

# BRITISH GYMNASTICS' SELECTION POLICY

## ACROBATICS Gymnastics

### World Age Group Championships, Geneva, SUI

9 - 15 June 2021

1. Introduction	<p>The Acro World Age Group Championships is a PERFORMANCE competition. A Performance event means that selections will be made based on the athletes most capable of performing and challenging to make finals and win medals.'</p> <p><i>However, with the 2020 World Age Group Championships postponed due to the Covid 19 Pandemic this policy sets out a revised policy taking into account the unique circumstances that we now have to deal with in selecting the GBR WAGC Teams to represent Great Britain at the 2021 ACRO World Age Group Championships.</i></p>
2. Performance Targets	<p><b>11-16 Age Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Qualify 3 or more partnerships for Competition II</li><li>• 2 medals in Competition II</li></ul> <p><b>12-18 Age Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Qualify 3 or more partnerships for Competition II</li><li>• 2 medals in competition II</li></ul> <p><b>13-19 Age Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Qualify 2 or more partnerships for Competition II</li><li>• 2 medals in Competition II</li></ul>
3. Selection Process / Timelines	<p>Due to the unprecedented local and global challenges because of the Covid-19 pandemic, it is currently possible that there may be no scheduled British Gymnastics domestic competitions prior to the definitive entry deadline for the 2021 World Championships on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021. We anticipate also that the normal pattern of club visits by the National Coach may also be restricted.</p> <p><i>Therefore, the following policy has been agreed by the ACRO Technical Panel: -</i></p> <p><b><u>Partnerships selected, on an unconditional basis, for GBR WAGC in March 2020 and remaining together in the same Age Group for 2021,</u> will be selected to the 2021 ACRO Worlds Age Group Team subject to confirmation for fitness and standard to compete following the confirmation timeline below. These partnerships should maintain regular video contact with the National Coach for formal monitoring of progress by video submission at the end of each month Nov/Dec 2020 &amp; Jan/Feb 2021. (see also sections 8 &amp; 13)</b></p> <p><b><u>New WAGC Partnerships that have been reformed and assessed for standard by the National Coach</u> will be invited to the trial process outlined in the selection timeline below. These partnerships should maintain regular video contact with the National Coach for formal monitoring of progress by video submission at the end of each month Nov/Dec 2020 &amp; Jan/Feb 2021. (see also sections 8 &amp; 13)</b></p> <p><u>Selection/Confirmation Timeline</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Definitive Control Event</b> LNSC Feb 27/28, 2021 (12-18 and 13-19 Age Groups only)</li><li>2. Meeting to identify places for doubling for Definitive Entries (and assessment of eligibility for the Worlds Selection Trial) – 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021</li><li>3. Definitive Entries – 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021</li><li>4. <b>WAGC Selection Trial</b> - 10/11 April 2021 Pat Wade, Telford Int Centre (ALL PARTNERSHIPS) <b>NB if the Pat Wade Event cannot run due to Covid 19 then the WAGC Selection Trial will be a Control Event on the 3-4 April LNSC</b></li><li>5. Nomination /Selection Meeting – April 2021 (Date TBC)</li></ol>

	<p>6. Communication of selection to gymnasts and coaches –April 2021 (Date TBC)</p> <p>7. Appeals window open – April 2021 (Date TBC)</p> <p>8. Appeals Deadline – April 2021 (Date TBC)</p> <p>9. Team Announcement – April (Date TBC)</p> <p>9. Nominative Entries – 7 May 2021 (Date TBC)</p>
4. FIG Entry deadlines	<p>British Gymnastics is the selecting body that enters the GBR team to the FIG/Organiser. The timelines for entry to the World Championships 2021 are: -</p> <p>Provisional Entry – w/c 25 Jan 2021</p> <p>Definitive Entry – w/c 8 March 2021.</p> <p>Nominative Entry – w/c 10 May 2021</p> <p>NB. These dates will be confirmed on publication of the directives.</p>
5. Competition Format	<p>FIG Competition I, II &amp; III</p> <p>Competition I (CI): Balance and Dynamic qualification for Competition II (CII)</p> <p>Competition II: Dynamic Finals (11-16 Women’s Pairs, Men’s Pairs, Men’s Groups), Balance Finals (11-16 Mixed Pairs, Women’s Groups), Combined Finals (12-18 &amp; 13-19 Age Groups, all categories) (Top 8 with a maximum of 1 per Federation, if less than 12 units in a category, only 6 will proceed to the final and if 30 or more units, 10 go to the final.)</p> <p>In accordance with the current FIG Technical Regulations, FIG Code of Points (CoP), Table of Difficulty (ToD) 2017-2020 and the FIG Acro World Age Group Rules 2017-2020.</p>
6. Eligibility Criteria	<p>Gymnasts are eligible for consideration provided they are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a British Citizen holding a British passport</li> <li>• 11-16 Age Group: a minimum of 11 years old and a maximum of 17 years old in the year of competition but with the maximum age difference of 5 years between partners.</li> <li>• 12-18 Age Group: a minimum of 12 years old and a maximum of 19 years old in the year of competition but with the maximum age difference of 6 years between partners.</li> <li>• 13-19 Age Group: a minimum of 13 years old and a maximum of 20 years old in the year of competition but with the maximum age difference of 6 years between partners.</li> <li>• a current British Gymnastics member in good standing</li> <li>• In possession of a Gymnast Licence held with FIG (arranged via British Gymnastics)</li> <li>• New partnerships who fulfil CoP partnership eligibility to compete when changing partners from different (higher)Age Groups.</li> </ul>
7. The ‘Team’	<p>1. The ‘Team’ means athletes, coaches, nominated reserves, medical support personnel, judges, Team Leaders, Heads of Delegation, and any associated members of the Performance Sport staff that is selected by British Gymnastics.</p>
8. Nomination Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ACRO Nomination Panel consists of the Performance Manager, the ACRO National Coach, the Chair of ACRO Technical Committee and the ACRO National Judging Officer.</li> <li>• <b>For the Definitive Control Event the Panel will invite only the 12-18 and 13-19 Partnerships</b> in order to review their performance and decide which classes would be doubled up for the Definitive Entries on the 8<sup>th</sup> March.</li> <li>• <b>At the 2021 WAGC Selection Trial all WAGC registered Partnerships will be invited and the Panel will: -</b></li> </ul>

	<p>a) Assess the partnerships selected unconditionally for the 2020 WAGC and verify for fitness and standard and then make nominations to the Approval Panel.</p> <p>b) Make selections from any newly reformed partnerships based on performances at the Worlds Selection Trial (the Pat Wade – see section 3) along with an assessment by the ACRO National Coach of their progress over the winter months.</p> <p>NB. The nominated gymnasts/partnerships and coaches will be those who meet the below nomination criteria, and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the opinion of the ACRO National Coach and the ACRO Nomination Panel, are most able to achieve the targets listed within the section ‘Performance Targets’.</li> </ul> <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the opinion of the National Coach and the Selection Panel, deem competing at the event a suitable performance development opportunity.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following a) and b) above, the Performance Manager will then forward a list of the confirmed /selected partnerships and coaches to the Approval Panel – April 2021 (date TBC)</li> </ul>
9. Approval Panel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A British Gymnastics Approval Panel, comprising the Performance Director and the Head of Performance Programmes will consider the nominations of the partnerships and coaches received from the Selection Panel and ratify these as appropriate.</li> <li>2. In the event that the Selection Panel submit insufficient partnerships than the available team places, the Approval Panel have the opportunity to make referral back to the Selection Panel for their reasoning at which point their list of nominations may be amended.</li> <li>3. The Approval Panel will confirm to the Performance Manager the selection of the Nominative entries April 2021 (date TBC).</li> </ol>
10. Communication of selections	<p>Once the Approval Panel confirm the selection of the team, the Performance Manager will notify all age eligible British Squad Athletes and their personal coaches - April 2021 (date TBC).</p> <p>Once selections have been communicated, the 48-hour appeals window comes into effect.</p> <p>Athletes and Coaches shall refrain from making any public statements regarding team selection until after the official Team Announcement - April 2021 (date TBC) (see also section 15)</p>
11. Athlete /Appeals	<p>Appeals can only be submitted by gymnasts from the non-selected partnerships (appeals window to be decided) on the basis that the process outlined within this Selection Policy has not been adhered to.</p> <p>Appeals should be made following British Gymnastics’ selection appeals process - details can be found on the British Gymnastics’ website. <a href="https://www.british-gymnastics.org/technical-information/performance-gymnastics/document-downloads/5305-selection-appeals-process/file">https://www.british-gymnastics.org/technical-information/performance-gymnastics/document-downloads/5305-selection-appeals-process/file</a></p>
12. Designated Events	<p><b>Definitive Control Event LNSC Feb 27/28, 2021 TBC (12-18 &amp; 13-19 ONLY)</b></p> <p>All Categories: 1 balance routine and 1 dynamic routine only.</p> <p><b>WAGC Selection Trial - Telford Int Centre 10/11 April 2021 (Pat Wade) – All Partnerships – 11-16/12-18/13-19/Seniors</b></p> <p>All Categories: 1 balance routine, 1 dynamic routine, 1 combined routine (where performed)</p> <p><i>NB if the Pat Wade Event cannot run due to Covid 19 then the WAGC Selection Trial will be a Control Event on the 3-4 April at LNSC - date &amp; venue TBC.</i></p>

	<p>NB. Any gymnast who is ill or injured prior to or during the Confirmation Event above must <b>provide immediate written authentication</b> of the injury or illness by a registered medical practitioner or chartered physiotherapist. This documentation must be submitted to the Performance Officer, Ellie Round (<a href="mailto:ellie.round@british-gymnastics.org">ellie.round@british-gymnastics.org</a>). (Please see Section 8)</p>
<p>13. Nomination and Registration Process</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b><u>Partnerships selected, on an unconditional basis, for the ACRO 2020 WAGC and remaining unchanged and at the same level for 2021, will be confirmed for the 2021 ACRO WAGC Teams after the WAGC Selection Trial. This confirmation should evidence proof of fitness and standard of routine.</u></b>  <i>If the average score of the best 2 routines at the Worlds Selection Trial is equal to or higher than the benchmark score of 8.50, the Partnership will be Nominated for Selection irrespective of ranking.  NB These places are not open to other partnerships unless a 2020 selected partnership is either unfit to compete at the 2021 Championships or if in the opinion of the Nomination Panel, Fitness and Standard have not been demonstrated.</i> </li> <li>2. <b><u>New Partnerships that have been reformed and assessed for standard by the National Coach during November /December/January/February 2020 will be invited to the WAGC Selection Trial outlined in section 12 above where the Team places will be selected for the 2021 GBR ACRO WAGC Teams. Performances at the WAGC Selection Trial for new partnerships should evidence proof of fitness and standard of routine. If the average score of the best 2 routines at the WAGC Selection Trial is equal to or higher than the benchmark score of 8.50, the Partnership may be Nominated for Selection.</u></b> </li> </ol> <p>Notes on 1) and 2) above</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Selection will not be limited to the partnerships on the elite exemption list.</li> <li>• To deliver the strongest GBR Team possible the Selection Panel may at their discretion select partnerships into a different age group to that which they were entered in.</li> <li>• As is usual in the Selection Process – selection will not necessarily be taken off ranking order from the WAGC Selection Trial Event.</li> <li>• Participation and Performance at World Cups in March/April (dates TBC) may also be taken into consideration in the selection process.</li> <li>• Partnerships who do not participating at the WAGC Selection Trial due to a documented injury, or any other valid reason, (see section 12) may still be considered for Selection if: - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) There are 1 or less partnerships at the required level.</li> <li>b) A partnership is clearly considered to be in the top two in the UK in their class and age category at the time of the WAGC Selection Trial.</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p><b>Registration Progress - TBC</b></p>
<p>14 Injury &amp; Replacement</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In the event of injury and/or the need for replacement, a partnership or gymnast may be called upon to join the Team at any time.</li> <li>2. Once the Team selections have been confirmed by the Approval Panel and announced, all selected gymnasts (including the reserves) must agree not to withhold any information on training fitness, injury status or illness that could affect training or competition readiness at any time up to the conclusion of the Championships.</li> <li>3. Selected gymnasts must declare medications they are taking, in particular the use of any restricted medications, and submit these in writing for the attention of the Performance Manager.</li> <li>4. A gymnast / partnership or coach may be removed from the Team in the event of non-compliance in training, a breach of responsibility to the Team or a violation of the Codes of Conduct adopted by the Team. Prior to removal the gymnast / partnership or coach must be presented with the opportunity to attend a removal interview with the Head of Delegation (or their appointed representative) and where possible one other independent person. Written justification must be provided for all removals by the Head of Delegation. Decisions on these matters are not open to appeal.</li> <li>5. Once selected until departure for the competition, where a gymnast / partnership is unable to train for a significant period time, (a significant period of time defined as seven continuous days or more) the primary coach must declare this information to the Performance Manager.</li> </ol>

	<p>6. At any stage following the selection announcement and prior to departure to the competition, should any partnership / gymnast fail to reach performance expectations in training or competition, the National Coach may recommend de-selection to the Performance Manager / Selection Panel. If supported by the Selection Panel the case will be referred to the Approval Panel who will consider this recommendation, provide an opportunity for the gymnast / partnership 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.</p> <p>7. At any stage following the arrival of the Team at the competition and during the event, should any gymnast/partnership fail to reach performance expectations in training or competition, the National Coach may recommend de-selection to Head of Delegation. The Head of Delegation will consider this recommendation, provide an opportunity for the gymnast/partnership 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.</p> <p>8. In the event there is a breach of responsibility to the Team or a violation of the Codes of Conduct adopted, during or after the competition, i.e. the banquet and prior to returning to the UK, depending on the circumstances, gymnasts or officials may receive a penalty. In the case of a gymnast this will impact on present or future partnerships they are in until the expiry date of the penalty imposed.</p> <p>9. At any stage following the selection announcement, should there be a doubt over the ability of a gymnast / partnership to compete to the best of their ability <u>due to an injury or illness</u>, the following procedure will be adhered to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The gymnast will be referred to British Gymnastics' a 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, illness and /or medical condition 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.</li> <li>b) If the gymnast passes the initial medical examination carried out by the Medical Officer but British Gymnastics still has concerns over whether or not the gymnast is able to compete to the best of their ability due to the underlying injury, illness or condition, the gymnast will be required to undertake British Gymnastics' designated "Fitness Test".</li> <li>c) The Fitness Test will require the gymnast to perform a minimum of one routine with their partnership, to members of the Selection Panel and the National Coach at a set time and location. The panel will analyse the routine(s) and must agree that the partnership is capable of achieving the performance standards expected by the time of the competition and if other partnerships seen at the Selection Event (s) are a better alternative.</li> <li>d) In the event that a gymnast fails to complete the Fitness Test to the required standard, they will be removed from the Team, a decision that is not open to appeal.</li> </ul> <p>10. In the event that a gymnast within a partnership changes after the announcement of the team, the new partnerships must first be declared to the Performance Manager. A change of partnership may be considered under the following circumstances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The new partnership can demonstrate all three routines and will be 'assessed' by the National Coach, with a minimum of one or more of the Selection Panel, at a set time and location (TBC).</li> <li>b) The Panel must be convinced and in agreement that there is not a more viable partnership seen at the Selection Events and that the replacement gymnast(s) and partnership can achieve the Performance Targets set within this policy.</li> </ul> <p>Any replacement partnership(s) will be made by the National Coach and Performance Manager based on the needs of the Team. Decisions on these matters are not open to appeal.</p>
15 Team Organisation	<p>There may be a mandatory GBR Team Training Camp (Venue and details TBC) which, if held will cover kitting out, final checking of tariff sheets and Team meetings. In the event of there being no Team Training Camp – Tariff Sheets and music will be requested by British. Gymnastics on a date TBC for pre-competition checking and submission.</p>

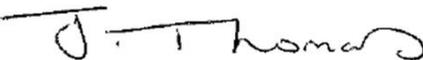
	All gymnasts within the Team will be required to sign and comply with British Gymnastics' Gymnast Agreement 2017 – 2021. The Team will be required to travel altogether and will depart for Geneva on or around (Travel dates TBC)
16 Team Announcement	The Team will be announced by British Gymnastics – April 2021 dates TBC.  All Selected Team Members agree not to make any announcement to the media or public in any form (including through social media) regarding their selection until after British Gymnastics have announced the Team selection on the British Gymnastics website ( <a href="http://www.british-gymnastics.org">www.british-gymnastics.org</a> ).
17 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 the Approval Panel acting at their sole discretion.

**ACROBATICS Selection policy for the 2021 World Age Group Championships (Geneva, SUI)**

APPROVED BY:

Signed   
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Mel Sanders  
 Chair, ACRO Technical Committee

Signed   
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James Thomas  
 Performance Director

**MEDICAL PERSONNEL APPROVED BY BRITISH GYMNASTICS**

- Chris Tomlinson (British Gymnastics' Chief Medical Officer)
- Louise Fawcett (British Gymnastics' Head of Performance Support)
- Jonny Bucke (British Gymnastics' Physiotherapist)
- Jason Laird (British Gymnastics' Physiotherapist)
- Lindy Laszig (British Gymnastics' Physiotherapist)