

2022 LEN EUROPEAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Swimming: 5th July – 10th July 2022, Otopeni, Romania

SELECTION POLICY



Introduction

This Policy will only apply if:

- 1. The 2022 LEN European Junior Championships are held on the existing dates of 5th July – 10th July 2022 and/or are held in the existing location of Otopeni, Romania. If there is any postponement of the 2022 LEN European Junior Championships beyond this period and/or a change of location, a new Selection 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 Selection 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 and;*
- (c) be selected to the Ireland National Team ("Ireland National Team") for swimming at the 2022 LEN European Junior Championships in Otopeni, Romania*

Athletes, coaches, sports science/sports medicine practitioners and team managers must satisfy certain criteria to be considered eligible for selection

In addition to the criteria for eligibility for selection, there are minimum qualification standards which an athlete needs to meet to be considered for selection by the National Selection Panel. At the completion of the 2022 Irish Open Championships, other than for those athletes also selected to the Ireland National Team for the 2022 FINA World Junior Championships or the 2022 European Youth Olympic Festival, the 2022 LEN European Junior Championships 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 selects athletes to the Ireland National Team

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 selects additional coaches, team managers and sports science/sports medicine practitioners to the Ireland National Team

The role of the National Performance Director is to compile the names of athletes, additional coaches, team managers and sports science/sports medicine practitioners 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, team managers and sports science/sports medicine practitioners)

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 to the Ireland National Team

- i. Athlete nominations for selection for the Ireland National Team 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 'Selection Trials'*
- ii. The National Selection Panel agrees to notify Swim Ireland of its selection or its refusal to select any nominated athlete as soon as reasonably practicable after the National Selection Panel receives the National Performance Director's nominations*
- iii. There are seventeen individual events per gender in the LEN European Junior Championships programme for swimming. Athletes may be selected to the Ireland National Team via the Olympic individual events per gender only. Up to a maximum of four athletes can be selected by the Swim Ireland National Selection Panel per individual event*
- iv. There are three relay events per gender and two mixed gender relay events in the LEN European Junior Championships programme for swimming. Athletes may be nominated to the Ireland National Team via the Olympic relay events only. Up to a maximum of one relay team can be selected by the Swim Ireland National Selection Panel per relay event*

2. Selection Trials

- i. Athlete nominations for selection to the Ireland National Team will be made by the National Performance Director to the National Selection Panel following Olympic event performances at the Selection 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 6

3. Team Size

- i. The total Team size will be subject to available funding and will be determined by the National Performance Director and validated by the National Selection Panel

4. Athlete Eligibility

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

- i. Be a Male athlete born in the period 2004-2007 inclusive or a Female athlete born in the period 2005-2008 inclusive
- ii. Be an Irish citizen and hold an Irish passport at the time of entries being submitted to LEN;
- 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 an anti-doping ban, a doping violation and/or a pending doping violation;
- x. Comply with any FINA and LEN eligibility criteria and/or requirements;

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

5. Athlete Selections (Individual Events)

- i. To be considered for nomination for selection to the Ireland National Team for 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 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

Table 1

MALE	Event	FEMALE
Consideration Time		Consideration Time
23.51	50m Freestyle	26.54
51.70	100m Freestyle	57.51
1:53.48	200m Freestyle	2:05.78
4:01.84	400m Freestyle	4:25.60
8:21.50	800m Freestyle	9:08.97
15:58.92	1500m Freestyle	17:28.94
57.27	100m Backstroke	1:04.23
2:05.15	200m Backstroke	2:18.94
1:03.33	100m Breaststroke	1:11.48
2:18.14	200m Breaststroke	2:34.66
55.08	100m Butterfly	1:01.83
2:03.71	200m Butterfly	2:16.96
2:06.95	200m IM	2:20.96
4:32.93	400m IM	5:00.04

Table 2

MALE	Event	FEMALE
Consideration Time		Consideration Time
23.98	50m Freestyle	27.07
52.73	100m Freestyle	58.66
1:55.75	200m Freestyle	2:08.30
4:06.68	400m Freestyle	4:30.91
8:31.53	800m Freestyle	9:19.95
16:18.10	1500m Freestyle	17:49.92
58.42	100m Backstroke	1:05.51
2:07.65	200m Backstroke	2:21.72
1:04.60	100m Breaststroke	1:12.91
2:20.90	200m Breaststroke	2:37.75
56.18	100m Butterfly	1:03.07
2:06.18	200m Butterfly	2:19.70
2:09.49	200m IM	2:23.78
4:38.39	400m IM	5:06.04

6. Athlete Selections (Relay Events Only)

- i. There is no obligation on Swim Ireland to select any relay teams
- ii. To be considered for selection to the Ireland National Team via a relay event/s, the fastest four aggregated times recorded from individual events at the Selection 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 Selection Trials (heats and or finals) are seen as having equal consideration status

Table 3

MALE	Event	FEMALE
Consideration Time		Consideration Time
3:24.13	400m Freestyle Relay	3:49.11
3:45.71	400m Medley Relay	4:12.62
7:30.16	800m Freestyle Relay	8:19.95
MIXED	Event	MIXED
Consideration Time		Consideration Time
3:58.59	400m Medley Relay	3:58.59

7. Athlete Selection Procedure

- i. At the conclusion of the Selection Trials, those who have achieved the criteria requirements outlined in Section 4 and Section 5 and/or 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 shall be subject to an Appeals Process (Section 22)

8. Head Coach/s

- i. The Head Coach/s for the Ireland National Team at the 2022 LEN European Junior Championships will be nominated for selection by the National Performance Director to the Performance Senior Leadership Team following the Selection Trials

9. Team Coach Eligibility

Depending on the size of the Ireland National Team, any additional coach to be considered eligible for selection 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 selection;
 - 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 first hand 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 Selection Procedure**
- i. Subject to coaches meeting the criteria as set out in Section 9, a Head Coach/s and 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 selected by the Performance Senior Leadership Team
 - ii. National Team Coaches may be selected in an offsite (Holding Camp only), onsite (LEN European Junior Championships only) and/or combined (Holding Camp and LEN European Junior Championships) role and such selections will be reflective of the Team size, the needs of the individual athletes and/or relays selected, as well as considering the optimum balance of the Team as a whole. As such, a Team Coach may not be required/selected
- 11. Team Manager Eligibility**
- Depending on the size of the Ireland National Team, any team manager to be considered eligible for selection 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 first hand 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 Selection Procedure**
- i. Subject to the team manager meeting the criteria as set out in Section 11, the team manager may be jointly recommended by the National Performance Director and National Performance Pathway Manager and where so recommended, may be selected by the Performance Senior Leadership Team
 - ii. Team managers may be selected in an offsite (Holding Camp only), onsite (LEN European Junior Championships only) and/or combined (Holding Camp and LEN European Junior Championships) role and such selections will be reflective of the Team size, the needs, age and gender balance of the individual athletes and/or relays selected, as well as considering the optimum balance of the Team as a whole. As such, a team manager may not be required/selected
- 13. Sports Science/Sports Medicine Practitioner Eligibility**
- Depending on the size of the Ireland National Team, any sports science/sports medicine practitioner to be considered eligible for selection by the Performance Senior Leadership Team must meet the following criteria:
- i. Be in good standing with Swim Ireland;
 - ii. Be holders of an appropriate and recognised qualification for the position of appointment;
 - iii. Be available to fulfil the obligations of the Ireland National Team;
 - iv. Comply with the statements and expectations of the Swim Ireland 'On This Performance Team' booklet
- 14. Sports Science/Sports Medicine Practitioner Selection Procedure**
- i. Subject to a sports science/sports medicine practitioner meeting the criteria as set out in Section 13, a sports science/sports medicine practitioner may be jointly recommended by the National Performance Director and National Performance Pathway Manager and where so recommended, may be selected by the Performance Senior Leadership Team

- ii. Sports science/sports medicine practitioners may be selected in an offsite (Holding Camp only), onsite (LEN European Junior Championships only) and/or combined (Holding Camp and LEN European Junior Championships) role and such selections will be reflective of the Team size and the needs of the individual athletes and/or relays selected. As such, sports science/sports medicine practitioners may not be required/selected

15. Ireland National Team Obligations

Swim Ireland will publish a suite of obligations which must be agreed to by any athlete, team coach, team manager or and sports science/sports medicine practitioner who has been selected to represent the Ireland National Team at the 2022 LEN European Junior Championships. In addition to such obligations, Swim Ireland oblige all athletes selected to:

- i. Compete in the 2022 FINA World Junior Championships (if selected)
- ii. Compete in the 2022 European Youth Olympic Festival (if selected)
- iii. Compete in the 2022 LEN European Championships (50m) (if selected)
- iv. Compete in the 2022 Commonwealth Games (if selected)
- v. Compete in the 2022 Irish Summer National Championships (if not selected for one or more of the events named in Section 15i, 15ii, 15iii and/or 15iv)
- vi. Complete, sign and comply with the Swim Ireland National Team Code of Conduct
- vii. Complete a Swim Ireland Medical Form prior to competing at the 2022 LEN European Junior Championships
- viii. Commit to the values of the Swim Ireland National Programme Athlete Charter
- ix. 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
- x. At the date of the decision of the National Selection Panel of selections, all athletes selected must ensure that they are making the required Kitman submission each training day
- xi. Comply with Swim Ireland and FINA swimwear regulations
- xii. Adhere to all prescribed travel arrangements which might involve different travel dates to other members of the Team
- xiii. Not attend overseas camps and/or overseas competitions between the Selection Trials and the 2022 LEN European Junior Championships without prior written approval from the National Performance Pathway Manager
- xiv. 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-selected. Under exceptional circumstances, written approval to be excluded from activities can be given by the National Performance Pathway Manager
- xv. Selected athletes, team coaches, team managers and sports science/sports medicine practitioners agree not to disclose any selected name to the press or any other media (including their own social media) until Swim Ireland have themselves announced this to the press and other media

16. Team Uniform/Kit

- i. All Team uniform and kit (including racing caps and racing suits) will be provided for and to the Team by Swim Ireland
- ii. Athletes accepting racing suits from Swim Ireland 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

17. 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 Sport Ireland Institute Medical Team as to the ability of an athlete who has been selected to represent the Ireland National Team at the 2022 LEN European Junior Championships 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 be removed from the Ireland National Team
- 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 LEN European Junior Championships, 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 Sport Ireland Institute Medical Team
- iv. In the case of application to training, or performance behaviour or other reasons, 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 Sport Ireland Institute Medical Team
- 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 Sport Ireland Institute 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 the Ireland National Team to any National Team event including the 2022 LEN European Junior Championships 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. If the athlete is at either the 2022 LEN European Junior Championships or the associated Holding Camp and the opinion is that the athlete is not Competitively Ready, then he or she may be required to return home immediately
- vii. The opinion on Competitive Readiness made by National Performance Director and the National Performance Pathway Manager is final

18. **Withdrawal & Removals**

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

- i. An athlete, team coach, team manager or sports science/sports medicine practitioner may be removed from:
 - a. Eligibility for nomination, or;
 - b. Nomination for selection, or;
 - c. Selection to the Ireland National Team for any of the following reasons:
 - Behaviour that is inconsistent with the National 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 Ireland National Team Obligations (Section 15)
 - Decline selection to or withdraw from the 2022 LEN European Junior Championships
- ii. An athlete may be removed from the Ireland National Team before or after nomination for selection or before or after selection if he/she, in the opinion of the National Performance Director and National Performance Pathway Manager, does not have Competitive Readiness (Section 17)

19. **Replacement or Addition**

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

20. **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 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

2022 LEN EUROPEAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

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SELECTION POLICY



21. Amendments

- i. 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 Selection Trials unless the changes relate to the National Selection Panel exercising its discretion under the 'Unforeseen Circumstances' provisions (Section 20)
- ii. The Performance Senior Leadership Team reserves the right to review and modify this Policy or a decision related to the selection process in the case of rule or policy changes from LEN 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

22. Appeals

- i. Any appeal against a selection 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

Published: January 2022