



Women's Artistic Gymnastics  
Competition Handbook  
2020

## Contact Information

### **Women's Technical Committee**

Acting Chair: Christine Shannon

Judging Convenor: Mandy McMaster

Competition Organiser: Christine Shannon

Treasurer: -

### **British Gymnastics**

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## Northern Ireland Regional Competition Calendar 2020

Event	Date	Venue
Spring Competition 1 FIG/NDP/Compulsory Elite (Qualifier for Compulsory Elite National Finals, taking place 9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> May, closing date 10 <sup>th</sup> April)	1 <sup>st</sup> March	City of Lisburn Salto
Spring Competition 2 FIG/NDP/Compulsory Elite (Qualifier for NDP National Finals, taking place 23 <sup>rd</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup> May, closing date 10 <sup>th</sup> April)	29 <sup>th</sup> March	City of Lisburn Salto
Autumn Competition 1 Voluntary Levels (Qualifier for National Finals taking place 14 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> November, closing date 16 <sup>th</sup> October)/FIG (Qualifier for Challenge Cup taking place 20 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> November, closing date 9 <sup>th</sup> October)	27 <sup>th</sup> September	City of Lisburn Salto
Autumn Competition 2 Northern Ireland Championships Voluntary Levels/FIG	29 <sup>th</sup> November	City of Lisburn Salto

\*\*See Appendix 1 for National Competition Calendar

## **Technical Information**

### **Membership**

All persons attending Gymnastics NI WAG events in an official capacity, whether as a gymnast, coach or judge, are required to hold current BG membership in line with the level of competition entered and awards held.

### **Gymnast Membership**

The level of membership must be Competitive Gymnast, Coach or Life Member in order to enter a Gymnastics NI WAG competition. For all competitions, gymnasts must hold current BG Silver Competitive membership. Anyone discovered to have been without the correct level of membership for these competitions will be disqualified and their scores voided for the period of non-membership.

### **Coaches**

One Lead Coach (minimum Level 2 WAG) coach from each competing club MUST be present on the floor at Gymnastics NI WAG competitions.

Clubs MUST ensure that where applicable, the Lead Coach is qualified to the level of performance of all the participants from their club.

The Lead coach on the floor must hold a current BG membership and the level must be Gold Coach or Life Members of BG, these coaches must be qualified to a minimum of Level 2. Coaches must hold a current safeguarding certificate and Access NI.

Assisting Coaches' Membership level must be Assistant Coach (if Level 1), Gold, Coach or Life Members of BG before being allowed to participate in Gymnastics NI WAG competitions. Coaches must hold a current safeguarding certificate and Access NI.

The number of coaches on the floor is usually limited to 2; one Lead Coach and one Assistant Coach. Occasionally, at larger competitions more than one

assistant coach is required on the floor. Clubs must notify the Competition Organiser of the number of additional coaches they attend to have on the floor.

All Gymnasts must have an accredited coach present on the competition floor at all times. If a Gymnast attends a competition without a coach, they will not be allowed to compete.

The Lead coach may authorise other coaches from their club/region to coach skills at a maximum of one level higher than that coaches' qualification but has responsibility for insuring that they are competent to do so. With the explicit authorisation of the lead coach, supervising coaches may coach skills at the maximum of 1 level higher than their current qualification before being allowed to participate in a BG Event, in this instance the supervising coaches must have completed the relevant course or module of the next coaching level covering those skills, although they may not yet be signed off as qualified. To be a supervised coach, you must be minimum of Level 2. For further information on the changes introduced this year for Lead and Supervised Coaches, please see the British Gymnastics Women's Competition Handbook 2020.

## **Judges**

All participating clubs MUST provide 2 judges with current judging qualifications. The fine is currently £50 per missing judge per session. Judges' membership level must be Judge or Life Members of BG for Club/County/Regional Judges, and National/Brevet Judge or Life Members of BG for National and Brevet Judges before being allowed to officiate at a Gymnastics NI WAG competition.

From time to time Gymnastics NI may invite international judges from other Federations or GB to officiate at events, as such they will not require BG membership. These judges must also hold a current cycle of judging award. BG does not require judges to complete a criminal record check to judge at BG competitions, as the role that judges fulfil at the event no longer falls within DBS or Access NI Eligibility.

Judges may only represent ONE club or be present in a neutral capacity.

To assist with the quality of Judging GNI will introduce recording of routines at all events in 2020.

## **Volunteers**

All participating clubs MUST provide 2 age appropriate volunteers to assist with the allocated duties at competitions. This helps ensure the smooth running of WAG events in Northern Ireland. There is currently a fine of £50 per missing volunteer per session.

## **Club representation**

Gymnasts may only represent the club they hold primary membership with. Clubs must not enter their gymnasts under another club for any reason. This will result in the Gymnast's disqualification from the competition.

## **Nationality**

Participation in all gymnastics NI WAG competitions is subject to the requirements of membership, club registration and other conditions of entry. It is the responsibility of the club/person making the competition entry to ensure that all gymnasts have declared their nationality within GymNet online membership portal.

## **Guests**

If a gymnast wishes to compete as a guest (see Nationality section above for details of guest gymnasts) at a Gymnastics NI event, the club/coach should contact the competition organiser well in the first instance, well in advance of the closing date. The decision as to whether the entry will be accepted will be entirely at the discretion of the Women's Technical Committee.

In normal circumstances, gymnasts should also be a member of a BG registered club. In exceptional cases, where a gymnast does not belong to a BG registered club, they must contact the Competition Organiser and request entry into the Event. In order to compete, guests who are not members of BG must provide evidence of public liability insurance (minimum £5 million) as well as permission to compete from their home federation.

## **Entries**

Entry to all Gymnastics NI events are online only. Complete instructions for adding an entry via the GymNet Online Entry Portal are available to download from the BG website. All entries must be fully submitted electronically to BG by the stipulated closing date and time. Prior to the event, an entry may only be amended by the person making the original entry.

### **Late Entries**

Late entries will not be accepted in any circumstances.

### **Competition Structure**

There are four competitions per year.

- Spring competition 1 serves as a qualifier to the Compulsory Elite National Finals.
- Spring competition 2 will serve as the qualifier for the NDP National Finals.
- Autumn Competition 1 serves as a qualifier for the National Voluntary Finals and the Challenge Cup.
- Autumn Competition 2 is the Northern Ireland Championships.

FIG levels are included at all competitions.

### **Entry to National Finals**

Gymnastics NI will select gymnasts to represent the region in all circumstances. Clubs must not enter gymnasts to British National Final events and those who do will be disqualified. Please see selection policies for each event for further information.

### **NDP Grades/Levels**

Information on requirements for each level can be found on the British Gymnastics website.

### **Age**

Gymnasts' ages for the purpose of entry to all age dependent categories will be taken as the age reached in the year of the competition. The minimum age for entry to Gymnastics NI WAG competitions is 8 years in the year of competition. Gymnasts are given the opportunity to compete up to two years out of age at Regional Level at the NDP competitions and at all levels at the Voluntary Level competitions. Please refer to the table below for year born eligibility for in age competitions.

Year Born Eligibility for WAG National Competitions 2020				
Age	Year Born	Compulsory Elite Levels	NDP National Grades	NDP Regional Grades
Min Age 8	2012		NDP Club Grade 6	
Min Age 9	2011	<b>Compulsory 4</b>	NDP Club Grade 5	
Min Age 10	2010	<b>Compulsory 3</b>	<b>National 4</b> Not eligible: a pass at Compulsory 3 2 1	<b>Regional 4</b> Not eligible: a pass at Compulsory 4 3 2 1 a pass at National 4 3 2 1
Age	Year Born	Compulsory Elite Levels	NDP National Grades	NDP Regional Grades
Min Age 11	2009	<b>Compulsory 2</b>	<b>National 3</b> Not eligible: a pass at Compulsory 2 1	<b>Regional 3</b> Not eligible: a pass at Compulsory 4 3 2 1 a pass at National 3 2 1
Min Age 12	2008	<b>Compulsory 1</b>	<b>National 2</b> Not eligible: a pass at Compulsory 1	<b>Regional 2</b> Not eligible: a pass at Compulsory 4 3 2 1 a pass at National 2 1
Min Age 13	2007		<b>National 1</b> Not eligible: a pass at Compulsory 1	<b>Regional 1</b> Not eligible: a pass at Compulsory 4 3 2 1 a pass at National 1
Esplor 12 -13	2007 - 2008	British Championships	<b>Challenge Cup</b> Not eligible: Qualified for British Champs	
Junior 14 -15	2005 - 2006	British Championships	<b>Challenge Cup</b> Not eligible: Qualified for British Champs	
Senior 16 +	2004 or before	British Championships	<b>Challenge Cup</b> Not eligible: Qualified for British Champs	

## Competition Attire



Gymnasts: Refer to the Women's Artistic Code of Points. The removal of leotards on the field of play is not allowed. Long hair should be braided or tied back so as not to obscure vision. No jewellery.

Coaches: Coaches must wear a tracksuit with full length sports leggings/sports trousers with a collared polo shirt or club/regional t-shirt and appropriate gym/training shoes.

Judges: Refer to the Women's Artistic Code of Points

### **Inquiries procedure**

- Inquiries should be submitted to the Competition Organiser during the event, preferably ASAP after the end of the rotation
- Inquiries must be in writing on a GNI Inquiry form
- If a coach has approached the judging panel and discussed a gymnast's score, they cannot then register an inquiry.
- A coach may only inquire about the D score, not the E score.

### **Inquiry Fees**

- First inquiry: £25
- Second inquiry: £50
- Third and subsequent inquiries: £75

The placement of an inquiry form becomes a contract to pay the appropriate fee.

This fee will not be collected in cash at the event, instead an invoice will be issued to the club from Gymnastics Northern Ireland. The WTC cannot accept any video or photographic analysis at an event unless an official video replay system is available at each piece of apparatus and could be referred to for the benefit of every competitor.

## **Selection Policies**

### **NDP National Finals**

#### **To be selected to represent Northern Ireland:**

- Gymnasts must achieve a score equal to or greater than the 20th placed overall Gymnast at the 2019 NDP Final event
- The top 4 Gymnasts achieving the above criteria with the highest overall score will make up the Northern Ireland NDP Finals Team for 2020
- GNI Management Committee reserve the right to select those Teams/Gymnasts and Coaches who will deliver the best result for GNI
- The GNI Management Committee decision is final
- Selected Gymnasts are responsible for their own Travel, Accommodation and Food. GNI will contribute £50 per Gymnast towards costs.
- GNI will pay all entry fees to the event
- Judges are selected by British Gymnastics

### **Compulsory Elite National Finals**

#### **To be selected to represent Northern Ireland:**

- Gymnasts must achieve a score equal to or greater than the 20th placed overall Gymnast at the 2019 Compulsory Elite National Final event
- The top 4 Gymnasts achieving the above criteria with the highest overall score will make up the Northern Ireland Elite National Finals Team for 2020
- GNI Management Committee reserve the right to select those Teams/Individual Gymnasts and Coaches who will deliver the best result for GNI
- Selected Gymnasts are responsible for their own Travel, Accommodation and Food. GNI will contribute £50 per Gymnast towards costs.
- GNI will pay all entry fees to the event
- Judges are selected by British Gymnastics

### **Voluntary National Finals**

#### **To be selected to represent Northern Ireland:**

- Gymnasts must achieve a score equal to or greater than the 20th placed Gymnast at the 2019 Voluntary National Final event
- GNI Management Committee reserve the right to select those Teams/Individual Gymnasts and Coaches who will deliver the best result for GNI
- Selected Gymnasts are responsible for their own Travel, Accommodation and Food. GNI will contribute £50 per Gymnast towards costs.

- GNI will pay all entry fees to the event
- Judges are selected by British Gymnastics

### **Challenge Cup**

The Challenge Cup is a Club representative event

- Gymnast's must achieve the qualification score as per the British Gymnastics WAG Handbook
- GNI Clubs are responsible for the entry process, travel, accommodation etc. for their Gymnasts and Coaches

### **Home Nations**

To be selected to represent Northern Ireland:

- Gymnasts must be performing at FIG standard
- Gymnasts must be a member of the GNI National Squad
- The GNI Management Committee will select Gymnasts based on results achieved in the year of the Home Nations Event
- Selections will be made for Teams and Individual Gymnasts based on the needs of GNI in the year of the Home Nations event
- The GNI Management Committee's decision is final

**Commonwealth Games** – see attached 2018 policy.

The 2022 policy has not yet been ratified but will not change significantly from the attached policy.

## Appendix 1: National Competition Calendar

Event and Date	Opening Date	Closing Date	Venue
National Compulsory Level 1 8th Feb	15th November	Noon 18th December	Lilleshall NSC, Newport
British Championships Espoir/Junior/Senior and Apparatus Finals 16 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> April	24th January	Noon 6th March	M&S Bank Arena, Liverpool
National Compulsory Levels 4,3,2 9 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> May	14 <sup>th</sup> February	Teams Noon Friday 10th April Gymnasts Noon Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Fenton Manor, Stoke on Trent
National Development Plan 4,3,2,1 Finals 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> May	28 <sup>th</sup> February	Teams Noon Friday 10th April Gymnasts Noon Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Fenton Manor, Stoke on Trent
National Compulsory Level 2 Qualifier 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	10 <sup>th</sup> July	Noon 21 <sup>st</sup> August	New College, Leicester
Disability Artistic British Championships 4 <sup>th</sup> October	10 <sup>th</sup> July	Noon 21 <sup>st</sup> August	New College, Leicester
Adrian Stan Team Championships 17th – 18th October	24th July	Noon 4th September	Surrey Sports Park Guildford
National Voluntary Levels 4, 3 & Compulsory 1 Qualifier 14th – 15th November	21st August	Team Noon Friday 16th October Gymnasts Noon Monday 2nd November	Spectrum Leisure Centre Guildford
Espoir, Junior & Senior Challenge Cups 20th – 22nd November	28th August	Noon 9th October	Surrey Sports Park Guildford
Bill McLoughlin National Apparatus Team Championships 20th – 22nd November	28th August	Noon 9th October	Surrey Sports Park Guildford