

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 Irish team ("Irish Team") for swimming at the 2020 LEN European Junior Championships in Aberdeen, Scotland

This Policy also states who will be the Team Leader for the 2020 LEN European Junior 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 Irish Team

The Performance Senior Leadership Team comprises of the National Performance Director, the National Senior Team Head Coach, the National Performance Pathway Manager, the Associate Head of Performance Services (Physical) and the Associate Head of Performance Services (Applied) and is the expert group which selects additional coaches, team managers and sports science/sports medicine practitioners to the Irish 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

- Athlete nominations for selection for the Irish Team (swimming) will be made by the National Performance Director to the National Selection Panel as expediently as possible following the conclusion of the 2020 Irish Open Championships held in Dublin, Ireland in the period 1st – 5th April 2020. This event will be known as the 'Selection Trials'
- ii. Athletes will be notified of their selections in the week beginning 6th April 2020

2. Irish Team (Swimming)

- i. The National Selection Panel is the body which has the power to select an athlete to the Irish Team (swimming) for the 2020 LEN European Junior Championships in Aberdeen, Scotland
- ii. The Performance Senior 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 Irish Team (swimming) for the 2020 LEN European Junior Championships in Aberdeen, Scotland
- 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 seventeen individual events per gender in the LEN European Junior Championships programme for swimming. Up to a maximum of four athletes can be selected by the Swim Ireland National Selection Panel per individual event
- v. There are three relay events per gender and two mixed gender relay events in the LEN European Junior Championships programme for swimming. Up to a maximum of one relay team can be selected by the Swim Ireland National Selection Panel per relay event



3. Selection Trials

- i. Athlete nominations for selection to the Irish Team (swimming) 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 5, athletes need to meet certain consideration standards set out in Section 6 and/or Section 7

4. Team Size

- i. Up to a maximum of 12 athletes will be selected for the 2020 LEN European Junior Championships
- ii. There is no obligation on the National Selection Panel to select 12 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

5. 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;
- ii. Be eligible to represent Ireland as per FINA General Rules 1 & 2 (GR 1 & 2);
- iii. Hold an Irish passport at the time of entries being submitted to LEN;
- iv. Be a registered Swim Ireland member for the 2019-2020 season;
- v. Be in good standing with Swim Ireland;
- vi. Be available to fulfil all of the Irish Team obligations;
- vii. Other than in exceptional circumstances, have accepted their place on the National Squad or their respective Regional Squad in September 2019;
- 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 Swim Ireland, FINA and LEN), with the Swim Ireland decision being final

Table 1a (Heat)				
MALE	MALE		FEMALE	FEMALE
Born 2002-2003	Born 2004-2005	Event	Born 2003-2004	Born 2005-2006
Consideration	Consideration		Consideration	Consideration
Time	Time		Time	Time
00:23.60	00:24.11	50m Freestyle	00:25.97	00:26.22
00:51.23	00:52.66	100m Freestyle	00:57.56	00:58.42
01:51.72	01:53.17	200m Freestyle	02:04.94	02:06.81
03:55.93	03:58.72	400m Freestyle	04:23.61	04:26.94
08:24.79	08:33.18	800m Freestyle	09:00.81	09:04.64
16:00.35	16:05.64	1500m Freestyle	17:29.45	17:35.48
00:56.98	00:58.14	100m Backstroke	01:04.82	01:06.07
02:04.93	02:06.93	200m Backstroke	02:18.67	02:20.60
01:02.85	01:03.64	100m Breaststroke	01:10.36	01:11.05
02:18.31	02:20.54	200m Breaststroke	02:34.64	02:36.30
00:55.08	00:56.20	100m Butterfly	01:01.36	01:02.43
02:02.99	02:04.10	200m Butterfly	02:16.73	02:18.89
02:06.71	02:09.07	200m IM	02:18.75	02:21.37
04:34.45	04:38.69	400m IM	04:54.69	04:59.23



Table 1b (Heat Into Final)				
MALE	MALE		FEMALE	FEMALE
Born 2002-2003	Born 2004-2005	Event	Born 2003-2004	Born 2005-2006
Consideration	Consideration		Consideration	Consideration
Time	Time		Time	Time
00:23.95	00:24.47	50m Freestyle	00:26.36	00:26.61
00:52.30	00:53.45	100m Freestyle	00:58.42	00:59.29
01:53.40	01:54.86	200m Freestyle	02:06.81	02:08.71
03:59.47	04:02.30	400m Freestyle	04:27.56	04:30.94
N/A	N/A	800m Freestyle	N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A	1500m Freestyle	N/A	N/A
00:57.83	00:59.02	100m Backstroke	01:05.79	01:07.06
02:06.80	02:08.84	200m Backstroke	02:20.75	02:22.71
01:03.79	01:04.60	100m Breaststroke	01:11.42	01:12.12
02:20.38	02:22.65	200m Breaststroke	02:36.96	02:38.65
00:55.91	00:57.04	100m Butterfly	01:02.28	01:03.37
02:04.83	02:05.96	200m Butterfly	02:18.78	02:20.97
02:08.61	02:11.01	200m IM	02:20.83	02:23.49
04:38.57	04:42.87	400m IM	04:59.11	05:03.72

Table 2 (Final Only)

MALE	MALE		FEMALE	FEMALE
Born 2002-2003	Born 2004-2005	Event	Born 2003-2004	Born 2005-2006
Consideration	Consideration		Consideration	Consideration
Time	Time		Time	Time
00:23.36	00:23.87	50m Freestyle	00:25.71	00:25.96
00:51.01	00:52.13	100m Freestyle	00:56.98	00:57.83
01:50.60	01:52.03	200m Freestyle	02:03.69	02:05.54
03:53.57	03:56.33	400m Freestyle	04:20.97	04:24.27
N/A	N/A	800m Freestyle	N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A	1500m Freestyle	N/A	N/A
00:56.41	00:57.56	100m Backstroke	01:04.17	01:05.41
02:03.68	02:05.66	200m Backstroke	02:17.28	02:19.20
01:02.22	01:03.01	100m Breaststroke	01:09.66	01:10.34
02:16.93	02:19.14	200m Breaststroke	02:33.09	02:34.74
00:54.53	00:55.64	100m Butterfly	01:00.75	01:01.81
02:01.76	02:02.86	200m Butterfly	02:15.36	02:17.50
02:05.44	02:07.78	200m IM	02:17.36	02:19.96
04:31.71	04:35.91	400m IM	04:51.74	04:56.24

6. Athlete Selections (Individual Events)

To be considered for selection to the Irish Team via an individual event/s, athletes must either:

i. Record a time in the Heat at the Selection Trials equal to or better than an individual event Consideration Standard detailed in Table 1a and, (other than in the 800m or 1500m Freestyle), should the athlete qualify for a the 'A' Final, the 'B' Final or the Junior Final in this event, record a time in this Final equal to or better than the Consideration Standard detailed in Table 1b. Athletes withdrawing from a Final will nullify their eligibility for consideration in this particular individual event

<u>or</u>

ii. Record a time in the 'A' Final, the 'B' Final or the Junior Final at the Selection Trials equal to or better than an individual event Consideration Standard detailed in Table 2 at the Selection Trials



7. Athlete Selections (Relay Events)

- i. There is no obligation on Swim Ireland to select any relay teams
- ii. To be considered for selection to the Irish 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 (heat and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status

Table 3				
MALE		FEMALE		
Consideration	Event	Consideration		
Time		Time		
3:25.56	400m Freestyle Relay	3:50.23		
3:47.23	400m Medley Relay	4:14.62		
7:29.92	800m Freestyle Relay	8:21.47		
MIXED		MIXED		
Consideration	Event	Consideration		
Time		Time		
4:00.25	400m Medley Relay	4:00.25		

8. Athlete Selection Procedure

- i. At the conclusion of the Selection Trials, those who have achieved the criteria requirements outlined in Section 5 and Section 6 and/or 7 will be considered eligible for nomination to the National Selection Panel by the National Performance Director
- ii. In the event of a tie (equal times achieved by two or more athletes) between any number of athletes, the athlete with the fastest time achieved once (from all rounds of competition) in that event at the Selection Trials will be considered for selection by the National Selection Panel
- iii. 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 Irish Team do not already have four athletes qualified for the individual event in question via Section 6
 - 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 via Section 6
- iii. Subject to National Performance Director discretion, athletes selected via a relay event only may also be selected for an individual event/s if:
 - the Irish Team do not already have four athletes qualified for the individual event in question via Section 6
 - it is believed that such a selection/s will complement and/or augment their performance in the relay event/s for which the athlete was selected via Section 7
- iv. Subject to National Performance Director discretion, athletes selected for individual events may also be selected to relay events
- v. The decision of the National Selection Panel shall be subject to an Appeals Process (Section 23)

9. Team Leader

i. The Team Leader for the Irish Team (Swimming) at the 2020 LEN European Junior Championships will be the National Performance Pathway Manager

10. Team Coach Eligibility

Depending on the size of the Irish Team (swimming), any additional coach to be considered eligible for selection by the Performance Senior Leadership Team must meet the following criteria:

- i. Declare themselves to be available for selection prior to 3rd September 2019 via the National Team Coach Application Form available via www.swimireland.ie. Other than in exceptional circumstances, any coach who does not declare himself/herself eligible by this deadline will not be considered eligible for selection;
- ii. Be a registered Swim Ireland member for the 2019-2020 season;
- iii. Be in good standing with Swim Ireland;
- iv. Be a full time resident within Ireland;
- v. Be a practising coach within an Irish swimming programme;

2020 LEN EUROPEAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS Swimming: 1st July – 5th July 2020, Aberdeen, Scotland SELECTION POLICY



- vi. 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;
- vii. Hold a Swim Ireland Coaching Licence;
- viii. Be available to fulfil the obligations of the Irish Team;
- ix. Other than in exceptional circumstances, have applied for a place on the Advance Coach Education Programme for the 2017-2020 period (where offered);
- Other than in exceptional circumstances, have provided first hand service or support as a coach as part of the National Squad or Regional Squad Programme in the period 1st September 2019 – 30th April 2020 (where offered/requested);
- xi. Have engaged as part of the Home Programme Coach Policy in the 2019-2020 season (where offered/requested);
- xii. Comply with the statements and expectations of the Swim Ireland 'On This Performance Team' booklet

11. Team Coach Selection Procedure

- i. Subject to coaches meeting the criteria as set out in Section 10, one or more additional coaches may be jointly recommended by the National Performance Director, the National Performance Pathway Manager and National Senior Team Head Coach 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

12. Team Manager Eligibility

Depending on the size of the Irish Team (swimming), any team manager to be considered eligible for selection by the Performance Senior Leadership Team must meet the following criteria:

- i. Declare themselves to be available for selection prior to 3rd September 2019 via the National Team Manager Application Form available via www.swimireland.ie. Other than in exceptional circumstances, any team manager who does not declare himself/herself eligible by this deadline will not be considered eligible for selection;
- ii. Be a registered Swim Ireland member for the 2019-2020 season;
- iii. Be in good standing with Swim Ireland;
- iv. Be a full time resident within Ireland;
- v. Be holders of the Swim Ireland Level 2 Team Management Certificate or international equivalent;
- vi. Be available to fulfil the obligations of the Irish Team;
- vii. Other than in exceptional circumstances, team managers will not be the parent or guardian of an athlete member of the Team;
- viii. Other than in exceptional circumstances, have provided first hand service or support as a team manager as part of the National Squad or Regional Squad Programme in the period 1st September 2019 30th April 2020 (where offered/requested);
- ix. Comply with the statements and expectations of the Swim Ireland 'On This Performance Team' booklet

13. Team Manager Selection Procedure

- i. Subject to the team manager meeting the criteria as set out in Section 12, the team manager may be jointly recommended by the National Performance Director, the National Performance Pathway Manager and National Senior Team Head Coach 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

14. Sports Science/Sports Medicine Practitioner Eligibility

Depending on the size of the Irish Team (swimming), 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 Irish Team;
- iv. Comply with the statements and expectations of the Swim Ireland 'On This Performance Team' booklet



15. Sports Science/Sports Medicine Practitioner Selection Procedure

- i. Subject to a sports science/sports medicine practitioner meeting the criteria as set out in Section 17, a sports science/sports medicine practitioner may be jointly recommended by the National Performance Director, the National Performance Pathway Manager and National Senior Team Head Coach 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

16. Irish Team (Swimming) Obligations

Swim Ireland will publish a suite of obligations which must be agreed to by any athlete, team coach, sports science/sports medicine practitioners or team manager who has been selected to represent the Irish Team (swimming) at the 2020 LEN European Junior Championships. In addition to such obligations, Swim Ireland oblige all athletes selected to:

- i. Compete in the 2020 LEN European LC Championships (if selected)
- ii. Compete in the 2020 Olympic Games (if selected)
- iii. Compete in the 2020 Irish Summer National Championships (if not selected for the 2020 Olympic Games)
- 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 2020 LEN European Junior 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. At the date of the decision of the National Selection Panel of selections, all athletes selected must ensure that both they and their home programme coach independently submit the 'Coach Planning' log sheet each week via e-mail to the National Performance Pathway Manager
- ix. Comply with Swim Ireland 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 attend overseas camps and/or overseas competitions between the Selection Trials and the Olympic Games without prior written approval from the National Performance Director
- xii. Make themselves available for all Irish Team activities designated by the National Performance Director (including, but not limited to, the 2020 National Team Day, preparation camps and staging camps) as part of or in addition to the National Squad or Regional Squad programme. No Irish 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 deselected. Under exceptional circumstances, written approval to be excluded from activities can be given by the National Performance Director
- xiii. 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

17. 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

18. Competitive Readiness

'Competitive Readiness' means the combined professional opinion of the National Performance Director, the National Performance Pathway Manager and the National Senior Team Head Coach 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 Irish Team (swimming) at the 2020 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

2020 LEN EUROPEAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS Swimming: 1st July – 5th July 2020, Aberdeen, Scotland SELECTION POLICY



- i. Athletes who, in the opinion of the National Performance Director, the National Performance Pathway Manager and National Senior Team Head Coach, 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 Irish Team (swimming)
- 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 2020 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, the National Performance Pathway Manager and the National Senior Team Head Coach 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, the National Performance Pathway Manager and the National Senior Team Head Coach 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, the National Senior Team Head Coach 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 Irish Team (swimming) to any National Team event including the 2020 LEN European Junior Championships and/or an associated Holding Camp, unless and until the opinion of the National Performance Director, the National Performance Pathway Manager and National Senior Team Head Coach has been communicated to that athlete that the athlete does meet their opinion of Competitive Readiness. If the athlete is at either the 2020 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, the National Performance Pathway Manager and the National Senior Team Head Coach is final

19. Withdrawal & Removals

At any stage an athlete, team coach, team manager or sports science/sports medicine practitioner may withdraw from the Irish Team (swimming) 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 Irish Team (swimming) 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 Irish Team Obligations (Section 16)
- decline selection to or withdraw from the 2020 Olympic Games and/or the 2020 LEN European LC Championships
- ii. An athlete may be removed from the Irish Team (swimming) before or after nomination for selection or before or after selection if he/she, in the opinion of the National Performance Director, the National Performance Pathway Manager and National Senior Team Head Coach, does not have Competitive Readiness (Section 18)

20. Replacement or Addition

- i. If an athlete, team coach, team manager or sports science/sports medicine practitioner is removed from or withdraws from the Irish Team (swimming), 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 Irish Team (swimming), may recommend that any number of additional athletes, team coaches, team managers and/or sports science/sports medicine practitioners be added to the selected Irish Team (swimming), subject to such additional individuals meeting the required standards set out in this Policy
- iii. Any replacement or addition of an individual to the Irish Team (swimming) 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 Senior Leadership Team (in the case of team coaches, team managers and/or sports science/sports medicine practitioners)



21. 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

22. 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 21)
- 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

23. 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: October 2019