

SELECTION PROCESS SEASON 2023-2024

Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming announces herewith the procedure for the selections of national teams for the season 2023/2024. This document is an integral part of the selection policy document.

This selection process applies if we have complete teams per category. This selection process is set for the season 2023-2024. Goal is to build teams that will remain on a long term.

GENERAL RULES

The 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 one 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 and ensure a continuous development of a sports career.

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

- Hard skills e.g.: eggbeater, sustained height, hybrids, sharpness, strokes, lift pushing, endurance, acrobatic skills
- Soft skills e.g.: commitment, motivation, consistency, behavior towards coach and athletes, smartness, adaptation, self-reflection, experience, potential for the future, medical history

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 and club coaches can ask for feedback from the coaches after each training camp, to assure their development.

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. An athlete will only be pre-selected to the elite team if she/he has been part of the Junior A team in the previous season. The goal of the selection 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. 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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Non-selected swimmers are given the opportunity to keep training with the national team even after the selection. 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, may nominate a swimmer for replacement.

In case of a strong in- or decrease in performance even after the selection, the head coach may suggest exchanging a A-Team with a B-Team swimmer and vice-versa. The proposal needs to be approved by the selection- committee.

The preselection for a team is typically determined by the PISTE results or membership in a national team from the previous season. If an athlete does not meet these criteria, they may submit an application to the Selection Committee of Swiss Aquatics Artistic Swimming. The Selection Committee will then assess the athlete's performance record to decide whether to include them or not.

ELITE SELECTION 2023/2024

Swimmers chosen for the Elite Team will need to be a minimum of 17 years old. Athletes that are of junior age according to World Aquatics rules, can decline the selection in the elite national team to remain in their category.

Elite national team swimmers 2022-2023 and junior national team 2022-2023 swimmers with year of birth 2004 are pre-selected to the elite national team 2023-2024.

During the season 2023-2024 due to an insufficient number of elite national team swimmers, there will only be solo and duet projects for which all the swimmers are preselected to.

The elite national team swimmers 2023/2024 will determine together with the head coach and head of performance an individual plan and goals to follow. The elite national team swimmers will join the junior camps for a few days to train with the national team coaches.

Target competitions: World Cups and/or Hungarian Open. European Championships for selected solo(s) and duet(s) (see selection process solo-duet 2023-2024)

JUNIOR SELECTION 2023/2024

Pre-selection of the 24 best swimmers (pre-selected swimmers 2022/2023 + best athletes of PISTE Junior 2023) to train together from the beginning of the season until January 2024.

On January 7th, 2024, the final selection of 20-22 athletes will take place to determine who will be allocated in the Junior A and B Team. A maximum of 12 swimmers will be selected for the A team and a maximum of 10 swimmers for the B team.

Selection criteria:

The selection will consist of the following criteria:

- 50% routine selection results
- 50% head coach evaluation

Routine Selection will be judged mainly by Swiss International Judges on January 7th, 2024: Team Routine performance (swim of national team routine in groups, possibly individually as well-TBD)

Target competitions:

Junior A Team: Junior European Championships 2024, Junior World Championships 2024-TBC (additional financial contribution may be required)

Junior B Team: Hungarian Open 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

Pre-selection of 30 best athletes of PISTE Youth 2023 to train together from the beginning of the season until January 2024.

End of January 2024 the final selection of 20-24 athletes will take place to determine who will be allocated in the Youth A and B Team. A maximum of 10-12 swimmers will be selected per team (A/B).

First and second year (age dependent not participation dependent) youth swimmers will have priority in the selection for the Youth B Team.

Selection criteria:

- 25% figures
- 25% routine selection results
- 50% head coach evaluation

Routine Selection judged mainly by Swiss International Judges on January 27th, 2024: Team Routine performance (swim of national team routine in groups, possibly individually as well-TBD)

Figures Results: SJC Qualification 2024

Target competitions:

Youth A Team: European Youth Championships 2024

Youth B Team: Hungarian Open 2024

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