

**GBR Performance Pathway
Selection Policies for GBR
Rhythmic Senior, Junior,
Espoir & Aspire
Individual Programmes 2019-20**

Alan Edge/Vicki Pearson/Alex McGregor

Table of Contents

Section 1. Eligibility for Selection

Section 2. Selection Panels

Section 3. Overview of Selection Process

Section 4. General Information

Section 5. Appeals

Section 6. Anti-Doping

Section 7. Competition Eligibility Matrix

Section 8. Performance Pathway Programme

- Overview of GBR & England Programme Pathways
- GBR Programmes Selection Processes – Senior/Junior/Espoir & Aspire Programmes
- England Performance and Potential Programme Link

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 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
- For Seniors and Juniors - 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).
- For Espoirs & Aspire – Gymnasts must be eligible to apply for a FIG licence should they be required for competition.

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

Programme Year	Selection Date	Gymnasts' years of birth
2019	November 2018	2004 or earlier
2020	November 2019	2005 or earlier
2021	November 2020	2006 or earlier
2022	November 2021	2007 or earlier
2023	November 2022	2008 or earlier
2024	November 2023	2009 or earlier

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

Programme Year	Selection Date	Gymnasts' years of birth
2019	November 2018	2005,2006, 2007,2008
2020	November 2019	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008
2021	November 2020	2007, 2008, 2009, 2009
2022	November 2021	2007, 2008, 2009, 2009
2023	November 2022	2009, 2010, 2011, 2012
2024	November 2023	2009, 2010, 2011, 2012

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

Programme Year	Selection Date	Gymnasts' years of birth
2019	November 2018 + BQT tbc	2007, 2008, 2009, 2010
2020	November 2019 + BQT tbc	2008, 2009, 2010, 2011
2021	November 2020 + BQT tbc	2009, 2010, 2011, 2012
2022	November 2021 + BQT tbc	2010, 2011, 2012, 2013
2023	November 2022 + BQT tbc	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014
2024	November 2023 + BQT tbc	2012, 2013, 2014, 2015

Aspire – gymnasts born in one of the following years as indicated below:

Programme Year	Selection Date	Gymnasts' years of birth
2019	November 2018 + BQT tbc	2007, 2008, 2009, 2010
2020	November 2019 + BQT tbc	2008, 2009, 2010, 2011
2021	November 2020 + BQT tbc	2009, 2010, 2011, 2012
2022	November 2021 + BQT tbc	2010, 2011, 2012, 2013
2023	November 2022 + BQT tbc	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014

Eligibility Continued

Gymnasts should: -

- Be a member of a Home Nation squad (the Home Nations being England, Gibraltar, Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales)
- Have passed the most recent British Qualification Testing (BQT) held (or did not need to pass it to qualify for British Championships)
- 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) requesting permission to attend the Selection event. **NB Due to the late notice of selection this petition should be sent immediately the selection date for the 2019 Programme is announced.** 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 2. Selection Panels

The selection panels may vary depending on which squad 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 squads and competitions.
- b) Holding selection meetings in accordance with the selection process.
- c) Communication and feedback to the selected individuals.

Section 3: 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 each set of Programme criterion on pages 8 & 9 of this document.

• Selection

After the designated selection events the Selection Panel will select the Athletes, who in the expert opinion of the RHG National Coaching Team have the best capability of meeting the Performance Targets outlined on pages 8 & 9 of this document.

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 BG Rhythmic Performance Programme aligned to the BG 'What It Takes to Win' framework.

Following the trial, one announcement is made on BG website (within 2 weeks of the trial) listing all selected gymnasts across the categories. All personal coaches of triallists would 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 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 4. 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.

The National Coaching Staff will coordinate pastoral care along with personal coaches who must attend the camps for at least 1-2 days. This personal coach attendance is a condition of being in the squad in order to have contact with the National coaching staff, observe the camp and get feedback and what is needed to be worked on before the next camp.

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:

An injured athlete must attend a camp if fit to travel so that they can receive treatment and consultation with the medical support staff. If they are unfit medically to travel then a signed Doctors letter must be produced to remain on the Programme.,

No refunds will be payable for no attendance of a camp.

Any replacement(s) required will be made by the National Technical Panel 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 5. 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 6. 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](#).

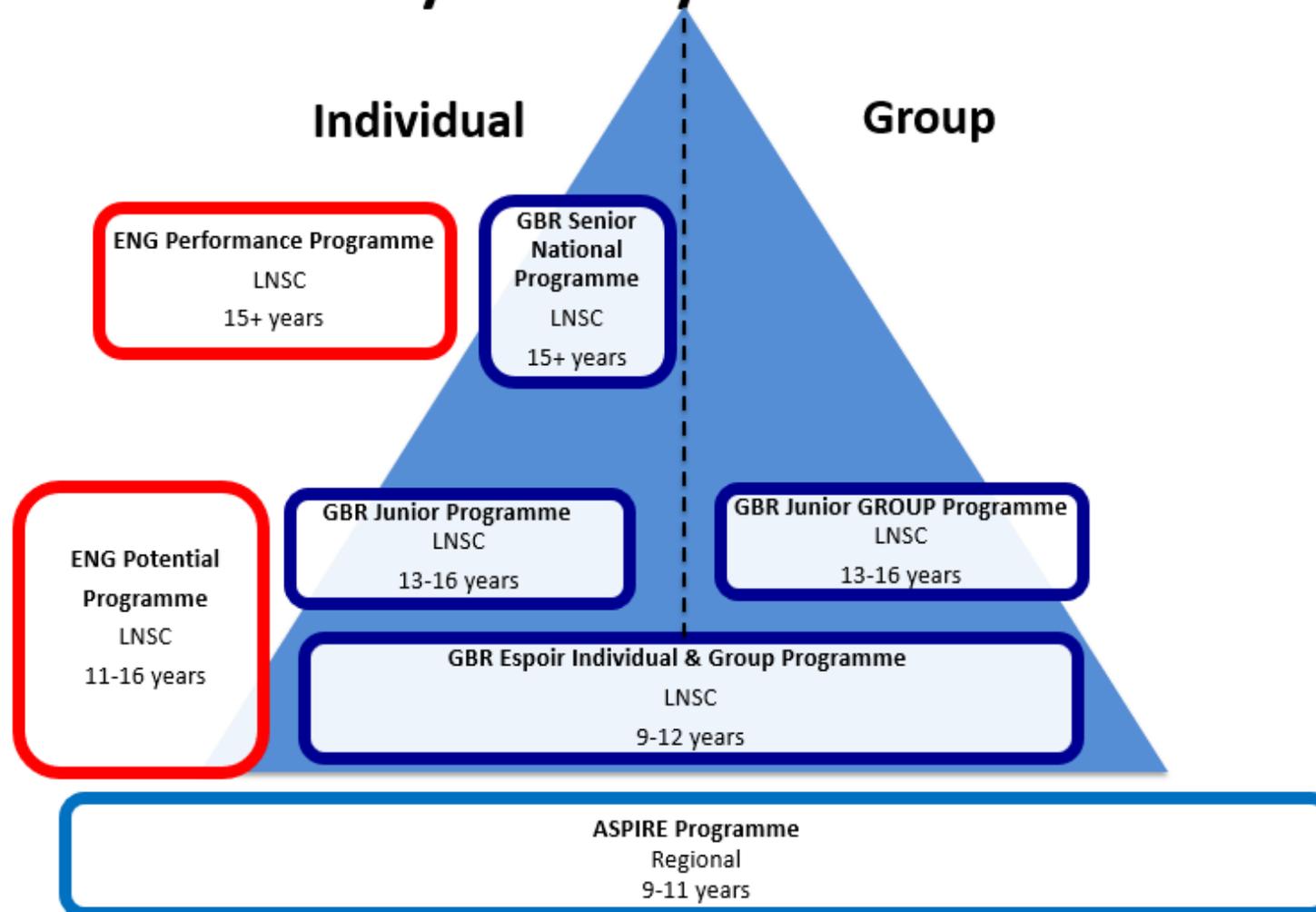
Section 7. Competition Eligibility Matrix

All major Championships competitions will have specific selection announcements published in advance outlining dates, venues, eligibility and performance criteria that are open to athletes who feel that they can reach the specific standards required. **These will be placed on the British Gymnastics website on the link. [Selection Documents](#)**

For detail on Worlds Cups and Minor Internationals - see below:

Senior Events	Gymnasts Selection Eligibility	Selection Process
World Championships	Open	Selection Policy
European Championships	Open	Selection Policy
Commonwealth Games	Open	Selection Policy
World Cups events	GBR Performance Pathway Senior Programme. ENG Performance Programme	No Selection Policy
Minor Internationals	GBR Senior/Junior Programmes; ENG Performance Programme	No Selection Policy
Age Group Events	Selection Eligibility	Selection Process
European Championships	Open	Selection Policy
Minor Internationals	GBR Junior/Espoir Programmes ENG Potential Programme	No Selection Policy

BG Performance Pathway Programme Rhythmic Gymnastics 2019



Performance Pathway Programmes – Selection Processes

Selection processes for GBR Senior, Junior, Espoir and Aspire Individual Programmes

Please note all dates and venues for Selection Trials will be published separately and published on the RHG Website – normally 6 months in advance.

SENIOR INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMME

Performance Targets

1. To deliver high level performances and improving results at European & World Championships.
2. More specific targets to be set by the Performance Panel throughout the period of the Programme.

The Selection Panel will consider performances at the following events: -

- Selection Event (date tbc) Notice of the format, date, time and location will be given prior to the event. This Event shall be judged/assessed by judges/assessors of the RGTC Judging Co-ordinator's choosing.
- Domestic and international competitions (including controlled/trial event results) taken place between (January 2018 – November 2018) may also be considered.

Up to 5 gymnasts will be selected, working as individual gymnasts, who are seniors or in their final Junior year. (see also section 1 for further detail on eligibility).

JUNIOR INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMME

Performance Targets

1. To deliver high level junior individual team performances at the European Championships in 2020/2022/2024.
2. More specific targets to be set by the Performance Panel throughout the period of the Programme.

The Selection Panel will consider performances at the following events: -

- Selection Event (date tbc) Notice of the format, date, time and location will be given prior to the event. This event shall be judged/assessed by judges/assessors of the RGTC Judging Co-ordinator's choosing.
- Domestic and international competitions (including controlled/trial event results) taken place between (January 2018 – November 2018) may also be considered.

Up to 8 gymnasts will be selected, working as individual gymnasts, whose date of birth is such that they would be eligible to compete at the next Junior European Championships (as at the date of the relevant selection) or one year younger – see further detail regarding eligibility in Section 1)

ESPOIR PROGRAMME

Performance Targets

1. To perform the recommended body skills with coordinated apparatus skills to a proficient level.
2. To show continual improvement measured by individual performance at the BQT.
3. More specific targets to be set by the Performance Panel throughout the period of the Programme.

Gymnasts will be selected for each year of the Programme following a selection event to be held around November in the previous year, and the British Qualification Testing for the relevant Programme year (each event being a "Selection Event"). Notice of the format, date, time and location of each Selection Event shall be given prior to each Selection Event.

Each Selection Event shall be judged/assessed by judges/assessors of the RGTC Judging Co-ordinator's choosing.

The Programme will consist of up to 10 gymnasts working as individuals, and up to 5 groups, with the total number of gymnasts per camp being no more than 20. The gymnasts in the Programme will be Under 9s through to Under 12s - see further detail regarding eligibility in section 1 on page 3 & 4.

Gymnasts selected for the Programme will be expected to undertake all Programme activities (camps and competitions) laid out by the National Coach. It is expected that 5 camps of 3 days each will be held each year. All gymnasts selected must attend the whole of each camp with Individual and Group activity being rotated through the programme.

A coach from each club which has an individual or group gymnast selected for the Programme must attend at least 1 day (including 1 overnight stay) of each camp, and at least 1 camp in its totality, and shall undertake pastoral care duties. Failure by a coach to adhere to this requirement may result in their gymnast/group being de-selected or suspended from participation in the Programme.

ASPIRE PROGRAMME

The English Aspire Programme is a Sport England Talent funded programme delivered by British Gymnastics which forms part of the British Gymnastics Pathway.

Performance Targets

1. To be able to perform the recommended body skills with coordinated apparatus skills to a level to demonstrate proficiency to the satisfaction of a panel of international brevet judges and/or national brevet judges nominated by the Rhythmic Gymnastics Technical Committee.
2. To progress so that as junior gymnasts they are able to perform routines to a sufficient level to be selected for membership of the GBR Junior Programme and/or England Programme.

The Programme will consist of Espoir gymnasts who meet the eligibility criteria and who are working as individual or group gymnasts.

Programme gymnasts will normally be selected during November for the following year with the Programme running January to December. (NB. For 2019 selection – the existing 2018 Squad will continue to the end of March 2019 with selection taking place on the 6th April for an 8-month period up to Dec 2019).

All gymnasts who wish to be considered for selection for the 2019 Programme must participate in this assessment. Programme gymnasts will be selected/re-selected after each Selection Event.

The Programme will consist of two sub-groups; training and other squad events expected to be organised separately for each sub-group (approx. 4 per year):

North: gymnasts from East Midlands, West Midlands, North West, North, North East and Yorkshire regions.

South: gymnasts from South West, South, South East, London and East regions. It is expected that one joint training event for the two sub-groups will be held once per year.

Gymnasts from the other regions may be invited to such event, on a guest basis.

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 cannot move between squads. Clearly there will be cases where it may be appropriate for junior 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. Espoir and Aspire gymnasts will only have a Programme place based on whether they are an individual or group gymnasts, however gymnasts may work interchangeably in both individual and group sessions.
 - Only Programme athletes will be considered for selection to 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