



ENGLAND COMMONWEALTH GAMES SELECTION POLICY

Rhythmic Gymnastics

XXI COMMONWEALTH GAMES, Gold Coast (Australia)

4th – 15th April 2018

<p>Competition Format</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FIG Competition I, II & III • Olympic Apparatus 2017 – 2020 Cycle: Hoop / Ball / Clubs / Ribbon • Competition I: Team competition and qualification for individual all-around and apparatus finals. Each team must perform three routines on each of the four apparatus (by different gymnasts), making a total of twelve routines; the highest 10 routines to count • Competition II: All Around final (top 16 with a maximum of 2 per Federation) • Competition III: Apparatus finals (top 8 with a maximum of 2 per Federation) • A maximum of three gymnasts per Federation
<p>Performance Targets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team medal • Qualify two gymnasts for Competition II (Top 16 All-Around Final) • Qualify two gymnasts for Competition III (Apparatus Finals)
<p>Eligibility</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gymnasts are eligible for consideration provided they: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. are a British Citizen holding a British passport ii. are a minimum of 16 years old in the year of competition (year of birth being 2002 or earlier) iii. are eligible to compete for Great Britain by possession of a current Gymnast Licence held with FIG iv. are eligible to compete for England as per Team England eligibility conditions (appended) v. participate in at least two England podium potential squad training camps during 2016-2017, with their personal coach also attending at least 2 days of camps in total vi. send a completed Declaration of Interest form to Mike Weinstock c/o the EGA by email to mike@mwgymnastics.co.uk, to be received no later than 7th April 2017. 2. If a gymnast does not meet the criteria at (v) above, but wishes to attend the Designated Selection Events and be considered for selection, the gymnast may petition the Approval Panel in writing by no later than 14th August 2017, requesting permission to attend the Designated Selection Events and be considered for selection. The Approval Panel's decision in this regard shall be final. Decisions on these matters are not open to appeal.

The 'Team'	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The 'Team' means the team that is selected by English Gymnastics and includes gymnasts (3), coaches (1), nominated reserves (non-travelling), medical support personnel (1), Team Leader (1).
Nomination Panel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Nomination Panel shall comprise the Head of the English Rhythmic Panel (Rachel Haines) together with two other members of the English Technical Panel of her choosing. Following the completion of the Designated Selection Events listed in this Policy, the Nomination Panel shall take into account any relevant input deemed necessary from the English Gymnastics approved World Class Science & Medical staff to discuss the nomination of the gymnasts and coaches. The nomination of the gymnasts and coaches will be based on the premise that English Gymnastics wishes to have the best chance to achieve its Performance Targets (as above). The Nomination Panel will consider all factors before it including results at the Designated Selection Events but ultimately the nomination is at the discretion of the Nomination Panel acting fairly and without bias. Following this consultation, the Nomination Panel will forward a list of nominated gymnasts and coaches to the Approval Panel for their scrutiny, by no later than 28th January 2018. All members of the Nomination Panel shall declare any conflict of interest prior to selection discussions starting and shall not take part in any voting affected by such conflict, but may take part in discussions.
Approval Panel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Approval Panel, comprising the England Team Manager, Chair of English Gymnastics and the Chair of the British Rhythmic Technical Committee, will consider the nominations for gymnasts and coaches received from the Nomination Panel and shall consider whether to ratify some or all of them on the basis that it also wishes the team to have the best chance to achieve the Performance Targets. In the event that the Nomination Panel provides insufficient gymnasts to fill the available Team places, the Approval Panel will make referral back to the Nomination Panel for their reasoning at which point their list of nominations may be amended. The Approval Panel will confirm the selection of the Team on or before 1st February 2018. All members of the Approval Panel shall declare any conflict of interest prior to selection discussions starting and shall not take part in any voting affected by such conflict, but may take part in discussions.
Appeals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The nominated team will receive notification of their nomination by email or phone by 11pm on the 1st February 2018. All team members shall keep their nomination confidential until the final ratification by Commonwealth Games England and with the permission of the English Gymnastics Association. Appeals can only be submitted for a non-selected gymnast on the grounds that the process outlined within this Selection Policy has not been adhered to or that the decision in question was unreasonable (i.e. that no other reasonable panel would reach the same decision) and/or not reached in a manner consistent with the principles of natural justice and procedural fairness. Coach selection is not open to appeal. Appeals should be made in writing to the English Gymnastics Association by no later than 8th February 2018. Following the completion of the appeals process, the Team shall be nominated to Commonwealth Games England for final ratification, which shall be completed by 19th February 2018.
Designated Selection Event(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Nomination Panel will select on the basis of the 3 highest total scores (across 4 apparatus) for each gymnast from the selection events outlined underneath: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Selection event to be held on 14th October 2017 at Fenton Manor, Stoke on Trent Selection event to be held on 25th/26th November 2017 at Fenton Manor, Stoke on

	<p style="text-align: center;">Trent</p> <p>c. Selection Event to be held on 9th/10th December 2017 at a venue to be confirmed</p> <p>d. Selection Event to be held on 20th/21st January 2018 at a venue to be confirmed</p> <p>provided that if exceptional circumstances prevent a gymnast from participating in, or hinder her performance in a Designated Selection Event (including a gymnast being ill or suffering an injury prior to or during one of the Designated Selection Events), the Nomination Panel may take into account such circumstances and select such gymnast ahead of the others if it considers in its discretion that the selection of such gymnast is in the best interests of the Team meeting the Performance Targets.</p> <p>2. A gymnast who suffers the exceptional circumstances referred to above should provide such explanation and evidence of the relevant circumstances as is requested by the Nomination Panel including, in the case of injury or illness, written authentication of the injury or illness by medical personnel approved by English Gymnastics (listed at the end of this Policy).</p>
Nomination Process	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gymnasts will be selected on the basis of having the best chance of achieving the Performance Targets. 2. By entering the selection process, gymnasts and personal coaches agree to be bound by the provisions of this policy. 3. Nominated gymnasts and coach (including the reserve) will be expected to undertake all programme activities (Camps and Competitions) laid out by the English Gymnastics Rhythmic Panel as part of the preparations for the Commonwealth Games 2018 to prove their readiness to compete. 4. Nominated gymnasts and coach (including the reserve) must also agree to observe all obligations outlined within the Commonwealth Games England team agreement (and any related agreement, rule or regulation), the British Gymnastics' Gymnast Agreement 2017 – 2020 and any subsequent Codes of Behaviour adopted by British Gymnastics. 5. Team Coaches will be nominated by the British Gymnastics Technical Committee based upon the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their ability to contribute to the Performance Targets • The Team's best needs • Their ability to lead, organise and control under situations of high responsibility and stress • Their international experience and performance • Their qualification i.e. current HPC/SCC and standing as a professional member • Their attendance at all required meetings, squad training and events is mandatory
Injury & Replacement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the event of injury and replacement, any gymnast that has competed in the Designated Selection Events may be called upon by the Approval Panel to join the Commonwealth Games team at any time. 2. Once Team selections have been confirmed by the Approval Panel, all selected gymnasts (including the reserve(s)) must agree not to withhold any information on training fitness, injury status or illness that could affect training or competition at any time up to and including during the Commonwealth Games. 3. All selected gymnasts must declare any medications they are taking, in particular the use of any restricted medications, and submit these to the Head of Science & Medicine at British Gymnastics for medical approval. 4. A gymnast or coach may be removed from the Team in the event of a non-compliance in training, a breach of responsibility to the Team, a breach of the Commonwealth Games England team agreement or a violation of the Codes of Behaviour adopted by the Team.

	<p>Prior to removal the gymnast or coach must be presented with the opportunity to attend a removal interview with the Team Manager (or their appointed representative) and where possible one other independent person. Written justification must be provided for all removals by the Team Manager. Decisions on these matters following the removal interview (if applicable) are not open to appeal.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. At any stage following the selection announcement and prior to departure to the competition, should any gymnast fail to reach <u>performance</u> expectations in training or competition, the Nomination Panel may recommend de-selection to the Approval Panel. The Approval Panel will consider this recommendation, provide an opportunity for the gymnast to make a counter-argument, and then pass judgement. Written justification must be provided for all removals. Decisions on these matters are not open to appeal. 6. At any stage following the arrival of the Team at the competition and during the event, should any gymnast fail to reach <u>performance</u> expectations in training or competition, the Team Coaches may recommend de-selection to Team Manager. The Team Manager will consider this recommendation, provide an opportunity for the gymnast to attend an interview to make a counter-argument, and then pass judgement. Written justification must be provided for all removals. Decisions on these matters are not open to appeal. 7. At any stage following the selection announcement, should there be a doubt over the ability of a gymnast to compete to the best of her ability <u>due to an injury or illness</u>, the following procedure will be adhered to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The gymnast will be referred to British Gymnastics'/English Gymnastics' designated Medical Officer to undergo a medical examination to determine their fitness to participate. Initially this will be based on an assessment of whether or not the injury and/or illness is such that the gymnast is physically unable to compete or is at risk of causing medical harm to themselves, or endangering other competitors, officials or spectators. b. If the gymnast passes the initial medical examination carried out by the Medical Officer, but if the Approval Panel still has concerns over whether or not the gymnast is able to compete to the best of her ability due to the underlying injury or illness, the gymnast will be required to undertake an English Gymnastics/British Gymnastics' designated "Technical Fitness Test". c. The Technical Fitness Test is an objective assessment based on video footage which will require the gymnast to perform routine(s) to a level at least equivalent to that demonstrated in the selection events. d. In the event that a gymnast fails to complete the Technical Fitness Test to the required standard, they will be removed from the Team, a decision which is not open to appeal. This will be made by the Team Manager in consultation with the Team Coaches. 8. Any replacement(s) required will be made by the Team Manager in consultation with the Team Coaches on the basis of the needs of the Team and normally come out of the pool of nominated non-travelling reserves. Decisions on these matters are not open to appeal.
Team Organisation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Team will attend pre-Championship Preparation Camps and competitions in accordance with the English Squad 2018 Activity Planner (subject to changes). 2. The Team (other than the non-travelling reserve) will transfer to the Commonwealth Games on a date TBC. 3. In the event that they have not already done so, all gymnasts within the Team will be required to sign and comply with British Gymnastics' Gymnast Agreement 2017 – 20 and the CGE Team Member's Agreement.

Announcement	1. Selected Team Members agree not to make any announcement to the media or public in any form (including on any personal websites) regarding their selection until after the Commonwealth Games Council for England, in conjunction with English Gymnastics have announced the Team selection on the We are England and English Gymnastics websites.
Any additional matters not covered by this Policy	1. Any matters arising from the selection process that are not covered within this policy shall be determined by English Gymnastics or a nominated representative acting at their sole discretion.
General	<p>1. Insofar as is permitted by law, English Gymnastics and its authorised agents do not accept liability for any loss or damage occurring as a result of the selection process (including anything arising from non-selection and/or ratification by CGE). This shall not affect any statutory rights that are available and this shall not limit or exclude any liability that may not be excluded or limited by law.</p> <p>2. This selection policy shall be governed by English law.</p>

ENGLISH GYMNASTICS SELECTION POLICY FOR XXI COMMONWEALTH GAMES (RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS)

APPROVED BY:

Signed _____ Mike Weinstock – Team Manager, English Gymnastics

Signed _____ Martin Laws – Chair, English Gymnastics

Signed _____ Vicki Pearson – Chair, National Rhythmic TC

EDICAL PERSONNEL APPROVED BY ENGLISH GYMNASTICS

Louise Fawcett (British Gymnastics' Head of Science & Medicine)
Chris Tomlinson (British Gymnastics' Chief Medical Officer)
CWG Gymnastics Team Doctor
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TEAM ENGLAND – Commonwealth Games Federation Entry & Eligibility Conditions

To be eligible to compete for Team England, athletes must be able to comply with the eligibility conditions as determined by the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) as below:

CGF Constitution Article 24: Eligibility

1. Subject to Article 24(2), as a condition of entry to compete in the Commonwealth Games, all competitors must be citizens or subjects of the Commonwealth Country that enters them and must:
 - (a) not be currently under disqualification or suspension by the Federation, or their respective Affiliated CGA or IF or under the World Anti-Doping Code;
 - (b) comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the Federation, their respective IFs and the World Anti-Doping Code as may be modified and applied by the Federation to ensure that the overriding principles of the Commonwealth Games are observed.
2. Subject to Article 24(3), where a competitor was born in a Commonwealth Country that has common citizenship/passport with other Commonwealth Countries, the competitor may initially represent either the competitor's Commonwealth Country of birth; or the Commonwealth Country of birth of his or her father or mother that shares the same citizenship/passport.
3. After having represented one Commonwealth Country at the Commonwealth Games, a competitor may not represent another Commonwealth Country unless he or she receives the approval of the Federation, the relevant IF and the Affiliated CGAs of the two Commonwealth Countries concerned.
4. It is the responsibility of all Affiliated CGAs to ensure that their competitors are fully aware of and comply with the eligibility rules of the Federation.
5. The Executive Board shall have the power to waive the provisions of Articles 24 (1-3) in its discretion.

Eligibility Policy Decision

The Minutes of the 2004 General Assembly record: *"That in accordance with Article 25 (5) (Article 24(5) of the November 2007 applies), the Board considered applications from CGAs seeking dispensations for athletes to compete at both the Commonwealth Youth Games and the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne.*

As a result of this, the Board felt it appropriate to adopt a specific policy applying to cases where a common passport existed insofar as residency is concerned i.e. that a Dispensation will be granted to any such athlete who has completed a period of 5 year's continuous residency within the CGA territory immediately prior to the Games.

During the 2009 General Assembly CGA Workshop it was confirmed by John Eades, Operations Director, CGF, that this decision, whilst specific to Melbourne, still applies in relation to the Glasgow Games.