



ENGLAND COMMONWEALTH GAMES SELECTION POLICY

Rhythmic Gymnastics

XXII COMMONWEALTH GAMES, Birmingham (England)

28th July – 8th August 2022

<p>Competition Format</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FIG Competition I, II & III for individual gymnasts • Olympic Apparatus 2020 – 2024 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"> • Qualify two gymnasts for Competition II • Qualify two gymnasts for Competition III • All Around final Medal in Competition II • Apparatus final Medal in Competition III
<p>Date Changes</p>	<p>English Gymnastics reserves the right to update the dates and Designated Selection Event information outlined in this policy based on any changes made to the 2021/22 Rhythmic competition calendar and any new information released relating to key dates and timelines set by Commonwealth Games England</p>
<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 taking part in the 2022 English and British Championships * iii. are a minimum of 16 years old in the year of competition (year of birth being 2006 or earlier) iv. are eligible to compete for Great Britain by possession of a current Gymnast Licence held with FIG v. are eligible to compete for England as per Home Nations eligibility conditions (see below) 2. To be considered for selection by England to compete at the Commonwealth Games, the gymnast must be eligible to hold a United Kingdom passport and meet a minimum of one of the criteria below: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Born in England (proof of birth certificate required) ii. Have one or more parents born in England (proof of birth certificate for parent(s) and gymnast) iii. Have one or more grandparents born in England (proof of birth certificate for grandparent(s) and gymnast) iv. Have continuous residency of three years minimum in England (proof of address

	<p>through utility bills, mortgage statement, bank statements etc.)</p> <p>* Exceptional Circumstances covered in Designated Selection Events Section Point II</p> <p>3. To express your interest for selection consideration, please register via the below link by October 31st 2021:</p> <p>https://www.british-gymnastics.org/course/27681/eng-cwg-2022?location=</p>
The 'Team'	<p>The 'Team' means the team that is selected by English Gymnastics and includes gymnasts, coach(es), nominated reserves (non-travelling), medical support personnel and the Team Leader</p>
Nomination Panel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Nomination Panel will consist of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - England Performance Pathway Manager - England Team Lead Coach - Nominated Judging representative appointed by English Gymnastics 2. The nominations will be made through discussions relating to the eligible gymnasts and team coaches and their ability to deliver the best results for Team England. 3. Additional expertise may be invited to the nomination panel meeting on the basis of providing specific insight and information that may assist in the nomination process. 4. Independent observers including the BAC will be invited to attend the nomination meeting in a non-voting capacity.

Nomination Process	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The aim of the nomination panel is to review the relevant information and nominate gymnasts to the available athlete places in order to achieve the performance targets. The nomination panel will also consider staff and travelling/non travelling reserves. 2. Prior to the nomination panel meeting, information will be compiled from relevant personnel to support the panel's decision making during the meeting. This will include, but is not limited to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Analytics related to the performance factors (see "Performance Factors" section below) ii. Analytics related to performance at the Designated Selection Events (DSEs) iii. Analytics related to performance of other nations iv. Injury, illness and training information related to gymnasts achieving the performance standards 3. Following the completion of the DSEs listed in this Policy, the Nomination Panel shall take into account any relevant input deemed necessary from the English Gymnastics nominated Sport Science & Medical staff, Coaches, Judging representatives and Performance staff to discuss the nomination of the gymnasts and coaches. 4. Gymnasts meeting the eligibility criteria will be considered against the Performance Factors. 5. 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 including results at the DSEs. 6. Following this consultation, the Nomination Panel will forward a list of nominated gymnasts and coaches (including non-travelling reserves) to the Approval Panel for their scrutiny, by no later than 23 May 2022. 7. The communication of nominations is strictly confidential and not to be publicised. 8. 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 and shall not be in the room at the time such a vote takes place. 9. The eligible gymnasts will receive communication regarding the decision of the nomination panel by email or phone by midday on 30 May 2022. 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.
Approval Panel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Approval Panel, comprising the England Team Leader, Chair of English Gymnastics and the Chair of the English Gymnastics 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. 2. Independent observers including the BAC will be invited to attend the approval panel meeting in a non-voting capacity. 3. Whereby proposed nominations can't be agreed through reaching a consensus, each decision maker will have 1 vote per available quota place. Panel members must cast a vote for the nomination to proceed. 4. 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. 5. The Approval Panel will confirm the selection of the Team on or before 30th May 2022. 6. 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 and shall not be in the room at the time such a vote takes place.

<p>Selection Process for Team Coach Places</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The England Team Lead Coach will be recruited in an open and transparent manner prior to the main team selection based upon the following criteria: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Ability to contribute to the Performance Targets ii. The Team's best needs iii. Ability to lead, organise and control under situations of high responsibility and stress iv. International experience and performance v. Qualification i.e. current HPC/SCC and standing as a professional member 2. Any remaining England Team Coaches will be nominated within the nomination panel meeting. 3. The England Team Coaches' attendance at all required meetings, squad training and events is mandatory. 4. The number of coaches will be determined by the number of accreditations approved by CGE.
<p>Expectations of Nominated/Selected Gymnasts and Coaches</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gymnasts will be selected on the basis of having the best chance of achieving the Performance Targets (please refer to Performance Targets section). 2. By entering the selection process, gymnasts and personal coaches agree to be bound by the provisions of this policy. 3. Nominated/Selected gymnasts (including the reserve(s)) and coaches will be expected to undertake all identified pre-games programme activities (Camps and Competitions) laid out by the Team Coaches as part of the preparations for the 2022 Commonwealth Games to prove their readiness to compete. 4. Nominated/Selected gymnasts (including the reserve(s)) and coaches must also agree to observe and sign up to all obligations outlined within the Team England Team Members Agreement (and any related agreement, rule or regulation), the British Gymnastics' Gymnast Agreement 2021 – 2025, any subsequent Codes of Behaviour adopted by British Gymnastics as well as comply with UK Anti-Doping education requirements. 5. Nominated/Selected gymnasts must sign the CGF Entry and Eligibility form.
<p>Nomination Appeals</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appeals can only be submitted from midday on 30th May to 12pm on 1st June 2022, for a non-selected gymnast on the grounds that the process outlined within this Selection Policy has not been adhered to. 2. The English Gymnastics Commonwealth Games appeals policy can be found here 3. All appeals will be reviewed by an independent two-person appeals panel. 4. Following the completion of the appeals process, the Team shall be nominated to Commonwealth Games England for final ratification, which shall be completed by 6th June 2022.

<p>Designated Selection Event(s)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Nomination Panel will take the 3 highest total scores (across 4 apparatus) into account for each gymnast at the following events: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>National Open Championships 2022 (Gymnasts wishing to be considered for selection will be permitted to perform all four pieces of apparatus).</i> ii. <i>Controlled Trial Event in April 2022. Details TBC</i> iii. <i>English Championships 2022 (All-Around Competition)</i> iv. <i>British Championships 2022 (All-Around Competition)</i> 2. 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 DSEs) 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. 3. 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 a medical personnel approved by English Gymnastics (listed at the end of this Policy).
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The panel will consider the following Performance Factors, viewed in a cumulative nature, when nominating gymnasts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Gymnasts scoring potential to win a medal at the 2022 Commonwealth Games ii. Performance at DSEs (see above) iii. Performances for GBR or ENG International competitions or Selection Events from January to May 22nd 2022 iv. Current performance form in the build up to nomination v. Engagement with the GBR and England Programme vi. Current medical and injury status vii. A gymnast's opportunity to gain experience for future major championships.
<p>Injury & Replacement</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the event of injury and replacement, any gymnast who has competed in the DSEs 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 English Gymnastics' designated Chief Medical Officer (see below) 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 Team England Team Members Agreement or a violation of the Codes of Behaviour adopted by the Team. Prior to removal, the gymnast or coach must be presented with the opportunity to attend a removal interview with the Team Leader (or their appointed representative) and one other independent person. The athlete may also have with them a person of support. Written justification must be provided for all removals by the Team Leader. Decisions on these matters following the removal interview (if applicable) are not open to appeal.

	<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 performance expectations in training or competition or suffer a loss of form to such an extent that it leads the Team Coach to reasonably believe that such athlete cannot perform to their expected ability at the Games, the Team Coach may recommend de-selection to the Approval Panel. The Approval Panel will consider this recommendation in full, set out the reasons for such decision to the affected athlete and provide an opportunity for the gymnast to make a counter argument and then pass judgement. The athlete may also have with them a person of support. 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 performance expectations in training or competition, the Team Coach may recommend de-selection to Team Leader. The Team Leader will consider this recommendation, provide an opportunity for the gymnast to attend an interview to make a counter argument, and then pass judgement. The athlete may also have with them a person of support. 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, in the run up to the Team list being formally entered, should there be a doubt over the ability of a gymnast to compete to the best of her ability due to an injury or illness, the following procedure will be adhered to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The gymnast will be referred to English Gymnastics' designated Chief Medical Officer (CMO) 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. If the athlete is deemed not fit to compete or refuses to undergo the examination, his/her nomination will be withdrawn and English Gymnastics will nominate the relevant reserve athlete. ii. If the gymnast passes the initial medical examination carried out by the CMO 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 English Gymnastics' designated "Technical Fitness Test". iii. The Technical Fitness Test is an objective assessment based on video footage which will require the gymnast perform routine(s) to a level at least equivalent to that demonstrated in the selection events. The test(s) will be agreed by the Team Leader, the Team Coaches and the Commonwealth Games England (CGE). The test(s) will be carried out in the presence of two independent suitably qualified judges who are nominated by the TC. iv. 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 Leader in consultation with the Team Coaches and CGE. 8. Any replacement(s) required will be made by the Team Leader 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-games preparation camps and competitions in accordance with the Rhythmic Squad 2021/22 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 2021 – 25, the Team England Team Member's Agreement and completed the UKAD education requirements before travelling into the Commonwealth Games Village.
Announcement	<p>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 English Gymnastics and CGE have announced the Team selection.</p>

Any additional matters not covered by this Policy	Any matters arising from the selection process that are not covered within this policy shall be determined by the Approval Panel acting at their sole discretion.
General	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="395 237 1541 389">1. Insofar as is permitted by law, English Gymnastics Association 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.<li data-bbox="395 405 1086 434">2. This selection policy shall be governed by English law.

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

APPROVED BY:

..... Signed James Thomas - Team Leader

..... Signed Martin Laws - Chair – English Gymnastics

MEDICAL PERSONNEL APPROVED BY ENGLISH GYMNASTICS

Louise Fawcett (British Gymnastics' Head of Performance Support)
Chris Tomlinson (British Gymnastics' Chief Medical Officer)
CWG Gymnastics Team Doctor TBC
Physio TBC
Physio TBC

Commonwealth Games Federation – 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:

1. It is the responsibility of all Affiliated CGAs to ensure that their competitors are fully aware of and comply with Byelaw 17: <https://thecgf.com/sites/default/files/2020-12/Constitutional%20Documents%20of%20the%20Commonwealth%20Games%20Federation%202020.pdf>

2. **Primacy**
 - 2.1 Subject to Byelaw 17(4) 17(5) 17(6) and (17)(7), a competitor shall be eligible to represent the Commonwealth Country which enters them where they satisfy at least one of the following requirements:
 - a. Are in possession of a current valid passport of the Commonwealth Country which enters them; or
 - b. Are a subject who can demonstrate 'Belonger Status' in Great Britain or relevant British Overseas Territory of the Commonwealth Country which enters them.

3. **Secondary**
 - 3.1 Subject to Byelaw 17(4) 17(5) 17(6) and 17(7), where a competitor was born in a Commonwealth Country which has common citizenship/passport with other Commonwealth Countries, the competitor may represent either:
 - a. the Commonwealth Country of their birth; or
 - b. the Commonwealth Country of birth of their parent; or
 - c. where the relevant IF recognises grandparents as part of its eligibility criteria, the competitor may represent the Commonwealth Country of birth of their grandparent; or;
 - d. the Commonwealth Country where they have completed a minimum period of three (3) years continuous residency immediately prior to the Commonwealth Games. For the avoidance of doubt, the immediately prior three-year period shall mean the three-year period that immediately precedes the "final entries deadline"* of the relevant Games as determined by the respective Organising Committee.
 - 3.2 Subject to the other provisions of this Byelaw 17, where a competitor is eligible to represent more than one Affiliated CGA due to common passport privileges they may choose which Affiliated CGA to

represent. For the avoidance of doubt, if an individual has competed at a Commonwealth Youth Games this will not be deemed to be a choice of country, and the competitor may choose to represent a different Affiliated CGA at a Commonwealth Games..

- 3.3 For the avoidance of doubt subject to Byelaw 17(4) and 17(5) any competitor of a common passport area who competes for their common passport country (i.e. Great Britain, New Zealand and Australia) at either the Olympic Games, Youth Olympic Games and/or any World Championships or any other major sporting event shall be entitled to choose to represent their home Affiliated CGA (e.g.England) at the Commonwealth Games.

4. Disqualifications and Suspensions

- 4.1 A competitor shall not be eligible to represent the Commonwealth Country which enters them if they:
- a. are currently under disqualification, expulsion or suspension by the Federation; and/or
 - b. are currently under disqualification, expulsion or suspension by their respective Affiliated CGA; and/or
 - c. are currently under disqualification, expulsion or suspension by their respective IF, National Federation and/or
 - d. are currently under disqualification or suspension under the World Anti-Doping Code.

5. Compliance with applicable rules and regulations

- 5.1 A competitor shall only be eligible to represent the Commonwealth Country which enters them if they:
- a. Satisfy and comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the Federation; and
 - b. Satisfy and comply their respective IF rules and regulations (including but not limited to, complying with respective IF eligibility rules as applied within each respective edition of the Commonwealth Games Athlete Allocation Systems); and
 - c. Satisfy and comply with the World Anti-Doping Code as applied within the Federation Anti-Doping Standard to ensure that the overriding principles of the Commonwealth Games are observed.
- 5.2 For the avoidance of doubt, where there is an inconsistency between respective IF Nationality rules and regulations and those of the Commonwealth Games Federation, the Commonwealth Games Federation Bye Law 17 shall prevail.

6 Transfer of Allegiance

- 6.1 After having established eligibility status under this Byelaw 17 a competitor who has previously represented one Commonwealth Country at a Commonwealth Games may not represent another Commonwealth Country unless they also receive the prior approval of the Federation, the relevant IF and the relevant previously represented Affiliated CGA. For the avoidance of doubt, this Byelaw shall not apply if an individual has represented a Commonwealth Country at a Commonwealth Youth Games. Applications under this Byelaw 17(6) must be submitted to the Executive Board two calendar

months before the “final entries deadline”* for the respective Commonwealth Games. Applications must include formal confirmation of the prior approval of the relevant IF and the relevant previously represented Affiliated CGA.

- 6.2 All applications for transfer of allegiance under Byelaw 17(6) and/or discretionary eligibility dispensation under Byelaw 17(7) including all relevant paperwork and documentation must be submitted no later than two calendar months prior to the published “final entries deadline”*, as outlined by the respective Organising Committee.

7. Dispensations

- 7.1 The Executive Board shall delegate authority to the Governance and Integrity Committee (GIC) who have the power to grant dispensations to Byelaw 17 in exceptional circumstances and to consider any matters relating generally to Byelaw

17. Each application for dispensation under Byelaw 17 shall be considered on its own merits and will not create a precedent for any future applications. Decisions made by GIC are subject to the right of appeal directly to the Executive Board, whose decision shall be final and binding.

*“final entries deadline” means the final date that an individual athlete may be entered in a particular event(s) for the relevant Commonwealth Games, usually completed via an online entry system. Such date to be communicated for each relevant Commonwealth Games in the Sport Handbook.