



**RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS**  
**2022 COMMONWEALTH GAMES**  
**Selection Criteria**

FINAL – February 28, 2022



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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to set out the process and criteria that will be used by the Rhythmic Gymnastics (RG) Program of Gymnastics Canada (GymCan) to select athletes and coaches to the 2022 Commonwealth Games with the goal of selecting the best possible gymnasts to help meet the objectives of the program.

The competition will take place in Birmingham, GBR from August 4 to August 6, 2022. At the publication of this document, the directives and final accreditation allocation have not been received.

For clarifications and questions on the contents of this document please contact:  
Teresa Orr, National Team Director-RG (NTD-RG): [torr@gymcan.org](mailto:torr@gymcan.org)

### 1.1 COVID CONSIDERATIONS

GymCan is carefully following the evolution of the coronavirus on the global and domestic level and how it may impact domestic nomination of athletes for this competition. Unless otherwise required by exceptional and unforeseen circumstances related to the impact of the coronavirus, GymCan will respect these published Internal Nomination Procedures as written.

However, situations related to the coronavirus pandemic may arise that require this Internal Nomination Procedure to be modified. Any modifications will be made promptly and as often as required following developments that directly impact the Internal Nomination Procedure. In such circumstances, any modifications will be communicated to all affected individuals as soon as possible.

Further, situations may arise that do not allow this Internal Nomination Procedure to be modified or applied as written due to time constraints or other exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. In such situations, any decision, including nomination decisions, will be made by the individual(s) with decision-making authority, as stated in this Internal Nomination Procedure, in consultation with the relevant individual(s) or committee(s) (as applicable), and in accordance with the stated performance objectives and selection philosophy and approach as stated herein. Should it be necessary to make any decision in this manner, GymCan will communicate with all affected individuals as soon as possible.

#### **Event Cancellation**

Should it be necessary to cancel or postpone any event specified in this INP that is conducted under the authority of GymCan, such decision shall be made by the relevant person(s) or body within GymCan under whose authority the event was originally to be held.

Decisions to cancel or postpone any event specified in this document shall be made:

- a) only when it is absolutely necessary, such as when it has become impossible or unreasonably difficult to hold the event at all or on the originally scheduled date, for example, due to public health restrictions or other circumstances beyond the control of GymCan; and
- b) as soon as reasonably possible after GymCan has become aware that the event cannot be held.

If any event specified in this document is canceled, GymCan shall determine whether it is feasible to reschedule the event in a different location and/or on a different date than previously scheduled and shall communicate any such decisions to reschedule the event to all impacted individuals as soon as



reasonably possible, taking into account the time needed for athletes to prepare for the rescheduled event and for any logistical matters in relation to the event to be addressed, including, but not limited to, any matters related to GymCan's organization of the event, as well as athlete and athlete entourage travel to the location of the rescheduled event.

GymCan may also determine, at its sole discretion, following consultation with the relevant and necessary individuals and/or committees within the GymCan structure, to hold alternative replacement events or assessments for the purpose of nomination to this competition, including virtual events, but only where feasible and where the nomination procedure indicated in this document, including the stated performance objectives, are not prejudiced.

Should any event specified in this document be canceled, postponed, rescheduled, or replaced, GymCan shall update the nomination procedures indicated in this document, as applicable, as soon as reasonably possible and shall communicate any modifications to all impacted individuals, as well as publish the modified document on its website, prior to the postponed, rescheduled or replacement event.

Decisions made pursuant to this clause shall not be subject to appeal and do not apply to the cancellation of events that are conducted under the authority of organizations other than GymCan.

### **Event Participation**

As a result of the COVID pandemic, GymCan may be required, in the best interests of athlete, athlete entourage and staff safety, to not travel to and participate in this competition, even in circumstances when the event may proceed as planned. Any such decisions will be made in consultation with relevant experts, including medical and public health safety experts, and will be communicated to all impacted individuals as soon as possible.

In such circumstances, GymCan will determine if alternate events may be attended as a substitute for the event that GymCan has decided not to participate in and, if so, will modify this document accordingly, and inform all impacted individuals as soon as possible.

When making decisions regarding travel to and participation in events for safety reasons, GymCan will endeavor to minimize any impact of such decisions. However, depending on the circumstances, athlete, athlete entourage and staff safety may be prioritized based on the advice of medical and public health safety experts.

GymCan recognizes that athletes, athlete entourage and staff may, for safety reasons related to the COVID pandemic, also decide not to travel to and participate in events indicated in this document, even in circumstances when the event may proceed as planned, and even when GymCan has decided that it will travel to and participate in the event because it has decided, following consultation with medical and public health safety experts, that it is safe to do so.

In such circumstances, athletes will be responsible for any impact that their decision may have on their team qualification and domestic nomination.

## **1.2 OBJECTIVES**

The objective of this selection process and procedures is to select the best possible delegation for these Games that will be capable of achieving the following targets:

- Team medal



- Individual all-around medal
- Qualify a gymnast to all apparatus finals
- Two to four apparatus medals

### 1.3 DELEGATION SIZE AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The maximum number of athletes in the delegation is three. The team competition includes the best 10 routines out of 12. Maximum two per country may qualify to the all-around final of 16 gymnasts, and a maximum of two per country in an apparatus final.

The Canadian delegation for this competition will be composed of:

- 3 travelling and competing athletes, no travelling reserve
- Up to two coaches (pending accreditations available)
- Up to two judge(s)
- One therapist
- One Team Manager/Head of Delegation

Participation in the 2022 Commonwealth Games may be partially funded by Gymnastics Canada for the delegation. Cost for participants to be confirmed following 2022-2023 board approved budget.

### 1.4 KEY DATES

March 1, 2022	Longlist athlete and coach deadline to complete accreditation portal
March 25–27, 2022	Elite Canada virtual (March 2 – 20 video deadline)
April 8-10, 2022	World Cup Sofia
April 22-24, 2022	World Cup Baku
May 19–23, 2022	Canadian Championships - Richmond, BC
Early June, 2022 (TBC)	Technical Control Trial – Toronto, ON
June 15, 2022	Internal Announcement
June 24, 2022	Deadline to submit names to Commonwealth Games Canada
July 5–10, 2022	Pan American Championships
July 26–29, 2022 (TBC)	Preparation Camp – Toronto, ON
July 29, 2022	Travel to Birmingham
July 30, 2022	Arrival and village entry
July 31–August 3, 2022	Training
August 4 – 6, 2022	Competition
August 8, 2022	Closing Ceremonies/Return to Canada

## 2.0 DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY

The NTD-RG and the Senior Program Coordinator-RG (SrPC-RG), in consultation with the RG Program Committee are responsible for developing and approving the selection process and procedures for this competition. The process incorporates feedback submitted by the program committee, which includes the program athlete representative and national team coach council representative prior to its final publication. Final approval of the team selection document is by [GymCan](#).

The nomination of the athletes and coaches will be the responsibility of the Selection Working Group (SWG). The SWG will confirm that the athletes were nominated according to the process laid out below.

The Working Group will be comprised of:

- National Team Director (NTD),
- Judge Development Working Group Member,
- National Team Coach Council Representative,
- Senior Program Coordinator-RG, or designate, non-voting.

National team coaches/judges with athletes being considered for selection will not be eligible for membership on the SWG due to conflict of interest. No member of the SWG shall participate in any discussions or decisions regarding the nomination of any athletes with whom they have a perceived or real conflict of interest. Any member of the SWG who considers that they are in a position of a perceived or real conflict of interest must declare such a conflict before any discussions are held or decisions are made and must remove themselves from any meetings until the matter giving rise to the perceived or real conflict of interest has been resolved by the SWG.

Should a representative member of the SWG be unable to complete their mandate, a new representative will be appointed 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).

## 2.1 DECISION MAKING ON SITE

If sending a Team Manager, the Team Manager will provide direction to the Canadian delegation at the competition. They will consult with the coach(es), and Head of Delegation on site, but will ultimately have decision-making authority over the Canadian delegation.

For any situation requiring a medical opinion (injury or illness), the IST on site will provide a professional recommendation to the Team Manager, who will have ultimate decision-making authority to recommend the substitution or removal of an athlete.

If a Team Manager is not sent to 2022 Commonwealth Games, the official coach will have authority of the Canadian delegation as outlined above.

## 3.0 ELIGIBILITY

Athletes are eligible for selection to the team provided that they:

- are a Canadian Citizen and have a passport that is valid until at least the end of February, 2023;
- are born in 2006 or before;
- are a National Team or High-Performance athlete;
- are in compliance with all relevant GymCan and FIG requirements for eligibility including possessing a valid FIG license, and be in compliance with any requirements of any other organization that has authority for this competition (PAGU, COC, USport, Commonwealth Games Canada, etc.);
- are a member in good standing with GymCan;
- comply in all respects with the Anti-Doping Rules of the FIG, the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (“CADP”) and the Anti-Doping Rules of any other Anti-Doping Organization that has authority over them and must not be serving a period of ineligibility for an anti-doping rule violation and not be subject to any suspensions or disqualification imposed by GymCan or any other authority that has jurisdiction over them;
- abide by all GymCan policy and procedures and its code of ethics and conduct;
- have read, understood, and accepted the selection process outlined in this criterion, and they have signed and returned the athlete commitment form (Appendix 1) to the required GymCan staff by the deadline.

Coaches are eligible for selection provided that they:



- are the coach associated with one of the team athletes on a regular basis and are coaching in Canada. 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;
- are compliant with all relevant GymCan and FIG requirements for eligibility including having a profile on the FIG Database (including the completion of the WADA High Performance Coaches' Education Program), and compliant with any requirements of any other organization that has authority for this competition (PAGU, COC, USport, Commonwealth Games Canada, etc.)
- have read, understood, and accepted the selection process and the conditions associated with the selection for this competition;
- take part in all planned activities, including any promotional activities related to this competition unless exempted by the relevant GymCan staff;
- abide by all GymCan policy and procedures and its code of ethics and conduct.
- are fully certified NCCP Competition Development or NCCP Level 3 or have obtained an exemption from GymCan;
- are a coach in good standing with GymCan and have fulfilled GymCan's safe sport requirements including up to date criminal record check, and completion of Respect in Sport, True Sport Clean 101, and Making Headway

## 4.0 SELECTION PROCESS

The selection process has been developed to select the athletes with the greatest potential to meet the stated objectives. Three athletes will be selected.

The athletes will be selected prior to the final deadline for team nomination based on results from March 2022 to the technical control trial in June (dates TBC).

Selection will include the following:

### Part 1:

20% Elite Canada All Around results: Competition A + Competition B

Note: in case of a successful medical petition for 2022 Elite Canada, 100% of the 2022 Canadian Championships results will be considered for the top 6 ranking invitation for part 3 of the selection process. An injured athlete must provide a medical certificate completed by a Sport Medicine Doctor, to the NTD-RG, copied to the PC-RG by email with receipt no later than March 28, 2022 by 12:00pm ET. Refer to section 5.1: Injuries for the complete process.

### Part 2:

70% Canadian Championships All Around results: Competition A + Competition B

Note: in case of a successful medical petition for 2022 Canadian Championships, 100% of the 2022 Elite Canada results will be considered for the top 6 ranking invitation to part 3 of the selection process. An injured athlete must provide a medical certificate completed by a Sport Medicine Doctor, to the NTD-RG, copied to the PC-RG by email with receipt no later than May 23 by 12:00pm ET. Refer to section 5.1: Injuries for the complete process.

### Part 3:

The top 6 ranked athletes from part 1 and part 2 of selection will be invited to the June technical control trial.



10% Technical Control Trial: Competition A + Competition B

Note: a petition for medical exemption to be considered for the Commonwealth Games technical control trial can be submitted to the NTD-RG for an athlete who is unable to compete or perform routines at the listed competitions. In this case, the technical control trial routines will be valued at the following and will be used towards team selection for Commonwealth Games:

- 30% from technical control trial for athletes who submitted an approved medical exemption to the NTD-RG who were unable to participate at Elite Canada for health-related reasons (30% technical control trial + 70% Canadian Championships).
- 80% from technical control trial for those athletes who submitted an approved medical exemption to the NTD-RG who were unable to participate at Canadian Championships for health-related reasons (80% technical control trial + 20% Elite Canada).
- 100% from technical control trial for those athletes who submitted an approved medical exemption to the NTD-RG who were unable to participate at either Elite Canada or Canadian Championships for health-related reasons.

#### 4.1 RESERVE ATHLETE

The SWG may identify reserve athletes, although there is no obligation to name a reserve. The reserve will be identified based on the criteria used for the selection of the athletes on the team and will be named at the discretion of the SWG. The nomination of a reserve may take place at a later date than the team selection.

#### 4.2 DETERMINATION OF THE COMPETITION ORDER

The competition order for qualifications will be finalized taking into consideration the information used for the selection of the athletes, international results, 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 GymCan staff will consult with the team and personal coaches for such decisions. However, the final decision rests with GymCan.

Any modification required to the competition order due to injury or illness after the team has arrived at the competition will be made by the Official Coach, who will inform the GymCan staff before the competition order is submitted.

## 5.0 ATHLETE VERIFICATION

Verification of athletes will be on-going until the date of departure for the competition. Athletes and coaches will be notified in advance of verifications, they will receive the specific expectations for each athlete. At the time of verification, the athlete must not be injured or ill, in a way which prevents them from competing at the level expected of an athlete preparing for the competition.

#### 5.1 INJURIES/ILLNESS

An athlete injured or ill at any time leading up to the selection, or once the team has been selected, must provide an official medical report/certificate to the GymCan staff as set out below. Failure to do so may result in the athlete's name being withdrawn from the process or team.

**Step 1.** The athlete and their club's head coach must inform the National Team Doctor and GymCan staff by email, with acknowledgement or a read receipt from the GymCan staff **within 24 hours**, if their athlete is injured or ill in a way to jeopardize their participation or the quality of their performances 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.

**Step 2.** The athlete and their club's head coach must provide the following typewritten information **within 5 days following step 1:**

- detailed nature of the injury (documented by physician, not by therapist) including whether or not this is a new, overuse, or chronic injury;
- ability to pursue full training and to compete, 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;
- expected date for return to partial (specify) and complete training.

**It is not acceptable for any athlete to arrive at a camp or competition with an unreported injury, regardless of when the injury occurred. If a condition is pre-existing, the IST member or Official Coach for the assignment or event should be notified in advance of travelling.**

## 5.2 ATHLETE SUBSTITUTION

Following the athlete selection and verifications, the following conditions must be met up until the deadline for official submission of the start list:

- the athlete is still eligible; and
- the athlete is healthy and able to compete, and
- the athlete has been successfully verified according to 5.0, and
- the athlete is able to perform at the level that warranted their selection

The SWG, in consultation with team members and team coaches may choose to replace an athlete on the team if, following the verification, or at any time up to the date of departure:

- the athlete no longer meets the eligibility criteria; and/or
- the athlete is unable to meet the expectations stated for the verification; and/or
- they omit to provide the required information in case of illness or injury as stated in section 5.1

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 5.1; and
- the members have received written confirmation from the National Team Doctor that the athlete will have recovered and be ready to compete before departure for the competition, at that level that warranted selection.

**Failure to meet one of the above conditions as assessed by the GymCan staff and SWG may result in the athlete being replaced by the travelling reserve. 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.**

If based on the above, an athlete cannot participate in a competition due to injury or other unforeseen circumstance then the GymCan staff, in consultation with the athletes, team coach(es), the personal coaches, and IST member, will determine if a substitute or reserve member of the team should replace that athlete. If time permits, and it is deemed to be beneficial for the team a change will be made to the official coaching staff for the team.

## 6.0 SELECTION OF COACHES

### 6.1 SELECTION

The SWG will nominate the individual coach(es) following the selection of the athletes, taking the following into consideration:



- the number of available accreditations;
- past experience and performance in international competitions
- ability to work well in a team setting, to work well with other team coaches, and to contribute to team cohesion
- ability to identify and resolve potential team issues related to the management of the team on the floor as they arise
- ability and willingness to communicate openly and in a constructive manner with members of the delegation
- ability to manage stress and support the needs of team members in high pressure situations
- approval ratings from past post-competition surveys

## 6.2 SUBSTITUTION OF A COACH

Substitution of a coach with another coach may take place if one of the following situations occurs:

- a coach no longer has an athlete on the team;
- a coach is not meeting the expectations associated with the roles, responsibilities, and tasks of a coach as assessed by the GymCan staff;
- a coach has missed scheduled activities - including meetings and related GymCan promotional activities during the preparation camps unless exempted by the GymCan staff.

Substitution is possible within the parameters set by the FIG, GymCan and/or the organization that has authority for the competition.

## 7.0 ANNOUNCEMENT OF SELECTION OF ATHLETES AND COACHES

The official announcement of team selection is the responsibility of GymCan. 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.

## 8.0 RECONSIDERATION, INTERNAL REVIEW, OR APPEAL AND MODIFICATION TO THE PROCESS

### 8.1 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 GymCan staff 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.

### 8.2 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/disciplines/nt-info>

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.



Notwithstanding the above, the parties may also agree to resolve the matter using the Early Resolution Facilitation services offered by the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (“**SDRCC**”).

Alternatively, GymCan and the Appellant may agree to bypass the internal appeal procedure and have the appeal heard directly before the SDRCC.

### **8.3 MODIFICATION TO THE PROCESS**

The GymCan staff, in consultation with the SWG, reserves the right to make changes to this document to ensure the identification of the best delegation possible for the competition in case of:

- major change to the information provided by FIG or the organization that has authority over the competition ;
- 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. SWG may take into consideration any factor or circumstance they deem relevant.

Any changes to this document must be endorsed by the CEO of GymCan and will be communicated directly to the coaches and athletes involved in the process. This clause shall not be used to justify changes after a competition or trials which formed part of these Internal Nomination Procedures unless it is related to an unforeseen circumstance. This is to allow for changes to this document that may become necessary due to a typographical error or a lack of clarity in a definition or wording before it has an impact on athletes.

## **9.0 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

Failure to comply with FIG and/or GymCan rules, regulations, policies, or directives will be addressed by the GymCan staff 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.

## **10.0 UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES**

In situations where unforeseen circumstances do not allow the Team selection criteria to be fairly and objectively applied, GymCan staff and the GymCan CEO will rule on an appropriate course of action.

## **11.0 DOCUMENT TIMELINES**

Version	Date	Change(s)
1.0	Feb. 11 2022	Initial document creation.
2.0	Feb. 16 2022	Circulated to Program Committee for feedback



## APPENDIX 1: COMMITMENT FORM

Athlete and Coach commitment form must be received by SrPC-RG ([bmosienko@gymcan.org](mailto:bmosienko@gymcan.org)) no later than **March 15, 2022**.

Both forms are available here: <http://gymcan.org/disciplines/nt-info>