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**CANADA**

## **WOMEN'S ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS**

**SELECTION PROCESS FOR  
WOMEN'S SENIOR, JUNIOR, AND YOUTH NATIONAL TEAMS  
FOR THE PERIOD OF FEBRUARY 1, 2018 TO FEBRUARY 30, 2019  
(Based on results from competitions in 2017-2018)**

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

National Team (NT) status is provided to athletes in three High Performance categories: HP Novice (Youth National Team), Junior, and Senior. Recognition as a NT athlete or coach is conditional to the athlete and their coach(es) signing and observing the respective NT Agreement.

National Teams are identified following the Canadian Championships but may be amended periodically throughout the year.

## **2.0 ELIGIBILITY OF ATHLETES**

An athlete is eligible for National Team status if:

- they are a Canadian citizen or have permanent resident status and are eligible to compete internationally on behalf of Canada;
- they are available and committed to take part in the NT program;
- the athlete and their coach(es) have signed and returned the Athlete and Coach National Team Athlete Agreements by the set deadline;
- they competed at the 2018 Elite Canada and/or the Canadian Championships in the Novice, Junior, or Senior categories, unless ill or injured in which case a medical certificate is required, and/or;
- they have been identified by the National Team Director based on the criteria listed below.

The status of National Team member is given to athletes who have demonstrated the COMMITMENT and the ABILITY (Senior & Junior), or the COMMITMENT and POTENTIAL (Junior & Youth), to:

- excel at the international level;
- provide a significant contribution toward the achievement of the WAG Program performance objectives.

## **3.0 NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION**

The number of athletes named to the National Team may vary from year to year. Athletes who are named to the national team will have been assessed against the circulated WAG Program targets and expectations for D score as well as final score.

The National Team list is published following Canadian Championships and Elite Canada. The status of National Team athlete is normally valid for the period stated on the list. However, athletes may from time to time be removed or added to the NT list according to the process stated below in this document. The name of an athlete who retires during the gymnastic year is deleted from the NT ranking list.

An exception to any of the above statements may be made for special circumstances by the National Team Director.

### **3.1 SENIOR NATIONAL TEAM**

Senior National Team members are selected taking the following criteria under consideration:

- Review of an athlete's D score and Final scores obtained in domestic and/or international competition as they compare against the circulated WAG Program targets and expectations;
- Any Sport Canada AAP senior carded athlete (C1, SR) for 2018-19;
- Athletes selected at the discretion of the National Team Director as per the guidelines set out below in 3.5.

The number of Senior National Team athletes will normally be between 10 and 13 athletes.

### **3.2 JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAM**

Junior National Team members are selected taking the following criteria under consideration:

- Review of an athlete's D score and Final scores obtained in domestic and/or international competition as they compare against the circulated WAG Program targets and expectations;
- Any Sport Canada AAP development carded athlete for 2018-19;
- Athletes selected at the discretion of the National Team Director as per the guidelines set out below in 3.5.

The number of Junior National Team athletes will normally be between 6 and 8 athletes.

### **3.3 YOUTH NATIONAL TEAM**

Youth National Team members are selected as follows (provided that they meet the eligibility criteria):

- Review of an athlete's D score and Final scores obtained in domestic and/or international competition as they compare against the circulated WAG Program targets and expectations;
- Any Sport Canada AAP development carded athlete for 2018-19;
- Athletes selected at the discretion of the National Team Director as per the guidelines set out below in 3.5.

The number of Youth National Team athletes will normally be between 4 and 8 athletes.

### **3.4 ESPOIR STATUS**

Espoir is an earned status for gymnasts who are currently on a watch list for one of the above National Teams. It is expected that an Espoir gymnast would be promoted to the National Team within six (6) months of becoming Espoir. An Espoir gymnast may be asked to represent Canada on a self-funded basis. An Espoir gymnast may also be invited to National Team camps on a self-funded basis.

### **3.5 NATIONAL TEAM DISCRETIONARY SELECTION CRITERIA WILL INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:**

- i) Review of an athlete's D score and Final scores obtained in domestic and/or international competition as they compare against the circulated WAG Program targets and expectations;
- ii) Review of an athlete's ranking obtained according to the Objective Points System as set out in the AAP carding criteria;
- iii) Review of an athlete's quality of technique and execution as demonstrated in verification processes, camps, or competitions;
- iv) Favourable assessment by the NT Director recognizing in the athlete "special traits" that can be developed within the next year;

- v) Review of data obtained on an athlete through verifications and High Performance or Aspire Camps including judge verified D score, observed level of preparedness upon arrival at camp, and results in physical preparation testing;
- vi) Review of tracked improvements made by an athlete over the past year;
- vii) Consideration of athletes who were injured, ill, or assigned by GCG to an international competition at the time of Elite Canada or the Canadian Championships;
- viii) Consideration of an athlete who has demonstrated the ability to rank among the best in the world on one or two apparatus even if her All-Around ranking is low.

#### **4.0 CONFIRMATION OF NATIONAL TEAM STATUS**

National Team status is conditional to National Team agreements arriving at the GCG office by the set deadline. The rationale for all NT nominations must be submitted by the NTD to the Program Manager and High Performance Director before they are made official.

##### **4.1 REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION**

Following the distribution of the NT list, a coach may submit a request for consideration of an athlete who they believe deserves to be named to the National Team. Such a request for consideration will require justification for the athlete based on the performance expectations set out for the athlete's level for the current year. Such requests will be reviewed by the PM-AG, NTD, and the JRNT Coach within two weeks of the request.

#### **5.0 CHANGE IN STATUS**

The status may be withdrawn, suspended, placed on hold or the athlete placed on probation, by the National Team Director at any time if the athlete:

- is no longer eligible or is no longer carded;
- leaves the National Team program to compete for an education institution in the USA;
- is no longer performing at the level or training in the environment which warranted selection to the National Team;
- does not abide by:
  - the GCG Code of Ethics, Code of Conduct, and Harassment Policy;
  - the FIG, Sport Canada, COC, CCES, and GCG/WAG policies, regulations and directives.

The process which may lead to an athlete being placed on probation or the status of NT member withdrawn may include the following steps:

- a discussion with the athlete and their coach(es);
- a letter sent by the National Team Director to the athlete and their coach(es) stating issues or concerns including the rationale for such evaluation, the expected improvements, and the final evaluation process;
- a final evaluation conducted by the National Team Director according to terms set;

- the final findings and consequences communicated by the National Team Director to the athlete and their coach(es) in writing.

Depending on the nature of the problem or failure, it is not mandatory for the National Team Director to follow every step.