



COMMONWEALTH GAMES NOMINATION POLICY

RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

XXII Commonwealth Games, Birmingham (England)

28th July – 8th August 2022

Competition Format	<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
Performance Targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualify for at least 1 Final in Competition III: top 8 finish in apparatus final
Eligibility	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gymnasts are eligible for consideration to compete for Gymnastics Northern Ireland (GNI) provided they: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Hold an Irish or British passport ii. Are eligible to compete by possession of a current gymnast licence held with the FIG iii. Are a minimum of 18 years old in the year of competition (year of birth being 2004 or earlier) iv. Are eligible under the Commonwealth Games Federation Byelaw 17 (see Appendix 1) v. Have submitted a Declaration of Interest form to GNI.
The Team	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The 'Team' means the team that is selected by Gymnastics Northern Ireland and includes selected Gymnast(s), Coach/Coaches, nominated reserve(s) (non-travelling) from any of the Commonwealth Games Gymnastics disciplines, medical support personnel, and the Team Manager.
Nomination Panel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Nomination Panel shall be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair – An independent member of British Gymnastics Performance Staff • A nominated MAG representative appointed by the Gymnastics Northern Ireland Management Committee • Gymnastics Northern Ireland Management Committee Representative

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Following the completion of the Designated Nomination events/trial listed in this policy, the Nomination Panel acting fairly and without bias will review the results and nominate those Men’s Artistic Coach/Coaches and Gymnast(s) who they feel can achieve the performance targets as set out by Gymnastics Northern Ireland in this policy 3. Following this consultation, the Nomination Panel will forward a list of nominated Coach/Coaches and Gymnast(s) to the Approval Panel for their scrutiny, no later than 25th April 2022 (TBC) 4. All members of the Nomination Panel shall declare any conflict of interest prior to nomination 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"> 1. The Approval Panel shall be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair – Gymnastics Northern Ireland Chair • Area Manager for British Gymnastics in Northern Ireland • A Representative from a Northern Ireland Commonwealth Sport other than Gymnastics 2. The Approval Panel will consider the nominations of Coach/Coaches and Gymnast(s) from the Nomination Panel and shall consider whether to ratify some or all of them on the basis that it also wishes the individual(s)/team to have the best chance to achieve the performance targets 3. The Approval Panel will confirm the nomination of the Individual(s)/Team on or before 30th April 2022 (TBC) 4. All members of the Approval Panel shall declare any conflict of interest prior to nomination discussions starting and shall not take part in any voting affected by such conflict, but may take part in discussions.
Appeals Process	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The nominated individual(s) will receive notification of their nomination by email or phone by 12pm 2nd May 2022 (TBC). All team members shall keep their nomination confidential until the final ratification by the Commonwealth Games Northern Ireland and with permission from the Commonwealth Games Northern Ireland 2. Appeals can only be submitted for a non-selected gymnast on the grounds that the process outlined in this 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 3. Coach nomination is not open to appeal 4. Appeals should be made in writing to Gymnastics Northern Ireland Chair, Christine Shannon, between 12pm 2nd May 2022 and 12pm 4th May 2022 (TBC). Outcomes of any appeals will be communicated by 11th May 2022

	<p>5. Following the completion of the Appeals process, the Team shall be nominated to the Commonwealth Games Northern Ireland for final ratification, which shall be completed by 1st June 2022 (TBC).</p>
<p>Designated Nomination Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nomination Panel will take into consideration performances at a maximum of 3 eligible nomination events and will select on the basis of the 2 highest placings which have the best chance of meeting the Performance Targets as outlined above at these events • Gymnasts wishing to seek nomination are required to compete in at least two of the following events, taking place before 25th April 2022: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The English Championships 2021-22 2. The British Championships 2021-22 3. Any Rhythmic Gymnastics event held where there is 3 or more Commonwealth Countries participating in 2021/2022 4. Any FIG Sanctioned major championship (e.g., World Championships, Olympics) in 2021/2022 5. Any FIG sanctioned event (e.g., Invitational events) in 2021/2022 • Gymnastics NI reserves the right to select or hold trial events. These will take place by 25th April 2022 (TBC) • In the event of a trial taking place, the judges will be selected by Gymnastics NI and will represent a selection of Commonwealth Countries.
<p>Nomination Process</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Gymnast(s) will be selected on the basis of having the best chance of achieving the Performance Targets as outlined in this policy 2. By entering the Nomination Process, Gymnasts and Personal Coaches agree to be bound by the provisions of this policy 3. Nominated Gymnast(s) and Coach/Coaches (including the reserve(s)) will be expected to undertake all programme activities (Competition, Trial and Training Camp) as may be laid out by Gymnastics Northern Ireland as part of the preparations for the Commonwealth Games 2022 to prove their readiness to compete 4. Nominated Gymnast(s) and Coach/Coaches (including reserve(s)) must also agree to observe all obligations outlined within the Commonwealth Games Northern Ireland's selection policies and agreements and any subsequent Codes of Behaviour adopted by British Gymnastics 5. The Coach/Coaches will be nominated by the Gymnastics Northern Ireland Management Committee based on the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of available accreditations • 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

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their current qualification i.e., current HPC/SCC and standing as a professional member <p>Their attendance at all required meetings, trials, competitions, and training events is mandatory.</p>
Injury and Replacement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the event of injury and replacement, any Gymnast that has completed the Declaration of Interest and competed in the required designated events/trial may be called upon by the Approval Panel to join the Commonwealth Games Team at any time 2. Once Team nominations have been confirmed by the Approval Panel, selected Gymnast(s) (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. Selected Gymnast(s) must declare any medications they are taking, in particular, the use of any restricted medications, and submit these to the Head of Science and 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 Northern Ireland’s policies and agreements or a violation of the Code of Behaviour adopted by the Team. Prior to removal, the Gymnast(s) or Coach/Coaches 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 5. At any stage following the selection announcement and prior to departure to the competition, should any Gymnast(s) fail to reach performance expectations in training or competition, the nomination panel may recommend de-nomination to the Approval Panel. The Approval Panel will consider this recommendation, provide an opportunity for the Gymnast(s), Coach/Coaches to make a counter argument and the 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 performance expectations in training or competition, the Team Coach may recommend de-nomination to the 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 the 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 nomination announcement, should there be a doubt over the ability of a gymnast to compete to the best of their ability due to an injury or illness, the following procedure will be adhered to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Gymnast will be referred to the designated British Gymnastics/Commonwealth Games Northern Ireland Medical Officer to undergo a medical examination to determine their fitness to participate.

	<p>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, other competitors, officials or spectators.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 but to the best of their ability due to an underlying injury or illness, the Gymnast will be required to undertake a 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 routines to a level at least equivalent to that demonstrated in the nomination 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 decision will be made by the Team Manager in consultation with the Team Coach/Coaches. <p>Any replacement(s) required will be made by the Team Manager after gaining approval from Commonwealth Games Northern Ireland, 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.</p>
Team Organisation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Team may have to attend a pre-Commonwealth Games Preparation Camp and competitions as agreed with Gymnast(s) and personal Coach/Coaches after nomination 2. The Team (other than the non-travelling reserve(s)) will transfer to the Commonwealth Games on a date to be confirmed by the Commonwealth Games Northern Ireland. 3. All Gymnasts and Coaches will be required to sign the British Gymnastics and/or Gymnastics Northern Ireland Agreement and the Commonwealth Games Northern Ireland's Team Members policies and agreements. 4. In the event that a personal coach of a selected gymnast is not a Team Coach, they may be invited to attend the Championships at their own cost.
Announcement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Selected Team Members agree not to make any announcement to the media or public in any form (including on any personal websites/media platforms) regarding their nomination until after the Commonwealth Games Northern Ireland have announced the Team Selection on their Website and with local media
Any additional matters not covered by this policy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any matters arising from the nomination process that are not covered within this policy shall be determined by Northern Ireland Gymnastics or a nominated representative acting at their sole discretion.
General	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Insofar as is permitted by Northern Ireland Law, Northern Ireland Gymnastics and its authorised agents do not accept liability for any loss or damage occurring as a result of the nomination process (including anything arising from non-nomination

	and or ratification by Commonwealth Games Northern Ireland). This shall not affect any statutory rights that are available and this shall no limit or exclude any liability that may not be excluded or limited by law.
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**GYMNASTICS NORTHERN IRELAND NOMINATION POLICY
FOR XXII COMMONWEALTH GAMES (Rhythmic Gymnastics)**

APPROVED BY*:

Signed: *C. Shannon*

Christine Shannon – GNI Chair

Signed: *A. Dalton*

Ann Marie Dalton – GNI Finance

Signed: *H. Woods*

Helen Woods – GNI Welfare Officer

Signed: *R. Hastings*

Robyn Hastings – GNI Duty of Care

**Approved electronically due to Covid-19 restrictions.*