

OLYMPIC GAMES 2020

Swimming: 25th July – 2nd August 2020, Tokyo, Japan

NOMINATION POLICY

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 Olympic Games in Tokyo*

This Policy also states who will be the Team Leader for the 2020 Olympic Games

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

In addition to the criteria for eligibility for nomination for selection, there are minimum qualification standards which the athlete needs to meet to be considered for nomination by the National Selection Panel

The National Selection Panel is the expert panel which nominates an athlete, additional coaches and/or team managers for selection

The actual selection of any athlete, any additional team coach and team manager will be made by the Olympic Federation of Ireland (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

The 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)

1. Nomination for Selection

- i. Nominations for selection for the Irish Team (swimming) will be made to the OFI 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 'Nomination Trials'

2. Irish Team (Swimming)

- i. The OFI is the body which has the power to select an athlete or member of staff to the Irish Team (swimming) for the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan
- ii. The OFI will determine the team size and personnel
- iii. The OFI agrees to notify Swim Ireland of its selection or its refusal to select any nominated athlete as soon as reasonably practicable after the OFI receives the National Selection Panel's nominations
- iv. There are fourteen individual events per gender in the Olympic Games programme for swimming. Up to a maximum of two athletes can be nominated for selection by the Swim Ireland National Selection Panel per individual event
- v. There are three relay events per gender and one mixed gender relay event in the Olympic Games programme for swimming
- vi. Subject to Swim Ireland achieving a relay place/s at the Olympic Games at the combined invitation of the Federation Internationale De Natation (FINA) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC), up to a maximum of one relay team can be nominated per relay event

3. Nomination Trials

- i. Nominations for selection to the Irish Team (swimming) will be made to the OFI following Olympic event performances at the Nomination Trials
- ii. In addition to the Athlete Eligibility Criteria set out in Section 3, athletes need to meet certain qualification standards which are classified as 'pre-validation' or 'without pre-validation'

4. Athlete Eligibility

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

- i. Be an Irish citizen;
- ii. Be eligible to represent Ireland as per FINA General Rules 1 & 2 (GR 1 & 2) and the Olympic Charter Rules;
- iii. Hold an Irish passport at the time of nominations being submitted to the OFI;
- 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. 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 IOC, FINA and OFI eligibility criteria and/or requirements;

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

5. Athlete Nominations (Individual Events) 'Pre-Validation'

- i. To be considered pre-validated, athletes must:
 - a. achieve one or more of the times from Table 1 (Olympic Qualifying Times set by FINA/IOC) at the 2019 FINA World Championships (50m) and;
 - b. record a time (in the same event/s) at the Nomination Trials equal to or better than the individual event Consideration Standards detailed in Table 2
- ii. Times in Table 1 can be achieved from:
 - Individual event times achieved at the 2019 FINA World Championships (Gwangju, Korea), where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;
 - 100m Backstroke, 100m Freestyle and 200m Freestyle times achieved in lead-off legs in single-gender relays at the 2019 FINA World Championships (Gwangju, Korea), where all rounds of competition (heat and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status (as per FINA Rule 10.3) and subject to FINA ratification and acceptance
- iii. Athletes who are eligible for consideration via pre-validation who do not record a time equal to or better than the relevant Consideration Standard in Table 2 at the Nomination Trials will not be considered for nomination, except in exceptional circumstances, at the sole discretion of the National Performance Director

6. Athlete Nominations (Individual Events) 'Without Pre-Validation'

- i. To be considered 'without pre-validation', athletes who did not achieve one or more of the times from Table 1 at the 2019 FINA World Championships (50m), must record a time at the Nomination Trials equal to or better than the individual event Consideration Standards detailed in Table 1
- ii. Times in Table 1 can be achieved from:
 - Individual event times achieved at the Nomination Trials, where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;
 - 100m Backstroke, 100m Freestyle and 200m Freestyle times achieved in lead-off legs in single-gender National Team relays at the Nomination Trials, where all rounds of competition (heat and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status (as per FINA Rule 10.3) and subject to FINA ratification and acceptance

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Table 1

MALE	Event	FEMALE
Consideration Time		Consideration Time
22.01	50m Freestyle	24.77
48.57	100m Freestyle	54.38
1:47.02	200m Freestyle	1:57.28
3:46.78	400m Freestyle	4:07.90
7:54.31	800m Freestyle	8:33.36
15:00.99	1500m Freestyle	16:32.04
53.85	100m Backstroke	1:00.25
1:57.50	200m Backstroke	2:10.39
59.93	100m Breaststroke	1:07.07
2:10.35	200m Breaststroke	2:25.52
51.96	100m Butterfly	57.92
1:56.48	200m Butterfly	2:08.43
1:59.67	200m IM	2:12.56
4:15.84	400m IM	4:38.53

Table 2

MALE	Event	FEMALE
Consideration Time		Consideration Time
22.34	50m Freestyle	25.14
49.30	100m Freestyle	55.20
1:48.63	200m Freestyle	1:59.04
3:50.18	400m Freestyle	4:11.62
8:01.42	800m Freestyle	8:41.06
15:14.50	1500m Freestyle	16:46.92
54.66	100m Backstroke	1:01.15
1:59.26	200m Backstroke	2:12.35
1:00.83	100m Breaststroke	1:08.08
2:12.31	200m Breaststroke	2:27.70
52.74	100m Butterfly	58.79
1:58.23	200m Butterfly	2:10.36
2:01.47	200m IM	2:14.55
4:19.68	400m IM	4:42.71

7. Athlete Nominations (Relay Events)

In the event that Swim Ireland achieves a relay place(s) at the Olympic Games at the invitation of FINA/IOC in accordance with FINA/IOC relay qualification rules, then the National Performance Director will have regard to the composition of that relay team for recommendation to the National Selection Panel (subject to such athletes meeting all FINA/IOC relay requirements) in the following manner:

- i. If an Irish Team Male and/or Female 800m Freestyle relay is invited to enter the Olympic Games, the fastest four times (in the relevant gender/s) in the 200m Freestyle will be considered from:
 - Individual event times achieved at the 2019 FINA World Championships (50m), where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;
 - Times achieved in all legs of single gender 800m Freestyle National Team relays at the 2019 FINA World Championships (50m), with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on second, third and fourth legs of relays;
 - Individual event times achieved at the Nomination Trials, where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;

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- Times achieved in all legs of single gender 800m Freestyle National Team relays at the Selection Trials, with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on second, third and fourth legs of relays;
 - Individual event times achieved at the 2019 LEN European Championships (50m), where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;
 - Times achieved in all legs of single gender 800m Freestyle National Team relays at the 2019 LEN European Championships (50m), with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on second, third and fourth legs of relays
- ii. If an Irish Team Male and/or Female 400m Freestyle relay is invited to enter the Olympic Games, the fastest four times (in the relevant gender/s) in the 100m Freestyle will be considered from:
- Individual event times achieved at the 2019 FINA World Championships (50m), where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;
 - Times achieved in all legs of single gender 400m Freestyle National Team relays at the 2019 FINA World Championships (50m), with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on second, third and fourth legs of relays;
 - Times achieved in the fourth leg of single gender 400m Medley National Team relays at the 2019 FINA World Championships (50m), with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on fourth legs of relays;
 - Individual event times achieved at the Nomination Trials, where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;
 - Times achieved in all legs of single gender 400m Freestyle National Team relays at the Nomination Trials, with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on second, third and fourth legs of relays;
 - Times achieved in the fourth leg of single gender 400m Medley National Team relays at the Nomination Trials, with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on fourth legs of relays;
 - Individual event times achieved at the 2019 LEN European Championships (50m), where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;
 - Times achieved in all legs of single gender 400m Freestyle National Team relays at the 2019 LEN European Championships (50m), with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on second, third and fourth legs of relays;
 - Times achieved on the fourth leg of single gender 400m Medley National Team relays at the 2019 LEN European Championships (50m), with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on fourth legs of relays
- iii. If an Irish Team Male and/or Female 400m Medley relay is invited to enter the Olympic Games, the fastest combination (in the relevant gender/s) in the 100m Backstroke, 100m Breaststroke, 100m Butterfly and 100m Freestyle will be considered from:
- Individual event times achieved at the 2019 FINA World Championships (50m), where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;
 - Times achieved in all legs of single gender 400m Medley National Team relays and 400m Freestyle National Team relays at the 2019 FINA World Championships (50m), with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on second, third and fourth legs of relays;
 - Individual event times achieved at the Nomination Trials, where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;
 - Times achieved in all legs of single gender 400m Medley National Team relays and 400m Freestyle National Team relays at the Nomination Trials, with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on second, third and fourth legs of relays;
 - Individual event times achieved at the 2019 LEN European Championships (50m), where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;
 - Times achieved in all legs of single gender 400m Medley National Team relays and 400m Freestyle National Team relays at the 2019 LEN European Championships (50m), with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on second, third and fourth legs of relays
- iv. If an Irish Team Mixed 400m Medley relay is invited to enter the Olympic Games, the fastest combination across the two genders in the 100m Backstroke, 100m Breaststroke, 100m Butterfly and 100m Freestyle will be considered from:
- Individual event times achieved at the 2019 FINA World Championships (50m), where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;

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- Times achieved in all legs of single gender 400m Medley National Team relays and 400m Freestyle National Team relays at the 2019 FINA World Championships (50m), with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on second, third and fourth legs of relays;
- Individual event times achieved at the Nomination Trials, where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;
- Times achieved in all legs of single gender 400m Medley National Team relays and 400m Freestyle National Team relays at the Nomination Trials, with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on second, third and fourth legs of relays;
- Individual event times achieved at the 2019 LEN European Championships (50m), where all rounds of competition (heat, semi-final and/or final) are seen as having equal consideration status;
- Times achieved in all legs of single gender 400m Medley National Team relays and 400m Freestyle National Team relays at the 2019 LEN European Championships (50m), with a 0.5 second differential added to the official relay splits on second, third and fourth legs of relays

Table 3

MALE	Event	FEMALE
22.67	50m Freestyle	25.51
50.03	100m Freestyle	56.01
1:50.23	200m Freestyle	2:00.80
3:53.58	400m Freestyle	4:15.34
8:08.54	800m Freestyle	8:48.76
15:28.02	1500m Freestyle	17:01.80
55.47	100m Backstroke	1:02.06
2:01.03	200m Backstroke	2:14.30
1:01.73	100m Breaststroke	1:09.08
2:14.26	200m Breaststroke	2:29.89
53.52	100m Butterfly	59.66
1:59.97	200m Butterfly	2:12.28
2:03.26	200m IM	2:16.54
4:21.46	400m IM	4:46.89

- v. Under FINA Bylaw BL 9.3.6.5, additional athletes may be nominated for relay swims only, provided that they have achieved the FINA/Olympic Invitational Time (Table 3) for the corresponding stroke and distance of the relay in which they are entered. The following formula applies for the National Selection Panel in considering such a circumstance:
- One Relay – up to two additional athletes
 - Two Relays – up to four additional athletes
 - Three Relays – up to six additional athletes

8. 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 or 6 will be considered eligible for nomination to the OFI by the National Selection Panel
- ii. At the conclusion of the Nomination Trials, those who have achieved the criteria requirements outlined in Section 4 and Section 7 will be considered eligible for nomination to the OFI by the National Selection Panel, with any such nomination ratified subject to Swim Ireland achieving a relay place(s) at the Olympic Games at the invitation of FINA/IOC
- iii. For an individual event, the National Selection Panel shall give priority to athletes who are classified as 'pre-validated' over athletes who are classified as 'without pre-validation'
- iv. In the event of a tie (equal times achieved by two or more athletes) between any number of athletes, whether those athletes are classified as 'pre-validated' or 'without pre-validation', the athlete with the fastest time achieved once (from all rounds of competition) in that event in the following competitions will be considered for nomination by the National Selection Panel:

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- Individual event times achieved at the 2019 FINA World Championships (Gwangju, Korea)
 - Individual event times achieved at the 2020 Nomination Trials (Dublin, Ireland)
 - 100m Backstroke, 100m Freestyle and 200m Freestyle times achieved in lead-off legs in single gender relays at the 2019 FINA World Championships (Gwangju, Korea)
 - 100m Backstroke, 100m Freestyle and 200m Freestyle times achieved in lead-off legs in single gender National Team relays at the 2019 Nomination Trials (Dublin, Ireland)
- v. Subject to National Performance Director discretion, any athlete nominated via an individual event by the National Selection Panel may also be considered for additional individual event nominations
 - vi. Subject to National Performance Director discretion, athletes nominated via an individual event may also be selected to relay events, even if they have not achieved the FINA/Olympic Invitational Time (Table 3) for that corresponding stroke and distance within the relay for which they are entered
 - vi. Subject to National Performance Director discretion, athletes nominated via relay events only may also be nominated for individual events if:
 - they have achieved the FINA/Olympic Invitational Time (Table 3) for the individual event in question, and
 - they are invited by FINA to enter the individual event in question, and
 - the Irish Team do not already have one or two athletes qualified for the individual event in question via Sections 5 and/or 6
 - vii. The decision of the National Selection Panel shall be subject to an Appeals Process (Section 22)

9. Team Leader

- i. The Team Leader for the Irish Team (Swimming) at the Olympic Games will be the National Performance Director

10. Team Head Coach

- i. The Head Coach for the Irish Team (Swimming) at the Olympic Games will be the National Senior Team Head Coach

11. Team Coach Eligibility

Depending on the size of the Irish Team (swimming) and the staff accreditations made available to Swim Ireland by the OFI, any additional coach to be considered eligible for nomination for selection by the National Selection Panel must meet the following criteria:

- i. Declare themselves to be available for nomination prior to 3rd September 2019 via the National Team Coach Application Form, available via www.swimireland.ie. Any coach who does not declare himself/herself eligible by this deadline will not be considered eligible for nomination 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;
- 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 nomination;
- 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);
- x. 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 2018 – 31st May 2020 (where offered/requested);
- xi. Have engaged as part of the Home Programme Coach Policy in the period 1st September 2018 – 31st May 2020 (where offered/requested);
- xii. Comply with the statements and expectations of the Swim Ireland 'On This Performance Team' booklet

12. Team Coach Nomination Procedure

- i. Subject to coaches meeting the criteria as set out in Section 11, one or more additional coaches may be jointly recommended by the National Performance Director and National Senior Team Head Coach and where so recommended, may be nominated for selection by the National Selection Panel

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- ii. National Team Coaches may be nominated in an offsite (Olympic Holding Camp only), onsite (Olympic Games) and/or combined (Olympic Holding Camp and Olympic Games) role and such nominations will be reflective of the Team size, the number of accreditations available, 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

13. Team Manager Eligibility

Depending on the size of the Irish Team (swimming) and the staff accreditations made available to Swim Ireland by the OFI, any team manager to be considered eligible for nomination for selection by the National Selection Panel must meet the following criteria:

- i. Declare themselves to be available for nomination prior to 3rd September 2019 via the National Team Manager Application Form available via www.swimireland.ie. Any team manager who does not declare himself/herself eligible by this deadline will not be considered eligible for nomination 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 2018 – 31st May 2020 (where offered/requested);
- ix. Comply with the statements and expectations of the Swim Ireland 'On This Performance Team' booklet

14. Team Manager Nomination Procedure

- i. Subject to the team manager meeting the criteria as set out in Section 13, the team manager may be jointly recommended by the National Performance Director and National Senior Team Head Coach and where so recommended, may be nominated for selection by the National Selection Panel
- ii. Team managers may be nominated in an offsite (Olympic Holding Camp only), onsite (Olympic Games) and/or combined (Olympic Holding Camp and Olympic Games) role and such nominations will be reflective of the Team size, the number of accreditations available, 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 manager may not be required/nominated

15. Irish Team (Swimming) Obligations

The OFI will publish a suite of obligations which must be agreed to by any athlete, coach or team manager who has been selected to represent the Irish Team (swimming) at the Olympic Games. In addition to the OFI obligations, Swim Ireland oblige all athletes selected by the OFI to:

- i. Compete in the 2020 LEN European Championships (50m) (if selected)
- ii. Complete, sign and comply with the Swim Ireland National Team Code of Conduct
- iii. Comply with the OFI Team Members Agreement
- iv. Complete a Swim Ireland Medical Form prior to competing at the Olympic Games
- v. Commit to the values of the Swim Ireland National Squad Athlete Charter
- vi. 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
- vii. At the date of the decision of the National Selection Panel of nominations for selection, all athletes nominated for selection 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 Senior Team Head Coach
- viii. Comply with Swim Ireland, OFI and FINA swimwear regulations
- ix. Adhere to all prescribed travel arrangements which might involve different travel dates to other members of the Team
- x. Not take holidays between the Nomination Trials and the Olympic Games
- xi. Not attend overseas camps and/or competitions between the Nominations Trials and the Olympic Games without prior written approval from the National Performance Director

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- 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, any OFI Pre-Event Team Days, preparation camps and staging camps) as part of or in addition to the National Squad or Regional Squad programme. No 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. Under exceptional circumstances, written approval to be excluded from activities can be given by the National Performance Director
- xiii. Nominated athletes, team coaches, team managers and Swim Ireland agree not to attend the Olympic Opening Ceremony
- xiv. Nominated athletes, team coaches, team managers and Swim Ireland agree not to disclose any nominated name to the press or any other media (including their own social media) until the OFI have selected the team member for the Olympic Games and announced this to the press and other media
- xv. Nominated athletes, team coaches, team managers and Swim Ireland agree to abide by IOC Rule 40 and other relevant OFI requirements

16. 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

17. Competitive Readiness

'Competitive Readiness' means the combined professional opinion of the National Performance Director and the National Senior Team Head Coach following advice, where necessary, from a member/s of the OFI Medical Team as to the ability of an athlete who has been nominated for selection or who has been selected to represent the Irish Team (swimming) at the Olympic Games to achieve an equal or superior performance in their selected Olympic event(s) over their performance achieved to qualify for nomination for selection and/or selection

- i. Athletes who, in the opinion of the National Performance Director 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 Olympic Games, to the National Performance Director and the National Senior Team Head Coach 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 Senior Team Head Coach to consider recommendations made by a member/s of the OFI 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 Senior Team Head Coach to seek recommendations from a member/s of the OFI 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 Senior Team Head Coach 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 the Irish Team (swimming) to any National Team event including the Olympic Games and the Olympic Holding Camp, unless and until the opinion of the National Performance Director 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 Olympic Games or the Olympic 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 Senior Team Head Coach is final

18. **Withdrawal & Removals**

At any stage an athlete, coach or team manager may withdraw from the Irish Team (swimming) but may only do so in extenuating circumstances

- i. An athlete, coach or team manager 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 15)
- ii. An athlete may be removed from the Irish Team (swimming) before or after nomination for selection or before or after selection if, in the opinion of the National Performance Director and the National Senior Team Head Coach, he/she does not have Competitive Readiness (Section 17)

19. **Replacement or Addition**

- i. If an athlete, coach or team manager 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, coaches or team managers 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 recommendation by the National Performance Director, which recommendation is nominated by the National Selection Panel and which nomination is selected by the OFI

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. Subject to OFI approval, the Swim Ireland 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 20)
- ii. Subject to OFI approval, the Swim Ireland Senior Leadership Team reserves the right to review and modify this Policy or a decision related to the nomination process in the case of rule or policy changes from the IOC 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 nomination for selection made by the National Selection Panel must be made in accordance with the Swim Ireland Olympic Selection Appeals Procedures, available via www.swimireland.ie
- ii. Athletes should be aware of the strict time limits contained within the Swim Ireland Olympic Selection Appeals Procedures, which are designed with the intention of resolving issues expediently and fairly
- iii. Any appeals under the Swim Ireland Olympic Selection Appeals Procedures must be concluded prior to OFI selection