



Rhythmic Gymnastics

Qualification Criteria

Aspiring Event

1.0 Introduction

This Qualification Criterion applies to all athletes wishing to be considered for selection by Gymnastics New Zealand (Gymnastics NZ) for the New Zealand Team to compete in the following 2026 RG Aspiring Events:

- Lead in event TBC - Max 4 juniors and 4 Seniors
- Portimão International Tournament 8-10 May 2026
Max 4 juniors and 4 Seniors. Juniors compete as teams of 2-4 gymnasts performing 4 routines per team. Seniors compete all routines.
- Portimão World Challenge Cup 15-17 May 2026 (two senior gymnasts only)

1.1 Selection Process

The process for an athlete to qualify and be selected is as follows:

- a) Athletes must satisfy this qualification criteria to be eligible for nomination; then
- b) The Technical Committee (TC) nominates eligible athletes (and reserves) to Gymnastics NZ at least two weeks prior to definitive entry deadline; then
- c) The Selectors will select the final team (including reserves) and will announce within 10 business days of receiving nominations.

An athlete's ability to meet this qualification criteria in no way guarantees nomination and/or automatic selection to the team.

1.2 Selectors

The Selectors who will determine the athletes to be selected are:

- Gymnastics New Zealand Head of Gymnastics
- GNZ RG Selection Committee Technical Expert

2.0 Overriding Objective

The Selectors are to take into account the over-riding objective when determining the selection of athletes.

2.1 Over-riding Objective

The over-riding objective is that:

- The individual(s) achieve top 85%

3.0 Eligibility

This eligibility criteria forms part of the qualification process and identifies athletes as being eligible for consideration for nomination and selection. This eligibility criteria in no way guarantees nomination and/or selection to the team.

In order to be eligible to be considered for nomination and selection an athlete must:

- a) Satisfy clause 3.1; AND
- b) Satisfy either clause 3.2; AND
- c) Satisfy clause 3.3 OR clause 3.4
- d) Must be born after 2011

3.1 Membership

Athletes must be a fully affiliated member of Gymnastics NZ as a competitive member and comply with Gymnastics NZ regulations and policies.

3.2 Intention to Travel

Athletes must have submitted a valid Intention to Travel for the event that they wish to be eligible for.

3.3 Key Events

Athletes must have achieved qualification scores at following key event:

- Domestic Trial 21-22 February 2026 Christchurch

3.4 Overseas Athletes

If residing and training overseas, athletes must trial at a local competition which must meet the following criteria:

- a) Competition approved by Gymnastics NZ prior to trialling; and
- b) Competition must be run under FIG rules; and
- c) Contain a judging panel that meets the minimum panel requirements; and
- d) Must be a senior competition and cannot be a training competition, "mock" or "in house" trial or other such event that does not meet full competitive scenarios.
- e) Must take place no later than the date of the final trial event as named in 3.3, unless otherwise agreed as per 3.4 a).

Video submission of overseas athletes will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances but will still be required to be from an approved competition run under FIG rules. This application for exceptional circumstances needs to be sent to the GNZ Performance Manager prior to any provisional entry deadlines for the event.

4.0 Performance Criteria

This performance criteria forms part of the qualification process and identifies athletes as being eligible for consideration for nomination and selection. **This performance criteria in no way guarantees nomination and/or selection to the team.**

The maximum number of athletes selected to compete at each event will be determined by the event requirements. If more athletes meet the performance criteria as set out in clause 4.1 than the number of available positions, then selections will be based on the highest % placing ability of the athletes.

Athletes must meet the performance criteria as set out in clause 4.1.

4.1 Results at Key Events

Athletes must have achieved the following all around score or two apparatus scores (on different apparatus) at a key event/s:

Criteria Senior International

- All Around – 80
- Hoop – 20.50
- Ball – 20.50
- Clubs – 20.50
- Ribbon – 20.50

Criteria Junior International

- All Around – N/A as juniors will compete in teams.
- Hoop – 18.00
- Ball – 18.00
- Clubs – 18.00
- Ribbon – 18.00

4.2 Other Competitions

In addition to the scores achieved at Key Events, the Selectors may take into account the results of eligible athletes at other gymnastic competitions held in New Zealand and internationally during the period of 1 March 2025 – 1 March 2026.

All scores and results taken into consideration for nomination and selection (including those at any Trial Event) must have been achieved during official sanctioned competitions (sanctioned by Gymnastics NZ, FIG, or another National Federation member of FIG) or trial competitions held in conformity with Gymnastics NZ competition technical requirements, under the jurisdiction of an official judging panel, chaired by a FIG Brevet Judge and agreed upon by Gymnastics NZ.

5.0 Overriding discretion

In addition to the aforementioned clauses, the following factors may be taken into account in considering athletes to be selected, at the discretion of the Selectors:

- a) The attitude and behaviour (past and current) of the athlete; and/or
- b) The athlete's current level of performance, skill, and fitness; and/or
- c) The consistency of the athlete's performance and results from the previous 12 months; and/or
- d) The selectors will have the overriding discretion to select a gymnast if they do not meet any of the performance criteria in clause 4.0 due to extenuating circumstances in clause 6.0, if there is evidence that the gymnast may achieve the overriding objective in clause 2.0; and/or
- e) The selectors will have the overriding discretion to not select a gymnast, regardless of having met any of the performance criteria in clause 4.0, if in the opinion of the selectors there is insufficient evidence that the gymnast may achieve the overriding objective in clause 2.0.

Recent performance will be weighted more heavily than eligibility or past performances outside of the qualification period.

6.0 Extenuating Circumstances

In considering the results of athletes at gymnastic competitions (including the trial events), or other attendances required under this qualification criteria, the Selectors, may in their discretion give weight to extenuating circumstances.

6.1 Definition

For the purpose of this Qualification Criteria, "extenuating circumstances" means an inability of the athlete to compete in and/or attend events (including the trial events), or other required attendances arising from:

- a) injury or illness of the athlete;
- b) equipment failure;
- c) travel delays;
- d) bereavement; and/or
- e) other such circumstances as the Selectors reasonably consider constitute extenuating circumstances.
- f) Covid 19 related circumstances

6.2 Notice of Extenuating Circumstances

Athletes who are unable to compete in and/or attend gymnastic competitions (including the trial events), or other required attendances, must advise the GNZ Head of Gymnastics, in writing of this fact explaining the reasons, at least 7 days **before** the commencement of the event or, if it occurs within twelve (12) hours prior to the event, as soon as possible after it arises. The notice of extenuating circumstances must identify the reasons for extenuating circumstances.

6.3 Medical Assessments

In the case of injury or illness, athletes will be required to undergo a medical assessment by a doctor or doctors nominated by Gymnastics NZ, before the selectors can give any weight to any extenuating circumstances.

7.0 Maintain Performance Criteria

Following selection, Gymnastics NZ will undertake performance and fitness monitoring and/or testing as required. If a selected athlete does not continue to meet the performance criteria(s) in clause 4.0, the selectors may recommend the replacement of the athlete with a reserve athlete. Any costs incurred at this stage may be applied to the withdrawn athlete.

7.1 Athlete Appraisals

Athletes WILL be appraised no later than 4 weeks prior to departure for the tour or at any other time Gymnastics NZ deems appropriate. The appraisal may consist of a combination of physical, written and verbal assessment to ensure that the athlete is physically and mentally fit to compete, is continuing to exceed this qualification criteria and has been committed to their training programme. The physical assessment may also include video.

8.0 Team Announcements

In accordance with this qualification criteria, Gymnastics NZ will formally announce the tour Team via their website and / or e-News and / or any other way deemed appropriate. All team announcements will be posted to the [website](#).