

TEAM SELECTION 2021/2022 POLICY

PREAMBLE

The selection with the goal of representing Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming at international championships is an honour that only few swimmers achieve each season. The purpose of this policy is to ensure a transparent selection process by providing specific criteria that will be used by Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming to identify and select swimmers for the Swiss National Teams.

Artistic Swimming is a team sport and a judged sport. The multi-faceted nature of this sport makes it necessary to consider various selection criteria and not just to measure the individual level of skills. Performance and success with the team requires an evaluation of the athlete considering both objective and subjective factors. The selections will therefore be based on synchro technical ability as well as team cohesion.

Solo and duet selections will be made from swimmers from within the selected teams. Details of solo and duet selections will be published separately at a later stage.

Objectives of the Team Selection Policy

- To form a team that will achieve the best possible results in international competitions, especially in World Championships and in view of future Olympic Games.
- To select swimmers who have the will and the potential to represent Switzerland for several years in international competitions.
- To bring consistency in the teams in order to achieve international success in a medium- and long-term view.

Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming is committed to providing swimmers who have the will and potential to represent Switzerland in international competitions with the best possible development and support of their sports career.

SPONSORS



PARTNERS



NATIONAL PARTNERS



Commitment

Swimmers are selected in the Swiss National team with the goal of representing Switzerland for several years. At least, selected swimmers are expected to remain part of the national team until the end of the season (August).

- Selected swimmers must give the commitment to participate in all training camps and competitions of the season.
- Swimmers must be able to undertake and provide evidence of training outside of the national team with their home club, the home club will be required to demonstrate full support and commitment to the national program. National Team members must swim at least a team with their club.
- Selected swimmers agree that activities with the national team always have priority to club activities.
- Selected swimmers must sign an athlete's agreement for the Swiss National team and comply with the code of conduct of Swiss Aquatics as well as with the rules and policies of Swiss Aquatics. These documents will be handed out to the swimmers upon selection.
- Selected swimmers must be able to pay a financial contribution per year for their participation in the national team training camps and international competitions. The amount will be communicated by the department of performance sport before the beginning of the season (1st of September). With the final selection, the selected swimmer owes the full amount. The invoice is issued in 3 tranches. No refunds of the financial contribution will be made if an athlete leaves the team during the season.
- Selected swimmers must demonstrate an uncompromised commitment to training preparation for peak performance at the main competition(s) as determined by Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming. If for any reason the swimmers are unable and/or unwilling to fulfil this commitment, they may be withdrawn from the team.
- If, after the final selection, a swimmer decides to retire from the national team prior to the final competition of the season, she must submit the retirement in writing to Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming. For the next two seasons, this swimmer may be withdrawn from selection for any national team and will not receive a Swiss Olympic Card (Talent or Elite).
- If a swimmer becomes injured during the year after the selection, the swimmer will need to provide a certificate of a Swiss Olympic approved medical professional.

- Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming may request that the injured swimmer will be assessed by the medical professional of Swiss Aquatics - Artistic Swimming. Provided that both medical professionals agree, the swimmer can continue in the team based on the medical advice. If the medical advice is disputed or there is disagreement between the medical professionals/athlete/parents the swimmer will be withdrawn from the national team.
- If a swimmer is unable to attend a selection due to illness or injury, a certificate from a Swiss Olympic approved medical professional shall be sent to Swiss Aquatics - Artistic Swimming prior to the selection date. The swimmer can only continue the selection process if she was already member of the national team in the previous season.

ELITE TEAM SELECTION ELIGIBILITY:

- Elite swimmers must have a Swiss passport by September 2021.
- The swimmers must be aged 15 or older at the beginning of the season (example: born in 2006 or before for the selection 2021/2022).
- Selection of up to 12 swimmers to represent Switzerland in European Championships / World Championships / Olympic Games
- The definitive number of swimmers to be selected per team will be communicated by the department of Performance Sports before the beginning of the season (1st September)

Selection Procedure:

There will be 4 selection phases for the Elite national team. The final selection of the competitive team will be decided in phase 4:

- Phase 1: Participation in PISTE or member of Elite Team in the previous season
- Phase 2: Participation in Elite selection camp in October 2021.
- Phase 3: Selection camp in November 2021
- Phase 4: Training in Elite National Team and final selection of swimmers for final competition.

Phase 2

- Number of invited swimmers: ideally 21 swimmers
- Invited Swimmers
- Swimmers of the Elite Team of the previous season

- Date: October 2021

- Duration: 5 - 8 days

- Costs: CHF 100.– per day. Swimmers who are selected in a National Team do not have to pay the daily costs of the selection camp, as they pay a yearly contribution.

Phase 3: Selection of Elite Team

- Participants: All participants of the selection camp

- Date: Last 1 or 2 days of the selection camp

- Type of selection:
 - Swim individually part of the Free Routine from the national team (every swimmer swim the same part)
 - Swim the technical routine from the PISTE

- **Selection «panel»**
 - 6 international judges (Swiss and/or foreign)
 - National Judges B if needed
 - Head of Performance Sport and National Team coaches can discuss the selection with the judges for swimmer in place 11 and 12 from the top 14 of the judges ranking.

REPLACEMENT

If a selected swimmer leaves or is withdrawn from the National Team during the season, the responsible Elite National coaches may nominate the next swimmer from the ranking of the November's selection.

JUNIOR TEAM SELECTION ELIGIBILITY:

- Junior swimmers must have a Swiss passport by September 2021.
- The swimmers must be aged 15 -17 at the beginning of the season (example: born between 2004 and 2006 for the selection 2021/2022).

Objective:

- Selection of up to 12 swimmers to represent Switzerland in the European Junior Championships and / or World Junior Championships
- The definitive number of swimmers to be selected per team will be communicated by the department of Performance Sport before the beginning of the season (1st September)

Selection Procedure:

There will be 5 selection phases for the Junior National Teams. The final selection of the Junior Team will be decided in phase 4. Junior swimmers selected in the Elite National Team will be automatically selected for the Junior A1 team.

- Phase 1: Participation in PISTE or member of Junior Team in the previous season
- Phase 2: Participation in the first Junior camp in November
- Phase 3: Ranking of the Junior squad in November 2021
- Phase 4: Training in Junior National Team and final selection of swimmers for final competition in April at the beginning of the Swiss Youth Competition.

Phase 1: Participation in PISTE

Phase 2/3: Participation in the first Junior selection camp in November

- Swim individually part of the Free Routine from the National Team (every swimmer swim the same part
- Swim the technical routine from the PISTE

- **Selection «panel»**
 - 6 international judges (Swiss and/or foreign)
 - National Judges B if needed
 - Head of Performance Sport and National Team coaches can discuss the selection with the judges for swimmer in place 11 and 12 from the top 14 of the judges ranking.

Phase 4:

Selection at the Swiss Youth Championship before the start of the competition. International judge from other countries and Swiss Some B experience judges if necessary

- Swim individually part of the Free Routine from the National Team (every swimmer swim the same part)
- Swim the technical routine from the PISTE

REPLACEMENT

If a selected swimmer leaves or is withdrawn from the National Team during the season, the responsible Elite National coaches may nominate the next swimmer from the ranking of the November's selection.

YOUTH TEAM SELECTION ELIGIBILITY:

- The swimmers of Team A must have a Swiss passport by the end of January 2022
- The swimmers of Team B do not necessarily need a Swiss passport, but they must live in Switzerland and agree to start the immigration process right after their selection.
- The swimmers must be aged 14 and younger at the beginning of the season (born in 2007, 2008 or 2009 for the selection 2021/2022).

Objective:

- Selection of up to 12 swimmers to represent Switzerland in the Mediterranean Cup / World Championship
- Selection of up to 12 swimmers to represent Switzerland in an international competition
- The definitive number of swimmers to be selected per team will be communicated by the department of performance sport before the beginning of the season (1st September)

Selection Procedure:

There will be 5 selection phases for the Youth National Teams. The final selection of the Youth A and B Team will be decided in phase 5.

- Phase 1: Participation in PISTE in the previous season
- Phase 2: Pre-selection camps with 30 swimmers
- Phase 3: Participation in figure competition at Swiss Championships in January 2022.
- Phase 4: Individual swim of part of team free from the National Team, and figure competition at the Swiss Youth Championship.
- Phase 5: Figure selection at the Swiss Junior Championship in June 2022.

- **Selection «panel» for the routine**
 - 6 international judges (Swiss and/or foreign)
 - National Judges B if needed
 - Head of Performance Sport and National Team coaches can discuss the selection with the judges for swimmer in place 11 and 12 from the top 14 of the judges ranking.

Selection at the Swiss Youth Championship before the start of the competition. International judge from other countries and Swiss Some B experience judges if necessary

REPLACEMENT

If a selected swimmer leaves or is withdrawn from the youth A team during the season, the responsible national coach may nominate any swimmer from youth B team to join the youth A team. The replacing swimmer must have a Swiss passport and be of the right birth year. The swimmer nominated is the first of the ranking of the selection procedure.