

# BRITISH GYMNASTICS' SELECTION POLICY

## ACROBATICS Gymnastics

### Junior and Senior European Championships, Pesaro (ITA)

29th September – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021

1. Introduction	The Acro World 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 at European, World and World Games Championship Level.
2. Performance Targets	<b>13-20 Age Group (Juniors)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Qualify 2 or more partnerships for Competition II</li><li>• 2 medals in Competition II</li><li>• Qualify 2 or more partnerships for Competition III</li><li>• 1 or more medals in the AA Competition III</li></ul> <b>Seniors</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Qualify 2 or more partnerships for Competition II<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1 medal in Competition II</li></ul></li><li>• Qualify 2 or more partnerships for Competition III<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1 or more medals in the AA Competition III</li></ul></li></ul>
3. Selection Process / Timelines	<b>Selection Timelines</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Definitive Entries – 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021</li><li>2. European Ch &amp; Ech Selection Trial – 31 July / 1 August 2021 LNSC</li><li>3. Nomination /Selection Meeting – 1st August 2021 LNSC</li><li>4. Communication of Nominations to the Approval Panel – 2nd August 2021</li><li>5. Communication of Approved Team to the Coaches and Gymnasts. 4th August</li><li>6. Appeals window open – 4th August</li><li>7. Appeals Deadline – 6th August.</li><li>8. Team Announcement – (Date TBC)</li><li>9. Nominative Entry – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021</li></ol>
4. FIG Entry deadlines	British Gymnastics is the selecting body that enters the GBR team to the FIG/Organiser. The timelines for entry to the European Championships 2021 are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Definitive Entry – 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021 (23:59 Swiss Time)</li><li>• Nominative Entry – 8 September 2021 (23:59 Swiss Time)</li></ul>
5. Competition Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• European Gymnastics Competition I, II &amp; III</li><li>• Competition I (CI): Balance and Dynamic qualification for Competition II (CII) and Competition III (CIII)</li><li>• Competition II (CII): Balance and Dynamic Finals (Top 6 - 8 with a maximum of 1 per Federation)</li><li>• Competition III (CIII): Combined All Around (Top 6 - 8 with a maximum of 1 per Federation)</li></ul>

	In accordance with the current European Gymnastic and FIG Technical Regulations, FIG Code of Points (CoP), Table of Difficulty (ToD) and the FIG Acro World Age Group Rules (2017 -2020).
6. Eligibility Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gymnasts are eligible for consideration provided they are:</li> <li>• a British Citizen holding a British passport</li> <li>• 13-20 Age Group (Juniors): a minimum of 13 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>• Seniors: a minimum of 15 years old in the year of competition</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> </ul>
7. The 'Team'	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.
8. Nomination Panel	<p>1. Following the completion of the Designated Selection Events listed within this Policy, the National Coach will consult with the Head of Performance Programmes (HPP) and the Performance Pathway Manager (PPM). Account will be made for any relevant input deemed necessary from the medical staff to discuss the nomination of the gymnasts. The HPP and/or PPM will consult with the other members of the Selection Panel (the Technical Committee Chairman and the National Judge Co-ordinator) to agree the nominations.</p> <p>2. The nominated gymnasts / partnerships and coaches will be those who meet the nomination criteria, and:</p> <p>a) In the opinion of the National Coach and the Selection Panel, are most able to achieve the targets listed within the section 'Performance Targets'.</p> <p>AND / OR</p> <p>b) In the opinion of the National Coach and the Selection Panel have a potential for development.</p> <p>3. Following the above process, the HPP and/or PPM will forward a list of nominated partnerships and coaches to the Approval Panel for their examination.</p>
9. Approval Panel	<p>1. A British Gymnastics Approval Panel, comprising the Performance Director will consider the nominations of the partnerships and coaches received from the Selection Panel and ratify these as appropriate.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>3. The Approval Panel will confirm to the HPP and/or PPM the selection of the Nominative entries August 2021 (4<sup>th</sup> August 2021).</p>
10. Communication of selections	<p>Once the Approval Panel confirm the selection of the team, the HPP and/or PPM will notify all age eligible British Squad Athletes and their personal coaches – 4<sup>th</sup> August 2021.</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 - August 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>

<p>12. Designated Selection Events</p>	<p>The following two events will be used for consideration in selecting the GBR Team: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WAGC or WCh 2021 – Geneva – June/ July 2021</li> <li>• ECh Selection Trial – LNSC – 31 July/1<sup>st</sup> Aug 2021</li> </ul> <p>All Partnerships: Junior and Senior</p> <p>All Categories: 1 balance routine, 1 dynamic routine, 1 combined routine</p> <p><i>NB. Any gymnast who is ill or injured prior to or during the Confirmation Events 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. Joy Fern - (<a href="mailto:joy.fern@british-gymnastics.org">joy.fern@british-gymnastics.org</a>). (Please see Section 8)</i></p>
<p>13. Nomination and Registration Process</p>	<p>The selection panel will consider performances and results from the WAGC or WCh 2021 and the ECh Selection Trial 2021 to ensure the selection of the strongest possible GBR Teams at the European Championships 2021.</p> <p><b>Registration Progress</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All partnerships must fill in the request/registration sheet at the end of this policy and return it to the Programme Officer by the deadline of Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021.</li> <li>2. Partnerships who fulfil one or more of the following criteria will be eligible to trial for the 2021 European Championships: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Represented Great Britain at the WAGC or WCh 2021 to include those who have changed Age Group</li> <li>b) Partnerships who trialled for the WAGC or WCh 2021</li> <li>c) Gymnasts who were on the elite exemption register but chose not to trial for WAGC or WCh 2021.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>NB. If there is a change of 1 partner, the National Coach will make a judgement of their eligibility.</p> <p>Partnerships not covered by the above can submit a request to trial with supporting evidence by 9th July 2021. <u>These will be considered for Trial by the National Coach</u> with a final decision on attending the selection events no later than Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021.</p> <p>The National Coach may elect to invite up to five partnerships per discipline to attend the Selection Events. In all cases partnerships must be considered to be competitive and capable of obtaining the benchmark score at the Selection Events. In this situation, the HPP and/ or PPM will notify the primary coach so that a request/registration sheet can be submitted by the deadline.</p> <p><b>Nomination Process</b></p> <p>The Nomination Panel will assess the eligible partnerships based on performances at both the Control Trial Event and the WAGC/WCh 2021 (if available) alongside an assessment by the ACRO National Coach of their progress since November 2020.</p> <p>The nominated gymnasts/partnerships and coaches will be those who meet the nomination criteria of achieving an average score for Execution from 2 of the 3 routines performed at the 2021 ECh Selection Trial of 8.60 before they are doubled and who: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 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> </ol> <p>AND/OR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) In the opinion of the National Coach and the Selection Panel, deem competing at the event a suitable performance development opportunity.</li> </ol> <p>Following a) and b) above, the HPP will then forward a list of the confirmed /selected partnerships and coaches to the Approval Panel – 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021.</p> <p><i>NB As is usual with the Selection Process, partnership nominations, will not necessarily be taken off ranking order from either the WAGC/ WCh 2021 or the ECh Selection Trial 2021 but will be at the discretion of the National Coach.</i></p>

	<p>Partnerships participating at the WAGC/WCh 2021 who choose not to participate at the ECh Selection Trial 2021 due to a documented injury, or any other valid reason, may still be considered for Selection if: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 1 or less partnerships at the required level.</li> <li>• 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 ECh Selection Trial 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>However, partnerships not participating in the Euros Trial must accept the risk that the trial result may be used at the discretion of the National Coach, to be the deciding factor in selection.</u></b></p> <p>NB. Due to the selection time-constraints caused by the short period between the Worlds/WAGC 2021 and the Euros 2021, the ACRO Selection Panel will have complete discretion in considering any other selection matters not covered in this Policy.</p> <p><b>Coach Selection for the Euros</b></p> <p>Coach selection for the Euros 2021 will be decided at the discretion of the Selection Panel based on the ability to support the selected Teams in achieving the Targets outlined in section 2.</p>
14 Injury & Replacement	<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, 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> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> </ol>

	<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 be in agreement that the partnership is capable of achieving the performance standards expected by the time of the competition and alternative partnerships seen at the Selection Events do not offer 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 is able to 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 on the basis of the needs of the Team. Decisions on these matters are not open to appeal.</p>
15 Team Organisation	<p>There will be a mandatory Team Training Camp (LNSC early Sept TBC) which, 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> <p>All gymnasts within the Team will be required to sign and comply with British Gymnastics’ Gymnast Agreement 2021 – 2024</p> <p>The Team will be required to travel altogether and. will depart for Pesaro on or around (Travel dates TBC)</p>
16 Team Announcement	<p>The Team will be announced by British Gymnastics (dates TBC).</p> <p>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>).</p>
17 Any additional matters not covered by this Policy	<p>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.</p>

## ACROBATICS Selection policy for the 2021 European Championships (Pesaro, ITA)

APPROVED BY:

Signed   
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Mel Sanders  
Chair, ACRO Technical Committee

Signed   
.....

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)