

## SELECTION POLICY SEASON 2023-2024

The purpose of the national team (including all disciplines) is to represent Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming during international events. The selection 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 (Elite, Junior, and Youth).

Artistic Swimming is a team sport and judged by officials. The multi-faceted nature of this sport makes it necessary to consider various selection criteria and not solely measure the individual level of skills. Performance and success with the team requires an evaluation of the athlete considering both hard skills (results) and soft skills (e.g. commitment, experience, self-reflection, team spirit etc.). The selections will therefore be based on artistic swimming technical ability as well as team cohesion and personal investment.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE SELECTION POLICY

Form a team that will achieve the best possible results for Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming in international competitions, especially in World Championships and in long-term view of future Olympic Games participation.

Bring consistency in the teams to achieve international success in a medium- and long-term view.

Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming is committed to provide swimmers with the best possible development and support of their sports career in the long term.

### COMMITMENT

Swimmers are selected in the Swiss National team with the goal of representing Switzerland for several years.

Selected swimmers must give the commitment to participate in all training camps and competitions of the season. If the athlete is unable to attend a training camp for school/education-related and medical reasons, the head of performance and the coaches must be informed in good time by the athlete or the club coach by e-mail, a letter from the supervisor, the professor, or similar, or the family or association doctor must be enclosed. Any expenses incurred due to cancellation at short notice will be borne by the athlete. Absence during a preparation training camp right before the competition will not be accepted and will have consequences, except for medical reasons.

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 routine (team free or team technical) 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 statutes, rules, and policies of Swiss Aquatics. Especially the World Aquatics "Code of Ethics" and the Ethics Statute of Swiss Sport.

11.11.2022

SPONSORS



PARTNERS



NATIONAL PARTNERS



The athletes will be required to fill in and sign a questionnaire once a year about their satisfaction concerning the support from their club and from Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming, the sport environment in their club and in the national team as well as assess their health support. Underage athletes will additionally have their parents/legal guardians sign this document.

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 at the beginning of the season during the national team orientation day. With the final selection, the selected swimmer owes the full amount. The invoice is issued in 3 payments. No refunds of the financial contribution will be made if an athlete leaves the team during the season.

If, after the final selection, a swimmer decides to retire from the national team, she must submit the retirement in writing to Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming. For the next two seasons, this swimmer will be withdrawn from selection for any national team and will not receive a Swiss Olympic Talent Card (National or Elite).

In case of an injury the swimmer will need to provide a certificate of a Swiss Olympic approved medical professional. Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming reserves the right to appoint a physician of its confidence. We suggest avoiding any activities for example extreme sports, winter sport to reduce risk of injuries outside of training.

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 executive of the board of Swiss Aquatics will decide whether the swimmer will continue in 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 latest three working days after the day of the selection. The swimmer can only continue the selection process if the swimmer was already member of the national team in the previous season.

Swimmers must have a Swiss passport by the time they hand in the signed athlete's agreement (except B-Teams). Only swimmers that own a Swiss passport can be selected to the A-Teams.

## **SELECTION COMMITTEE**

The selection committee consists of three people working in the best interests of the Swiss Aquatics federation. No person with a conflict of interest can be represented in this committee. The composition is as follows: the sport director, the head of performance and the national team head coach of Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming.

## **AGE SPECIFICATIONS**

Unless otherwise stated, the age categories for the national teams will be handled according to World Aquatics rules ASAG 2.