



WOMEN'S ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS

2021 World Championships Selection Process

AUGUST 11, 2021- VERSION 2



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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 selection working group (SWG) of the Women's Artistic Gymnastics (WAG) Program of Gymnastics Canada (GymCan) to select and nominate athletes and coaches to the 2021 World Championships (Kitakyushu, Japan) with the goal of selecting the best possible gymnasts to help meet the objectives for the program.

For clarifications and questions on the contents of this document please contact:

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The selection document was created in April 2021 during the COVID 19 global pandemic, therefore it is still possible that the current competitive season could still be affected by unforeseen circumstances. If such is the case, GymCan would exercise its right to modify the published selection criteria based on the best available information. The notice of modification would be communicated to all affected individuals.

This document was updated in August 2021, circulated to all concerned individuals and changes are highlighted in yellow.

Event Cancellation

Should it be necessary to cancel or postpone any event specified in this selection process 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, which in the case of GymCan, is the CEO and the WAG National Team Head Coach.

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 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 World Championships 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 events indicated in this document that will be used for nomination World Championships, 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; athlete, athlete entourage and staff safety will 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 that will be used for nomination to the World Championships, 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 nomination to World Championships delegation.

1.1 OBJECTIVES

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

- Win a medal in an apparatus or All Around final
- Place one athlete in the top 8 AA
- Finalists in two apparatus finals

Consideration will be given to ensure that at least one athlete competes on four apparatus in Qualification and is therefore eligible for the All-Around Final.



1.2 DELEGATION SIZE AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The maximum number of athletes in the delegation is four. A maximum of **two** athletes may compete on each apparatus in the Qualification. A maximum for two athletes per country are allowed in the individual finals (All-Around and Apparatus).

The WAG contingent will be composed of:

- Up to 4 travelling competing athletes; no travelling reserve athlete
- 1 coach per club
- 1 judge
- 1 therapist
- WAG NTHC
- Program Manager (PM)

Participation is fully funded.

1.3 KEY DATES

Feb 5-9	Elite Canada
March	Technical Trial 1
April	Technical Trial 2
May 14-22	Canadian Championships
June	Technical Trial 3
July	Olympic Games
August	Video submission
August	World Challenge Cup (Slovenia)
September 3-6	NT training camp/Final selection camp
September	Nominative Registration
October 11-17 (TBC)	Pre-training camp WC
October 18-24	World Championships

2.0 DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY

GymCan 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 GymCan.

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.

2.1 DECISION MAKING ON SITE

David Kikuchi, NTHC, will be travelling with the delegation as the head coach. NTHC will provide direction to the Canadian WAG delegation at the World Championships. NTHC will consult with personal coaches, PM and CEO, on site but will ultimately have decision-making authority over the Canadian WAG delegation.

For any situation requiring a medical opinion (injury or illness), Jean-François Mathieu (IST lead) will provide his professional recommendation to the NTHC, 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:

- be a Canadian Citizen as per the Regulations of FIG
- have a passport that is valid until at least April 20, 2022;
- be born in 2005 or before (Senior)
- be a member in good standing with GymCan;
- be a Senior NT athlete in 2021 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 requirements for eligibility including possessing a valid FIG license with an expiry date no earlier than November 1st, 2021;
- have read, understood and accepted the selection process and conditions associated with selection for the World 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 CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

The selection process has been developed to select the athletes with the greatest potential to meet the stated objectives. Demonstrated potential will be assessed based on results obtained at Senior domestic and FIG sanctioned international competitions, **August video submission***, and final selection camp, between February 1st, 2021 and September 7th, 2021.

***For video submission, coaches can submit one routine per apparatus via what's app directly to NTHC anytime between August 10th and August 31st. Routines can be submitted on the same day or separate days and coaches are welcome to submit best routines. These will be taken as extra consideration by the SWG to assess potential to meet stated objectives.**

Following the 2021 Canadian Championships, a pool of athletes will be identified based on the following:

- recent national and international competition results
- demonstrated competitive stability and consistency of performance
- demonstrated ability to perform under pressure
- potential for increase of scores between June and end of September 2021

Athletes can be added to the pool of athletes following the June technical trials. This list will be made public.

Current pool of athletes (as of August 9, 2021)

1. Ellie Black
2. Shallon Olsen
3. ~~Brooklyn Moors*~~
4. Ava Stewart
5. ~~Jessica Dowling*~~
6. Audrey Rousseau
7. Laurie Denommée
8. Sophie Marois
9. Rose Woo
10. Victoria Woo
11. Cassie Lee
12. ~~Clara Raposo*~~

***these athletes have since removed themselves for consideration and have notified the NTHC of their decision.**

Final selection camp will take place in September. Format will be:

Thursday September 2: Arrival for those coming from out of Province
 Friday September 3: Training 10:00-15:00
 Saturday September 4: Training 10:00-15:00
 Sunday September 5: Mock meet 10:00-15:00 * (4 judges)
 Monday September 6: Open training with judges 10:00-15:00- departure PM

*athletes who participated in the Tokyo Olympics will not be expected to be doing full routines in early September, but they will be showing skills/combinations.

Selection to the delegation will be based according to the following priorities:

Priority 1: Demonstrated potential to win a medal in an apparatus or all-around final



	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	All-Around
D-score minimum	11.4 total SV	6.4	6.1	5.7	23.9
Total score	14.800 avg	14.800	14.300	14.000	56.400

Priority 2: Demonstrated potential to make an apparatus final or place top 8 in the all-around final

	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	All-Around
D-score minimum	11.2 total SV	6.2	5.6	5.2	22.0
Total score	14.600 avg	14.700	13.500	13.600	55.200

Priority 3: if there are still places available, the SWG will decide whether to select additional athletes who will offer the strongest performances at World Championships 2021. **Should the remaining athletes be too far from the target scores below, the SWG has the right to reduce the number of athletes who would represent Canada at the World Championships.** Selection will be according to the following priority:

- a) athlete strong on 4 apparatus
- b) athlete very strong on 3 apparatus
- c) athlete very strong on 2 apparatus

	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor	AA
D score minimum	5.3 Second vault min 4.6	5.8	5.6	5.5	20.00
Total Score	14.00 average	14.20	13.40	13.40	53.00

*these targets may be adjusted following Olympic Games in Tokyo and will be circulated to all concerned individuals

The SWG will analyze all results from the competitions in the stated time frame as well as performances and results from camps. The following factors will be taken into consideration for final nomination:

- frequency of obtaining the highest scores
- date of competition or camp (more recent performances are more important)
- performances at major competitions are more important
- readiness and level of preparation at training camps leading to World Championships

4.2 RESERVE ATHLETES

The SWG may identify reserve athletes for the 2021 WC delegation 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 Championships. It is mandatory for this athlete to attend the team preparation activities.

4.3 ATHLETE VERIFICATION

Verification of athletes will be on-going after **Canadian Championships**. Specific dates, locations, and means of verification will be at the prerogative of the PM and NTHC, and will be arranged when deemed necessary. Regular FaceTime training sessions will also be required with all selected athletes and named reserve following September training camp.



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 World 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 NTHC, 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 World 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 World 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 NTHC or designate will consult with the team and personal coaches for such decisions. However, the final decision rest with the NTHC.

Any modification required to the assigned apparatus and to the competition order due to injury or illness after the team has arrived at the World Championships be made by the NTHC 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.

4.6 INJURIES OR ILLNESS

An athlete injured or ill at any time after Canadian Championships 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 GYM CAN.

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 confirm the selection of the coaches at the same time as the athletes.

The following factors will be taken into consideration:

- Coaches must meet the requirements set out within the National Team Handbook
- the number of available accreditations;
- one coach per Club;
- 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 NTHC will be accredited for World Championships, therefore will have the overall authority for WAG decisions during the competition.

6.0 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.

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/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 7.1. 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 2021 World 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 GymCan 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, GymCan's WAG PM and the GymCan CEO will rule on an appropriate course of action.



WAG COMMITMENT FORM 2021 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SELECTION PROCESS

[Athlete and Coach Commitment forms are available here.](#)

Copy to be received by the PM-WAG no later than **May 15, 2021**.

