

SELECTION PROCESS SEASON 2022-2024

Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming announces herewith the procedure for the selections of national teams for the season 2022/2024. This document is an integral part of the selection policy document.

This selection process applies if we have teams in each category. If this is not the case the document will need to be adjusted. This selection process is set for the seasons 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Goal is to build teams (Juniors and Elite) that will remain until summer 2024.

GENERAL RULES

Head coach is responsible for all national team activities. The different categories will be delegated to coaches working in collaboration with the head coach.

Athletes will be selected for a category and will only participate in this said category. This decision has been taken to relieve the workload from the athletes and allow them to fully concentrate on one project.

Coach's opinion will be integrated in the selection process. The following points will be observed, evaluated, and considered:

- Hard skills e.g.: eggbeater, sustained height, hybrid, sharpness, strokes, lift pushing, endurance
- Soft skills e.g.: commitment, motivation, consistency, behavior towards coach and athletes, smartness, adaptation, self-reflection, experience

Once the athletes are selected in their teams, they are required to set the example for all other Swiss athletes as they will be representing the country internationally. The goal is to create a positive working atmosphere for the athletes as well as for the coaches. The athletes will receive feedback from the coaches after each training camp, to assure their development. The athletes will fill out a questionnaire after each training camp to give feedback about the camp.

Should the situation of a probable exclusion arise, will the final decision be evaluated and taken by the selection committee.

In case of illness or injuries, each case will be evaluated individually and revised by the selection committee.

The youth team will participate in selection competitions every season and will commit for one season only.

Juniors and Elite athletes will be automatically pre-selected for the next season if they were part of the final competition team. The goal of the selection for two seasons is to build a strong foundation for long-term national teams. However, as the main goal of a national team is to achieve the best performance of a nation, the selection for national teams can be reopened for non-national team members to join the national team performance. The automatic selection for the next season does not secure one's place in the final competition team of the new season. In case of newly selected athletes joining the team, the selection procedure mentioned in the Elite and Junior section will be applied.

11.11.2022

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If a selected swimmer leaves or is withdrawn from the National Team during the season, the head coach in collaboration with the leading assistant coach and the head of performance sport, may nominate a swimmer for replacement.

ELITE AND JUNIOR SELECTION

Selection of the 24 best swimmers (Elite and Junior) to train together from the beginning of the season until February 2023.

Swimmers chosen for the Elite Team will need to be a minimum of 17 years old. (Exceptions can be made if required. This choice will be made by the selection committee).

Athletes that are of junior age according to FINA rules, can decline the selection in the elite national team to remain in their category.

Once selected in the combined team at the beginning of the year, everyone is at risk and needs to work hard to prove to the coach that they deserve their spot in the team.

In February 2023 the final selection will take place to determine who will be allocated in the Elite Team and the Junior Team.

Judges will be invited to the selection day on February 19th 2023.

The selection will consist of the following criteria: 50% specific selection results and 50% head coach opinion.

Selection

- February 19th, 2023: ½ day judges observing the training of the national teams. There will be big parts and run throughs of team free and team tech.
- ½ day specific selection. The athletes will swim one by one, part of the team tech chosen by the coach. Evaluated by judges. The criteria for the judges will be communicated end of January 2023.
- A maximum of 12 swimmers will be selected per team (junior/elite).

Target competitions Elite: European Championships 2023, World Championships 2023 (Olympic Duet only), World Championships (Qualifying Tournament) 2024, European Championships 2024

Target competitions Juniors: Junior European Championships 2023, Junior World Championships 2024 (maybe: Junior European Championships 2024)

The directorate Artistic Swimming and the central committee will make the final decision as to whether a team will participate in a European Championship or World Championships.

YOUTH SELECTION

Selection of the 30 best swimmers.

Head coach of national teams will participate in 2 training camps.

The selection will consist of the following criteria: 25% specific selection, 25% figure results, 25% head coach and 25% leading assistant coach opinion.

Only first and second year (age dependent not participation dependent) youth swimmers can be selected in the Youth B Team. Goal is to allow some experience before they will continue their career in the national team. Last year (last year allowed in youth category) swimmers are either selected in the Youth A team or will be out of the national team.

Selection

- Figure results: SJC Qualification, Swiss Youth Competition, SJC Finals.
- Specific selection: The athletes will swim one by one, part of the team free chosen by the coach, evaluated by judges. The criteria for the judges will be communicated end of January 2023.
- There will be a Youth Team A participating in the youth championship* and a Youth team B participating in an open competition (TBC).
- A maximum of 12 swimmers will be selected per team (A/B).

The results are calculated as follows: Each above-mentioned figure competition is weighted the same. Clarification: given that there are 3 competitions, each result will count 1/3 of the total (1/3 figures SJC Qualification, 1/3 figures SYC, 1/3 figure SJC finals).

Target competitions: Hungarian Open 2023 (TBC), Youth Championships 2023*.

The federation reserves the right to adapt the selection process if needed (which will require the approval of the central committee of Swiss Aquatics).

*Depending on FINA and LEN information and possibilities.