

2022 EOC EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPIC FESTIVAL

Swimming: 25th July – 29th July 2022, Banka Bystrica, Slovakia

NOMINATION POLICY



Introduction

This Policy will only apply if:

- 1. The 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival is held on the existing dates of 25th July – 29th July 2022 and/or are held in the existing location of Banka Bystrica, Slovakia. If there is any postponement of the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival beyond this period and/or a change of location, a new Nomination Policy will be required*
- 2. The 2022 Irish Open Championships are held on the existing dates of 19th – 23rd April 2022. If there is any postponement of the 2022 Irish Open Championships beyond this period, a new Nomination Policy will be required*

This Policy sets out the Swim Ireland process for selecting athletes, coaches, sports science/sports medicine practitioners and/or team managers to:

- (a) be considered eligible for nomination for selection;*
- (b) be nominated for selection to the Olympic Federation of Ireland (OFI) and;*
- (c) be selected by the OFI to Team Ireland for swimming at the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival in Banka Bystrica, Slovakia*

Athletes, coaches and team managers must satisfy certain criteria to be considered eligible for nomination

In addition to the criteria for eligibility for nomination, there are minimum qualification standards which an athlete needs to meet to be considered for nomination by the National Selection Panel. At the completion of the 2022 Irish Open Championships, for those athletes nominated to the OFI for the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival, this shall be considered to be their summer international benchmark meet for the 2021-2022 season

The National Selection Panel is the expert panel, as defined in the 'Swim Ireland Selection Panel Terms of Reference' which nominates athletes for selection. The actual selection of any athlete will be made by the OFI.

The Performance Senior Leadership Team comprises of the National Performance Director, the National Performance Pathway Manager, the Head of Physical Preparation, the Head of Performance Analysis, the Performance Manager and the National Centre Head Coaches, and is the expert group which nominates additional coaches and/or team managers for selection. The actual selection of any athlete, any additional team coach and/or team manager will be made by the OFI.

The role of the National Performance Director is to compile the names of athletes, additional coaches and team managers who meet the criteria for nomination for selection and to make recommendations to the National Selection Panel (in the case of athletes) and the Performance Senior Leadership Team (in the case of additional coaches and team managers) for nomination to the OFI

LEN is the Ligue Europeenne de Natation and is the European federation/governing body for aquatic sports

FINA is the Federation Internationale de Natation and is the international federation/governing body administering international competition in aquatic sports. LEN is affiliated to FINA

1. Nomination for Selection

- i. Athlete nominations to the OFI will be made by the National Performance Director to the National Selection Panel as expediently as possible following the conclusion of the 2022 Irish Open Championships held in Dublin, Ireland in the period 19th – 23rd April 2022. This event will be known as the 'Nomination Trials'*
- ii. The National Selection Panel agrees to notify the OFI of its nominations as soon as reasonably practicable after the National Selection Panel receives the National Performance Director's nominations*
- iii. There are thirteen individual events per gender in the EOC European Youth Olympic Festival programme for swimming. Up to a maximum of two athletes can be nominated by the Swim Ireland National Selection Panel per individual event with only the highest athlete per nation may progress to the final. In the Male 1500m Freestyle and Female 800m Freestyle events, up to a maximum of two athletes can be nominated by the Swim Ireland National Selection Panel per event with only the highest ranked athlete per nation permitted to receive a medal*
- iv. There are two relay events per gender and two mixed gender relay events in the EOC European Youth Olympic Festival programme for swimming. Athletes may be nominated to the OFI via the Olympic relay events only. Up to a maximum of one relay team can be nominated for selection by the National Selection Panel per relay event*
- v. A selected athlete may participate in a maximum of two individual events per day, one relay event per gender per day and one mixed relay event per day*

2. Nomination Trials

- i. Athlete nominations to the OFI will be made by the National Performance Director to the National Selection Panel following Olympic event performances at the Nomination Trials
- ii. In addition to the Athlete Eligibility Criteria set out in Section 4, athletes need to meet certain consideration standards set out in Section 5 and/or Section 6

3. Team Size

- i. The OFI is the body which has the power to select an athlete or member of staff to the Ireland National Team for the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival
- ii. The OFI will determine the team size and personnel. Under EOC rules, the team may not exceed 16 athletes in size
- iii. The OFI agrees to notify Swim Ireland of its selection or its refusal to select any nominated athlete or member of staff as soon as reasonably practicable after the OFI receives the National Selection Panel's nominations following the Nomination Trials.
- iv. Once an athlete or staff member is formally selected to Team Ireland by the OFI he/she will enter into a Team Ireland Athlete Agreement. This agreement will begin on July 1st 2022.

4. Athlete Eligibility

At the time that the National Performance Director is nominating athletes to the National Selection Panel, athletes must meet the following criteria to be considered to be eligible for nomination:

- i. Be a Male athlete born in the period 2006-2007 inclusive or a Female athlete born in the period 2007-2008 inclusive
- ii. Be an Irish citizen and hold an Irish passport at the time of Advance Data Capture being provided to the OFI;
- iii. Be eligible to represent Ireland as per FINA General Rules 1 & 2 (GR 1 & 2);
- iv. Be a registered Swim Ireland member for the 2021-2022 season;
- v. Be in good standing with Swim Ireland;
- vi. Be available to fulfil all of the Ireland National Team obligations;
- vii. Other than in exceptional circumstances, have accepted their place on the National Programme or their respective Regional Programme in September 2021;
- viii. Comply with the statements and expectations of the Swim Ireland 'On This Performance Team' booklet;
- ix. Not be the subject of a current anti-doping ban, a current doping violation and/or a pending doping violation. Swim Ireland shall inform the OFI immediately of the outcome of any anti-doping test of any athlete who is on the long list if requested by and submitted to the OFI;
- x. Comply with any EOC, OFI and/or FINA eligibility criteria and/or requirements;

Swim Ireland and the OFI, in consultation with FINA and EOC, will decide on any question of eligibility (having regard to all eligibility criteria set by the Swim Ireland, the OFI FINA and the EOC) with the OFI decision being final

5. Athlete Nominations (Individual Events)

- i. To be considered for nomination to the OFI via an Olympic individual event(s), athletes must record a time at the 2022 Irish Open Championships via one of the following routes:
 - In the heats, equal to or better than the individual event Consideration Standards detailed in Table 1
 - In the final, equal to or better than the individual event Consideration Standards detailed in Table 1 (and in all events other than the Male 1500m Freestyle and the Female 800m Freestyle) having already recorded a time in the heats equal to or better than the individual event Consideration Standards detailed in Table 2
- ii. Times in Table 1 and Table 2 can be achieved from individual events only

6. Athlete Nominations (Relay Events Only)

- i. There is no obligation on Swim Ireland to nominate any relay teams
- ii. To be considered for nomination to the OFI via a relay event/s, the fastest four aggregated times recorded from individual events at the Nomination Trials, when combined, will be equal to or better than the Relay Consideration Standard detailed in Table 3. Relay Consideration Standards take a 1.5 second combined takeover differential into consideration and all rounds of competition at the Nomination Trials (heats and or finals) are seen as having equal consideration status

7. Athlete Nomination Procedure

- i. At the conclusion of the Nomination Trials, those who have achieved the criteria requirements outlined in Section 4 and Section 5 and/or Section 6 will be considered eligible for nomination to the National Selection Panel by the National Performance Director

- ii. The decision of the National Selection Panel and/or the OFI shall be subject to an Appeals Process (Section 20)
- 8. Head Coach**
- i. The Head Swimming Coach at the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival will be nominated by the National Performance Director to the Performance Senior Leadership Team following the Nomination Trials.
- 9. Team Coach Eligibility**
- Depending on the size of the Team Ireland Team, any additional coach to be considered eligible for nomination by the Performance Senior Leadership Team must meet the following criteria:
- i. Be a registered Swim Ireland member for the 2021-2022 season;
 - ii. Be in good standing with Swim Ireland;
 - iii. Be a full time resident within Ireland;
 - iv. Be a practising coach within an Irish swimming programme;
 - v. Be holders of the Swim Ireland Level 3 Coaching Certificate or international equivalent or be enrolled on a Level 3 Coaches Course at the time of nomination;
 - vi. Hold a Swim Ireland Coaching Licence;
 - vii. Be available to fulfil the obligations of the Ireland National Team;
 - viii. Other than in exceptional circumstances, have provided firsthand service or support as a coach as part of the National Programme or Regional Programme in the period 1st September 2020 – 30th April 2022 (where offered/requested);
 - ix. Comply with the statements and expectations of the Swim Ireland 'On This Performance Team' booklet
- 10. Team Coach Nomination Procedure**
- i. Subject to coaches meeting the criteria as set out in Section 9, one or more additional coaches may be jointly recommended by the National Performance Director and National Performance Pathway Manager and where so recommended, may be nominated by the Performance Senior Leadership Team
 - ii. Team Coaches may be nominated in an offsite (Holding Camp only), onsite (EOC European Youth Olympic Festival only) and/or combined (Holding Camp and EOC European Youth Olympic Festival) role and such nominations will be reflective of the Team size, available accreditations, the needs of the individual athletes and/or relays nominated, as well as considering the optimum balance of the Team as a whole. As such, a Team Coach may not be required/nominated
- 11. Team Manager Eligibility**
- Depending on the size of Team Ireland, any team manager to be considered eligible for nomination by the Performance Senior Leadership Team must meet the following criteria:
- i. Be a registered Swim Ireland member for the 2021-2022 season;
 - ii. Be in good standing with Swim Ireland;
 - iii. Be a full time resident within Ireland;
 - iv. Be holders of the Swim Ireland Level 2 Team Management Certificate or international equivalent;
 - v. Be available to fulfil the obligations of the Ireland National Team;
 - vi. Other than in exceptional circumstances, team managers will not be the parent or guardian of an athlete member of the Team;
 - vii. Other than in exceptional circumstances, have provided firsthand service or support as a team manager as part of the National Programme or Regional Programme in the period 1st September 2020 – 30th April 2022 (where offered/requested);
 - viii. Comply with the statements and expectations of the Swim Ireland 'On This Performance Team' booklet
- 12. Team Manager Nomination Procedure**
- i. Subject to the team manager meeting the criteria as set out in Section 11, a team manager may be jointly recommended by the National Performance Director and National Performance Pathway Manager and where so recommended, may be nominated to the OFI by the Performance Senior Leadership Team
 - ii. Team managers may be nominated in an offsite (Holding Camp only), onsite (EOC European Youth Olympic Festival only) and/or combined (Holding Camp and EOC European Youth Olympic Festival) role and such nominations will be reflective of the Team size, available accreditations, the needs, age and gender balance of the individual athletes and/or relays nominated, as well as considering the optimum balance of the Team as a whole. As such, a Team Manager may not be required/nominated

13. Team Obligations

In order to be formally selected to Team Ireland, athletes and staff will be required to sign the Team Ireland Athlete/Staff Agreement. This Agreement will be sent to athletes and staff upon approval of their nomination by Swim Ireland. In addition to the OFI obligations, Swim Ireland oblige all athletes selected by the OFI to:

- i. Compete in the 2022 LEN European Junior Championships (if selected)
- ii. Compete in the 2022 FINA World Junior Championships (if selected)
- iii. Complete, sign and comply with the Swim Ireland National Team Code of Conduct
- iv. Comply with the OFI Team Members Agreement
- v. Complete a Swim Ireland Medical Form prior to competing at the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival
- vi. Commit to the values of the Swim Ireland National Programme Athlete Charter
- vii. Abide by the Uniform Policy, the Media Policy, the Appearances Policy, the Betting, Gambling & Integrity Policy and the Sports Supplements Policy of the Swim Ireland National Team
- viii. At the date of the decision of the National Selection Panel of nominations, all nominated athletes must ensure that they are making the required Kitman submission each training day
- ix. Comply with Swim Ireland, OFI and FINA swimwear regulations
- x. Adhere to all prescribed travel arrangements which might involve different travel dates to other members of the Team
- xi. Not take holidays/elected periods away from training between the Nomination Trials and the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival
- xii. Not attend overseas camps and/or overseas competitions between the Nomination Trials and the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival without prior written approval from the National Performance Pathway Manager
- xiii. Make themselves available for all Ireland National Team activities designated by the National Performance Pathway Manager (including, but not limited to, preparation camps and a holding camp) as part of or in addition to the National Programme or Regional Programme. No Ireland National Team member will be allowed to leave a National Team camp or undertake any activities that are not directly relevant to the National Team camp, including any external media, sponsor or social activities. Failure to attend the required activities could result in an athlete being de-nominated and/or de-selected. Under exceptional circumstances, written approval to be excluded from activities can be given by the National Performance Pathway Manager
- xiv. Nominated athletes, team coaches, team managers and Swim Ireland agree not to disclose any selected name to the press or any other media (including their own social media) until the OFI have themselves announced this to the press and other media.
- xv. Nominated athletes, team coaches, team managers and Swim Ireland agree to abide by other relevant OFI requirements

14. Team Uniform/Kit

- i. All Team uniform and kit (other than racing suits and swim caps) will be provided for and to the Team by the OFI
- ii. All Team racing suits and swim caps will be provided for and to the Team by Swim Ireland or the OFI
- iii. Athletes accepting racing suits from Swim Ireland and/or the OFI must wear them (or another branded suit of the same sponsor) for all of their races. Athletes may exercise 'freedom of choice' in the wearing of a non-sponsor suit, but such a suit must be unbranded

15. Competitive Readiness

'Competitive Readiness' means the combined professional opinion of the National Performance Director and the National Performance Pathway Manager following advice, where necessary, from a member/s of the OFI Medical Team as to the ability of an athlete who has been selected to represent Team Ireland at the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival to achieve an equal or superior performance in their selected Olympic event(s) over their performance achieved to qualify for selection

- i. Athletes who, in the opinion of the National Performance Director and the National Performance Pathway Manager, do not remain Competitively Ready by reason of lack of fitness, injury, illness, application to training, performance behaviour or other reasons, may have their nomination withdrawn in advance of OFI selection.
- ii. Athletes and their home programme coaches shall immediately report any injury, illness, change in training, change in application to training and/or performance behaviour, that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level at the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival, to the National Performance Director and the National Performance Pathway Manager in writing, via e-mail
- iii. In the case of lack of fitness, injury or illness, it shall be necessary for the National Performance Director and the National Performance Pathway Manager to consider recommendations made by a member/s of the OFI Medical Team

- iv. In advance of official selection to Team Ireland, it shall not be necessary for the National Performance Director and the National Performance Pathway Manager to seek recommendations from a member/s of the OFI Medical Team in order to withdraw an athlete's nomination in relation to training application issues, performance behaviour issues or other reasons
- v. In the case of lack of fitness, injury or illness, such athletes may be subject to a 'Proof of Readiness Test' to be determined by the National Performance Director, the National Performance Pathway Manager and appropriate a member/s of the OFI Medical Team. The Proof of Readiness test will consist of a controlled performance such as a competition or an observed test or a time trial
- vi. Athletes who are notified of a Competitive Readiness concern shall not travel with Team Ireland to any Team event including the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival and/or an associated Holding Camp, unless and until the opinion of the National Performance Director and National Performance Pathway Manager has been communicated to that athlete that the athlete does meet their opinion of Competitive Readiness.
- vii. If the athlete is at either the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival or the associated Holding Camp and the opinion of the OFI Medical Team, the Head Coach and the Chef De Mission is that the athlete is not Competitively Ready, then he or she may be required to return home immediately.
- viii. In advance of official selection by the OFI, the opinion on Competitive Readiness made by the National Performance Director and the National Performance Pathway Manager is final

16. Withdrawal & Removals

At any stage an athlete, team coach, team manager or sports science/sports medicine practitioner may withdraw from the nominated Team but may only do so in extenuating circumstances

- i. An athlete, team coach or team manager may be removed from:
 - a. Eligibility for nomination, or;
 - b. Nomination for selection, or;
 - c. Selection by Team Ireland for any of the following reasons:
 - Behaviour that is inconsistent with the Swim Ireland Team Code of Conduct. A copy of this document is available via performance@swimireland.ie;
 - Found to be in violation of any anti-doping policy or procedure as outlined by Swim Ireland, Sport Ireland and/or the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA);
 - Unable or unwilling to fully comply with the OFI/Team Ireland Obligations (Section 13)
 - Decline selection to or withdraw from the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival
- ii. An athlete may have their nomination withdrawn if he/she, in the opinion of the National Performance Director and National Performance Pathway Manager, does not have Competitive Readiness (Section 15)
- iii. At all times post official selection and signing of the Team Ireland athlete agreement, Team Ireland policy on appeals will apply

17. Replacement or Addition

- i. If an athlete, team coach, team manager or sports science/sports medicine practitioner is removed from or withdraws from the nomination or selection, that individual may be replaced by another eligible individual who meets the required standards set out in this Policy and in accordance with the EOC Late Athlete Replacement Policy
- ii. The National Performance Director and the National Performance Pathway Manager, where in their combined opinion it is in the best interests of Team Ireland, may recommend that any number of additional athletes, team coaches and/or team managers be added to the selected Team, subject to such additional individuals meeting the required standards set out in this Policy
- iii. Any replacement or addition of an individual shall be made by way of nomination by the National Performance Director to the National Selection Panel (in the case of athletes) or the Performance Senior Leadership Team (in the case of team coaches, team managers and/or sports science/sports medicine practitioners). Final selection decisions to Team Ireland remain with the OFI

18. Unforeseen Circumstances

- i. In the event that this Policy is silent on any matter which arises in the administration or application or interpretation of any nomination/selection process or decision, then the National Selection Panel shall have discretion to determine any issue as they deem fit so long as it is exercised fairly and quickly

19. Amendments

- i. Subject to OFI approval, the Performance Senior Leadership Team reserves the right to make changes to this Policy which, in its discretion, are necessary. No such changes shall be made after the commencement of the Nomination Trials unless the changes relate to the National Selection Panel exercising its discretion under the 'Unforeseen Circumstances' provisions (Section 18)
- ii. Subject to OFI approval, the Performance Senior Leadership Team reserves the right to review and modify this Policy or a decision related to the nomination/selection process in the case of rule or policy changes from the EOC and/or FINA that affect the criteria set out in this Policy
- iii. Any changes to this Policy shall be communicated via www.swimireland.ie

Table 1

MALE	Event	FEMALE
Consideration Time		Consideration Time
23.95	50m Freestyle	27.04
52.67	100m Freestyle	58.59
1:55.62	200m Freestyle	2:08.15
4:06.40	400m Freestyle	4:30.62
N/A	800m Freestyle	9:19.33
16:17.01	1500m Freestyle	N/A
58.35	100m Backstroke	1:05.44
2:07.52	200m Backstroke	2:21.57
1:04.53	100m Breaststroke	1:12.82
2:20.75	200m Breaststroke	2:37.58
56.12	100m Butterfly	1:03.00
2:06.05	200m Butterfly	2:19.55
2:09.34	200m IM	2:23.62
4:38.08	400m IM	5:05.70

Table 2

MALE	Event	FEMALE
Consideration Time		Consideration Time
24.43	50m Freestyle	27.58
53.72	100m Freestyle	59.76
1:57.93	200m Freestyle	2:10.71
4:11.33	400m Freestyle	4:36.03
N/A	800m Freestyle	N/A
N/A	1500m Freestyle	N/A
59.52	100m Backstroke	1:06.75
2:10.07	200m Backstroke	2:24.40
1:05.82	100m Breaststroke	1:14.28
2:23.57	200m Breaststroke	2:40.73
57.24	100m Butterfly	1:04.26
2:08.57	200m Butterfly	2:22.34
2:11.93	200m IM	2:26.49
4:43.64	400m IM	5:11.81

Table 3

MALE	Event	FEMALE
Consideration Time		Consideration Time
3:31.30	400m Freestyle Relay	3:54.47
3:54.47	400m Medley Relay	4:17.75
MIXED	Event	MIXED
Consideration Time		Consideration Time
4:04.67	400m Medley Relay	4:04.67

20. Appeals

- i. Any appeal against a nomination made by the National Selection Panel must be made in accordance with the Swim Ireland Selection Appeals Procedures, available via www.swimireland.ie
- ii. Athletes should be aware of the strict time limits contained within the Swim Ireland Selection Appeals Procedures, which are designed with the intention of resolving issues expediently and fairly
- iii. Any appeals under the Swim Ireland Selection Appeals Procedures must be concluded prior to OFI selection
- iv. Any appeal post OFI selection must be made in accordance with the Team Ireland Appeals Policy. This Policy comes into effect post signing of the Team Ireland Athlete Agreement.

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