



BRITISH GYMNASTICS TRAMPOLINE COMPETITION

January 2008

1. Purpose

1.1. This paper deals exclusively with individual trampolining, which at Senior level can be broken down in the following hierarchy of competition:

- 1.1.1. International Championships
- 1.1.2. World Cups
- 1.1.3. International Cups
- 1.1.4. Domestic Grade 1s

1.2. Included will be the British Championships, which while a domestic competition has more intensity than Grade 1s and so might be considered on a par with the International Cups. Likewise, international matches might also be considered on a par with International Cups, being important but with less intensity than World Cups.

1.3. A parallel hierarchy can be drawn for Junior and Youth competition.

Level	Senior	Junior & Youth
A	Olympic Games World Championships World Cup Final European Championships	European Championships
B	World Cups	World Age Group Championships
C	International Cups International matches British National Championships	BG Approved International junior cups International matches British National Championships
D	Grade 1 (senior [not O19])	Grade 1 (age groups [not O19])

1.4. Entry in to International Championships and World Cups, and obviously in to international matches, is the gift of BG and hence these are considered to be British representation. Entry in to other events is more open at the volition of the individual and therefore not considered to be British representation.

1.5. Each level of competition has its own appropriate standard, value of experience for the competitor and primary goal. For example, at International Championships the primary goal is to win medals and therefore a Team will be



entered to achieve the best immediate performance. World Cups provide a valuable stepping stone for International Championship experience, but require a level of performance before the experience becomes positive. International Cups (and to some extent matches) can provide a useful taste of international competition, for those on a Development pathway.

1.6. From the above, it can be derived that selection for respective events will be along the following lines:

- 1.6.1. International Championships ↔ Performance-based published criteria
- 1.6.2. World Cups ↔ Semi-rotational pool with pre requisite standard
- 1.6.3. International matches ↔ Combination of performance-based criteria with experiential wild cards
- 1.6.4. International Cups ↔ Open for experience

2. International Championships

- 2.1. Performance-based selection criteria will be used and wherever possible will be published at least a year in advance. These will be as objective as possible, keeping the use of wild cards to an exceptional minimum, and will set a minimum performance standard for consideration. This will be set around the top third in the respective Championships, with a 2nd tier of eligibility for emerging gymnasts should the team not be filled by Tier 1.
- 2.2. The current approach of using a points system across the 3 rounds of competition in 3 selection trials will be maintained until the Beijing Olympic Games, and will be reviewed for any slight modification following Olympic selection in March 2008.
- 2.3. The World Cup Final presents as an exception to the above rules, in that it is an invitation-only competition and therefore entry is subject to FIG invitation. Other than in exceptional circumstances, BG will recognise the invitation of FIG as its entry policy to this event.
- 2.4. Junior and Youth Championships Teams (i.e. European and the highest age for WAG) will be selected from performances at (2) Trials, using the same points system as for Seniors. Junior and Youth Teams for International Matches, however, will be selected from a National Ranking from eligible competitions (see International Matches, below).

3. World Cups

- 3.1. As above, a minimum standard of performance will be required for consideration to represent GBR in World Cups. Again, it is considered that established gymnasts should be among the top third in the competition, with a 2nd tier for emerging gymnasts. Hence – taking the average scores for the top third in World Cups over 2006-2007 – eligibility scores of 66.2 and 63.2 will be applied, for established men and women respectively, with a Development Tier

set around the top half (63.8 & 61.2) for 2008. These scores will be updated as a rolling 2-year average at the end of each year.

- 3.2. Established gymnasts will be defined as those who have contested 4 World Cups and/or International Championships during the past 2 year period.
- 3.3. A pool of gymnasts eligible for World Cup selection will therefore be derived, who have recently demonstrated these standards. This can be defined as having been achieved in 2 of their last 3 competitions in the last 6 months (from any of the hierarchy of senior competitions listed in the table above – not including domestic O19). This will establish a gymnast's eligibility. At the end of the year, a gymnast's last 3 competitions of the year will be used to derive their eligibility for the start of the next year, with each new competition progressively replacing the oldest in the rolling average.
- 3.4. Due to the latency of the actual World Cup entry (i.e. the time from nominative entry to competition), once a gymnast has become eligible, they can expect to be considered for selection for a World Cup regardless of any interim competition results, except in the case of injury when they would need to demonstrate readiness to compete (see below).
- 3.5. Once competing at World Cups, top third must be maintained as the norm (i.e. 2 from 3); otherwise eligibility will lapse and must be re established. Thus, for example, if a gymnast fails a routine or scores under 66.2 / 63.2 at a World Cup, that will count as 1 of their last 3 competitions requiring that their other 2 are of the required standard or above. If they fail twice in a row, their eligibility will lapse, hence promoting consistency of performance. If they score less than the pre requisite score but finish in the top third of competitors, then their score will be rounded up to the pre requisite for eligibility purposes, as this placing is the goal of the system not the score per se.
- 3.6. Consideration will be given to ensure gymnasts' readiness to compete for those returning from injury (e.g. at least 1 eligible score must be within the last 2 months), and for rolling over between years (e.g. as above – 1 eligible score within the last 2 months, but the last 2 competitions of 1 year count regardless of the normal 6-month window).
- 3.7. Selection to an actual event will then be hierarchical as follows, applied at the time of nominative entry, subject to the gymnast's / home coach's desire to compete:
 - 3.7.1. World Cup finalist from previous outing
 - 3.7.2. Top 12 ranked gymnast in World Cup ranking
 - 3.7.3. Tier 1 World Cup gymnasts in order of rolling average of last 3 eligible 2-round scores
 - 3.7.4. Selectors discretion from Tier 2 World Cup gymnasts from development (U23) ranks
- 3.8. Only when there are more gymnasts eligible and wanting to compete than places available will this full process need to be followed in full. How individual gymnasts are funded will be covered below.

4. International Matches

- 4.1. Eligibility for Senior British Teams will require the same standard of gymnast as for World Cups. Hence, the same pre requisite scores will apply, to be waived only in exceptional circumstances (e.g. not enough eligible gymnasts available). For Senior Teams, one of two possible approaches to actual Team selection can apply:
 - 4.1.1. Specific published criteria for each Team and designate specific selection events;
 - 4.1.2. The same process as for World Cups, with a rolling average of recent scores for Tier 1 and Tier 2 selection.
- 4.2. In general, the latter will apply, unless specific criteria are thought necessary and published 3 months in advance.
- 4.3. Selection for Junior and Youth International Matches will also follow a “three from” approach rolling across eligible competitions, such that an average of a gymnast’s best 3 scores from eligible competitions during the year will be counted for selection. Eligible competitions will be considered as Grade 1s, National Championships, International Championships, BG Approved International Cups (confirmation of an event’s eligibility should be sought before entry) and any previous International Matches. This has the added benefit of reinforcing the value of Grade 1 competitions to ensure they are not just an avenue to qualify for Nationals.
- 4.4. For all of Senior, Junior and Youth Teams for International Matches, invitation to the Team will then be in order of the appropriate age ranking (or a mixture across ages when the nature of the Team implies), though will be at the discretion of the gymnast, home coach and national coach together as to whether to accept in light of the gymnast’s periodisation, without prejudice.

5. International Cups

- 5.1. Participation in International Cups is open to any gymnasts eligible under local rules and entered at their own volition. If, however, BG wish to take members of the World Class Programme to specific competitions for experience, then this will be feasible without it constituting British representation. The gymnast will be entered as a member of their Club, and may indeed be supported by a combination of their home coach and/or National staff at the competition.

6. Funding

- 6.1. Championship Teams will be fully funded for all selected gymnasts, whether derived from World Class funds or a combination of Lottery and other BG funds.
- 6.2. After selection, World Cup Teams will be funded by a combination of methods:



- 6.2.1. World Class (Lottery) gymnasts will have an appropriate competition schedule paid through the Programme;
 - 6.2.2. For non Lottery gymnasts, a budget will need to be drawn up to calculate how many places and to which events BG funding can be applied (presumably as a group, not per individual). Representation outside this budget will be offered to gymnasts self-funded, once they have met selection.
 - 6.2.3. It is feasible that the cost of the delegation surrounding the gymnasts will be funded by Lottery, as they will have to travel anyway.
 - 6.2.4. It must be stressed that these funding distinctions only happen once the Team has been selected, using the process above, and are not a means of differentiation.
- 6.3. International Matches will be funded by a proportional combination of Lottery and other BG funds.
- 6.4. Funding for International Cups will be either self-funded or discretionary as part of individual / group plans within the World Class Programme, with negotiable support for home coaches as well.

Graeme Maw
Jack Kelly
Matthew Greenwood

