



WELSH GYMNASTICS

Commonwealth Games 2022 Birmingham

Athlete Selection Policy Gymnastics (Rhythmic)

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This selection policy has been agreed by Welsh Gymnastics and Commonwealth Games Wales (CGW). It provides detail on the process by which Gymnastics (rhythmic) will arrive at its nominations to be submitted to CGW for consideration within the Welsh Team in Birmingham 2022.
- 1.2 The Commonwealth Games entry process is still transitioning from open entry, last seen in Glasgow 2014 to an invitation by qualification system. The hybrid model first used in Gold Coast 2018, with modifications, will be used again for Birmingham 2022. The size of the Team is capped by the Commonwealth Games Federation and Birmingham 2022. There are no extra slots for Wales even though this may be considered a 'Home Games'.
- 1.3 In all cases, selection by Welsh Gymnastics represents a nomination to CGW. The final decision on selection to the 2022 Games lies with CGW. Achievement of the selection criteria therefore represents **eligibility for nomination**, not selection or even nomination.
- 1.4 Welsh Gymnastics will nominate only those athletes that have qualified under both the Welsh Gymnastics selection criteria stated below, and the CGW General Selection Criteria (available on the CGW website) that should be read in conjunction with this policy.

2. Selection Policy Aim

- 2.1 To select a team of athletes capable of competing with distinction at the 2022 Commonwealth Games, with the individuals and or the team having the ability to achieve medal potential and at least a top six placing in the anticipated field.

3. Athlete Eligibility

- 3.1 The eligibility criteria of the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), must be met by all nominees. For details please refer to the Commonwealth Games Wales Selection Handbook; section 7.4 -7.7.

3.2 Where prospective team members do not comply with the above they will only be nominated for final selection if they receive prior dispensation from the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), via CGW.

3.3 Gymnasts must be 16 in the year of competition 2022 (year of birth 2006 or earlier) and hold or are eligible to hold a FIG gymnast licence with FIG.

4. Games Competition Format

4.1 FIG Competition I, II & III

4.2 Olympic Apparatus 2022 – 2024 Cycle: Hoop/Ball/Clubs/Ribbon

4.3 Competition I: Team competition and qualification for Individual All Around and apparatus finals

- The competition programme comprises exercises using the four apparatus prescribed within the FIG Apparatus Programme, cycle 2022 – 2024 for seniors. Each team must perform three routines on each apparatus, by different gymnasts, making a total of twelve routines. The team classification is made by adding the ten (10) best scores.

- A maximum of three (3) gymnasts per Federation

4.4 Competition II: All Around (AA) final, [Top 16, maximum of 2 per Federation]

4.5 Competition III: Apparatus Finals, [Top 8, maximum of 2 per Federation]

5. Selection criteria

5.1 The selection of nominees will take place from April 2021 – March 2022

5.2 CGW requires that athletes have the ability to finish in the top 6, or to have the ability to enhance medal potential for the Team Event at the 2022 Commonwealth Games. To demonstrate this, Welsh Gymnastics and CGW have agreed the following criteria:

5.2.1 For all-around nomination to achieve a minimum score of 64.000 points during the selection events as describe below.

5.2.2 For individual apparatus finals consideration gymnasts must have achieved a minimum score of:

- 17.000 points on hoop, ball and clubs
- 15.000 for ribbon

5.2.3 For Team selection achieve a minimum score of 13.000 on two or more apparatus, with the team's ability to score a total of 150.00 points over 10 routines.*

[NB Due to FIG COP change delayed until January 2022, scores for nomination will be based on benchmark scores from 2017 – 2020 COP. Should there be a significant impact of scores during the period January – March 2022 due to the 2022 – 2024 COP this will be reviewed and follow the same benchmark principles.]

6. Selection events

6.1 The selection panel will take into consideration performances at the following events:

- Welsh Championships, Cardiff, July 2021

- British Championships, Liverpool, July 2021
- Home Selection Event, Cardiff, Mar/Apr 2022
- Best two scores at any FIG sanctioned international events between April 2021 – March 2022 (as approved by WG Head of Performance & RG Head National Coach)

6.2 A gymnast wishing to be considered for nomination must:

- 6.2.1 Achieve a minimum average score as above during two or more of the selection events.
- 6.2.2 Compete at both the Welsh Championships 2021 and Home Selection Event 2022

6.3 Gymnasts meeting the score will be nominated in ranked order based on likely performance at the 2022 Games in terms of:

- a) Individual AA position
- b) Apparatus Final position
- c) Team position

Following the completion of all selection events listed in this policy, the RG Head National Coach will consult with the Welsh Gymnastics Selection Panel (full list of panel members will be released no later than one month prior to the first selection event) to approve a list of nominated gymnasts that will be submitted to CGW. Nominated gymnasts will be those, in the expert opinion of the RG Head National Coach, most able to achieve the targets listed in the Selection Policy Aim, 2.1 on page 1.

6.4 Team selection:

Should the team selection nomination be successful a final team selection trial in late May / early June 2022 (confirmed date tbc) will take place in order to confirm the make-up of the team.

6.5 Injury prior or during selection period:

- 6.5.1 In order to be considered for selection, a gymnast who is ill or injured prior to, or during the period of selection, must provide written authentication of their injury, illness or medical condition signed by a medical personnel approved by Welsh Gymnastics and CGW.
- 6.5.2 Once deemed fit for selection, scores can be considered from a 3 month period prior to injury/illness in order to provide ranking. Alternatively, a wild card nomination may be given if the gymnast has clearly demonstrated, over the previous one year period, their ability to meet the criteria before the period of injury/illness which has affected their performance. Details of any injury/illness will be declared as part of the required factual evidence submitted to CGW, highlighted in clause 6.14 of the CGW Selection Handbook, Birmingham 2022.

7. Selection process

- 7.1 The Welsh Gymnastics Selection Panel, as appointed by the Board of Directors, will select athletes to be nominated to the CGW, in accordance with the selection criteria detailed above.
- 7.2 The qualifying period for Gymnastics will commence on 1st April 2021 and end on 31st March 2022. The proposed list of nominees will be submitted to CGW no later than 27th April 2022.
- 7.3 Prior to nomination, Welsh Gymnastics will share with each nominated athlete the required factual evidence to be submitted to CGW. This information must be agreed in writing by each athlete prior to the submission.
- 7.4 During the nomination process individuals' personal data will be disclosed. CGW will hold this data in accordance with its data protection policy, (please refer to 'Appendix B – Privacy notice for team members, nominees, volunteers and others' shared in conjunction with this selection policy). Athletes will be required to sign the consent form (Appendix C) as part of the nomination process.
- 7.5 CGW will confirm the selections [by name or as a team] by 6th May 2022. Final team selection (if appropriate) will be confirmed by 20 June 2022.
- 7.6 Final selection to the Games team is dependent on receipt of relevant information required by CGW such as the CGF Eligibility form and Team Member Agreement.

8 De-selection

- 8.1 Deselection from the list of athletes submitted to CGW may occur as a result of:
 - Failure to meet the standard fitness testing protocols.
 - Failure to adhere to the athlete code of conduct or the Team Member agreement
 - The imposition of caps on the number of competitors by the CGF.
 - Failure to attend designated training camps

9 Appeals Process

- 9.1 Once the Gymnastics (rhythmic) nominations are made public any athlete not included in the team has the right of appeal. Appeals against non-nomination will be heard by the Welsh Gymnastics Appeals Committee, in accordance Welsh Gymnastics Commonwealth Games appeals process which can be found on the Welsh Gymnastics website.
- 9.2 An athlete not included for nomination may not appeal directly to the CGW.

10 Appointment of Team Staff

- 10.1 The Team Manager appointed by CGW in consultation with Welsh Gymnastics will be confirmed following CGW selection. The final complement of Gymnastics

(rhythmic) team staff attending the Games will ultimately depend upon team composition and will be determined by CGW in consultation with Welsh Gymnastics.

11 Policy Amendments

- 11.1 Welsh Gymnastics is committed to achieving the highest safeguarding standards. If, therefore, Welsh Gymnastics in its sole discretion and acting reasonably believes that any amendment to this policy is required in order to reflect best practice in relation to safeguarding, it may make such amendments without reference to any athlete. Such amendments may apply retrospectively.

12 Force Majeure and Covid-19

- 12.1 “Force Majeure” means any act, event, omission, cause or circumstance not within the reasonable control of Welsh Gymnastics, Commonwealth Games Wales, or the Commonwealth Games Federation, including but not limited to any strike, lockout or other industrial action, any civil commotion or disorder, riot, invasion, war or terrorist activity or threat of war or terrorist activity, any action taken by a governmental or public authority of any kind (including, without limitation, not granting a consent, exemption, approval or clearance), any fire, explosion, storm, flood, earthquake, subsidence, epidemic, pandemic or other natural physical disaster. In the event of such Force Majeure affecting the application of this Selection Policy, Welsh Gymnastics shall have the sole discretion, in consultation with the Commonwealth Games Wales, to invoke any reasonable amendments it considers are required which are in line with the purpose of this Selection Policy and shall not be considered to be in breach of this Selection Policy or otherwise liable for any such failure or delay in the performance of such obligations within this Selection Policy.
- 12.2 The COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve rapidly and the government's advice and measures to protect the public and manage the impact on the Country are changing frequently. Therefore, Welsh Gymnastics cannot foresee how the COVID-19 pandemic will affect this Selection Policy. Welsh Gymnastics shall have the sole discretion, in consultation with Commonwealth Games Wales, to invoke any amendments it considers are required which are in line with the purpose of this Selection Policy and shall not be considered to be in breach of this Selection Policy or otherwise liable for any such failure or delay in the performance of such obligations within this Selection Policy because of any issues caused either directly or indirectly by the COVID-19 pandemic.