policy.</p> <p>Gymnasts cannot carry part scores from other trials/competitions to gain an all-around score unless it is a team event.</p> <p>Gymnasts must obtain scores in trial(s) and/or approved competitions as outlined in Part 2 unless:</p> <p>A. If the total selection score is achieved in an approved competition or selection event, the gymnast may opt out of trial(s) if approved by the PTM.</p> <p>B. In trials where the number of gymnasts to be selected is less or equal to the number of places available, if the selected score is achieved in a selection event/approved competition before the trial process is completed, the PTM may agree to allow the gymnast to be ranked (i.e. not compete in remaining trials).</p>
4.3 National Championships	A National Championship can be used as a trial if in a suitable time frame to the event, if approved by the PTM.
4.4 Exceptions (i) World Cup Event (ii) Grand Prix (iii) Friendly International	<p>A Selection Policy Part 2 will not be developed for the listed exceptions. Selection to these events will be based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual year & performance plans approved by PTM (which could be subject to change) • Previous results in GI approved events or major FIG/UEG results. • Selection will be made by PTM in conjunction with NPC. • Nomination of selection is submitted by PTM to the PWM and CEO.

4.5 Training Camp Type Events	<p>A Selection Policy will not be developed for training camp events. The selection to training camps is made by the PTM and NPC.</p> <p>Upon GI receiving an invitation to a training camp, selection will be based on the following (and consideration given to the number of places available at the camp for both gymnasts and coaches): Gymnasts may not always be selected for educational camps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gymnast’s capacities - Gymnast’s fitness must be of the appropriate standard - Gymnast’s appropriate age - Consideration given on National Competition results and squad testing results - Coaches capacities - The coach’s past experience and potential ability - The coach must agree to a post event workshop
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5.0 Ranking of Gymnasts

5.1 Rank Order	<p>The highest score in a single trial/approved competition along with final event scores if relevant subject to the approval of the PTM/HPC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gymnasts will rank as 1st place, 2nd place and so on. This will be directly relevant to the number of places GI nominate available for selection as outlined in Part 2. - Selection scores and recommended start values will be set in Part 2 of the Selection Policy and based on the standard of the international event (i.e. if targeted event is European Championships then the rank will be determined against previous European Championships in line with the HP Strategy 2020+). - All-around scores will have a priority over selection, unless a gymnast/ group has demonstrated an individual apparatus/routine with the standard to be able to challenge for a final or medal as per HP Strategy 2020+.
5.2 Tolerance Score	<p>Gymnasts may have an allowance of a 0.5 tolerance under the official overall selection score; however they must achieve a minimum of 2 scores within the tolerance of the overall selection score to be considered for selection.</p>
5.3 Tie Breaks	<p>In the event of a tie, FIG tie break rules will apply – refer to http://www.fig-gymnastics.com</p>

6.0 Judging Panels for Trials

6.1	A selected Judging Panel with at least 1 brevet Judge on the up to date cycle where possible.
6.2	All GI National and Brevet Judges to be ranked to form the top Judging panel for trials.
6.3	Independent panel where possible in controlled trials – an option to use a non-GI member as an Independent Brevet Judge may be used.
6.4	Judges to present scores before the end of each rotation – Head Judge for the day must ensure this happens.

7.0 Participation in the Trial Process – Eligibility	
7.1 Membership	Must be a member of GI and an affiliated GI club or a carded or centralised gymnast.
7.2 Citizenship	Must hold an IRISH passport.
7.3 National Squad	All gymnasts who wish to trial must be on the appropriate level of National Squad.
7.4 Expression of Interest Form	EOI form to be fully completed by the club of any gymnasts intending to participate in the trial for team selection and received by GI before the stated deadline. Senior Gymnasts on the HP Program can express interest by their personal year plan through their coach/club.
7.5 Financial Agreement	For international events, gymnast/parents/guardians must complete the Financial Agreement and must have complied with the terms of any prior Financial Agreement and repaid all monies owing by gymnast to GI (unless otherwise agreed by GI). Completed form returned by the club must be received by GI by the stated deadline.
7.6 FIG Licence	Gymnasts must hold a FIG licence for Ireland. The PTM must approve all FIG licence requests. GI will apply for licences on behalf of gymnasts after approval from the PTM and all applications must contain the GI company seal and signature of the Chairman.
7.7 Age	Fulfil FIG/UEG regulations for competition and dates for eligibility entry regulations to the event (DOB).

8.0 Reserves	
8.1	Gymnasts, who have gone through the trial process and placed in the reserve position achieving the selection criteria, may be in a non-travelling position or a travelling position subject to approval by the PTM and NPC .
8.2	The reserve selection will be as per rank for selection as per FIG/UEG rules.
8.3	If any group/pair selected have to withdraw due to unforeseen circumstances (i.e. a member is injured or family bereavement) the next ranked group or pair will gain selection provided they have the selection score.
8.4	If no further rank, then a gymnast may be replaced within a group or pair subject to approval by PTM and NPC. The gymnast must maintain selection standards.
8.5	Reserve gymnasts who replace a position on a team due to a withdrawal of a selected gymnast will be notified by GI, once approved by PTM and NPC.
8.6	In extreme circumstances where a reserve gymnast has not been named or achieved the selection score for either a team or individual competition, the PTM may select an alternate gymnast who has in the PTM's opinion demonstrated the appropriate standard for the competition in question.

9.0 Coach Criteria - In order to be considered, a coach must fulfil the following criteria:	
9.1	A member of GI.
9.2	Must fulfil FIG/UEG regulations for competitions.
9.3	Submit EOI Form and Financial Agreement (if applicable) to GI Office by the stated deadline OR independently selected by the PTM with the approval of the PWM.
9.4	Coaching qualification to be approved by Coach Education Manager.
9.5	Have completed the Garda/Access NI vetting process with GI.
9.6	Provide evidence of attendance at SI/SportNI/Governing Body recognised Safeguarding Workshop.
9.7	If selected, must complete and sign all international travel forms including "Coaches Code of Conduct" prior to travelling and attend any pre training camp and stay for the full duration of event unless otherwise agreed with the HOD.

10.0 Coach Selection	
<p>GI may at its discretion annually appoint a NPC per discipline. If the role exists, such a person may travel to International Events as Head Coach as per the Delegation Nomination form. (In the event of the NPC not attending an event, a Head Coach may be nominated by the NPC, PTM and approved by the PWM).</p> <p>The NPC or nominated Head Coach will have the responsibility for making all tactical decisions in team/individual situations in conjunction with the HOD.</p> <p>Coaches may be listed on the Delegation Nomination Form for consideration in line with GI policies.</p> <p>All coaches will be expected to work with and carry out instructions from the NPC (or the nominated Head Coach), in conjunction with the PTM.</p> <p>The following criteria will be considered when selecting coaches:</p>	
10.1	Medal - coach with any gymnasts most likely to medal.
10.2	Final - coach with any gymnasts likely to be in a final.
10.3	A coach with the most gymnasts competing.
10.4	Ability to coach all gymnasts regardless of difficulty/routines.
10.5	The coach must have experience and be able to cope under stress, be competent and knowledgeable and meet all coaching capacities.
10.6	Can meet any requirements for the team.
10.7	Appropriate gender based ratios.
10.8	Where space is available, and extra accreditations can be bought, personal coaches may be able to travel subject to PTM and PWM approval.

11.0 Judge Selection – the following will be considered:	
11.1	Member of GI and hold an Irish passport if required by FIG.
11.2	EOI form and FA form must be received to Gymnastics Ireland by the stated deadline OR independently selected by the PTM and approved by the PWM.
11.3	FIG Judging qualification.
11.4	Must fulfil FIG/UEG regulations for competitions.
11.5	Have completed the Garda/Access NI vetting process with GI.
11.6	Provide evidence of attendance at SI/SportNI/Governing Body recognised Safeguarding Workshop.
11.7	Complete and sign all international travel forms including “Delegation Member Code of Conduct” before the Delegation travels.
11.8	Highest ranked judges.
11.9	Most experienced in judging international events.

12.0 Chaperones (may be appointed if required subject to GI approval). The following criteria will be considered:	
12.1	Member of GI.
12.2	EOI form and FA form to be sent to GI or consideration by the stated deadline OR independently selected by the PTM.
12.3	The chaperone must be experienced, be able to cope under stress, be competent, known to the majority of gymnasts.
12.4	Have completed the Garda/Access NI vetting process with Gymnastics Ireland
12.5	Provide evidence of attendance at SI/SportNI/Governing Body recognised Safeguarding Workshop.
12.6	Required to ensure appropriate gender based ratio.
12.7	If selected, must complete and sign all international travel forms including “Delegation Member Code of Conduct” prior to travelling.

13.0 Head of Delegation Selection Criteria	
13.1	The HOD will be appointed via invitation by GI/subject to approval by PWM.
13.2	Attended HOD internal GI Workshop.
13.3	Have completed the Garda/Access NI vetting process with GI .
13.4	Provide evidence of attendance at SI/SportNI/Governing Body recognised Safeguarding Workshop.
13.5	HOD must follow all duties outlined in the International Travel Policy and Code of Conduct/Responsibilities document.

14.0 Gymnastics Ireland Delegation Ratification – other than (i) Senior World Cup Event (ii) Grand Prix (iii) Friendly International	
Following the trial process:	
14.1	Prior to approval of the delegation, the PTM may request input from the NPC, HOJ & CEO on any aspect of the Delegation Nomination form.
14.2	The Delegation Nomination form will be submitted to the PWM to ratify the delegation members, where appropriate in line with all relevant GI Policy.
14.3	The PTM will submit Delegation Nomination form to GI HPC within one week after the final trial. (This form must be ratified before any communication is made with an individual listed on the form). HPC will forward to the OFI/relevant agency for final ratification of the nominated delegation.
14.4	The approved Delegation form will be forwarded to the GI Digital Communications & Brand Manager for announcement and publication onto GI website and social media once fully ratified.
14.5	Following selection, it is the responsibility of the gymnast to retain fitness levels and competition standards prior to competition. A gymnast’s training can be viewed during this period and their selection can be withdrawn at any stage prior to the event if their preparation is not appropriate (individual or team selection). This decision is determined by PTM and NPC. The 1st place reserve may be considered for selection.
14.6	The PTM can call a controlled competition or team training at any point during the selection and preparation prior to the international event.
14.7	Selected gymnasts must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete and sign all international travel forms including “Gymnasts Code of Conduct” prior to travelling. • Attend any pre-training camp and travel with the team to and from the event (except in special circumstances – subject to approval of HOD/PTM).

15.0 Injury or Illness	
15.1	If injury/illness occurs to any delegation member after selection and prior to travel, the PTM, NPC and PWM must be advised immediately. A date will be agreed by the PTM and NPC for fitness to be proved and then the decision regarding travel will be at the discretion of the PTM.
15.2	A gymnast will be required to fulfil full training and preparation prior to the event with fitness being achieved by the agreed date.
15.3	A fitness test may be carried out by a GI approved Chartered Physiotherapist or a medical test by a GP.
15.4	A Fitness Assessment form will be completed by the PTM.
15.5	A gymnast’s training maybe viewed at any time prior to the agreed date to prove fitness.
15.6	If a gymnast has not reached fitness by the agreed date, then the 1st place reserve will gain selection. This decision will be determined by the PTM in conjunction with the NPC.
15.7	During the competition event if a gymnast becomes ill or injured and their performance is affected then the decision of participation is determined by HOD/Head Coach.
* Gymnasts should be able to compete efficiently in the event and medical personnel maybe asked to provide a report ensuring the safety and fitness of the gymnast if it is felt there could be a risk or further injury/damage to the gymnast.	

16.0 Selection Appeal Procedure	
16.1	Any competition appeal must be in line with FIG rules - http://www.fig-gymnastics.com
16.2	Any selection appeal can only be submitted for a non-selection if the process within the GI Selection Policy has not been followed. Refer to GI Complaints & Disciplinary Rules and Procedures.

17.0 Further Team Places	
17.1	Medical staff selected must be GI approved and hold full qualifications for their position. Positions may not be taken by any other adult in an attempt to be on the selected team. All personnel must be listed on the Delegation Nomination Form being submitted for approval in line with policy.
17.2	Other FIG and UEG positions and extra coaching positions may only be used if the team travelling is in full requirement of the position. The positions may not be filled without GI approval.