



# **GYM** **nastics** **nastique**

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**CANADA**

**Rhythmic Gymnastics**  
**2018 World Championships**  
**Individual Selection Process**

*May 2018 - FINAL*

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

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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 (GCG) to select athletes and coaches to the 2018 World Championships, with the goal of selecting the best possible gymnasts to help meet the objectives for the program.

### 1.1 OBJECTIVES

The objective of this selection process and procedures is to select the best possible delegation for these championships who will be capable of achieving the following targets:

- Qualify one athlete to the All Around Final (top 24)
- Improve Canada's individual team ranking (20<sup>th</sup> in 2015)
- Finish in the top 24 AA in the Group category to qualify for the 2019 World Championships

Note: The GCG Senior Group gymnast selection was conducted October 2017 according to the selection criteria and process that was previously identified for the 2018 GCG Group. It is understood that the 2018 GCG Group will represent Canada at the 2018 World Championships and other international events during 2018.

### 1.2 DELEGATION SIZE AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Canadian RG Team will be composed of:

- Up to three Individual Athletes
- Two Individual Team Coaches (if from different clubs)
- Up to six athletes of the GCG Group
- Two Group Coaches
- One RGI and one RGG Judge
- Head of Delegation
- Therapist

Participation will be **fully funded** for the following participants:

- Up to three individual athletes
- Individual coach of the top ranked individual athlete
- Up to six athletes of the GCG Group
- One group coach
- One RGI and one RGG Judge
- Head of Delegation
- Therapist

All other participants will be self-funded.

### 1.3 KEY DATES

May 18 - 20	Canadian Championships
July 23 – 24	Control Competition (top 4 eligible gymnasts) <i>Location will be determined based on where the majority of gymnasts are located (out-of-town athlete(s) will have the choice to either attend the control competition in person as self-funded or send in videos for review)</i>
July – September	Nation Team Director Visitations

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August 15 – 20	Minsk World Challenge Cup (top 2 gymnasts from Canadian Championships)
Sept. 6 - 15	RGI World Championships
September 2-12	RGG Camp in Sofia ( <i>accommodation/meals self-funded for athletes and coaches</i> )
Sept. 12 – 17	RGG World Championships

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### 2.0 DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY

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The High Performance Director (HPD), National Team Director (NTD), National Team Coach Council Representative (NTCC) and Chair of the Brevet Judge Council in consultation with the Rhythmic Program Committee (RPC) are responsible for developing and approving the selection process and procedures for the team that will be nominated to the 2018 World Championships.

The selection of the athletes and coaches to be nominated will be the responsibility of the RG Selection Working Group. (SWG) The working group will be comprised of:

- National Team Director
- National Team Coach Council Representative
- RGI Highest Ranking Neutral Brevet Judge

NT coaches or Brevet Judges with athletes being considered for selection will not be eligible for membership on the Selection Working group due to conflict of interest. In this case, a designate would be named.

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### 3.0 ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

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The athlete will be eligible for selection to the Team provided that:

- she is a Canadian citizen and has a passport that is valid until at least the end of March 2019
- she is born in 2002 or before
- she is a Senior NT athlete in 2018
- she is in compliance with all relevant FIG requirements for eligibility including possessing a valid FIG license with an expiry date no earlier than September 17, 2018
- she, her coaches and her parents (for under-age athletes) have signed the Commitment form.
- she is in good standing with GCG (no outstanding invoices)

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### 4.0 SELECTION PROCESS

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

#### Step 1: Canadian Championships

All-Around Scores & ranking calculated as the sum of Competition A + Competition B (8 routines)

The top 4 eligible gymnasts will be invited to attend and/or send in videos for review for Step 2 to remain eligible for selection. Canadian Championships (Competition A + Competition B) will count towards 70% of the total ranking.

In the case of a tie for 4<sup>th</sup> place, the 2018 Canadian Championships All Around score using the top 3 scores from Competition A and top 3 scores from Competition B. (Competition A3 + B3) will be used to break the tie.

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In the case of a further tie, the sum of the three best apparatus scores from the 2018 Canadian Championships Competition B will be used.

### Step 2: Control Competition Using Neutral Judges

July 23 & 24

Format: 2 apparatus per day – judged twice

Neutral Judges: Minimum three neutral judges will be invited (will be RGI FIG Brevet 3 or higher)

All-Around scores & ranking from Day 1 & 2 (8 routines total) will count towards 30% of the total ranking.

Location of control competition will be determined based on where the majority of eligible gymnasts are located. Out-of-town gymnasts will have the choice to attend the control competition in-person as self-funded or send in videos for review. If sending videos for review, 2 routines/per apparatus – 8 routines total will be judged by the same neutral judges in attendance at the Control Competition.

*In the case of a successful medical petition for the 2018 Canadian Championships the petitioning gymnast's most recent 2018 World Cup/World Challenge Cup score will be used for their 70%. To be considered, an injured athlete must provide a medical certificate completed by a Sport Medicine Doctor that states that the athlete has returned to full training by June 23. The medical certificate must be emailed to the NT Director and copied to the Program Coordinator with receipt no later than 17:00 on May 28, 2018.*

*In case of a successful medical petition for the 2018 Canadian Championships and the petitioning gymnast did not compete at a 2018 World Cup/World Challenge Cup, the gymnasts' most recent 2018 FIG International Event MAY be considered for their 70%. To be considered, an injured athlete must provide a medical certificate completed by a Sport Medicine Doctor that states that the athlete has returned to full training by June 23. The medical certificate must be emailed to the NT Director and copied to the Program Coordinator with receipt no later than 17:00 on May 28, 2018.*

#### 4.1 SELECTION DATE

The final selection period will be completed by July 24, 2018. The official team announcement will be made by GCG before July 30.

#### 4.2 RESERVE ATHLETES

There is no obligation to name a reserve. The 4<sup>th</sup> ranked eligible Senior gymnast will be identified as the reserve gymnast. The reserve gymnast is required to be competition ready up to the date of the World Championships. The reserve athlete will not have the status, privileges and obligations of a team athlete.

#### 4.3 ATHLETE SUBSTITUTION

If an athlete cannot participate in the World Championships competition due to injury, or other unforeseen circumstance, then the NTD, in consultation with the Selection Working Group will determine if the reserve member of the team should replace that athlete. If it is decided that the athlete should be replaced then the NTD or the team manager will submit the official request for athlete substitution as required by FIG.

Verification of the nominated athletes will be at the prerogative of the RG NTD and will be arranged when deemed necessary.

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

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

Any substitutions are subject to GCG and FIG rules.

### 4.4 INJURIES

An athlete injured or ill at the time of the 2018 Canadian Championships and who wishes to be considered for selection must provide an official medical report/certificate no later than **May 24 2018 for Canadian Championships** to the NTD-RG and Program Coordinator. The report must include the information stated in Steps 1 and 2 below.

An athlete who has been selected to the team who becomes injured or ill after the team is announced 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 NTD-RG by email **within 24 hours** if the 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, 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 RG NT Director the coach must:

- provide an updated training plan for the next four weeks
- provide a skype or other live video of training.

The Selection Working group reserves the right to have the athlete examined by a physician or medical specialist selected by the SWG at the expense of the athlete and by the timelines set by the SWG.

### 4.5 DETERMINATION OF ATHLETE'S START ORDER

The results of both selection events, NT camps and most recent FIG international competitions will be analyzed to determine the apparatus and start order of the gymnasts.

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The NTD will consult with the Individual Team Coach and Individual Brevet Judge assigned in deciding the apparatus and start order prior to the Worlds Nominative Registration. However the final decision is the sole responsibility of the NTD.

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.

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### 6. SELECTION OF COACHES

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The SWG will confirm the selection of the coaches at the same time as the athletes. RG's minimum coaching qualifications in effect at the time of the 2018 World Championships will apply. Risk Management must be up to date.

One Senior Individual Coach will be named to the Team and will be responsible for the Individual Team Gymnasts. One GCG Group coach will be named as team coach and will be responsible for the GCG Group gymnasts.

The Head of Delegation (NTD or designate) will provide direction to the team at the Championships, however the Team coaches will have their respective responsibilities outlined at the time of selection.

#### 6.1 SUBSTITUTION OF A TEAM COACH

Substitution of a coach with another coach may take place if one of the following situations occur:

- 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 coach as assessed by the NTD- RG.
- iii) a coach has missed scheduled activities including meetings and related GCG promotional activities – during the preparation camps, competitions unless exempted by the RG NT Director

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

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

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#### 7.1 RECONSIDERATION

An athlete who is in disagreement with a decision made in the application of the process may request reconsideration by the RG- 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 RG-NTD with the Selection Working group will then review the request and make a decision. The RG-NTD shall give written reasons for the decision to the athlete within two working days from the 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 GCG Policies and Procedures Manual](#) in effect at the time of the dispute. The request must be made no more than two working

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days from the day of announcement of the list of athletes and coaches who have been selected to the team 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.

### 7.3 MODIFICATION TO THE PROCESS

The RG- NTD reserves the right to make changes to this document to ensure the identification of the best team possible for the 2018 World Championships in case of:

- major change to the information provided by FIG
- injuries to athletes
- 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 that deems relevant.

Any changes to this document must be endorsed by the High Performance Director and President/CEO of Gymnastics Canada and will be communicated directly to the coaches and athletes involved in the process.

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## 8. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

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- a) Failure to comply with FIG and/or GCG rules, regulations, policies or directives will be addressed by GCG RG-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.

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## 9. UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

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In situations where unforeseen circumstances do not allow the Team selection criteria to be fairly and objectively applied, Gymnastics Canada's RG NTD and the GCG High Performance Director will rule on an appropriate course of action.