

Performance Pathway Selection Policy for GBR Rhythmic Junior Group Programme 2019-24

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Programme Terms & Conditions

Section 1: Purpose of the Programme

- The GBR Junior Group Programme forms part of the GBR Programme for the development of rhythmic gymnasts working as groups.
- The purpose of the GBR Junior Group Programme is to develop a GBR junior group to compete at each of the Junior European Championships in 2019, 2021 and 2023.

Section 2: Eligibility for Selection

Any group athletes wishing to be considered for selection must be a full member of British Gymnastics and be age eligible as outlined in each squad selection criteria within this document. In addition, upon selection they must sign a copy of the British Gymnastics Athlete Agreement and abide by the rules and regulations applicable.

Hold a British Passport. Athletes who do not hold a British passport must be released by their own National Federation and be in the process of obtaining British citizenship/passport to be considered for selection.

- a current British Gymnastics member
- eligible to compete for Great Britain by possession of a current Gymnast Licence held with FIG, or in the process of applying for one (if of an age eligible for an FIG licence at the time).

Gymnasts born in one of the following years as indicated below:

| Programme Year | Audition Date | Gymnasts' years of birth |
|----------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2019 | November 2018 TBC | 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 |
| 2020 | November 2019 | 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 |
| 2021 | November 2020 | 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 |
| 2022 | November 2021 | 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 |
| 2023 | November 2022 | 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 |
| 2024 | November 2023 | 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 |

Gymnasts should: -

- Have passed the most recent British Qualification Testing for Groups (BQT) held (applicable only once available)
- Be a member of a club which is affiliated to a Home Nation or English region
- Meet any other requirements which may be set out in the Selection Event Notice, including the submission of a completed entry and fee to British Gymnastics, in the manner specified in the relevant Selection Event Notice by the date specified in that Notice.

NB. If a gymnast does not meet any of the above criteria but wishes to attend a Selection Event, the coach of the gymnast may petition the Performance Panel (via the Rhythmic Technical Committee Chair) **in writing at least four weeks before** the Selection Event requesting permission to attend. The petition must explain why the coach believes that the gymnast is of the relevant standard and be supported by evidence of the gymnast's continuous improvement, such as competition scores. The Performance Panel's decision as to whether to accept a petition shall be final. Decisions on these matters are not open to appeal.

Section 3. Selection Panels

The selection panels may vary depending on which programme is being considered. However as standard practice to ensure a GBR overview and consistency, the National Coaching Team, the Technical Committee Chair and the Non-Olympic Performance Manager and/or Performance Pathway Manager will be present at all selection meetings.

The key responsibilities of these Panels are:

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

Section 4: Overview of Selection Process

Each Selection will go through the following process, with detail differing slightly for each Programme so please be aware and check the Group Selection process detailed on page 8 of this document.

- **Selection /Auditions**

After the designated selection Auditions the Selection Panel will select the Group/Athletes, who in the expert opinion of the RHG National Coaching Team have the best capability of meeting the Performance Targets also outlined on page 8 of this document.

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

The Performance Panel will endeavour to confirm the group/ gymnasts selected for the Programme within 2 weeks after each Selection Event. One announcement will be made on the BG website listing all selected gymnasts. All personal coaches of triallists will receive the announcement via email in advance of the announcement going live on website. No specific selection or de selection letters will be sent out to individual gymnasts. Within 4 weeks of this announcement all selected gymnasts will receive an invitational letter which confirms their selection and contains all the required documents that need to be completed to accept the place on the programme and information regarding payment.

Nominated athletes must also agree to observe all obligations outlined within the British Gymnastics' Performance Athlete Agreement 2017 – 21 and any subsequent Codes of Behaviour adopted by British 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 a gymnast and National Coaching Team to assess a variety of skills, knowledge and attributes aligned to what British Gymnastics feels it takes to perform at a World, European or Commonwealth level, to ensure membership of that squad for the remainder of the selection period.

- **Full Programme Member**

If after the induction and confirmation phase for a programme, the National Coaching and Performance Team are happy with the progress being made by a Group/gymnast, 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 / Gymnast assessments will be made on an ongoing basis as part of a gymnast's membership to the programme regarding whether gymnasts move up or down the pathway or are removed from the programme altogether.

Section 5. General Information

In the event of injury, removal and/or the need for replacement, a replacement 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.

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 Non-Olympic Performance Manager (or their appointed representative), a member of the RG National Coaching Team and where possible one other independent person. Written justification must be provided for all removals by the Non-Olympic Performance Manager. 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 his/her ability due to an injury or illness, the following procedure will be adhered to:

The athlete will be referred to British Gymnastics' designated Medical Officer 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.

Any replacement(s) required will be made by the Non-Olympic Performance Manager & RG Head National Coach 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 websites) regarding their selection until after British Gymnastics have announced the Programme selection on the British Gymnastics website (<https://www.british-gymnastics.org>)

Section 6. Appeals

There is no appeals process for individual gymnasts 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 Non-Olympic Performance Manager with details.

Section 7. Anti-Doping

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

Section 8. Group Competition Eligibility Matrix

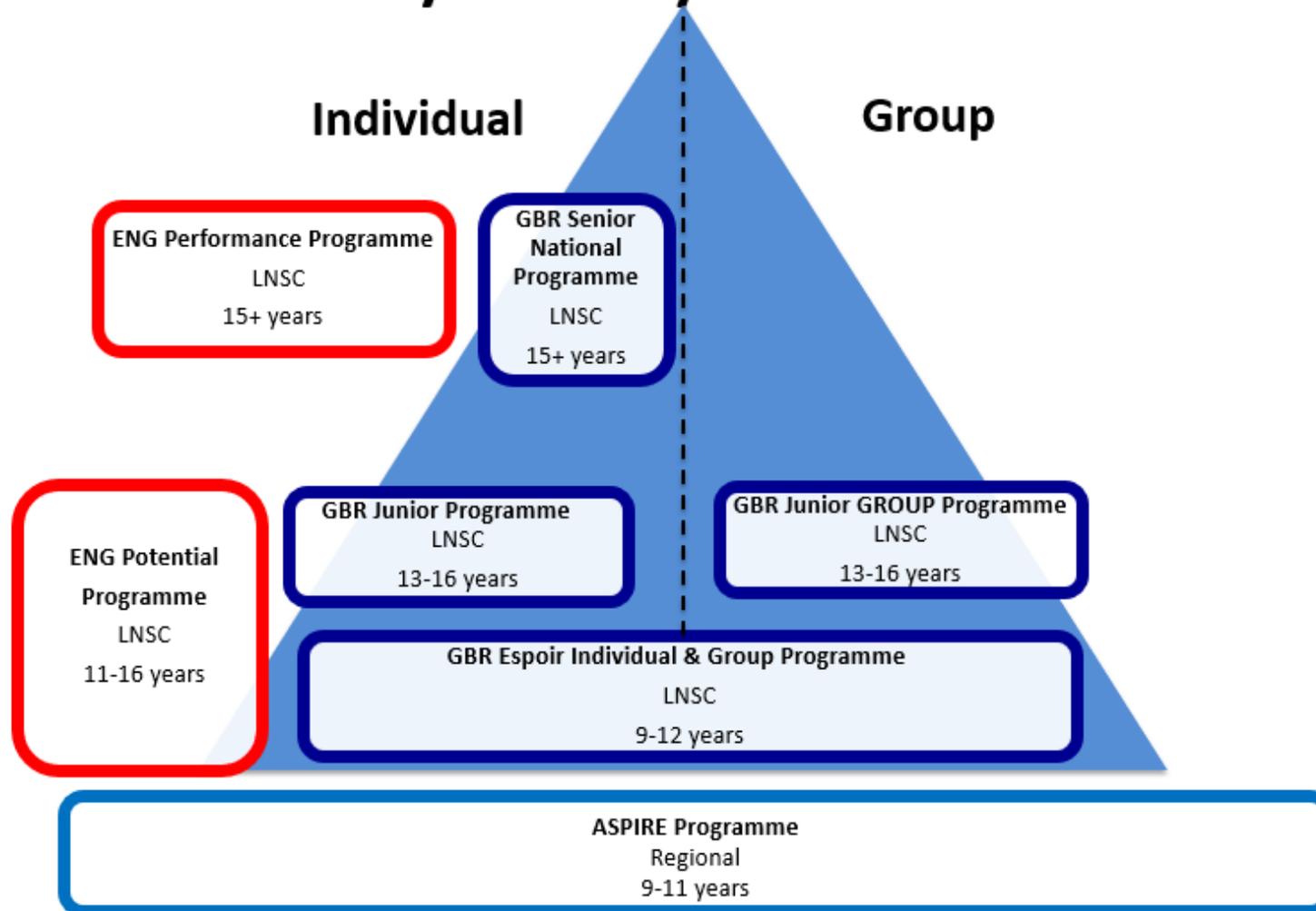
Major International Group Competitions will have a specific selection policy that will be open to Programme Athletes only. This will be placed on the British Gymnastics website in advance.

Minor International Group Events will only be available to gymnasts on the GBR or HN Programmes

UK Group competitions entry will be either through Club or National programme as appropriate

| Events | Gymnasts Selection Eligibility | Performance Standard | Selection Process |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| European Group Championships | GBR Programme only | As set out in the relevant Selection Policy | Selection Policy |
| International Group Events | GBR and HN Programmes | Appropriate to age, stage & development | No Selection Policy |
| Domestic Group Events | Club or National Programmes | Appropriate to age, stage & development | No Selection Policy |

BG Performance Pathway Programme Rhythmic Gymnastics 2019



Performance Pathway Programmes – Selection Processes

Selection processes for the GBR Junior Group Programme

JUNIOR GROUP PROGRAMME

Performance Targets

- To deliver high-level Junior Group Performances at the European Championships in 2019/2021/2023.
- More specific targets to be set by the Performance Panel throughout the period of the Group Programme.

Group Selection Process

1. An Audition will be held around November each year (details still to be confirmed for 2019) for the selection of gymnasts for the following year. Notice of the format, date, time and location of each Audition shall normally be published 6 months prior to each Audition.
2. Each Audition shall be judged/assessed by judges/assessors of the RGTC Judging Co-ordinator's choosing.
3. The Programme will consist of up to 3 groups*. The gymnasts within those groups must be of an age such that they would be eligible to compete at the next Junior European Championships (as at the date of the relevant selection) or the one after – see further detail regarding eligibility on page 3 above. **Two groups minimum will be needed to have a competitive environment.*
4. Gymnasts will be selected to be part of the Programme for periods of one year at a time (each year running from January to December). Gymnasts will be selected/re-selected once per year following an audition to be held in around November the previous year (the audition for the 2019 programme TBC - see further detail regarding Auditions in point 1 above.)
5. In addition, gymnasts may be moved up from the GBR Espoir Programme at any point within the year – see further detail under “Injury, Performance & Replacement” in section 5 above.
6. If exceptional circumstances prevent a group or member of the group from participating in, or hinder her performance in, an Audition, (including a gymnast being ill or suffering an injury prior to or during the Audition) the Nomination Panel may take into account such circumstances and select such a group/gymnast despite her being ranked lower than other gymnasts if it considers in its discretion that the selection of such group/gymnast is in the best interests of the GB Group Programme.
7. A group or gymnast who suffers the exceptional circumstances referred to above should provide such explanation and evidence of the circumstances as is requested by the Nomination Panel, including, in the case of injury or illness, written authentication of the injury or illness by one of the British Gymnastics approved medical personnel (listed at the end of this Policy).

FURTHER PROGRAMME DETAIL

Programme selection period (Length of time an athlete can expect to be on the Programme from the point of selection) NB. Gymnasts required to self-fund. Coaches may not always be funded and need to declare intentions for camp attendance at point of acceptance.

- January – March 2019 (Induction period)
 - April – December 2019
 - January – March 2020 (Induction period for new Programme members)
 - April - December 2020
 - Athletes will undertake a 3-month induction period from January – March.
- Programme athletes must agree a RG Individual Athlete Plan (targets, development & competition routines and competition calendar/events) with the RG National Coaching Team.
 - Programme athletes will be required to undertake all RG programme activities (camps, additional training at LNSC /HPC and competitions) laid out by the RG National Coaching Team
 - Programme athletes will only be eligible for a single programme and normally will not move between squads. Clearly there will be cases where it may be appropriate for gymnasts to be programme members in individual and Group. These cases should be discussed and agreed between the National Coaching Team, The TC Chair and the Programme Manager prior to selection.
 - Only Programme athletes will be considered for selection to Group events at Minor Internationals.
 - Athletes must also agree to observe all obligations outlined within the British Gymnastics' Performance Athlete Agreement 2017 – 21 and any subsequent Codes of Behaviour adopted by British Gymnastics.

England Performance and Potential Programmes



The England Performance and Potential Programmes are an integral part of the BG Performance Pathway.

For full Selection Policies follow the link: www.british-gymnastics.org/england/squads