



**England National Performance
Pathway Selection Policy
(WAG)
2022 -2023**

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Programme Terms & Conditions

Section 1: Eligibility for Selection

Any athlete wishing to be considered for selection must be a full member of British Gymnastics and be age eligible as outlined below. In addition, upon selection they must sign a copy of the English Gymnastics Athlete Agreement and abide by the rules and regulations applicable

National Eligibility.

- An English Citizen, holding a British passport (or be in the process of obtaining British citizenship and/or passport) and have either (i) lived in England for a period exceeding 36 months or (ii) the mother, father or a grandparent of a gymnast must have been born in England
- Gymnasts must be eligible to apply for an FIG licence should they be required for competition
- Eligible to compete for England. The gymnast must not be a member of a Programme of any other Commonwealth country or previously represented another Commonwealth country, unless the consents required by Article 25(3) of the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) Constitution, Regulations & Code of Conduct have been obtained

If a gymnast does not meet any of the above Criteria, but nevertheless wishes to be considered for entry, the coach of the gymnast may petition the EGA Chair and the England Performance Pathway Manager via performance@british-gymnastics.org requesting permission to enter in writing. The petition must explain why the coach believes that the gymnast is of the relevant standard and be supported by suitable evidence, such as competition scores and/or videos. The EGA Chair/England Performance Pathway Managers decision as to whether to accept a petition shall be final. Decisions on these matters are not open to appeal.

Section 2. Selection Panels

The selection panels may vary depending on which squad is being considered. However as standard practice to ensure a GBR/EGA overview and consistency, the England WAG National Coach and England Performance Pathway Manager (the **"Selection Panel"**) will be present at all selection meetings. The key responsibilities of these Panels are:

- a) Proposing and agreeing the selection policy for all GBR/ENG squads and competitions.
- b) Holding selection meetings in accordance with the selection process.
- c) Communication and feedback to the selected individuals.

The GBR WAG National Coach may also attend selection meetings in an advisory role however final decisions are made by the Selection Panel.

Section 3. Overview of Selection Process

Each programme will go through the following process:

- **Selection**

In April/May each year, the England WAG Programme will select the Athletes, who in the expert opinion of the England WAG National Coach, has the best capability of successfully contributing to the England WAG Performance Pathway Programme.

Should athletes not reach the required performance standards, the Selection Panel may select athletes who are deemed capable of reflecting the longer-term direction and aims of the England WAG Performance Pathway Programme aligned to the BG 'What It Takes to Win' framework.

All personal coaches and parents will receive a notification of selection letter and will be asked to accept their place on the programme. Gymnasts who have accepted their place on to the programme will receive further documentation and information regarding payment.

Nominated athletes must also agree to observe all obligations outlined within the current English Gymnastics' Performance Athlete Agreement and any subsequent Codes of Behaviour adopted by English Gymnastics.

- **Induction & Confirmation**

Each Programme may differ on how and when they undertake an induction and confirmation phase. This is a dedicated period of time (typically 3 months) that allows the England WAG Coaching Team to assess a variety of skills, knowledge and attributes aligned to what English Gymnastics feels it takes, to ensure membership of that programme for the remainder of the year.

- **Full Programme Member**

After the induction and confirmation phase, the England WAG Coaching Team can confirm the progress being made by an athlete, and if successful, they will officially remain on the programme for the remainder of the year. Those that have not made the standard will be informed accordingly.

Considerations / Athlete assessments will be made on an ongoing basis as part of an athlete's membership to the programme regarding whether an athlete moves up or down the pathway or are removed from the programme altogether.

Section 4. General Information

In the event of injury, removal and/or the need for replacement, any eligible athlete may be called upon to join the programme at any time.

Once Programme selections have been confirmed all selected athletes must agree not to withhold any information on training fitness, injury status or illness that could affect training or competition at any time.

A named individual will be responsible for pastoral care at each camp for gymnasts who are U18, which will be organised by English/British Gymnastics and communicated in advance of the camp. Personal coaches are required to attend each camp as a condition of their gymnast being in the programme.

An athlete may be removed from the programme in the event of a non-compliance in training, lack of performance progression, a breach of responsibility to the programme or a violation of the Codes of Behaviour adopted by the programme. Prior to removal, the athlete will be presented with the opportunity to attend a removal interview with the EGA Chair, England Performance Pathway Manager and England WAG National Coach (or their appointed representative) and where possible one other independent person. Written justification must be provided for all removals by the England WAG Coaching Team. Decisions on these matters are not open to appeal.

At any stage following the programme selection announcement, should there be a doubt over the ability of an athlete to train or compete to the best of her ability due to an injury or illness, the following procedure will be adhered to:

- The athlete will be asked to undergo a medical examination to determine their fitness to participate. Initially this will be based on an assessment of whether the injury and/or illness is such that the athlete is physically unable to train or is at risk of causing medical harm to themselves or endangering other programme members.
- The gymnast may have to prove they are “fit for purpose” and show reasonable levels of preparedness, as determined by the national coach.
- No refunds will be payable for non-attendance of a camp.
- Any replacement(s) required will be made by the England WAG National Coach and England Performance Pathway Manager based on the needs of the programme. Decisions on these matters are not open to appeal.

Selected programme members agree not to make any announcement to the media or public in any form (including on any personal media) regarding their selection until after English Gymnastics have announced the Programme selection on the English Gymnastics pages via the British Gymnastics website (www.british-gymnastics.org/england/squads).

Section 5. Appeals

There is no appeals process for individual athletes not selected to attend one of the National Performance Pathway Programmes.

Should you feel that your de-selection / selection is unjust you must formally write to the English Gymnastics Administration Manager with details (jan.charlton@englishgymnastics.org.uk)

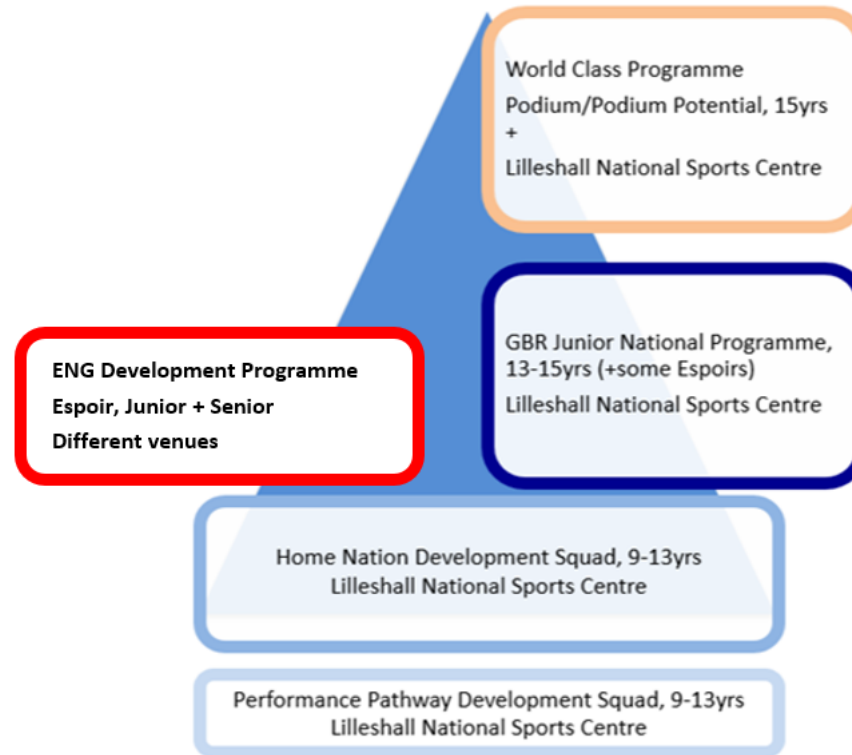
Section 6. Anti-Doping

Athletes must be compliant with the British Gymnastics anti-doping policy at all times. The selection panel reserve the right not to nominate, select and /or deselect any athlete from any of the identified National Performance Pathway Programmes and/or competitions, on the basis of failure to comply with the [British Gymnastics anti-doping policy](#).

Section 7. Competition Eligibility

Priority will always be given to gymnasts on the England WAG Performance Pathway Programme to attend any international competitions which England may attend (other than Commonwealth Games, where the separate Commonwealth Games Selection Policy shall apply). GBR gymnasts may be called up to attend internationals for England, to meet the specific team requirements.

GBR and England Performance Pathway WAG Gymnastics



Above is a guideline only and is not set in stone. Maturation levels may also be taken into consideration.

Performance Pathway Programmes – Selection Processes

Selection process for ENG WAG Performance Pathway Programme

Selection Criteria

The overall selection will be at the discretion of the England WAG National coach, in collaboration with the GBR WAG National Coach. Selections will consist of Espoir, Junior and Senior gymnasts and as a guide, there may be up to 10 gymnasts selected in each category, with some flexibility. Gymnasts will be selected for the programme in April/May each year and will work on an April – March basis. Extra selections may take place following the WAG GBR assessment day and wildcard's may also be invited to attend a camp/s if gymnasts a part of the programme are injured. This is at the discretion of the England WAG National coach.

Gymnasts selected for the programme will be expected to undertake all programme activities (camps and competitions) laid out by the England WAG National Coaches. All gymnasts who are selected must attend the entirety of each camp.

A coach from each club which has an individual gymnast selected for the programme is expected to attend at least one day (including one overnight stay) of each camp, to support their gymnast. Failure by a coach to adhere to this requirement may result in the relevant gymnast being de-selected or suspended from participation in the programme.

Section 3: The Programme

Invitations to join the England WAG Performance Pathway Programme will be issued on an April – March basis each year.

Should gymnasts be selected onto the programme they will be expected to self-fund their attendance for both camps, competitions, and kit. Staying off-site during camps is prohibited.

Participation in any of the England Performance Pathway Programmes is optional. Athletes may decline the invitation, however once an athlete has accepted the offer, there is an expectation that the athlete will fully commit to all the requirements of the programme including the associated policies, procedures and agreed training, competition goals within the Individual Athlete Plan (IAP).

- Programme selection period (Length of time an athlete can expect to be on the Programme from the point of selection)
 - April - June (Induction period)
 - July – March

- Programme athletes must agree a WAG Individual Athlete Plan (targets, development & competition routines and competition calendar/events) with the England National Coaches.
- Programme athletes will be required to undertake all WAG programme activities (camps, additional training and/or HPC and competitions) laid out by England WAG National Coaches.
- Programme athletes must also agree to observe all obligations outlined within the English Gymnastics' Performance Athlete Agreement and any subsequent Codes of Behaviour adopted by English Gymnastics, which can be found [here](#).