2026 EUROPEAN AQUATICS JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

22nd – 28th June Budapest Hungary

SELECTION POLICY (Diving)

Introduction

This Policy provides two avenues by which an athlete can be selected to the Ireland National Team ("Ireland National Team") for the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving). In all circumstances, an athlete is selected to the Ireland National Team for the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving) and not selected to a specific event. These avenues are described in further detail below

This Policy will only apply if the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving) are held on the existing dates of 22nd – 28th June and/or are held in the existing location of Budapest, Hungary.

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

(a) be considered eligible for nomination for selection;
(b) be nominated for selection and;
(c) be selected to the Ireland National Team for Diving at the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving)

Athletes, additional coaches, sports science/sports medicine practitioners and team managers must satisfy certain criteria to be considered eligible for nomination for selection

In addition to the criteria for eligibility for selection, there are minimum qualification standards which an athlete needs to meet to be considered for selection by the National Selection Panel.

The role of the National Performance Director is to compile the names of athletes, additional coaches, sports science/sports medicine practitioners and team managers who meet the criteria for nomination for selection and to make recommendations to the National Selection Panel (athletes) and the Diving Leadership Team (additional coaches, sports science/sports medicine practitioners and team managers)

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 Diving Leadership Team comprises of the National Performance Director, the National Head Coach (Diving), the Performance Manager, the Head of Sport Science & Sports Medicine and is the expert group which selects additional coaches, team managers and sports science/sports medicine practitioners to the Irish Team

European Aquatics is the international federation/governing body administering international competition in aquatic sports

1. Nomination for Selection

i. The National Performance Director will nominate athletes to the National Selection Panel for selection to individual events for the Ireland National Team as expediently as possible following the conclusion of the Selection Stages as described below

ii. Individual Events

To be considered eligible for nomination to the Ireland National Team via an individual event/s athletes must:

a. Satisfy the conditions and standards set out in Selection Stage 1 or Selection Stage 2
b. Meet the athlete eligibility criteria set out in Section 3 below

iii. Synchro and Mix Team events

To be considered eligible for nomination to the Ireland National Team for synchro event/s or Mix Team event, athletes must:

a. Must be nominated for selection in an individual event
b. Meet the athlete eligibility criteria set out in Section 3 below

2. Ireland National Team

i. At the recommendation of the National Performance Director, the National Selection Panel will determine the athlete team size and athlete personnel

ii. The National Selection Panel agrees to notify Swim Ireland of its selection or its refusal to select any nominated athlete as soon as reasonably practicable after the National Selection Panel receives the National Performance Director's nominations after the conclusion of the "Selection Stages"

iii. There are three individual events per gender for athletes born in 2011 & 2012 and three individual events per gender for athletes born from 2010-2008 in the European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving). Up to a maximum of two athletes can be selected by the Swim Ireland National Selection Panel per individual event within each age band
iv. There are two synchro events per gender in the European Aquatics Junior Championships programme for diving. Up to a maximum of one synchro partnership can be selected by the Swim Ireland National Selection Panel per synchro event
v. There is one mix team event in the European Aquatics Junior Championships programme for diving. Subject to Swim Ireland being able to satisfactorily populate such a mix team event, a maximum of team can be nominated for selection by the National Selection Panel

3. 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 1st June 2026;
ii. Be eligible to represent Ireland as per 'World Aquatics Competition Regulation No.3 - Sport Nationality' by the 1st June 2026;
iii. Comply with any European Aquatics and/or World Aquatics eligibility criteria and/or requirements. Swim Ireland, in consultation with European Aquatics, will decide on any question of eligibility (having regard to all eligibility criteria set by Swim Ireland, European Aquatics and World Aquatics) with the Swim Ireland decision being final
iv. Be a registered Swim Ireland member for the 2025-2026 season;
v. Be available to fulfil all of the Ireland National Team obligations;
vi. Be in good standing with Swim Ireland and their registered Swim Ireland club, specifically by:
    a. demonstrating behaviours, standards and expectations consistent with the Swim Ireland Performance Team Charter, and aligned with the aims and aspirations of the Swim Ireland Performance Plan 2024-2028; and
    b. refraining from any conduct that has, or could reasonably be considered to have, brought themselves, Swim Ireland, and or the sport into disrepute; and
    c. not being the subject of, or serving a sanction for, any anti-doping rule violation and/or a pending doping violation

4. Selection Stage 1 (Athlete Individual Events Only)

i. To be considered for selection to the Ireland National team (Diving), in selection stage 1, athletes must achieve an individual event consideration standard set out in Table 1 below, at the 2026 Aquatics GB Junior Elite Championships

5. Selection Stage 2 (Athlete Individual

i. To be considered for selection to the Ireland National team (Diving) in Selection Stage 2, athletes must achieve an individual event consideration standard set out in Table 1 below, at a recognised diving event nominated and approved by the Diving Leadership Team during the period 1st December 2025 – 1st June 2026. Pre-approved competitions include the 2026 Scottish National & Open Championships, 2026 Aquatics GB National Championships, 2026 US Winter Nationals, 2026 NCAA Zone and Finals, any 2026 World Aquatics recognised meets.

Table 1 – Consideration Standards

MALE GROUP B Born 2011 – 2012	**Event**	**FEMALE GROUP B Born 2011 - 2012**
Score		**Score**
348	**3m Springboard**	286
308	**10m Platform**	253
MALE GROUP A Born 2008 - 2010	**Event**	**FEMALE GROUP A Born 2008 - 2010**
Score		**Score**
457	**3m Springboard**	346
420	**10m Platform**	300

6. Athlete Nomination Procedure

i. At the conclusion of the "Selection Stages", those athletes who have achieved the criteria requirements within a Selection Stage (including the athlete eligibility requirements outlined in Section 3) will be considered eligible for nomination to the National Selection Panel;

ii. The National Selection Panel shall select athletes to the Ireland National Team on the basis of Selection Stage 1 taking priority over Selection Stage 2
iii. Subject to European Aquatics regulations for the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving) and subject to National Performance Director discretion, any athlete selected via an individual event may also be considered for additional individual event selections
iv. Subject to National Performance Director discretion, athletes selected via an individual event may also be selected to populate synchro teams or mix team events
v. The decision of the National Selection Panel shall be subject to an Appeals Process (Section 19)

7. Team Leader

i. The Team Leader for the Ireland National Team at the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving) will be nominated for selection by the Diving Leadership Team

8. Team Head Coach

i. The Head Coach/s for the Ireland National Team at the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving) will be nominated for selection by the Diving Leadership Team

9. Team Coach Eligibility and Nomination Procedure

i. Depending on the size of the Ireland National Team, any additional coach being considered for nomination must meet the eligibility and selection criteria outlined in the *Team Personnel Selection Policy for National Programmes and National Teams*. A copy of this document can be requested by emailing niamhmcdonnell@swimireland.ie
ii. Team Coaches may be selected in an offsite (Holding Camp only), onsite (Championships only) or combined (Holding Camp and Championships) 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

10. Team Manager Eligibility and Nomination Procedure

i. Depending on the size of the Ireland National Team, any team manager being considered for nomination must meet the eligibility and selection criteria outlined in the *Team Personnel Selection Policy for National Programmes and National Teams*. A copy of this document can be requested by emailing niamhmcdonnell@swimireland.ie
ii. Team Managers may be selected in an offsite (Holding Camp only), onsite (Championships only) or combined (Holding Camp and Championships) 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

11. Sports Science/Sports Medicine Practitioner Eligibility and Nomination Procedure

i. Depending on the size of the Ireland National Team, any sports science/sports medicine practitioner being considered for nomination must meet the eligibility and selection criteria outlined in the *Team Personnel Selection Policy for National Programmes and National Teams*. A copy of this document can be requested by emailing niamhmcdonnell@swimireland.ie
ii. Sports Science/Sports Medicine Practitioners may be selected in an offsite (Holding Camp only), onsite (Championships only) or combined (Holding Camp and Championships) 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, Sports Science/Sports Medicine Practitioners may not be required/selected

12. Ireland National Team Obligations (General)

In accepting a selection to the Ireland National Team for the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving), 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, sports science/sports medicine practitioner or team manager who has been selected to represent the Ireland National Team at the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving) to meet and fulfil a suite of obligations, where non-adherence is subject to Section 15. Swim Ireland oblige all selected athletes and, where relevant, all Ireland National Team 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 National Team events in 2026 (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. Complete a Swim Ireland Medical Form prior to competing at the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving)
v. 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
vi. Comply with Swim Ireland and European Aquatics swimwear regulations
vii. Adhere to all prescribed travel arrangements which might involve different travel dates to other members of the Ireland National Team
viii. Not take holidays between the 1st June 2026 and the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving)
ix. Make themselves available for all Ireland National Team activities designated by the National Performance Director (including, but not limited to, any associated Ireland National Team 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 National Performance Director

13. Team Uniform/Kit

i. All Team uniform and kit will be provided for and to the Team by Swim Ireland
ii. Athletes accepting kit from Swim Ireland must wear them (or another branded suit of the same sponsor) for all of their events. Athletes may exercise 'freedom of choice' in the wearing of a non-sponsor suit, but such a suit must be unbranded

14. Competitive Readiness

'Competitive Readiness' means the combined professional opinion of the National Performance Director and National Head Coach (Diving) following advice, where necessary, from a member/s of the Sport Ireland Institute Medical Team as to the ability of an athlete who has been selected to represent the Ireland National Team at the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving) to achieve an expected performance in their selected event(s) in relation to their performance achieved to qualify for selection

i. Athletes who, in the opinion of the National Performance Director and National Head Coach (Diving), 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 the 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 at the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving), to the National Performance Director and the National Head Coach (Diving) in writing, via e-mail
iii. In the case of lack of fitness, injury or illness, it shall be necessary for the National Performance Director and National Head Coach (Diving) to consider recommendations made by a member/s of the Sport Ireland Institute Medical Team
iv. In the case of application to training, or performance behaviour or other reasons, it shall not be necessary for the National Performance Director and National Head Coach (Diving) to seek recommendations from a member/s of the Sport Ireland Institute 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 National Performance Director, the National Head Coach (Diving) and appropriate member/s of the Sport Ireland Institute Medical Team. The Proof of Readiness test will consist of a controlled performance such as a competition or an observed test
vi. Athletes who are notified of a Competitive Readiness concern shall not travel with the Ireland National Team to any National Team event including the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving) and/or an associated Holding Camp, unless and until the opinion of the National Performance Director and National Head Coach (Diving) has been communicated to that athlete that the athlete does meet their opinion of Competitive Readiness. If the athlete is at either the 2026 European Junior Aquatics Championships (Diving) or the associated Holding Camp and the opinion is that the athlete is not Competitively Ready, then he or she may be required to return home immediately
vii. The opinion on Competitive Readiness made by National Performance Director and National Head Coach (Diving) is final

15. 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 niamhmcdonnell@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 the Ireland National Team Obligations (Section 12)
- decline selection to or withdraw from the 2026 European Aquatics Junior Championships (Diving)

ii. An athlete may be removed from the Ireland National Team before or after nomination for selection or before or after selection if he/she, in the opinion of the National Performance Director and National Senior Team Head Coach/s, does not have Competitive Readiness (Section 14)

16. Replacement or Addition

i. If an athlete, team coach, team manager or sports science/sports medicine practitioner is removed from or withdraws from the Ireland National Team, that individual may be replaced by another eligible individual who meets the required standards set out in this Policy

ii. The National Performance Director, where in his opinion it is in the best interests of the Ireland National Team, may recommend that any number of additional athletes, team coaches, team managers and/or sports science/sports medicine practitioners 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 to the Ireland National Team shall be made by way of nomination by the National Performance Director, and which nomination is approved by the National Selection Panel (in the case of athletes) or the Diving Leadership Team (in the case of team coaches, team managers and/or sports science/sports medicine practitioners)

17. 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

18. Amendments

i. The Diving Leadership Team 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 events listed in Selection Stage 2, unless the changes relate to the National Selection Panel exercising its discretion under the 'Unforeseen Circumstances' provisions (Section 17)

ii. The Diving Leadership Team 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 European Aquatics that affect the criteria set out in this Policy

iii. Any changes to this Policy shall be communicated via www.swimireland.ie

19. Appeals

i. Any appeal against a selection made by the National Selection Panel must be made in accordance with the Swim Ireland Selection Appeals Procedures, available via 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

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