

# 2025 FISU WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES

17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025, Berlin, Germany

## NOMINATION POLICY (Swimming)



### Introduction

*This Policy provides three avenues by which an athlete can be nominated to Student Sport Ireland (SSI) for selection for the 2025 FISU World University Games. In all circumstances, an athlete is selected to Team Ireland for the 2025 FISU World University Games and not selected to a specific event. These avenues ("Nomination Stages") are described in further detail below*

*This Policy will only apply if:*

- 1. The 2025 FISU World Student Games are held on the existing dates of 26<sup>th</sup> June – 28<sup>th</sup> June 2025 and/or are held in the existing location of Berlin, Germany. If there is any postponement of the 2025 FISU World Student Games beyond this period and/or a change of location, a new Selection Policy will be required*
- 2. The 2025 Irish Open Championships are held on the existing dates of 12<sup>th</sup> April – 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025. If there is any postponement of the 2025 Irish Open Championships beyond this period, a new Selection Policy will be required*

*This Policy sets out the Swim Ireland process for nominating athletes, additional coaches and/or team managers to:*

- (a) be considered eligible for nomination for selection which involves meeting the 'Eligibility Criteria' in Section 2 and the achievement of Consideration Times and requirements set out in the 'Nomination Stages' below;*
- (b) be nominated for selection and;*
- (c) be selected to the Ireland National Team for swimming at the 2025 FISU World University Games in Berlin, Germany*

*Athletes, additional coaches, and team managers must satisfy certain criteria to be considered eligible for nomination for selection. The actual selection of any athlete, any additional team coach and/or team manager will be made by SSI*

*The National Selection Panel is the expert panel, as defined in the 'Swim Ireland Selection Panel Terms of Reference' which selects athletes to the Ireland National Team*

*The Performance Senior Leadership Team comprises of the National Performance Director, the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations, the Head of Physical Preparation, the Head of Performance Analysis, the Performance Manager and the three National Centre Head Coaches, and is the expert group which nominates additional coaches and/or team managers for selection*

*The role of the National Performance Director is to compile the names of athletes, additional coaches, and team managers who meet the criteria for nomination for selection and to make recommendations to the National Selection Panel (athletes) and the Performance Senior Leadership Team (additional coaches, and/or team managers) for nomination to SSI*

*World Aquatics is the international federation/governing body administering international competition in aquatic sports.*

### 1. Team Ireland

- i. At the recommendation of the National Selection Panel, SSI will determine the athlete team size and personnel.*
- ii. SSI agrees to notify Swim Ireland of its selection or its refusal to select any nominated athlete or member as soon as reasonably practicable after SSI receives the National Selection Panel's nominations*
- iii. There are thirteen individual events per gender in the FISU World University Games programme for swimming. Up to a maximum of two athletes can be nominated by the National Selection Panel per individual event. Athletes may be nominated to SSI via the Olympic events only*
- iv. There are two relay events per gender in the FISU World University Games programme for swimming. Athletes may be nominated to SSI via the Olympic relay events only. Up to a maximum of one relay team per relay event can be considered for nomination by the National Selection Panel*
- v. Once an athlete or staff member is formally selected to Team Ireland by SSI, he/she will enter into an SSI Team Member Agreement. The Agreement will come into effect at the point of selection by SSI*

### 2. Athlete Eligibility

*At the time that the National Performance Director is nominating athletes for selection to the National Selection Panel, athletes must meet the following criteria to be considered to be eligible for nomination:*

- i. Be an Irish citizen and hold an Irish passport by the conclusion of the 2025 Irish Open Championships (50m);*

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- ii. Be eligible to represent Ireland as per ‘World Aquatics Competition Regulation No.3 - Sport Nationality’ by the conclusion of the 2025 Irish Open Championships (50m);
- iii. Be a registered Swim Ireland member for the 2024-2025 season;
- iv. Be in good standing with Swim Ireland;
- v. Be a student who is currently officially registered and proceeding towards a Diploma or Degree at a university or similar institution whose status is recognised by the appropriate national academic authority of their country
- vi. A former student of an institution (which meets the criteria in Section 2 v.) who has obtained their academic Degree or Diploma in the year preceding the event
- vii. Be born in the period 2000-2006;
- viii. Be available to fulfil all of the National Team obligations;
- ix. Not accept nor have accepted a selection to the Ireland National Team for either the 2025 European Aquatics U23 Championships or the 2025 World Aquatics Championships (50m). Athletes who decline or withdraw from a 2025 World Aquatics Championships (50m) selection will not be eligible for nomination to SSI for this event
- x. Other than in exceptional circumstances, have accepted their place on the National Programme in the 2024-2025 season (if offered);
- xi. Comply with the statements and expectations of the Swim Ireland ‘On Our Performance Team’ Handbook;
- xii. Not be the subject of an anti-doping ban, a doping violation and/or a pending doping violation;
- xiii. Comply with any SSI, FISU and/or World Aquatics eligibility criteria and/or requirements. Swim Ireland and SSI, in consultation with World Aquatics, will decide on any question of eligibility (having regard to all eligibility criteria set by Swim Ireland and World Aquatics) with the Swim Ireland decision being final
- xiv. Have not acted in such a manner so as to bring himself/herself, Swim Ireland and/or the sport into current disrepute. For the avoidance of doubt, the evaluation of this requirement is at the sole discretion of the National Team Panel for the purposes of selection. The public disrepute referred to within this clause includes potential and/or actual disrepute

### 3. Athlete Funding

- i. Swim Ireland will contribute 60% of the total cost (determined by SSI) for each nominated athlete
- ii. The athlete’s educational institution will be invited to contribute 40% of the total cost for each nominated athlete. In the case where the institution is unable to financially support the athlete, the remaining cost will be the responsibility of the athlete

### 4. Nomination Stage 1 (Athlete Individual Events Only)

- i. To be considered for nomination to SSI via an Olympic individual event(s) in Nomination Stage 1, athletes must achieve one or more of the Consideration Times detailed in Table 1 at the 2025 Irish Open Championships (50m)
- ii. Consideration Times at the 2025 Irish Open Championships (50m) can be achieved from all rounds of competition in individual events; times from heats and finals will be considered over and above times achieved in time trials

Table 1

MALE		Event	FEMALE	
Consideration Time Born 2000-2001	Consideration Time Born 2002-2006		Consideration Time Born 2002-2006	Consideration Time Born 2000-2001
22.38	22.49	50m Freestyle	25.36	25.23
49.07	49.31	100m Freestyle	55.34	55.06
1:48.30	1:48.83	200m Freestyle	2:00.58	1:59.99
3:51.57	3:52.71	400m Freestyle	4:15.23	4:13.98
7:55.69	7:58.03	800m Freestyle	8:44.91	8:42.34
15:15.42	15:19.93	1500m Freestyle	16:44.25	16:39.33
54.75	55.02	100m Backstroke	1:01.67	1:01.37
1:59.84	2:00.43	200m Backstroke	2:13.70	2:13.05
1:00.65	1:00.95	100m Breaststroke	1:08.21	1:07.87
2:12.27	2:12.93	200m Breaststroke	2:28.83	2:28.10
52.55	52.81	100m Butterfly	59.50	59.20
1:58.26	1:58.84	200m Butterfly	2:11.79	2:11.15
2:00.84	2:01.43	200m IM	2:15.49	2:14.82
4:21.34	4:22.63	400m IM	4:48.72	4:47.31

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### 5. Nomination Stage 2 (Athlete Relay Events Only)

- i. In Nomination Stage 2, athletes may be nominated to SSI via Olympic relay events only
- ii. Relays and additional athletes for relay events can be considered for nomination to SSI in Nomination Stage 2 at the National Performance Director's professional discretion
- iii. There is no obligation on the National Performance Director to nominate relays or additional athletes for relays to the National Selection Panel

### 6. Nomination Stage 3 (Athlete Individual Events Only)

- i. In Nomination Stage 3, additional athletes may be nominated to SSI at the professional discretion of the National Performance Director where an athlete has been unable to compete at the 2025 Irish Open Championships (50m) for fully and professionally validated/documented medical reasons. There is no obligation on the National Performance Director to nominate an athlete/s to SSI via Nomination Stage 3 nor is there an obligation on the National Performance Director to accept the reasons provided by an athlete/medical practitioner via Nomination Stage 3
- ii. Other than in exceptional circumstances, to be considered for nomination to SSI via an Olympic individual event(s) in Nomination Stage 3, athletes must record a time in a 50m pool in a meet recognised and approved by the National Performance Director equal to or better than the individual event Consideration Standards detailed in Table 1 and record such a time in the period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024 – 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025

### 7. Athlete Nomination Procedure

- i. At the conclusion of the 2025 Irish Open Championships (50m), those athletes who have achieved the criteria requirements within a Nomination Stage (including the athlete eligibility requirements outlined in Section 2) will be considered eligible for nomination to SSI
- ii. The National Selection Panel shall nominate athletes to SSI on the following priority basis:
  - a. Athletes selected via Nomination Stage 1
  - b. Athletes selected via Nomination Stage 2
  - c. Athletes selected via Nomination Stage 3
- iii. In the event of a tie (equal times achieved by two or more athletes) between any number of athletes within a Nomination Stage, the athlete with the next fastest time achieved once from all rounds of competition at the 2025 Irish Open Championships (50m) will be considered for nomination by the National Selection Panel. In the result of any subsequent tie remaining unresolved through this process, the process of the next fastest time will continue to be considered until the tie is broken
- iv. Subject to the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations' professional discretion, any athlete selected via an individual event may also be considered for additional individual event selections if Team Ireland do not already have two athletes qualified for the individual event in question via Nomination Stages 1 or 3. Other than in exceptional circumstances, athletes nominated to additional Olympic individual events must have achieved a standard within 1% of the Consideration Times detailed in Table 1
- v. Subject to the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations' professional discretion, athletes selected via an individual event may also be selected to populate teams in relay events
- vi. Subject to the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations' professional discretion, athletes selected via relay events only may also be selected for individual events Team Ireland do not already have two athletes qualified for the individual event in question via Nomination Stages 1 or 3. Other than in exceptional circumstances, athletes nominated to additional Olympic individual events must have achieved a standard within 1% of the Consideration Times detailed in Table 1
- vii. The decision of the National Selection Panel shall be subject to an Appeals Process (Section 20)

### 8. Team Leader/Head Coach

- i. The Team Leader/Head Coach for the Ireland National Team at the 2025 FISU World University Games will be nominated for selection by the National Performance Director to the Performance Senior Leadership Team following the completion of the 2025 Irish Open Championships (50m)

### 9. Team Coach Eligibility

Depending on the size of the Team Ireland Team, any additional coach to be considered eligible for nomination for selection by the Performance Senior Leadership Team must meet the following criteria:

- i. Be a registered Swim Ireland member for the 2024-2025 season;
- ii. Be in good standing with Swim Ireland;

- iii. Be a full-time resident within Ireland;
- iv. Be a practising coach within an Irish swimming programme;
- v. Be holders of the Swim Ireland Level 3 Coaching Certificate or international equivalent or be enrolled on a Level 3 Coaches Course at the time of nomination;
- vi. Be a registered coach on the Swim Ireland Register of Aquatic Professionals;
- vii. Be available to fulfil the obligations of the Ireland National Team;
- viii. Other than in exceptional circumstances, have provided first hand service or support as a coach as part of the National Programme or Regional Programme in the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 – 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 (where offered/requested);
- ix. Comply with the statements and expectations of the Swim Ireland 'On Our Performance Team' Handbook
- x. Display a regular cultural alignment with the aims and aspirations of the Swim Ireland Performance Plan 2024-2028 and the Performance Team. For the avoidance of doubt, the evaluation of such alignment is at the sole discretion of the Swim Ireland Performance SLT for the purposes of identification
- xi. Have not acted in such a manner so as to bring himself/herself, Swim Ireland and/or the sport into current disrepute. For the avoidance of doubt, the evaluation of this requirement is at the sole discretion of the Swim Ireland Performance SLT for the purposes of identification: the public disrepute referred to within this clause includes potential and/or actual disrepute

### 10. Team Coach Nomination Procedure

- i. Subject to coaches meeting the criteria as set out in Section 9, one or more additional coaches may be recommended by the National Performance Director and where so recommended, may be nominated to SSI by the Performance Senior Leadership Team
- ii. National Team Coaches may be selected in an offsite (Holding Camp only), onsite (FISU World University Games) or combined (Holding Camp and FISU World University Games) role and such selections will be reflective of the Team size, the number of accreditations available, the needs of the individual athletes and/or relays selected, as well as considering the optimum balance of the Team as a whole. As such, a Team Coach may not be required/selected

### 11. Team Manager Eligibility

Depending on the size of the Ireland National Team, any team manager to be considered eligible for nomination for selection by the Performance Senior Leadership Team must meet the following criteria:

- i. Be a registered Swim Ireland member for the 2024-2025 season;
- ii. Be in good standing with Swim Ireland;
- iii. Be a full-time resident within Ireland;
- iv. Be holders of the Swim Ireland Level 2 Team Management Certificate or equivalent Swim Ireland Team Manager CPD courses completed or international equivalent;
- v. Be available to fulfil the obligations of the Ireland National Team;
- vi. Other than in exceptional circumstances, team managers will not be the parent or guardian of an athlete member of the Team;
- vii. Other than in exceptional circumstances, have provided direct service or support as a team manager as part of the National Programme or Regional Programme in the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 – 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 (where offered/requested);
- viii. Comply with the statements and expectations of the Swim Ireland 'On Our Performance Team' Handbook
- ix. Display a regular cultural alignment with the aims and aspirations of the Swim Ireland Performance Plan 2024-2028 and the Performance Team. For the avoidance of doubt, the evaluation of such alignment is at the sole discretion of the Swim Ireland Performance SLT for the purposes of identification
- x. Have not acted in such a manner so as to bring himself/herself, Swim Ireland and/or the sport into current disrepute. For the avoidance of doubt, the evaluation of this requirement is at the sole discretion of the Swim Ireland Performance SLT for the purposes of identification: the public disrepute referred to within this clause includes potential and/or actual disrepute

### 12. Team Manager Nomination Procedure

- i. Subject to the team manager meeting the criteria as set out in Section 11, the team manager may be recommended by the National Performance Director and where so recommended, may be nominated to SSI by the Performance Senior Leadership Team

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- ii. Team managers may be selected in an offsite (Holding Camp only), onsite ((FISU World University Games) or combined (Holding Camp and FISU World University Games) role and such selections will be reflective of the Team size, the number of accreditations available, the needs of the individual athletes and/or relays selected, as well as considering the optimum balance of the Team as a whole. As such, a team manager may not be required/selected

### 13. Team Obligations (General)

In accepting a selection to the Ireland National Team for the 2025 FISU World University Games, athletes accept and agree that training with/competing for the Ireland National Team takes precedence over training for/competing in any other competition, including that for another Team/Club or University programme in Ireland or anywhere in the world. Swim Ireland require any athlete, coach, or team manager who has been selected to represent Team Ireland at the 2025 FISU World University Games to meet and fulfil a suite of obligations, where non-adherence is subject to Section 16. In order to be formally selected to Team Ireland, athletes and staff will be required to sign the Team Ireland Team Member Agreement. This agreement will be sent to athletes and staff upon approval of their nomination by Swim Ireland. In addition to SSI obligations, Swim Ireland oblige all selected athletes and, where relevant, all staff to:

- i. Agree not to disclose any selected Ireland National Team member name to the press or any other media (including their own social media) until Swim Ireland have themselves announced this to the press and other media
- ii. Compete in other Swim Ireland events in 2025 (if selected and required to do so by the National Performance Director)
- iii. Complete, sign and comply with the Swim Ireland National Team Code of Conduct
- iv. Comply with SSI Team Member Agreement
- v. Complete a Swim Ireland Medical Form prior to competing at the 2025 FISU World University Games
- vi. Abide by the Uniform Policy, the Media Policy, the Appearances Policy, the Betting, Gambling & Integrity Policy and the Sports Supplements Policy of the Swim Ireland National Team
- vii. At the date of the decision of the National Selection Panel of nominations, all nominated athletes must ensure that they are making the required Kitman submission each training/competition day
- viii. Comply with Swim Ireland, SSI and World Aquatics swimwear regulations
- ix. Adhere to all prescribed travel arrangements which might involve different travel dates to other members of the Team
- x. Not take holidays/elected periods away from training between the 2025 Irish Open Championships (50m) and the 2025 FISU World University Games
- xi. Make themselves available for all Team Ireland activities designated by the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations (including, but not limited to, any associated Team Ireland camps) as part of or in addition to the National Programme or Regional Programme. No Team member will be allowed to leave a National Team camp or undertake any activities that are not directly relevant to the Ireland National Team camp, including any external media, sponsor or social activities. Under exceptional circumstances, written approval to be excluded from activities can be given by the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations
- xii. Nominated athletes, team coaches, team managers and Swim Ireland agree to abide by other relevant SSI requirements

### 14. Team Uniform/Kit

- i. Team uniform (other than racing caps and racing suits) will be provided for and to the Team by SSI
- ii. All Team racing suits, and swim caps will be provided for and to the Team by Swim Ireland or SSI
- iii. Athletes accepting racing suits from Swim Ireland and/or SSI must wear them (or another branded suit of the same sponsor) for all of their races. Athletes may exercise 'freedom of choice' in the wearing of a non-sponsor suit

### 15. Competitive Readiness

'Competitive Readiness' means the combined professional opinion of the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations and the appointed Ireland National Team Head Coach/s following advice, where necessary, from a member/s of SSI Medical Team as to the ability of an athlete who has been selected to represent this Ireland National Team to achieve an equal or superior performance in their selected Olympic event(s) over their performance achieved to qualify for selection



- i. Athletes who, in the opinion of the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations and the appointed Ireland National Team Head Coach/s, do not remain Competitively Ready by reason of lack of fitness, injury, illness, application to training, performance behaviour or other reasons, may be removed from this Ireland National Team
- ii. Athletes and their home programme coaches shall immediately report any injury, illness, change in training, change in application to training and/or performance behaviour, that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level on this National Team, to the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations and the appointed Ireland National Team Head Coach/s in writing, via e-mail
- iii. In the case of lack of fitness, injury or illness, it shall be necessary for the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations and the appointed Ireland National Team Head Coach/s to consider recommendations made by a member/s of SSI Medical Team
- iv. In the case of application to training, or performance behaviour or other reasons, it shall not be necessary for the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations and the appointed Ireland National Team Head Coach/s to seek recommendations from a member/s of SSI Medical Team
- v. In the case of lack of fitness, injury or illness, such athletes may be subject to a 'Proof of Readiness Test' to be determined by the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations, the appointed Ireland National Team Head Coach/s and appropriate a member/s of SSI Medical Team. The Proof of Readiness test will consist of a controlled performance such as a competition or an observed test or a time trial
- vi. Athletes who are notified of a Competitive Readiness concern shall not travel with the Ireland National Team to any National Team event and/or an associated Holding Camp, unless and until the opinion of the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations and the appointed Ireland National Team Head Coach/s has been communicated to that athlete that the athlete does meet their opinion of Competitive Readiness. If the athlete is at the National Team competition or the associated Holding Camp and the opinion is that the athlete is not Competitively Ready, then he/she may be required to return home immediately
- vii. The opinion on Competitive Readiness made by Head of Performance Pathways & Operations and the appointed Ireland National Team Head Coach/s is final

### 16. Withdrawal & Removals

At any stage an athlete, team coach, team manager or sports science/sports medicine practitioner may withdraw from the Ireland National Team but may only do so in extenuating circumstances

- i. An athlete, team coach, team manager or sports science/sports medicine practitioner may be removed from:
  - a. Eligibility for nomination, or;
  - b. Nomination for selection, or;
  - c. Selection to the Ireland National Team for any of the following reasons:
    - Behaviour that is inconsistent with the National Team Code of Conduct. A copy of this document is available via [performance@swimireland.ie](mailto:performance@swimireland.ie);
    - found to be in violation of any anti-doping policy or procedure as outlined by Swim Ireland, Sport Ireland and/or the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA);
    - unable or unwilling to fully comply with SSI/Team Ireland Obligations (Section 13)
- ii. An athlete may have their nomination withdrawn if he/she, in the opinion of the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations and the appointed Ireland National Team Head Coach, does not have Competitive Readiness (Section 15)

### 17. Replacement or Addition

- i. If an athlete, team coach, or team manager is removed from or withdraws from nomination or selection, that individual may be replaced by another eligible individual who meets the required standards set out in this Policy and in accordance with the Late Athlete Replacement Policy
- ii. The National Performance Director and the Head of Performance Pathways & Operations, where in combined opinion it is in the best interests of Team Ireland, may recommend that any number of additional athletes, team coaches, and/or team managers be added to the selected Ireland National Team, subject to such additional individuals meeting the required standards set out in this Policy
- iii. Any replacement or addition of an individual shall be made by way of nomination by the National Performance Director to the National Selection Panel (in the case of athletes) or the Performance Senior Leadership Team (in the case of team coaches and/or team managers). Final selection decisions to Team Ireland remain with SSI

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### 18. Unforeseen Circumstances

- i. In the event that this Policy is silent on any matter which arises in the administration or application or interpretation of any selection process or decision, then the National Selection Panel shall have discretion to determine any issue as they deem fit so long as it is exercised fairly and quickly

### 19. Amendments

- i. Subject to SSI approval, the Performance SLT reserves the right to make changes to this Policy which, in its discretion, are necessary. No such changes shall be made after the commencement of the 2025 Irish Open Championships (50m) unless the changes relate to the National Selection Panel exercising its discretion under the 'Unforeseen Circumstances' provisions (Section 18)
- ii. Subject to SSI approval, the Performance SLT reserves the right to review and modify this Policy or a decision related to the selection process in the case of rule or policy changes from FISU and/or World Aquatics that affect the criteria set out in this Policy
- iii. Any changes to this Policy shall be communicated via [www.swimireland.ie](http://www.swimireland.ie)

### 20. Appeals

- i. Any appeal against a nomination made by the National Selection Panel must be in accordance with the Swim Ireland Selection Appeals Procedures, available via [www.swimireland.ie](http://www.swimireland.ie)
- ii. Athletes should be aware of the strict time limits contained within the Swim Ireland Selection Appeals Procedures, which are designed with the intention of resolving issues expediently and fairly
- iii. Any appeals under the Swim Ireland Selection Appeals Procedures must be concluded prior to SSI selection
- iv. Any appeal post SSI selection must be made in accordance with the Team Ireland Appeals Policy. This Policy comes into effect post signing of the Team Ireland Team Member Agreement

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