2020 Pan American Championships
Selection Process

JANUARY 20TH, 2020 — FINAL
1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to set out the process and criteria that will be used by the selection working group (SWG) of the Women’s Artistic Gymnastics (WAG) Program of Gymnastics Canada (GymCan) to select and nominate athletes and coaches for the 2020 Pan American Championships, Utah Valley, USA.

For clarifications and questions on the contents of this document please contact:
Amanda Tambakopoulos, PM-WAG
amanda@gymcan.org
613-748-5637 ext. 238

The 2020 Pan American Championships will be an important opportunity to earn an extra quota spot for Canada for the 2020 OG. This competition is also an opportunity for athletes who wish to be selected for the OG to demonstrate their individual medal potential or their ability to contribute to the team at the OG.

1.1 OBJECTIVES

The objective of this process is to select the athletes to best meet the following performance objective:

- Place one athlete in the top 2 of the All-Around Final

Consideration will be given to ensure that at least three athletes compete on four apparatus in the qualifications.

2020 Continental Championships – Individual Athlete qualification:

- Canada can qualify a maximum of 1 athlete by placing an athlete in the top 2 AA in the all-around final competition (maximum 1 quota per country)
- Any athlete that was a member of the 2019 WC qualifying team is not be eligible to earn a spot.
- This spot is not nominative. It is important to note that the athlete that qualify the quota place for Canada through the Pan American Championships is not guaranteed a spot on the 2020 delegation. Please refer to the selection process for the 2020 OG.

If a country has already qualified an individual AA World Cup spot and an Apparatus World Cup series spot, they would not be eligible for the Continental Championship quota spot.

1.2 DELEGATION SIZE AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Qualification and the Team Final are held on day 1. The format is 5 athletes on the floor, 4 to compete and 3 to count on each apparatus (5, 4, 3). A maximum for two athletes per country are allowed in the individual finals (All-Around and Apparatus).

The WAG contingent will be composed of:

- 5 travelling athletes (only 4 athletes are expected to compete)
- Personal coaches
- 2 judges
- 1 therapist
- 2020 NTL (David Kikuchi)

Athletes will be fully funded. Funding for coaches and judges to be confirmed.
1.3 KEY DATES

Feb 5-9   Elite Canada
Feb 10    Date of internal team announcement (Preliminary team named)
April 6   Nominative registration, final team announcement
May (TBC) Preparation camp, Montreal (TBC)
May 4     Arrival of Delegations
May 5     Training
May 6     Podium Training
May 8     WAG qualification & Team Awards
May 9     WAG All-Around Final & Awards*
May 10    WAG Apparatus Final & Awards

(*) Qualification to the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 will be based on the results of this competition.

The internal announcement will be distributed on February 10, 2020. This list is non-binding and can be changed until April 6, 2020, following the selection process described in Section 4.0.

2.0 DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY

Gymnastics Canada is responsible for the internal selection process to nominate athletes and support team members. The Team Selection Document is developed by GymCan staff in conjunction with the Women’s Program Committee (WPC) and with consultation with the WAG high performance community (including input from the WAG athletes through the GymCan Athletes Commission representatives). Final approval of the team selection document is by Gymnastics Canada.

The selection of the athletes and coaches will be the responsibility of the WAG Selection Working Group (SWG) comprised of:

- Program Manager – Women’s Artistic Gymnastics (PM-WAG), Chair
- WPC appointed coach representative (Nancy Beyer)
- JDWG appointed Judge (Gord Bennett)
- WPC appointed representative (Kathy Stoesz)

Should a representative member of the SWG be unable to complete their mandate, the WPC and JDWG* will appoint a new representative accordingly.

GymCan will provide an internal announcement of team selection to its membership upon the final decision by the SWG. This announcement will initiate the start of the appeal period (should it be required).

The GymCan CEO provides oversight to the selection process to ensure adherence to the GymCan policies and procedures. The CEO will also be responsible for managing any appeal process should it be required.

*the WPC and JDWG are consultative, non-voting committees.

2.1 DECISION MAKING ON SITE

David Kikuchi will be travelling with the delegation and the head coach. He will provide direction to the Canadian WAG delegation at the PanAm Championships. David Kikuchi will consult with other 2020 lead (Lorie Henderson), personal coaches, PM and CEO, on site but will ultimately have decision-making authority over the Canadian WAG Team.
For any situation requiring a medical opinion (injury or illness), Jean-François Mathieu (IST lead) will provide his professional recommendation to the 2020 Lead (David Kikuchi), who will have ultimate decision-making authority to recommend the substitution or removal of an athlete.

3.0 ELIGIBILITY

Athletes are eligible for nomination, if the following conditions are met:
- **Must not have been a competing member of the 2019 World Championships team**
- be a Canadian Citizen as per the Regulations of the Pan American Games
- have a passport that is valid until at least November 15th, 2020;
- be born in 2004 or before (Senior)
- be a member in good standing with GymCan;
- be a Senior NT athlete in 2020 or a Canadian National Team member currently training and competing for an American University and registered with a Canadian club;
- be in compliance with all relevant FIG and Pan Am Sports Organization (PASO) requirements for eligibility including possessing a valid FIG license with an expiry date no earlier than May 31, 2020;
- have read, understood and accepted the selection process and conditions associated with selection for the PanAm Championships;
- take part in all preparation activities for the Championships and in all GymCan related promotional activities unless exempted by the WAG PM;
- abide by all GymCan policies and procedures and its code of conduct.

In order to be eligible for nomination, a coach must:
- a coach who is coaching on a permanent basis in a club outside of Canada is not eligible for selection, since he or she is not regularly working with people and programs associated with the National Team
- be identified by the athlete and club as the coach to be nominated to the competition or be identified by GymCan;
- have read, understood and accepted the selection process and the conditions associated with selection;
- take part in all preparation activities, and in all GymCan related promotional activities unless exempted by the WAG PM;
- abide by all GymCan policies and procedures and its code of ethics;
- be fully certified NCCP Level 3 or have obtained an exemption from the PM WAG;
- be a coach in good standing with GymCan and have fulfilled GymCan’s risk management requirements including an up to date criminal record check, and completion of Respect in Sport, True Sport Clean 101, and Making Headway;

4.0 SELECTION OF ATHLETES

4.1 TEAM SELECTION

- Results obtained at Senior domestic and FIG sanctioned competitions from February 1st, 2020 until April 6, 2020 as well as the events listed below.
- All athletes wishing to be named to the final delegation for the Continental championships must have demonstrated their ability to compete all four apparatuses prior to the nominative deadline.
- The selection process has been developed to select the athletes with the greatest potential to meet the stated objectives (obtain an additional quota spot for the 2020 OG).
- A preliminary delegation will be named immediately following Elite Canada. Athletes who have demonstrated the potential to achieve the highest AA score will be the priority. Selection will be based on:
Elite Canada (preliminary delegation). The top 2 ranked eligible gymnasts following 2 days of All-Around competition will be tentatively named to the Pan Am Championships team.

- The athletes having the top 2 AA scores from day 1 or day 2 (and having competed AA on both days)

- A gymnast may petition to be the 3rd, 4th member of the team. Petitions must be submitted by 5pm on February 9th by email to the WAG PM.

  - Any athlete who petitions and is named, must compete All Around at a FIG sanctioned competition or Elite Canada or Gymnix (Challenge/Senior Cup) or Jesolo (from February 1st, 2020 until April 6, 2020) to verify their ability to represent Canada as per the stated objectives at the Continental Championships.

  - The SWG will review performances at Elite Canada 2020, results from May 1st 2019 until February 4, 2020 as well as consult with the lead IST to review health status.

- Priority will be given to athletes who demonstrated a higher AA in the specified time frame, more frequency is more important

- After any accepted petitions, the next ranking eligible gymnasts from two days of All-Around competition at Elite Canada will be tentatively named to the remaining spaces in 3rd or 4th position.

  - Top AA score from day 1 or day 2 (and having competed AA on both days)

- The 5th position will be assigned to a named member of the Pacific Rim team. This 5th position will be considered the travelling reserve for Pan Am Championships.

- To ensure Canada is sending its top AA athletes with the highest potential to meet the stated objective of the Pan Am Championship, the SWG can consider AA results from FIG sanctioned competitions from February 1, 2020 to April 5, 2020. The SWG can replace a tentatively named athlete with another who has earned the higher AA score at a FIG sanctioned competition. The SWG will nominate the final team on April 6, 2020.

4.2 RESERVE ATHLETES

The SWG may identify reserve athletes for the 2020 PAC team based on the criteria above, although there is no obligation to name a reserve.

The reserve athlete will not have the status or privileges of a team athlete and will not travel with the team to the Games. It is mandatory for this athlete to attend the team preparation activities.

4.3 ATHLETE VERIFICATION

Verification of athletes will be on-going after April 6th, 2020. Specific dates, locations, and means of verification will be at the prerogative of the PM and NTL, and will be arranged when deemed necessary. Regular FaceTime training sessions will be required with all selected athletes and named reserve following the 2020 Elite Canada.

During a verification, the athlete must not be injured or ill in a way which prevents her from training and performing at the level expected of an athlete preparing for the Pan Am Championships. She must perform her usual vault(s) and routines at a level consistent with the scores used for selection to the team, and in a simulated competition environment in line with FIG equipment standards. At the discretion of the NTL, modified landing mats may be permitted during a verification.

In addition to the information considered during the selection process, the information gathered during the verifications will be used to determine the apparatus to which an athlete will be assigned for the Qualification at the Pan Am Championships and the competition order on each apparatus.
4.4 ATHLETE NOMINATION AND SUBSTITUTION

Following the athlete selection, the following conditions must be met until the day of departure for the athlete to remain on the team:
- the athlete is still eligible for selection; and
- the athlete is not injured as stated in 4.6; and
- the athlete has been successfully verified according to the process and requirements described in 4.3.

An athlete no longer eligible for selection will be substituted with a reserve athlete.

The SWG may substitute an athlete up to the Nominative Registration deadline if
- following two verifications, the athlete is unable to meet the requirements for a successful verification; or
- the athlete omitted to provide the required information in case of illness or injury as per the steps and deadlines stated in section 4.6.

The SWG has the authority to keep on the team an athlete who is slightly injured by the Nominative Registration deadline if:
- the athlete and her coach complied with the steps and deadlines in 4.6; and
- the members have gotten written confirmation from the lead IST that the athlete will have recovered and be ready to compete before departure for the Pan Am Championships.

Any substitution for one of the reasons mentioned above will be dealt with by the SWG. Substitution will occur with the reserve athlete if she meets the conditions mentioned above.

Should an athlete be substituted, the SWG reserves the right to consider a team coaching adjustment if the personal coach of the athlete substituted was originally selected as a team coach.

4.5 DETERMINATION OF THE COMPETITIVE APPARATUS AND COMPETITION ORDER

The determination of the apparatus each athlete will compete and the competition order for the qualifications will be finalized taking into consideration the information used for the selection of the athletes and the information gathered after the selection. These decisions may be made as late as the deadline for submitting the competition order to the Organizing Committee. The PM and the NTL or designate will consult with the team and personal coaches for such decisions. However, the final decision rest with the NTL.

Any modification required to the assigned apparatus and to the competition order due to injury or illness after the team has arrived at the Pan Am Championships will be made by the NTL who will inform the PM before the competition order is submitted.

As per the FIG regulations, the order of competition on each apparatus must be submitted no later than 24 hours prior to the start of the competition.

AA qualification (finalist) can be substituted by NTL onsite to provide Canada the best chance to qualify

If an athlete participates at PacRim and PanAm, only scores from AA final can be used towards Olympic Qualification process.
To maximize the opportunity to meet the competition objective, the NTL will have the discretion to enter up to 4 athletes compete in the qualification. This scenario is very likely and the 5th member of the team would be a travelling reserve. In this case, the travelling reserve would not lose her status as a team member.

4.6 INJURIES OR ILLNESS

An athlete injured or ill at any time after March 26, 2019 in any way that negatively impacts the quality of her performances during training or a verification must provide an official medical report/certificate to the PM-WAG as set out below.

**Step 1.** The coach of the athlete must inform the PM-WAG by email, **within 24 hours**, if her/his athlete is injured or ill and provide the following information:
- date when the injury/illness occurred;
- means taken to have the injury/illness evaluated by a physician or specialist;
- date at which a written detailed report will be provided to GYMCan.

**Step 2.** The athlete and her club’s head coach must provide the following written information **within 5 days following step 1 to the PM**:
- detailed nature of the injury (documented by a physician or medical specialist, not by a therapist), including whether or not this is a new, overuse, or chronic injury;
- ability to pursue full training and to compete (all apparatus/some apparatus), as recommended by the physician or medical specialist;
- recovery/rehabilitation measures;
- recommendation(s) regarding pursuing training and ability to train and/or compete as expected that must be supported by the lead IST;
- expected date for return to partial (specify) and/or complete training.

GymCan reserves the right to have the athlete examined by a physician or medical specialist selected by GymCan at the expense of the athlete and by the timelines set by the GymCan.

5.0 SELECTION OF COACHES

The SWG will select the team and personal coaches following the selection of the athletes, taking the following additional factors into consideration:
- the number of available accreditations;
- there must be at least one female team coach;
- past experience and performance at international competitions;
- demonstrated ability to work well in a team setting, to work well with other coaches, and to contribute to team cohesion;
- demonstrated ability to manage stress and support the needs of team members in high pressure situations.
- Approval ratings from past post-competition surveys

The NTL (David Kikuchi) will be accredited for the Championships, therefore will have the overall authority for WAG team decisions during the competition.
6.0 ANNOUNCEMENT OF SELECTION OF ATHLETES AND COACHES

The official announcement of team selection is the responsibility of Gymnastics Canada. All internal verbal or written communication to athletes, coaches, or member associations regarding team selection is considered an unofficial notice and is NOT for public distribution. Official notice of team selection occurs when GymCan provides a formal public release announcing the team selection, or when GymCan partners with a multi-sport organization (i.e.: Canadian Olympic Committee, Commonwealth Games Canada, U Sport) to formally announce a team.

7.0 RECONSIDERATION, INTERNAL REVIEW, OR APPEAL AND MODIFICATION TO THE PROCESS

7.1 RECONSIDERATION

An athlete who is in disagreement with a decision made in the application of the process may request reconsideration by the SWG. The request must be made in writing no more than two working days from the day of unofficial circulation of the decision. It must include the rationale supporting the request and the alleged errors in the application of the process. The SWG will then review the request and make a decision. The WAG-PM shall give written reasons for the decision to the athlete within two working days from receipt of the written request. Coaches and athletes agree to abide by the decisions made once the reconsideration period or process has passed to ensure a positive team atmosphere.

7.2 INTERNAL REVIEW/APPEAL

A request for review or appeal will be dealt with according to Section 39 – Appeals of the GymCan Policies and Procedures Manual in effect at the time of the dispute (http://GymCan.org/uploads/content/wag_technical/section%2039.pdf). The request must be made no more than two working days following the decision rendered as a result of a request for reconsideration as set out in 8.1. It must include the rationale supporting the request and the alleged errors in the application of the process.

7.3 MODIFICATION TO THE PROCESS

GymCan, reserves the right to make changes to this document to ensure the identification of the best delegation possible for the 2020 Pan American Championships in case of:
- major change to the information provided by FIG;
- unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of GymCan;
- a situation which impacts any step of the selection process and prevents the SWG from fairly applying the process as written. The SWG may take into consideration any factor or circumstance they deem relevant.
- This clause is not intended to justify changes after a competition or trials which formed part of this selection process unless it is directly related to an unforeseen circumstance. This clause does allow for changes that may become necessary due to a lack of clarity or a significant typographical error.

Any changes to this document must be endorsed by the CEO of Gymnastics Canada and will be communicated directly to the coaches and athletes involved in the process.
8.0 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Failure to comply with FIG and/or GymCan rules, regulations, policies, or directives will be addressed by the GymCan WAG PM and/or the GymCan CEO who will follow with proper action or sanction before, during and/or after the competition.

The nature and extent of the infraction will determine the severity of the sanction. In each case, a due and fair investigation will be conducted and an opportunity for defense offered to the respondent(s).

Sanctions could include but are not limited to: verbal warning or reprimand, written warning or reprimand, suspension from some team functions or activities during the competition, and early return to Canada.

After the competition, sanctions could include but are not limited to: written warning, written reprimand, suspension of international representation/participation on behalf of Canada, National Team benefits and services, and suspension of access to athlete or coaching or judging support funding and services including but not limited to athlete, coach and/or club funds, coach’s recognition funding, and international achievement coach’s recognition funding.

9.0 UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

In situations where unforeseen circumstances do not allow the Team selection criteria to be fairly and objectively applied, Gymnastics Canada's WAG PM and the GymCan CEO will rule on an appropriate course of action.
WAG COMMITMENT FORM 2020 PAN AM CHAMPIONSHIPS TEAM SELECTION PROCESS

Copy to be received by the PM-WAG no later than January 27, 2020.

ATHLETE
I, _________________________________________ declare that:

(Print Name of Athlete)

a) I have read, understood and accepted the selection process established by GymCan, a copy of which I have in my possession or that I can access on GymCan’s website.

b) I have read, understood, and accepted the regulations, policies, directives and discipline procedures described in the selection process, a copy of which I have in my possession or that I can access on GymCan’s website. I agree to abide by such regulations, policies, directives, and procedures at all times and understand that my failure to do so could result in disciplinary action being taken against me.

c) I am submitting my intention in being added into the 2020 Pan Am Championships Selection Pool and to potentially be named to the Canadian WAG Team.

d) I will take part fully in all the activities of the selection process and competition preparation plan and in all GYMCan and/or FIG/PAGU promotional activities associated with the preparation plan.

e) I understand that I must abide by the conditions for eligibility and selection stated in the selection process.

f) I will notify, or I will ensure that my Head Coach notifies the PM-WAG in writing within 24 hours if one of the conditions for eligibility is not met or if I elect to remove myself from the 2020 Pan Am Championships Selection Pool.

ATHLETE’S PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS (FOR MINOR ATHLETES)

  g) I have ensured that my child (or the athlete I am the legal guardian of) understands the selection process.

  h) I understand that my child must abide by the conditions for selection stated in the selection process and that he or his club’s head coach must notify the PM-WAG in writing within 24 hours if one of the conditions for eligibility is not met or if I elect to remove myself from the 2020 Pan Am Championships Selection Pool.

Signature of Athlete  Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian if Athlete is a Minor  Date

Name of Athlete (print)  Name of Parent/Legal Guardian (print)  Date

Signature of Witness  Name of Witness (print)  Date