

### Introduction

*This Policy sets out the Swim Ireland process for selecting athletes, additional coaches 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 for diving at the 2022 FINA World Championships in Budapest, Hungary*

*This Policy also states who will be the Ireland National Team Head Coach for the 2022 FINA World Championships*

*Athletes, additional 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*

*The National Selection Panel is the expert panel which selects athletes to the Ireland National Team*

*The Diving Leadership Team comprises of the National Performance Director, the National Head Coach (Diving), the Performance Manager, the Head of Physical Preparation and the Head of Performance Analysis, 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 Diving Leadership Team (in the case of additional coaches, team managers and sports science/sports medicine practitioners)*

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

### 1. Nomination for Selection

- i. Athlete nominations for selection for the Ireland National Team (Diving) will be made by the National Performance Director to the National Selection Panel as expediently as possible following the conclusion of the 'Selection Trials'
- ii. Athletes will be notified of their selections on or before the week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022
- iii. Selection Trials can occur at any recognised diving competition, nominated by the athlete or coach, and approved by the Diving Leadership during a period from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021 to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022. Pre-approved competitions include the US National Championships (December 2021), British National Cup (Feb 2022) and NCAA Zone and Finals (March 2022)
- iv. In addition to the Athlete Eligibility Criteria set out in Section 4, athletes need to meet certain consideration standards set out in Section 5

### 2. Ireland National Team (Diving)

- i. The National Selection Panel is the body which has the power to select an athlete to the Ireland National Team (Diving) for the 2022 FINA World Championships in Budapest, Hungary
- ii. The Diving Leadership Team is the body which has the power to select a team coach, team manager and/or sports science/sports medicine practitioner to the Ireland National Team (Diving) for the 2022 FINA World Championships in Budapest, Hungary
- iii. 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
- iv. There are three individual events per gender in the FINA World Championships programme for diving. Up to a maximum of two athletes can be selected by the Swim Ireland National Selection Panel per individual event
- v. There are two synchro events per gender and two mixed gender synchro events in the FINA World Championships in Budapest, Hungary programme for diving. Up to a maximum of one synchro partnership can be selected by the Swim Ireland National Selection Panel per synchro event

### 3. Team Size

- i. Up to a maximum of four athletes will be selected for the 2022 FINA World Championships in Budapest, Hungary

- ii. There is no obligation on the National Selection Panel to select four athletes and 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 an Irish citizen at the time of entries being submitted to FINA;
- ii. Be eligible to represent Ireland as per FINA General Rules 1 & 2 (GR 1 & 2) at the time of entries being submitted to FINA;
- iii. Hold an Irish passport at the time of entries being submitted to FINA;
- 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. Comply with the statements and expectations of the Swim Ireland ‘On This Performance Team’ booklet;
- viii. Not be the subject of an anti-doping ban, a doping violation and/or a pending doping violation;
- ix. Comply with any FINA eligibility criteria and/or requirements. Swim Ireland, in consultation with FINA, will decide on any question of eligibility (having regard to all eligibility criteria set by the Swim Ireland and FINA) with the Swim Ireland decision being final

**5. Athlete Selections (Individual Events)**

- i. To be considered for selection to the Ireland National Team via an individual event/s, athletes must record a score during the ‘Selection Window’ equal to or better than an individual event Consideration Standard detailed in Table 1, where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;

**Table 1**

| MALE                | Event                 | FEMALE              |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Consideration Score |                       | Consideration Score |
| 389                 | <b>3m Springboard</b> | 267                 |
| 383                 | <b>10m Platform</b>   | 275                 |

**6. Athlete Selections (Synchro Events)**

- i. To be considered for selection to the Ireland National Team for synchro event/s, athletes will have been nominated to the Team via Section 5

**7. Athlete Selection Procedure**

- i. At the conclusion of the Selection Trials, those athletes who have achieved the criteria requirements outlined in Section 4 and Section 5 will be considered eligible for nomination to the National Selection Panel by the National Performance Director
- ii. Subject to National Performance Director discretion, any athlete selected via an individual event by the National Selection Panel may also be considered for additional individual event selections if:
  - the Ireland National Team do not already have two athletes qualified for the individual event in question via Section 5
  - it is believed that such a selection/s will complement and/or augment their performance in the individual event/s for which the athlete was originally selected
- vi. Subject to National Performance Director discretion, athletes selected for individual events may also be selected to synchro events
- vii. The decision of the National Selection Panel shall be subject to an Appeals Process (Section 22)

**8. Team Head Coach**

- i. The Head Coach for the Ireland National Team (Diving) at the 2022 FINA World Championships in Budapest, Hungary will be the National Head Coach (Diving)

**9. Team Coach Eligibility**

Depending on the size of the Ireland National Team (Diving), any additional coach to be considered eligible for selection by the Diving 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 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;
- iv. Be available to fulfil the obligations of the Ireland National Team;
- v. 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, one or more additional coaches may be jointly recommended by the National Performance Director and the National Head Coach (Diving) and where so recommended, may be selected by the Diving Leadership Team
- ii. National Team Coaches may be selected in an offsite (Holding Camp only), onsite (FINA World Championships only) and/or combined (Holding Camp and FINA World Championships) role and such selections will be reflective of the Team size, the needs of the individual athletes and/or synchro partnerships 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 (Diving), any team manager to be considered eligible for selection by the Diving 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. 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 the National Head Coach (Diving) and where so recommended, may be selected by the Diving Leadership Team
- ii. Team managers may be selected in an offsite (Holding Camp only), onsite (FINA World Championships only) and/or combined (Holding Camp and FINA World Championships) role and such selections will be reflective of the Team size, the needs, age and gender balance of the individual athletes and/or synchro partnerships 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 (Diving), any sports science/sports medicine practitioner to be considered eligible for selection by the Diving 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 the National Head Coach (Diving) and where so recommended, may be selected by the Diving Leadership Team
- ii. Sports science/sports medicine practitioners may be selected in an offsite (Holding Camp only), onsite (FINA World Championships only) and/or combined (Holding Camp and FINA World Championships) role and such selections will be reflective of the Team size and the needs of the individual athletes and/or synchro partnerships selected. As such, sports science/sports medicine practitioners may not be required/selected

### 15. Ireland National Team (Diving) 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 (Diving) at the 2022 FINA World Championships. In addition to such obligations, Swim Ireland oblige all athletes selected to:

- i. Agree not to disclose any selected Ireland National Team member 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
- ii. Compete in the 2022 LEN European Championships (if selected)
- iii. Compete in the 2022 Commonwealth Games (if selected)
- iv. Complete, sign and comply with the Swim Ireland National Team Code of Conduct
- v. Complete a Swim Ireland Medical Form prior to competing at the 2022 FINA World Championships
- vi. Commit to the values of the Swim Ireland National Squad 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. Comply with Swim Ireland swimwear regulations
- ix. Adhere to all prescribed travel arrangements which might involve different travel dates to other members of the Team
- x. Make themselves available for all Ireland National Team activities designated by the National Performance Director (including, but not limited to, any associated Ireland National Team camps). 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 Director

### 16. Team Uniform/Kit

- i. All Team uniform and kit (including competition suits) will be provided for and to the Ireland National Team by Swim Ireland

### 17. Competitive Readiness

‘Competitive Readiness’ means the combined professional opinion of the National Performance Director and the National Head Coach (Diving) 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 (Diving) at the 2022 FINA World Championships to achieve an equal or superior performance in their selected Olympic event(s) at or above the Selection Standards detailed in Table 1.

- i. Athletes who, in the opinion of the National Performance Director and the National Head Coach (Diving), 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 (Diving)
- 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 FINA World Championships, to the National Performance Director and the National Head Coach (Diving) 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 Head Coach (Diving) 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 Head Coach (Diving) 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 Head Coach (Diving), and an appropriate 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
- vi. Athletes who are notified of a Competitive Readiness concern shall not travel with the Ireland National Team (Diving) to any National Team event including the 2022 FINA World Championships and/or an associated Holding Camp, unless and until the opinion of the National Performance Director and National Head Coach (Diving) has been communicated to that athlete that the athlete does meet their opinion of Competitive Readiness. If the athlete is at either the 2022 FINA World 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 Head Coach (Diving) 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 (Diving) 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 (Diving) 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](mailto: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)
- ii. An athlete may be removed from the Ireland National Team (Diving) before or after nomination for selection or before or after selection if he/she, in the opinion of the National Performance Director and National Head Coach, 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 (Diving), that individual may be replaced by another eligible individual who meets the required standards set out in this Policy
- ii. The National Performance Director, where in his opinion it is in the best interests of the Ireland National Team (Diving), 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 (Diving), 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 (Diving) shall be made by way of nomination by the National Performance Director, and which nomination is selected by the National Selection Panel (in the case of athletes) or the Diving 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

### 21. **Amendments**

- i. The Diving Leadership Team reserves the right to make changes to this Policy which, in its discretion, are necessary
- ii. The Diving 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](http://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](http://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:** February 2022