



**GymCan - World Gymnaestrada**  
**Information Bulletin # 1**  
**February 2026**

**Note:** This document contains the most up-to-date and accurate information as of February 09, 2026. The details outlined in this document are subject to change pending new information that may be received at any time by the LOC, the WG or GymCan.

## **Table of Contents**

What is World Gymnaestrada (WG)?.....	3
World Gymnaestrada Objectives.....	3
18 <sup>th</sup> World Gymnaestrada .....	3
Connecting the World: The heart of the 2027 World Gymnaestrada.....	3
Lisbon.....	4
Provisional Program.....	5
Opening Ceremony .....	6
Group Performances (Indoor).....	6
Large Groups Performances (Stadium).....	6
City Performances (3 Open-Air Stages in popular squares in Lisbon).....	6
World Gymnastics Gala .....	7
Pan American Gymnastics Union (PAGU) National Performance .....	7
World Team (Large Group Performance).....	8
Closing Ceremony.....	8
Canadian Delegation 2027 .....	9
General Eligibility .....	9
Safe Sport .....	10
Roles and Definitions.....	10
Canadian Delegation Management Team .....	15
National Federation Contact.....	15
Lines of Communication .....	15
Tentative Registration Process .....	16

## What is World Gymnaestrada (WG)?

- Worldwide, non-competitive World Gymnastics *Gymnastics for All* Event.
- Held every 4 years (last WG was in Amsterdam in 2023).
- Attracts the largest number of active participants of any World Gymnastics event (avg. 20,000 participants from 50 nations).
- Participation is for everyone, regardless of gender, age, race, religion, culture, ability or social standing.
- The World Gymnastics [\*Gymnastics for All Manual\*](#) contains the World Gymnaestrada Regulations.
- **Focus:** *Fun, Fitness, Fundamentals, Friendship and Forever.*

## World Gymnaestrada Objectives

- Promote the value and diversity of Gymnastics.
- Encourage the growth of Gymnastics for All worldwide.
- Inspire enjoyment in exercise and encourage physical activity and active lifestyle.
- Demonstrate the unlimited possibilities of different ideas of Gymnastics for All and creativity.
- Present the most recent findings and developments - enables knowledge exchange.
- Provide an opportunity to perform.
- Bringing together gymnasts from all over the world as a contribution towards friendship.
- Present different cultures and bring cultures together.
- Offer an interesting and exciting event in gymnastics for the participants and the audience.

## 18<sup>th</sup> World Gymnaestrada

**Location:** Lisbon, Portugal

**Event Dates:** July 11 – 17, 2027

**Arrival:** Saturday, July 10, 2027 (flight departing Canada on July 9<sup>th</sup>)

**Departure:** Sunday, July 18, 2027

## Connecting the World: The heart of the 2027 World Gymnaestrada

As we look ahead to the World Gymnaestrada 2027 in Lisbon, we are reminded of the core essence that binds us together: *the power of connection*. Our event's motto, "*Connecting the World*", encapsulates the deep, enduring relationships fostered through gymnastics – a global language that transcends borders, cultures, and differences.

The World Gymnaestrada has always been more than just a gathering of gymnasts. It's a celebration of unity, a stage where gymnasts from every corner of the globe come together to

share their passion, artistry, and teamwork. In an era where the world faces unprecedented challenges, staying connected is more important than ever. Gymnastics, with its values of mutual respect, cooperation, and inclusivity, offers a unique platform for strengthening these bonds.

Every performance at the World Gymnaestrada tells a story. Stories of resilience, creativity, and the beauty of human movement. But more than that, it reminds us that we are part of a larger global family, united by the shared values of health, joy, and artistic expression. Friendships and connections made at these events are lasting, and they go beyond the arena, helping to foster understanding and harmony in the wider world. We invite you all to join us in this mission of Connecting the World in 2027. Together, let's create a future where the ties we build today serve as the foundation for a more connected and peaceful world.

## Lisbon

- Lisbon, the capital of Portugal, is a vibrant city and rich in history. Situated on the hills alongside the river Tagus, Lisbon offers a unique combination of tradition and modernity. With its cobblestone streets, charming squares and iconic trams, the city is a true labyrinth of charm.
- Historic neighbourhoods like Alfama and Bairro Alto are known for their colourful facades, whereas Chiado offers a more sophisticated atmosphere, filled with stores and cafes. One of the most well-known landmarks is the Belém Tower and it deserves a mandatory visit.
- Lisbon is also famous for its gastronomy. The codfish dishes, the Portuguese custards and the Port are just some of the delicacies you will be able to enjoy. Apart from that, the city is known for its vibrant and cultural nightlife, with several events, festivals and a vibrant musical scene.
- Sports also play an important role in Lisbon society, with historic clubs as well as being an excellent host of important national and international events (European and World championships in several sports).

# World Gymnaestrada 2027 in numbers:



## Provisional Program

PROGR	AMME					
SUNDAY JULY 11 <sup>th</sup>	MONDAY JULY 12 <sup>th</sup>	TUESDAY JULY 13 <sup>th</sup>	WEDNESDAY JULY 14 <sup>th</sup>	THURSDAY JULY 15 <sup>th</sup>	FRIDAY JULY 16 <sup>th</sup>	SATURDAY JULY 17 <sup>th</sup>
OPENING CEREMONY RESTELO STADIUM	GROUP PERFORMANCES FIL	GROUP PERFORMANCES FIL	GROUP PERFORMANCES FIL	GROUP PERFORMANCES FIL	GROUP PERFORMANCES FIL	FIG GALA MEO ARENA
		LARGE GOUP PERFORMANCES UNIVERSITY STADIUM	LARGE GOUP PERFORMANCES UNIVERSITY STADIUM		LARGE GOUP PERFORMANCES UNIVERSITY STADIUM	CLOSING CEREMONY RESTELO STADIUM
	NATIONAL PERFORMANCES MEO ARENA	NATIONAL PERFORMANCES MEO ARENA	NATIONAL PERFORMANCES MEO ARENA	NATIONAL PERFORMANCES MEO ARENA	FIG GALA MEO ARENA	

## Opening Ceremony

**Location:** Restelo Stadium

**Date:** Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2027

## Group Performances (Indoor)

**Location:** FIL – Lisbon Exhibition and Congress Centre

**Dates:** Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup>

**Times:** Daily from 9:00 – 18:00

**Performance Area:** 30m x 20m x 20m

- Group Performances are designed to show the diversity of ‘Gymnastics for All’. Groups include a **minimum** of ten active performers, with no maximum number being set.
- Performances will be presented three times in an indoor performance area at FIL - Lisbon Exhibition and Congress Centre. Each performance will take a maximum of either 10 or 15 minutes.

## Large Groups Performances (Stadium)

**Location:** University Stadium

**Dates:** Tuesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday July 14<sup>th</sup>, and Friday July 16<sup>th</sup>

**Times:** 14:00 – 18:00 (exact schedules to be confirmed)

**Performance Area:** 111m x 64m

- Large Groups will include a minimum of 200 active performers. Performances will be presented three times in the University Stadium in the centre of Lisbon. Two or more participating member federations may join to form one Large Group.
- A Large Group Performance will have a maximum of 15 minutes.
- The large group performance does not conflict with any national evening or FIG Gala performances.

## City Performances (3 Open-Air Stages in popular squares in Lisbon)

**Location:** 3 Open-air stages in popular squares of Lisbon

**Dates:** Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup> - Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup>

**Duration:** Maximum of 15 minutes per show.

- Lisbon is a fantastic city to discover, where the modern mixes with the traditional in many ways. Bringing Gymnastics to the people, by organizing City Performances, is a must in every World Gymnaestrada! We are going to place outdoor stages in beautiful squares and gardens around the city, where performances will take place from Monday to Friday.

## World Gymnastics Gala

The World Gymnastics Gala, formerly known as FIG Gala, is an event under the responsibility of the GfA Committee through which World Gymnastics presents the diversity of GfA and its interpretation.

**Location:** MEO Arena

**Dates:** Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>

**Duration:** 1.5 hours

**Capacity:** 7000

**Performance area:** 40m x 20m

**Note:** spectators sitting on three sides of the arena, curtain on backside

For the World Gymnaestrada 2027, the appointed choreographer is Bruno Oliveira, and the theme of the Gala will be “**ConnectUs**” - “*a journey into the energy that emerges when bodies, emotions, and universes collide.*”



## Pan American Gymnastics Union (PAGU) National Performance

- National Performances allow Federations to present a wide range of GfA activities blended with folklore and characteristics applicable to their Nation.
- Two or more FIG Member Federations may join together to present a single National Performance.

**Location:** MEO Arena

**Date:** Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup> - Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 18:00 – 22:00

**Duration:** 1.5 hours

**Performance area:** 40m x 20m

**Note:** spectators sitting on three sides of the arena, curtain on backside

**Capacity:** 7000

- All Canadian Delegates will receive a PAGU National Evening Ticket.
- All members of the Canadian Delegation are expected to attend and support the PAGU National Evening.

## World Team (Large Group Performance)

- Connecting the World Team is an international Large Group Performance.
- Gymnasts from all over the world can take part in this performance. What is special about this performance is that it is not connected to any group. All of those participating in the World Gymnaestrada can take part in it, even individuals.
- In this edition, we want to connect the participants and gymnastics fans in one single choreography.

**Location:** University Stadium

**Date:** Tuesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> and Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 14:00 – 18:00

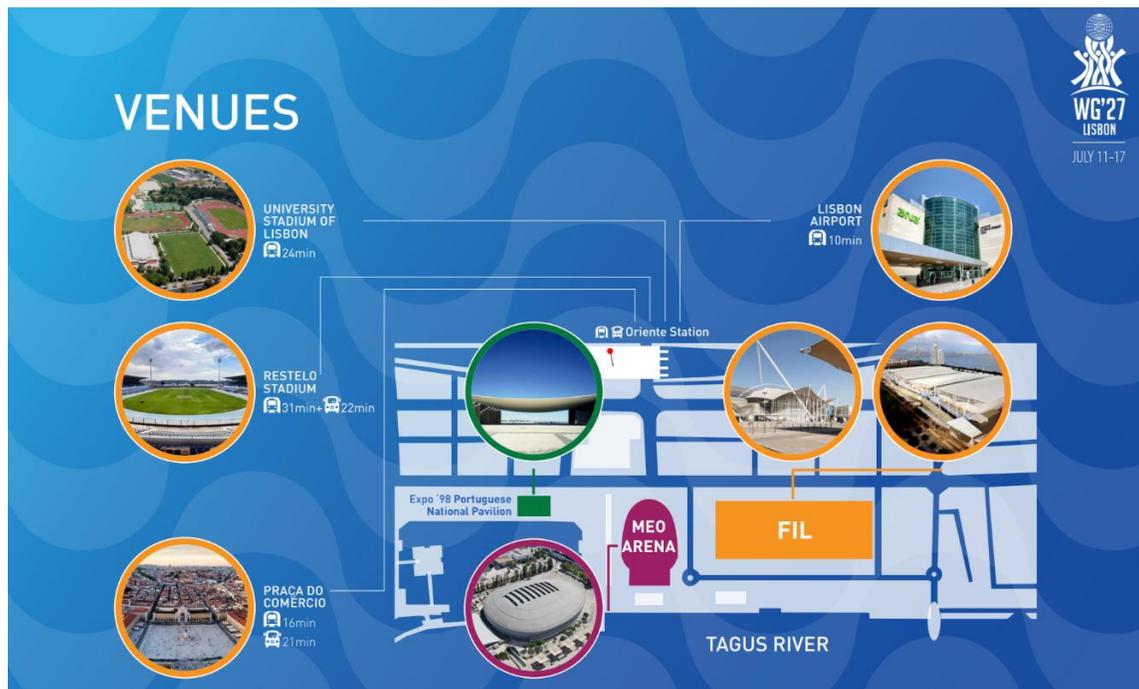
**Duration:** Maximum 15 minutes per show

**Performance area:** 111m x 64m

## Closing Ceremony

**Location:** Restelo Stadium

**Date:** Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2027



## Canadian Delegation 2027

To receive services from GymCan, a group and person must be registered as part of the Canadian Delegation:

- ☑ **A participant:** registered as a gymnast, coach, group manager, chaperone, or supporter.
- ☑ **A supporter:** receives the same services as every other member of the Canadian Delegation and will receive the same participant package.
- ☒ **A tourist:** anyone who is not a registered participant of the Canadian Delegation. A tourist receives **no services** from GymCan and is responsible for making their own arrangements to attend the event. This includes accommodations, ground transportation, purchasing tickets to attend the different performances, etc. Please communicate this information to those who are planning their holidays to coincide with the 2027 WG.

## General Eligibility

- Groups **must** perform in the 2026 Canadian Gymnaestrada.
- All participants must be members in good standing with their P/T organization.
- All participants must have personal accident and medical insurance.
- Groups must submit all required registration information according to the deadlines outlined within the Information Bulletins.
- Clubs or P/T organizations are responsible for the members of their group at all times and are also liable for their registration costs after the nominative entry is submitted to GymCan.
- Every group must have at least one designated coach with a minimum certification level of NCCP Competition 1 (or equivalent). If a club or P/T registers more than one group, they must designate a different coach for each registered group.
- Each group must have a designated group manager.
- A group must appoint one (1) chaperone for every ten (10) gymnasts below the age of 16 at the time of the event. A group may appoint a maximum of two (2) chaperones for every ten (10) gymnasts below the age of 16 participating in the WG.
- Gender equity is required as per the underage group members. This means at least one of the group's support personnel (coach, group manager, chaperone) must be the same gender in relation to each underage participant.

## Safe Sport

- Anyone registered as a coach, group manager, chaperone, or supporter (over the age of majority) must provide proof of a **Criminal Record Check, including a vulnerable sector check**, within **12 months** of World Gymnaestrada 2027. The Vulnerable Sector Check must be completed for gymnastics.
- If a Criminal Record Check indicates a violation, Gymnastics Canada will follow-up with the individual directly to conduct a risk assessment and learn about the nature and circumstances of the conviction. Gymnastics Canada will keep the results of Criminal Record Checks confidential and will not disclose the results to any persons unless it is required by law, is necessary for a disciplinary proceeding, or is in the best interest of the public.
- All registered participants must adhere to the Coaching Association of Canada’s “[The Rule of Two](#)” for all interactions with members of the Canadian Delegation who are under the age of majority.
- The goal of the Rule of Two is to ensure all interactions and communications are open, observable, and justifiable.
- When following the Rule of Two, two responsible adults (a coach, parent, or screened volunteer) are present with a participant.
- Background screening is a way of making sure that coaches meet all requirements to coach participants.

## Roles and Definitions

### **Group:**

- By definition, a group presents an Indoor, City, National Performance, or WG Gala performance.
- Group size is a minimum of 10 gymnasts performing at all times.
- A group may consist of:
  - Gymnasts from one club.
  - Gymnasts from two or more clubs.

### **Participant:**

#### **a) Gymnast:**

- By definition, a gymnast trains and partakes in a group performance.

- A gymnast may participate in more than one type of group performance (Indoor, City, Large Group, NE or WG Gala) but cannot participate in more than one Indoor group, one City group, one Large group, one National performance group or one WG Gala group.
- The minimum recommended age for gymnasts to participate in the WG is 10 years of age within the year of the event (example: a gymnast who turns 10 on December 29, 2027, is considered age 10 during the entire year, from January 1 until December 31). Gymnasts younger than 10 may be permitted to participate by GymCan on a case-by-case basis.
- **Minimum Age Exemptions:** An exemption to this requirement may be granted by GymCan on a case-by-case basis. The minimum age exemption request form will be included in the next Information Bulletin. When preparing to submit a request, please ensure that your NCCP-certified coach refers to Gymnastics Canada's Long-Term Athlete Development Model and considers all aspects of the participant's development (psychologically, emotionally, physically, and socially) in relation to their readiness to travel internationally and perform at a week-long World event. Ultimately, it is the coach's responsibility to confirm the underage athlete is developmentally ready to take on all of the expectations and responsibilities associated with being a registered participant in the WG.
- A gymnast must be registered as a gymnast within a provincial/territorial organization (P/TO) when their name is submitted on the nominative registration form.

**b) Coach:**

- By definition, a coach prepares the gymnasts and directs the group's performances. The coach is responsible for all training and performance activities that the group is involved in during the WG and should NOT have other duties (i.e. Group Manager or Chaperone).
- A coach **must be NCCP Competition 1 Certified (or equivalent) in at least one gymnastics discipline** (men's artistic, rhythmic, trampoline, or women's artistic gymnastics) to have access to the training and performance gyms.
- A coach must be registered as a coach with a P/TO when their name is submitted on the nominative registration form.

**Safe Sport Requirements:** Any coach traveling as a member of the Canadian Delegation internationally must:

- Hold a valid **Criminal Police Check, including vulnerable sector**, valid within 12 months of the date of the event.
- Successfully complete the **Making Head Way Concussion eLearning module from the Coaching Association of Canada:**  
<https://thelocker.coach.ca/onlinelearning#MHW-SP-E>
- Successfully complete within the past 5 years, the **Respect in Sport – Activity Leader training program from Respect Group Inc.:**  
<https://gymnasticscanada.respectgroupinc.com/>
- Successfully complete the **Understanding Rule of Two eLearning module from the Coaching Association of Canada:**  
<https://thelocker.coach.ca/onlinelearning#URT-E>
- Successfully complete the **Safe Sport eLearning module from the Coaching Association of Canada:** <https://coach.ca/sport-safety/safe-sport-training>

**c) Group Manager (Leader):**

- By definition, a group manager coordinates and facilitates their group’s participation in the event. This person liaises directly with GymCan on all pre-planning matters and is the main contact point for Canadian Delegation Management Team during the WG. This person must have strong administrative and people skills and must be able to work well under pressure.
- A group manager must be registered with the P/TO when their name is submitted on the nominative registration form.

**Safe Sport Requirements:** Any group manager travelling as a member of the Canadian Delegation internationally must:

- Hold a valid **Criminal Police Check, including vulnerable sector**, valid within 12 months of the date of the event.
- Be a minimum of 21 years of age at the time of the event.
- Successfully complete within the past 5 years the **Respect in Sport – Activity Leader training program from Respect Group Inc.:**  
<https://gymnasticscanada.respectgroupinc.com/>
- Successfully complete the **Understanding Rule of Two eLearning module from the Coaching Association of Canada:**  
<https://thelocker.coach.ca/onlinelearning#URT-E>

- Successfully complete the **Safe Sport eLearning module from the Coaching Association of Canada:** <https://coach.ca/sport-safety/safe-sport-training>

**d) Chaperone:**

- By definition, a chaperone supervises underage gymnasts. The chaperone must supervise their group of underage gymnasts at all times during the WG. This person must have good people skills and must be able to create and maintain a safe environment for children.
- A chaperone must be registered with a P/TO when their name is submitted on the nominative registration form.

**Safe Sport Requirements:** Any chaperone traveling as a member of the Canadian Delegation internationally must:

- Hold a valid **Criminal Police Check, including a vulnerable sector check**, valid within 12 months of the date of the event.
- Be a minimum of 21 years of age at the time of the event.
- Successfully complete within the past 5 years the **Respect in Sport – Activity Leader training program from Respect Group Inc.:**  
<https://gymnasticscanada.respectgroupinc.com/>
- Successfully complete the **Understanding Rule of Two eLearning module from the Coaching Association of Canada:**  
<https://thelocker.coach.ca/onlinelearning#URT-E>
- Successfully complete the **Safe Sport eLearning module from the Coaching Association of Canada:** <https://coach.ca/sport-safety/safe-sport-training>

**e) Supporter:**

- By definition, a supporter is a person (generally a family member) with no other role apart from providing support and assistance as required by their group manager. Underage children listed as supporters must be under their parent/guardian's care and not the chaperone's care.
- There is no maximum number of supporters per team, but the group manager and coach must take full responsibility for every registered group participant, including

supporters. This should be a consideration when determining a manageable group size.

- A supporter must be registered with the P/TO when their name is submitted on the nominative registration form.

**Safe Sport Requirements:** Any supporter traveling as a member of the Canadian Delegation internationally must:

- Hold a valid **Criminal Police Check, including a vulnerable sector check**, valid within 12 months of the date of the event (if over the age of majority).
- Supporters under the age of majority will not be required to submit a Criminal Police Check, however, GymCan must be notified if individuals under the age of majority have any prior convictions or current involvement in investigations of criminal behaviour.

### **Additional Requirements**

- Please review the Gymnastics Canada Safe Sport Policy, Code of Ethics and Conduct, Complaint and Discipline Policy, and Travel Policy:

[http://gymcan.org/uploads/content/gymcan\\_national\\_safe\\_sport\\_policy\\_apr19.pdf](http://gymcan.org/uploads/content/gymcan_national_safe_sport_policy_apr19.pdf)

[http://gymcan.org/uploads/content/gymcan\\_code\\_of\\_ethics\\_and\\_conduct\\_policy\\_apr19.pdf](http://gymcan.org/uploads/content/gymcan_code_of_ethics_and_conduct_policy_apr19.pdf)

[http://gymcan.org/uploads/content/gymcan\\_complaints\\_and\\_discipline\\_policy\\_apr19.pdf](http://gymcan.org/uploads/content/gymcan_complaints_and_discipline_policy_apr19.pdf)

[http://gymcan.org/uploads/content/final%20-%20approved%20-%20travel\\_policy-en.pdf](http://gymcan.org/uploads/content/final%20-%20approved%20-%20travel_policy-en.pdf)

- All registered members of the Canadian Delegation are required to READ and SIGN the Confirmation of Compliance with the Code of Ethics and Conduct by the nominative registration deadline (**November 30, 2026** - Appendix to be sent in 2<sup>nd</sup> info bulletin)

## Canadian Delegation Management Team

**Head of Delegation:** Denise Alivantov (Gymnastics Canada)

**VIP:** Debra Armstrong (Gymnastics Canada)

**Delegation Managers:**

Jackie Patatas (Gymnastics Canada)

Kacey Neely (Gymnastics Canada)

**Medical:**

Team Doctor – TBD

Sport Therapist – TBD

## National Federation Contact

**Gymnastics Canada**

January 2026 – December 2026 – Jackie Patatas

January 2027 – July 2027 – Denise Alivantov

## Lines of Communication

**Communicating with World Gymnastics and WG LOC**

- Before the WG, all communication between World Gymnastics/WG LOC and Team Canada is through the national federation – GymCan.
- During the WG, all communication between World Gymnastics/WG LOC and Team Canada is through the Head of Delegation for Canada.
- The WG LOC and World Gymnastics will not answer questions from the participants (any questions received will be forwarded to the national federation) so please do not contact them directly.
- World Gymnastics Gala groups will be in direct contact with the Gala managers from the LOC.

**Communicating with GymCan – Prior to the WG**

- GymCan will communicate only with the designated Group Manager and Head Coach.
- GymCan will not answer questions from the participants (any questions received will be forwarded to the applicable group manager and coach).

## Tentative Registration Process

The registration for this event is a six-step process and may be completed by either the club/group manager or the P/TO. The registration must be done by only **one** individual. All fees are communicated in Canadian dollars unless specified otherwise. The registration process and fees apply to all registered participants (gymnasts, coaches, group managers, chaperones, and supporters).

### 1. Intent to Participate – July 30, 2026

- Generally:
  - Intent Fee (TBD)
  - Group & Performance information
  - Name of participants, year of birth, role, interest in participating in the Large Group and/or World Team.

### 2. Nominative Registration – November 30, 2026

- Generally:
  - Nominative Fee (TBD)
  - Accommodations “package” option
  - If complete, Flight bookings (airline, flight number, arrival/departure dates, times and location)
  - Performance description(s)
  - Apparatus requirements
  - Safe Sport Requirements
  - 50% hotel cost, if applicable

### 3. Uniform Order – February 2027

- This cost is not part of the participant package and will be paid separately through the online portal.

### 4. Definitive Registration – March 2027

- Generally:
  - Definitive Fee (TBD)
  - Final Group List
  - Medical Information
  - National evening ticket orders
  - Copy of Passport
  - Music

### 5. Final Registration – April 2027

- Final Payment (\$) + 50% hotel cost, if applicable
- Flight Information
- Airport transportation