



GYMnastics
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CANADA

**Women's Artistic Gymnastics
2018 Jr Pan American Championships
Selection Process**

January 31st 2018 - Final

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1.1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to set out the process and criteria that will be used by the Women's Artistic Gymnastics (WAG) Program of Gymnastics Canada to select athletes and coaches to the 2018 Jr Pan American Championships, with the goal of selecting the best possible gymnasts to help meet the objectives of the program.

At the creation of this document, there was no information regarding registration deadlines. Therefore, the dates outlined in this process may be adjusted accommodate the required deadlines.

1.2 OBJECTIVES

The objective of this selection process and procedures is to select the best possible delegation for these championships that will can achieve the following targets:

- Earn a quota for YOG during the AA qualifying competition, only athletes born in 2003 are eligible;
- Win individual or all-around medal
- Place top-3 as a team;

Consideration will be given to ensuring that at least one athlete (born in 2003) competes on four apparatus in the qualifications and is therefore eligible for the AA final in order to qualify for the Youth Olympic Games.

1.3 DELEGATION SIZE AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Canadian WAG Team will be composed of:

- 4 travelling athletes;
- 2 team coaches, 2 judges, 1 therapist

This will be a cost-share event.

GCG will provide medical and therapy service through their IST while onsite.

1.4 KEY DATES

Jan 31-Feb 4	Elite Canada
March 6	Mock meet
March 8-11	Gymnix (Jr Cup and Challenge Cup) trials
May 7	Unofficial announcement of selected athletes
May 14	Deadline to make final nominations
May 22-27	Canadian Championships (final verification)
June 9	Arrival of delegation
June 10-15	Jr. Pan Am Championships
June 16	Departure of delegation

2.0 DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY

The Program Manager- Women's Artistic Gymnastics (PM-WAG) and the High Performance Director (HPD), are responsible for developing and approving the selection process and procedures for the Jr. Pan Am Championships. The WPC was consulted for this selection process.

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

- Program Manager – Women's Artistic Gymnastics (PM-WAG) (Chair);
- WAG High Performance Director (HPD);
- WPC appointed coach representative- Nancy Beyer
- JDWG appointed judge representative- Gord Bennett

NT coaches with athletes being considered for selection will not be eligible for membership on the SWG due to conflict of interest.

3.0 ELIGIBILITY

The athlete will be 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 December 2018;
- athletes 13-15 years old by December 31st 2018;
- they are in compliance with all relevant FIG requirements for eligibility including possessing a valid FIG license with an expiry date no earlier than September 1, 2018;

A coach will be eligible for selection provided that they:

- are the coach associated with one of the team athletes on a regular basis and have coached them at the 2018 Elite Canada competition or at 2020 Camp and Gymnix.
- have read, understood, and accepted the selection process and the conditions associated with the selection for this competition;
- take part in all planned activities related to these Championships unless exempted by the HPD and in all GCG promotional activities associated with these activities unless exempted by the HPD;
- abide by all GCG policy and procedures and its code of ethics.
- are certified NCCP L4 or have obtained an exemption from the PM WAG;
- are a coach in good standing with GCG and have fulfilled the safe sport requirements according to GCG policies and procedures.

4.1 SELECTION PROCESS

The selection process has been developed to select the athletes with the greatest potential to meet the stated objectives. The athletes will be selected for the 2018 Jr Pan Am Championships prior to the final deadline for team nomination if they have met one of the following criteria.

- Priority 1: top two 2003 born athlete with demonstrated ability to rank top 7 in all-around final
- Priority 2: athlete with demonstrated ability to win a medal in all-around or individual event
- Priority 3: demonstrated ability to contribute to the overall team score on a minimum of two apparatus and can contribute to the team result as follows:
 - contributing to a higher team score on the apparatus where the team total(s) is(are) lower; the contribution must assist in obtaining a better total on each apparatus

Demonstrated ability will be assessed based on results from Elite Canada, Mock meet on March 6th, Gymnix, as well as domestic and international competition (FIG sanctioned) results obtained between January 1, 2018 and May 1, 2018.

When selecting the team, the SWG will consider the balance and makeup of the team that gives the best opportunity to achieve the stated objectives.

4.2 RESERVE ATHLETES

The SWG may identify one junior reserve athlete for the 2018 Jr Pan Am Championships team 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 reserve athlete will not have the status and privileges of a team athlete but may be obligated to train and travel with the team to the pre-event training camp.

4.3 ATHLETE VERIFICATION

Verification of athletes will be on-going. Specific dates, locations, and means of verification will be at the prerogative of the HPD or SWG and will be arranged when necessary. Final verification will be at the 2018 Canadian Championships.

At the time of verification, the athlete must not be injured or ill, in a way which prevents them from continuing a training program at the level expected of an athlete preparing for the Jr Pan Am Championships. They must perform their usual routines with full difficulty (at a minimum, the level of difficulty that was demonstrated during the 2018 Elite Canada and/or Mock meet on March 6th or Gymnix in a simulated competition environment in line with FIG equipment standards. At the discretion of the HPD, modified landing mats may be permitted during a verification.

If an athlete cannot participate in a competition due to injury, or other unforeseen circumstance, then the HPD, in consultation with the SWG and PM-WAG, will determine if a substitution should be made. If it is decided that the athlete should be replaced, the coaching staff, team manager, or the PM-WAG will submit the official request for change.

The HPD may substitute an athlete if, following the verification, or at any time up to the date of departure:

- 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 per the deadline stated in the section above.

4.4 ATHLETE SUBSTITUTION

Following the athlete selection, the following conditions must be met prior to official registration:

- the athlete is still eligible for selection; and
- the athlete is healthy and able to compete, and
- the athlete is able to perform, at the time of a verification, at the level that warranted their selection; and
- the athlete is successfully verified according to the process described in 4.2.

The HPD has the authority to exercise their discretion in the case of an athlete who is slightly injured. Failure to meet one of the above conditions as assessed by the HPD may result in the athlete being replaced by a reserve.

If based on the above, an athlete cannot participate in a competition due to injury or other unforeseen circumstance then the HPD, in consultation with the team coach(es), the personal coaches, and the PM-WAG and/or HPD, 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.

4.5 DETERMINATION OF ATHLETE'S COMPETITIVE APPARATUS AND START ORDER

Determination of the athletes' competitive apparatus and start order is ongoing until the deadline to submit and is not determined at the time of selection. The results used for the team selection as well as those obtained in athlete verifications and model trainings will be used to determine which gymnasts will compete on each apparatus to generate the maximum possible team score.

The Head coach will consult with the personal coach(es) in deciding the start order. However, the final decision is the sole responsibility of the Head coach. In the case of a discrepancy the WAG PM or HPD will be involved.

As per FIG regulations, the competing team and order of competition on each event shall be decided no later than 24 hours prior to the competition.

4.6 INJURIES

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 PM-WAG 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 PM-WAG by email, with acknowledgement or a read receipt from the PM-WAG **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. If requested by the HPD or SWG, the coach must provide an updated training plan for the next four weeks. GCG reserves the right to have the athlete examined by a physician or medical specialist selected by the GCG at the expense of the athlete and by the timelines set by GCG.

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. Failure to immediately report injuries or significant illnesses to GCG may result in NT status being withdrawn.

5.1 SELECTION OF COACHES

5.2 SELECTION

The SWG will confirm the selection of the coaches at the same time as the athletes. Coaches must meet the eligibility as set out above (section 3.0) and the requirements set out within the National Team Handbook.

Coach nomination will take the following into consideration:

- 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

One of the coaches will be named as Team Head Coach with responsibilities that will be outlined at the time of selection and will have final authority for all decisions related to the athletes. The WAG PM and HPD will be available to support the decisions of the Head Coach.

5.3 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 HPD and the PM-WAG;
- a coach has missed scheduled activities - including meetings and related GCG promotional activities - during the preparation camps unless exempted by the HPD and/or the PM-WAG.

Substitution is possible within the parameters set by the FIG and GCG.

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 GCG provides a formal public *“release”* announcing the team selection, or when GCG partners with a multi-sport organisation (i.e.: Canadian Olympic Committee, Commonwealth Games Canada, U Sport) to formally announce a team.

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

7.2 RECONSIDERATION

An athlete who is in disagreement with a decision made in the application of the process may request reconsideration by the HPD. The request must be made in writing no more than two working days from the day of circulation of the decision (unofficial announcement). It must include the rationale supporting the request and the alleged errors in the application of the process. The HPD will then review the request and make a decision. The HPD 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.

7.3 INTERNAL REVIEW/APPEAL:

A request for review or appeal will be dealt with according to Section 39 – Appeals of the GCG Policies and Procedures Manual in effect at the time of the dispute. The request must be made no more than two working days from the day of announcement of the list of athletes and coaches who have been selected, or two 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.

7.4 MODIFICATION TO THE PROCESS

The WPC reserves the right to make changes to this document to ensure the identification of the best delegation possible for the 2018 Jr Pan Am Championships in case of:

- major change to the information provided by FIG;
- unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of GCG;
- a situation which impacts any step of the selection process and prevents the HPD from fairly applying the process as written. The HPD may take into consideration any factor or circumstance they deem relevant.

Any changes to this document must be endorsed by the High-Performance Director or President/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 GCG rules, regulations, policies, or directives will be addressed by the GCG HPD and/or the GCG WAG PM 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 HPD and the GCG President/CEO will rule on an appropriate course of action. In any case of discrepancies between the English and French versions of this document, the English

version will take precedence.

10.0 NTD

At the time of finalizing this selection process, GCG was without a NTD. In the event that a NTD is appointed at any stage in the selection process, he or she will become the ultimate authority in the selection process.

11.0 CHANGE LOG

Version	Date	Change(s)
1.0	2017-12-13	Initial document creation (Amanda Tambakopoulos)
2.0	2017-12-15	Version 2 (Amanda Tambakopoulos)
3.0	2018-01-05	Version 3 (Amanda Tambakopoulos)
4.0	2018-01-31	Version 4 (Amanda Tambakopoulos) reviewed following consultation with WPC