



GYMnastics
nastique
CANADA

Women's Artistic Gymnastics
2015 Pan American Games
Selection Process

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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 Women's Artistic Gymnastics (WAG) Program of Gymnastics Canada to select athletes and coaches to the Toronto 2015 Pan American Games, with the goal of selecting the best possible team for these Games.

The 2015 competition season will be focused primarily on the qualification of a team for the 2016 Olympic Games based on results at the 2015 World Championships in October 2015. The Toronto 2015 Games will play an important role therefore in the final stages of the World Championships preparation in the following ways:

- Provide a podium team competition for potential members of the 2015 World Championships
- Provide an objective measure of the effectiveness of the team line up for each apparatus
- Test the procedures that will be used for the selection of the best possible athletes for the 2016 Olympic Team

1.1 OBJECTIVES

The objective of this selection process and procedures is to select the best possible team for these games to achieve the following targets:

- Win Team medal
- Place one athlete in the top 3 all around
- Qualify an athlete into all apparatus finals
- Medal on two apparatus finals

1.2 DELEGATION SIZE AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Canadian WAG Team will be composed of:

- **5 travelling athletes**
- 2 Team coaches, with NTD, 3 judges. Additional coaches may be named pending the number of accreditations available.

The team competition format is 5, 4, 3. **Note: This is a change in format from the 2011 Pan American Games.**

Travel, meals, accommodation and clothing expenses will be covered by the COC. The COC will provide medical and therapy service through their Health Care Team while onsite at the games.

1.3 KEY DATES

May 26-31	Canadian Championships (TBC)
June 3	Nomination of team to COC
June 15	Deadline of nomination to Toronto 2015 OC
July 1-6	Pan Am Preparation Camp
July 10	Opening Ceremonies
July 12	WAG Team Competition
July 13	WAG CII All Around
July 14-15	Apparatus Finals MAG & WAG

2.0 DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY

The Program Director – Artistic Gymnastics and the National Team Director in consultation with the Women's Program Committee (WPC) are responsible for developing and approving the selection process and procedures for the team that will be nominated to the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) for the Toronto 2015 Pan American Games.

The final selection of the athletes and coaches to be nominated to the COC will be the responsibility of the Selection Working Group (SWG) comprised of the following:

- Karl Balisch, Program Director Artistic Gymnastics (PD-AG) (Chair)
- WAG National Team Director (NTD)
- WPC member appointed by PD-AG
- WPC appointed Coach Representative
- JDWG appointed Brevet judge

3.0 FIG QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

Qualification for the TORONTO 2015 Pan American Games is based on the results of the 2014 Senior Pan American Championships (results of competition 1). The placing and allotments are given to the NOCs and not to the gymnasts.

The following is the qualification system in detail:

Place Number (allocation)	Type	Qualification	Number
1-40	NOC with team	One team from each NOC qualified 1st to 8th in accordance with team ranking in competition I.	8 x 5 = 40
41-50	Individuals	Two gymnasts from each NOC qualified 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th in accordance with team ranking in competition 1.	5 x 2 = 10
51-57	Individuals	Seven gymnasts (14th to 20th position), maximum one per NOC, presenting the best individual all around results from competition 1, from different NOCs than the ones already qualified.	7 x 1 = 7

If, for the last seven individual places (51-57), it is not possible to fulfill the position with gymnasts from different NOCs than those already qualified (less than 20 NOCs participating in the 2014 Senior Pan American Championships), the allocation will be redistributed between the NOCs qualified in positions 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th, awarding one gymnast successively for each NOC to obtain the appropriate number.

In the case of the host NOC (Canada) not having a gymnast as per the qualification system, the Organizing Committee for the Games (TO2015) will award additional places not already announced.

The Pan American Gymnastics Union (PAGU) will confirm qualified places per NOC by September 15, 2014. NOCs will confirm with PAGU their use of quota places by October 15, 2014.

Canada qualified a full team for the 2015 Pan American Games based on the results of the qualification competition.

4.0 ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

In order to be eligible for nomination to the Canadian Olympic Committee for Olympic or Pan American Team selection, an athlete must:

1. Be a Canadian citizen (this refers to Rule 42 of the Olympic Charter).
2. Have a valid Canadian passport that does not expire on or before December 31, 2015
3. Be in compliance with all relevant FIG, and IOC (or PASO) requirements for eligibility including possessing a valid FIG license with an expiry date no earlier than November 1, 2015.
4. Born in 1999 or earlier and competing in the Senior category
5. Sign and submit the COC Athlete Agreement and Eligibility Conditions Form no later than May 13, 2015.
6. Be a member in good standing of Gymnastics Canada

5.0 SELECTION PROCESS

The selection process has been developed to select the team with the greatest potential to meet the stated objectives. Demonstrated potential will be assessed based on results obtained at domestic and international competitions – Senior FIG rules - between September 1, 2014 and June 1, 2015.

Nomination to the team will be based on the following criteria:

1. Demonstrated ability to make a contribution towards the stated objectives and have met the minimum D scores and E score deductions stated in Table 1 below in the following priority order:
 - as an athlete strong on 4 apparatus;
 - as an athlete very strong on 2, preferably 3 apparatus who can contribute to the team result as follows:
 - o the contribution that the athlete would make on the apparatus where the team total(s) is(are) lower, as well as
 - o the number of times an athlete would contribute; the contribution must assist in obtaining a better total on each apparatus, as well as
 - o the projected number of apparatus where the athlete could compete if selected.
2. Demonstrated potential to win a medal in an apparatus final at the Toronto 2015 Pan American Games;
3. Demonstrated potential to make an apparatus final at the Toronto 2015 Pan American Games;
4. If spots still remain open on the team, athletes will be nominated based upon a demonstrated potential to make a contribution towards the team total that is comparable or close to the athlete(s) already selected as per the Priority 1 above.

Table 1: Minimum D scores and E score deductions

	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor
D score minimum	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.3
Acceptable E score deductions	≤ 1.4	≤ 2.0	≤ 2.0	≤ 2.0

5.1 SELECTION DATE

The selection will take place following the Canadian Championships and will be announced on June 2, 2015.

5.2 RESERVE ATHLETES

The SWG may identify a reserve athlete for the Toronto 2015 Games 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, privileges and obligations of a team athlete except in the obligation to travel with the team to the pre-Games training camp.

5.3 ATHLETE SUBSTITUTION

If an athlete cannot participate in a competition due to injury, or other unforeseen circumstance, then the NTD, in consultation with the Team Coach(s), the personal coaches and PD-AG, will determine if the reserve member of the team should replace that athlete. If it is decided that the athlete should be replaced the coaching staff, team manager or the PD-AG will submit the official request for change.

Verification of the nominated athletes will be at the prerogative of the WAG NTD or PD-AG and will be arranged when deemed necessary.

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

- she is unable to meet the expectations stated for the Verification, and/or
- she omits to provide the required information in case of illness or injury as per the deadline stated in the section above.

Any substitutions after June 14th 2015 are subject to the PASO/COPAG Late Athlete Replacement Policy and no longer at the discretion of GCG or the COC.

5.4 INJURIES

An athlete injured or ill at the time of the 2015 Canadian Championships must provide an official medical report/certificate no later than **June 2, 2015** to the PD-AG. The report must include the information stated in Steps 1 and 2 below.

An athlete who becomes injured or ill after June 3, 2015 must follow the directives stated below. Failure to do so may result in the athlete's name being withdrawn from the list.

Step 1. The athlete and her club's head coach must inform the PD-AG by email **within 24 hours** if his/her athlete is injured or ill in a way to jeopardize her participation or the quality of her 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 her club's head coach must provide the following typewritten information **within 5 days following step 1:**

- detailed nature of the injury (document 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.

5.5 DETERMINATION OF ATHLETE'S COMPETITIVE APPARATUS AND START ORDER

The results of all trials, tests and model trainings and will be analyzed to determine which gymnasts competing on what apparatus will generate the maximum possible team score.

The NTD together with the PD-AG will consult with the other coach(s) in deciding the start order. However the final decision is the sole responsibility of the NTD.

As per the FIG regulations the competing team and order of competition on each event shall be decided no later than 24 hours prior to the competition. Any final changes to the team will be made by the NTD in consultation with the Team Coach(s) and will always be based on the best possible team to achieve the goals of the program.

6. SELECTION OF COACHES

COC minimum coaching qualifications in effect at the time of the Toronto 2015 Pan American Games will apply.

The NTD and PD-AG will nominate Team coaches following the selection of the athletes. The GCG WAG NTD will be WAG Head Coach and will have the overall authority for WAG team decisions.

Only the coaches of an athlete on the team will be considered. Coach nomination will be based upon the following criteria:

- The number of available accreditations;
- Their past experience and performance in international competition;
- Demonstrated ability to work well in a team setting, to work with the other team coaches and to contribute significantly to team cohesion (athletes, coaches, judges, etc.);
- Demonstrated ability to identify and resolve potential team issues related to the management of the team on the floor (warm-up and competition) before and as they arise;
- Demonstrated ability and willingness to communicate openly and in a constructive manner with coaches, athletes, judges, etc. on the team;
- Demonstrated ability to handle pressure and ability to manage their own stress and support the needs of teammates in high pressure situations;
- Their ability and commitment to attend all Team meetings, activities (including training camps) and events as required by the GCG Team Leader;
- The ranking of the athletes on the team from the selection process will be taken into consideration;
- Consideration that there must be at least one female coach nominated;

In the event that the NTD is not a fully accredited member of the team, the NTD will still provide direction to the team at the Games, however one of the coaches will be named as Team Head Coach with responsibilities that will be outlined at the time of selection.

6.1 SUBSTITUTION OF A TEAM COACH

The NTD may substitute a Team coach with another coach, if one of the following situations occurs:

- i) a coach no longer has an athlete on the Team;
- ii) a coach is not meeting the expectations associated with the roles, responsibilities and tasks of a Team coach as assessed by the WAG NTD and the PD-AG.

The NTD will use the coach selection process to identify the new coach.

7. RECONSIDERATION, INTERNAL REVIEW OR APPEAL AND MODIFICATION TO THE PROCESS

7.1 RECONSIDERATION, INTERNAL REVIEW OR APPEAL

An athlete who is in disagreement with a decision made in the application of the process may request reconsideration by the WAG NTD. The request must be made in writing no more than two working days from the day of circulation of the decision. It must include the rationale supporting the request and the alleged errors in the application of the process. The WAG NTD and the PD-AG will then review the request and make a decision. The WAG NTD shall give written reasons for the decision to the athlete within two working days from the receipt of the written request.

7.2 INTERNAL REVIEW/APPEAL:

A request for review or appeal will be dealt with according 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 to the team. The request must be in writing and must include the rationale supporting the request and the alleged errors in the application of the process.

7.3 MODIFICATION TO THE PROCESS

The WAG NTD reserves the right to make changes to this document to ensure the identification of the best team possible for the Toronto 2015 Pan American Games in case of:

- major change to the information provided by FIG or PAGU
- injuries to several athletes of the training group
- unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of GCG
- an exceptional situation which has a significant impact on any step of the selection process which will prevent the NTD from fairly applying the process as written. The NTD may take into consideration any factor or circumstance he deems relevant.

Any changes to this document must be endorsed by the WAG Program Committee and will be communicated directly to the coaches and athletes involved in the process.

8. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

- a) Failure to comply with FIG and/or GCG rules, regulations, policies or directives will be addressed by GCG MAG NTD who will follow with proper action or sanction before, during and/or after the competition
- b) 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).
- c) 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.
- d) 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, coaches recognition funding and international achievement coaches recognition funding.

9. UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

In situations where unforeseen circumstances do not allow the Team selection criteria to be fairly and objectively applied, Gymnastics Canada's WAG NTD, the PD-AG and the GCG Chief Technical Officer will rule on an appropriate course of action.