# BRITISH GYMNASTICS’ SELECTION POLICY

**Women’s Artistic Gymnastics**

**Senior European Championships, Basel (SUI)**

18–26 April 2021

## 1. Introduction

The Senior European Championships is a PERFORMANCE competition and a Tokyo Olympic Games qualification opportunity.

A Performance event means that selections will be made based on the athletes most capable of performing and challenging to qualify for the Tokyo Olympic Games and win medals.

The selection of athletes to represent Great Britain at the 2021 Senior European Championships will be made according to this selection policy.

Athletes should note that for this major championship, each delegation may enter a maximum of 4 entries in total with up to 4 gymnasts competing on each apparatus.

Selected gymnasts and their coaches should be aware that, in the event of GBR placing in the Top 2 nations in the All-Around listings after qualification, a non-named (quota) place will be achieved for the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo.

Only those gymnasts who have not competed for Great Britain at the 2019 World Championships can register an All-Around performance that can be considered for the Olympic quota place.

**British Gymnastics will be prioritising selection of gymnasts who have the potential of producing high level All-Around scores in qualification who did not compete at the 2019 World Championships.**

**In light of the significant local and global challenges surrounding the covid-19 pandemic, British Gymnastics will take on board all medical, health and government advice and guidelines when considering its position to enter the competition.**

**Health and welfare of athletes and staff before, during and after competition will form the basis of all decision making.**

## 2. Performance Targets

These Performance Targets and the selection principles applied in this policy reflect the long-term direction and aims of the World Class Performance Programme to win Olympic Medals in 2021.

Performance targets for the Senior European Championships 2021 are as follows:

- All Around = 1 gymnast placing top 2 (final approved FIG list in qualification)
- Individual Apparatus = 2–3 finals
- Medal target = 1–2 medals

## 3. Selection Process / Timelines

- Nomination Meeting – 25th March 2021
- Nomination to Approval Panel – 26th March 2021
4. **FIG/EG/Organiser Entry deadlines**

   British Gymnastics is the selecting body that enters the GBR team to the FIG/EG Organiser. The timelines for entry to the European Championships 2021 are:
   - Definitive Entry – 21st January 2021
   - Nominative Entry – 22nd March 2021

5. **Competition Format**

   - FIG Competition, FIG Code of Points
   - Senior Women’s AA and Apparatus qualifications (Olympic quota place qualification)
   - Senior Women’s All-Around Final
   - Senior Women’s Individual Apparatus

6. **Eligibility Criteria**

   Athletes are eligible for consideration provided they are:
   - a British Citizen, holding a British passport
   - a minimum of 16 years old in the year of competition (born 2005)
   - a current British Gymnastics member
   - eligible to compete for Great Britain by possession of a current Gymnast Licence held with FIG

7. **The ‘Team’**

   1. The ‘Team’ means the team which is selected by British Gymnastics and includes athletes, coaches, nominated reserves, medical support personnel, judges, Team Leaders, Heads of Delegation and any associated members of the Performance Sport staff.

8. **Pre-Nomination**

   1. Following the last Designated Selection Event (DSE) and prior to the Nomination Panel meeting, the Lead National Coach, may hold a pre-nomination meeting.
   2. The Pre-Nomination meeting will involve the personal coaches of athletes under consideration and will be consulted on regarding the team composition.
   3. Additional judging and analytics input may be sought to provide additional information within the pre-nomination meeting.

9. **Nomination Panel**

   1. Following the completion of the Designated Selection Events listed in this Policy, the WAG Lead National Coach will consult with the National Coaches, Technical Chair, Judging representative, Lead Physiotherapist for the discipline. The panel may also consider any relevant input deemed necessary from the Performance staff to discuss the nomination of the athletes and coaches.
   2. The nominated athletes and coaches will be those, in the expert opinion of the WAG Lead National Coach, most able to achieve the targets as listed in the section ‘Performance Targets’.
   3. Following the Nomination Panel meeting, the Head of Performance Programmes will forward the completed Nomination documentation including a list of nominated athletes and coaches to the Approvals Panel on 26th March 2021

10. **Approval Panel**

    1. A British Gymnastics Approval Panel, comprising the Performance Director and another British Gymnastics Director will consider the nominations for athletes and coaches received from the Nomination Panel and ratify if appropriate. Athlete Ambassadors will be invited to attend the meeting in an observer capacity.
2. In the event that the Nomination Panel provides insufficient athletes to fill the available Team places, the Approval Panel will make referral back to the Nomination Panel for their reasoning at which point their list of nominations may be amended.

3. The Approval Panel will confirm the selection of the Team no later than 26th March 2021

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<th>11. Communication of selections</th>
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<td>1. Once the Approval panel confirm the selection of the team, the Performance Director will notify all age eligible British Squad athletes and personal coaches.</td>
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<td>2. Once the communication of selections has taken place, the 48-hour appeals window comes into effect.</td>
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<td>3. Athletes and Coaches shall refrain from making any public statements with regard to team selection until the appeals window has closed.</td>
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<th>12. Athlete Appeals</th>
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<td>1. Appeals can only be submitted from midday 27th March up to midday on the 29th March 2021, for a non-selected gymnast on the grounds that the process outlined within this Selection Policy has not been adhered to.</td>
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<td>2. The selection of coaches and judges is not open to appeal under any circumstance.</td>
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<th>13. Designated Selection Events</th>
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<td>1. The Nomination Panel will take into consideration performances at the following events:</td>
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<td>Control competitions – Lilleshall February/March 2021</td>
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<td>FIG Apparatus/All Around World Cups in March 2021</td>
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<td>Olympic Selection events in March 2021</td>
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2. In order to be considered for selection, a gymnast who is ill or injured prior to or during one of the Designated Selection Events must provide written authentication of the injury or illness by one of the medical personnel approved by British Gymnastics (listed at the end of this Policy). This documentation must be submitted to the Olympic Programme Officer.

3. Any gymnast unable to compete at the listed Designated Selection Events can petition for consideration. Gymnasts are required to send a petition in writing explaining the reasons for being unable to compete at the DSE’s to Amy.nixon@british-gymnastics.org by 12pm Friday 26th March 2021. Any gymnast who is considered based upon a petition will be required to submit competition routine footage to an independent judging panel no later than 26th March 2021. The judging panel will evaluate the performances to determine if they meet the performance standards listed in 14.5. Appeals on the scoring of submitted routines are not open for appeal.

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<th>14. Nomination Process</th>
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<td>1. Athletes will be nominated/selected on the basis of achieving the performance targets for Great Britain as part of the Competing Team.</td>
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<td>2. By entering the selection process, athletes and personal coaches agree to be bound by the provisions of this policy.</td>
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<td>3. Athletes meeting the eligibility criteria and who are members of the British Gymnastics World Class Programme will automatically be considered for nomination.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Athletes meeting the eligibility criteria who are not members of British Gymnastics World Class Programme may petition the Nomination Panel for inclusion, presenting evidence against the standards outlined in this section. Petitions should be sent in writing to the Olympic Programme Officer (WAG) by the deadline of noon 12th March 2021.</td>
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</table>
5. Following the final selection event, the European Championships Team will be nominated for selection based performances demonstrated at one, or more of the designated selection events and are deemed as capable of achieving the performance targets with priority being placed on Olympic qualification.

6. Should athletes not reach the required standards of performance the Nomination Panel may nominate athletes who are deemed capable of achieving the best result for Great Britain or whose inclusion reflects the long-term direction and aims of the World Class Performance Programme of winning Olympic Medals.

7. Nominated athletes and coaches will be expected to undertake all programme activities (Camps and Competitions) laid out by the WAG Lead National Coach as part of the preparations for the Championships to prove their readiness to compete.

8. Nominated athletes and coaches must also agree to observe all obligations outlined within the British Gymnastics’ Performance Athlete Agreement 2021 – 25 and any subsequent Codes of Behaviour adopted by British Gymnastics.

9. Team Coaches will be nominated based upon consideration of the following criteria:
   - The team’s best needs. “As this event includes a potential Olympic selection place, the Lead National Coach may be nominated to take round individual gymnasts in the AA competition, if deemed appropriate.
   - Their ability to lead, organise and control under situations of high responsibility and stress
   - Their international experience and performance
   - Their attendance at all required meetings, squad training and events.

10. Non travelling reserves may be selected during the nomination process.

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<th>Injury &amp; Replacement</th>
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<td>1. In the event of injury and/or the need for replacement, any athlete may be called upon to join the Team at any time.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Once Team selections have been confirmed by the Approval Panel, all selected athletes must agree not to withhold any information on training fitness, injury status or illness that could affect training or competition at any time until the point of the Championships.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. All selected athletes must declare any medications they are taking, the use of any restricted medications, and submit these to the Head of Science &amp; Medicine at British Gymnastics for medical approval.</td>
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<td>4. An athlete 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 violation of the Codes of Behaviour adopted by the Team or failing to reach performance expectations. Prior to removal the athlete (with their appointed representative if under 18) or coach will be presented with the opportunity to attend a removal interview with the Performance Director (or their appointed representative) and where possible one other independent person. Written justification must be provided for all removals by the Performance Director. Decisions on these matters are not open to appeal.</td>
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<td>5. At any stage following the arrival of the Team at the competition and during the event, should any athlete fail to reach performance expectations in training or competition, the WAG Lead National Coach may recommend de-selection to Performance Director (or their appointed representative). The Head of Delegation will consider this recommendation, provide an opportunity for the athlete to attend an interview (with an appointed representative if under 18) 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.</td>
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| 6. At any stage following the selection announcement, should there be a doubt over the ability of an athlete to compete to the best of his ability due to an injury or illness, the following procedure will be adhered to:
   a) 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 or not the injury and/or illness is such that the athlete is
physically unable to compete or is at risk of causing medical harm to themselves, or endangering other competitors, officials or spectators.

b) If the athlete passes the initial medical examination carried out by the Medical Officer but British Gymnastics still has concerns over whether or not the athlete is able to compete to the best of his ability due to the underlying injury or illness, the athlete will be required to undertake British Gymnastics’ designated “Fitness Test”.

c) The Fitness Test is an objective assessment that will require the athlete to perform routine(s) to 0.3 of their expected start values or final score in the presence of a neutral, appropriately qualified judge.

d) In the event that an athlete 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.

7. Any replacement(s) required will be made by the WAG Lead National Coach. Decisions on these matters are not open to appeal.

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<th>Team Organisation</th>
<th>1. The Team will attend pre-Championship Preparation Camps and competitions in accordance to the 2021 Activity Planner (subject to change).</th>
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<td>2. The Team will transfer to Basel on or around the 16th April 2021.</td>
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<td>3. In the event that they have not already done so, all athletes within the Team will be required to sign and comply with British Gymnastics’ Performance Athlete Agreement 2021 - 25.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4. In the event that they have not already done so, all coaches within the Team will be required to sign and comply with British Gymnastics’ “International and National Representative Coaches Code of Conduct”.</td>
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| Announcement      | 1. Selected Team 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 Team selection on the British Gymnastics website (www.british-gymnastics.org) |

| 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. |

Selection policy for European Championships (Basel 2021)

APPROVED BY:

Signed

Maria McLoughlin
Chair, WAG 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)