



2022 FISU GAMES

RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS – SELECTION PROCESS
DECEMBER 2021 – FINAL



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION.....	2
2.0	DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY.....	4
3.0	ELIGIBILITY.....	5
4.0	SELECTION PROCESS.....	6
5.0	ATHLETE VERIFICATION.....	7
6.0	SELECTION OF COACHES.....	9
7.0	ANNOUNCEMENT OF SELECTION OF ATHLETES AND COACHES.....	9
8.0	RECONSIDERATION, INTERNAL REVIEW, OR APPEAL AND MODIFICATION TO THE PROCESS.....	9
9.0	DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES.....	10
10.0	UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES.....	11
11.0	DOCUMENT TIMELINES.....	11

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 FISU Games, with the goal of selecting the best possible gymnasts to help meet the objectives of the program.

The competition will take place in Chengdu, China from June 26 to July 7, 2022.

For clarifications and questions on the contents of this document please contact:
Teresa Orr, National Team Director – Rhythmic Gymnastics
torr@gymcan.org

1.1 COVID-19 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 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-19 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-19 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:

- To present a positive image of Canadian Rhythmic Gymnastics to the international community through the consistent performance of well-executed routines showing advanced difficulty with all apparatus.
- To perform with no major errors in each routine.
- To rank within the top half of the field in the all-around competition.

1.3 DELEGATION SIZE AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Canadian delegation for this competition will be composed of:

- Two RGI athletes
- One team coach

Note: GymCan will not be sending a group to this event.

The 2022 FISU Games will be an entirely self-funded event for all members of the Canadian delegation. Travel, meals, accommodation, clothing expenses, COVID-19 related expenses, judge costs, and USports participants fees will be covered by the participants. Visa expenses and incidentals are the responsibility of all travelling delegates. Therapy services will be provided through the Health Care Team while onsite at the games.

The cost per participant is approximately \$6500 - \$7500 CDN.

1.4 KEY DATES

March 2-6, 2022	Elite Canada
April 2022	Technical Control Trial
April 25, 2022	Targeted date of internal announcement
May 5, 2022	USports team nominative deadline
May-June 2022	Ongoing athlete verification, including Canada Championships
June 26- July 7 2022	2022 FISU Games (RG competition: June 27-29, 2022)

2.0 DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY

The National Team Director – Rhythmic Gymnastics (NTD-RG), in consultation with the RG Program Committee (RGPC) is responsible for developing and approving the selection process and procedures for 2022 FISU Games. The process incorporates feedback submitted by the program’s athlete representative which involves a period of athlete and coach consultation prior to its final publication. Final approval of the team selection document is completed by the NTD-RG.

The nomination of the athletes and coach(es) 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-RG);
- Senior Program Coordinator-RG (PC-RG) – non-voting;
- National Team Coach Council Representative;
- Judge Development Working group Member.

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

GymCan program staff will provide direction to the Canadian delegation leading up to departure. The named team coach will provide direction to the Canadian delegation at the competition. They will consult with other coaches on site, if applicable, 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 their professional recommendation to the named team coach, who will have ultimate decision-making authority to recommend the substitution or removal of an athlete, after consultation with the NTD-RG.

3.0 ELIGIBILITY

Athletes are eligible for selection to the team provided they:

- are a Canadian Citizen and have a passport that is valid until at least the January 31, 2023;
- are at least 18 years of age, and no older than 26 years of age on the 31st of December 2022
- are a national team or high performance athlete in the year of force (2021-2022);
- are a member in good standing with GymCan;
- are in compliance with all relevant GymCan, FIG, and USports requirements for eligibility including possessing a valid FIG license;
- 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 and deposit (if applicable) to the required GymCan staff by the deadline.

Coaches are eligible for selection provided 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 Canadian 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 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 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;
- are an active member of the FIG database, including completing the WADA High Performance Coaches' Education Program.

4.0 SELECTION PROCESS

The selection process has been developed to select the athletes with the greatest potential to meet the stated objectives. Nomination to the team will be based on the following criteria:

Selection Event 1: 2022 Elite Canada

All-around scores and ranking calculated as a sum of 4 routines performed twice (Competition A + Competition B) will count towards 50% of the total ranking.

In case of a successful medical petition for the 2022 Elite Canada, 100% of the 2022 Technical Control Trial results will be considered for selection. To be considered for selection, 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 7, 2022 by 12:00pm ET. Refer to section 5.1 Injuries for the complete process.

Selection Event 2: Technical Control Trial

The top four athletes eligible to participate at the 2022 FISU Games who submitted intent to participate forms, together with the financial deposit, from the 2022 Elite Canada will be invited to attend phase two of selection: Technical Control Trial.

The Technical Control Trial will take place in-person at the Markham Pan Am Centre or virtually (dates and location to be confirmed following 2022 Elite Canada).

All-around scores and ranking calculated as a sum of 4 routines performed twice (Competition A + Competition B) will count towards 50% of the total ranking.

In case of a successful medical petition for the 2022 Technical Control Trial, 100% of the 2022 Elite Canada will be considered for selection. To be considered for selection, 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 the final date of the Technical Control Trial. Refer to section 5.1 Injuries for the complete process.

The top two all-around athletes eligible from 2022 Elite Canada and the 2022 Technical Control Trial will be named to the 2022 FISU Games. Both athletes will perform 4 routines at the games.

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.

The reserve athlete will not have the status, privileges, and obligations of a team athlete and is not anticipated to travel with the team to the Games.

5.0 ATHLETE VERIFICATION

Verification of athletes, including named reserves, if applicable, will be on-going until the date of departure for the competition. Athletes and coaches will be notified in advance of verifications, and 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/ILLNESSES

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 PC-RG by email, with acknowledgement and/or a read receipt from the PC-RG staff **within 24 hours**, if their athlete is injured or ill in a way to jeopardize their participation or the quality of their performances at either competition 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 (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;
- expected date for return to partial (specify) and complete training.

The coach must provide a written report stating the nature and the amount of training the athlete will do each week for the next four weeks.

GymCan reserves the right to have the athlete examined by the National Team Doctor – RG, or a designated sport medicine physician.

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 Head Coach for the assignment or event should be notified in advance of travelling.

5.3 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 support 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 gotten written confirmation from the IST Lead, or designate, 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 may result in the athlete being replaced by the 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.

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 and positivity;
- 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 NTD-RG;
- 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 USports.

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) 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/APEAL

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, reserve 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 and/or USports;
- 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, USports, or GymCan rules, regulations, policies, or directives will be addressed by the NTD-RG 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, the NTD-RG and the GymCan CEO will rule on an appropriate course of action.

11.0 DOCUMENT TIMELINES

Version	Date	Change(s)
1.0	2021-11-18	Initial document creation (PC-RG)
2.0	2021-11-19	NTD-RG feedback incorporated
3.0	2021-12-02	Program Committee feedback incorporated
4.0	2021-12-17	Document translated and published.