



Irish Canoe Slalom



Athlete Selection Policy

For 2019

Issued by the

Canoeing Ireland High Performance Unit

And

Irish Canoe Slalom Committee

2nd DRAFT

Irish Canoe Slalom Selection Policy for 2019

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1 Introduction to the Selection Policy

1.1 Scope of the Selection Policy

The 2019 Selection Policy for Canoe Slalom (hereinafter referred to as the “2019 Selection Policy”) outlines criteria and eligibility conditions relevant to the selection of athletes to be members of the Senior, Under 23, and Junior Teams that will represent Ireland at Slalom events during the 2019 season in the MK1, WK1, MC1 and WC1 categories. It is not anticipated that Ireland will enter the XC2 category in 2019 but if any suitably qualified athletes advise the Irish Canoe Slalom Committee, during the period provided for the review of this document, that they intend to seek selection in XC2, a performance standard will be provided at that stage.

Achievement of these criteria confers provisional selection on an athlete. Final selection and membership of the Irish Canoe Slalom Team for each specific season will commence when the athlete contract, signed by the athlete and the Performance Director of Canoeing Ireland is received by Canoeing Ireland after the selection process. Athletes will remain selected for the races defined in Appendix B within the terms of the athlete Contract until the final race event of the season is complete.

The policy is prepared by the Irish Canoe Slalom Committee and the Canoeing Ireland Performance Director. The Irish Canoe Slalom Committee is a technical committee affiliated to Canoeing Ireland. Throughout this document the term “Slalom Committee” should be interpreted as referring to the Irish Canoe Slalom Committee and the Canoeing Ireland Performance Director (PD).

The 2019 Selection Policy applies to 2019 season only. Previous selection policies will have no bearing on the 2019 Selection Policy and cannot be used as a basis upon which an appeal or otherwise can be made in relation to athlete selection for 2019.

1.2 Structure of the selection Policy

The policy is structured so that;

1. The selection process is described in the main body of the document
2. Specific information relating to the selection of Senior, Under 23, and Junior teams for the 2019 season is detailed in Appendix A

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1.3 Purpose, Aims and Principles of the Policy

The primary purpose of the selection policy is to select the best possible athletes of a suitable standard to represent Ireland at International events in 2019.

The long term aims of the policy are to;

1. Identify athletes with the capacity to represent Ireland in the future at all levels.
2. Support the development of athletes in all racing classes by providing a target to aim for and an objective test of their ability.

The principles used to meet these aims include:

1. Objectivity:
The Team will be selected using objective criteria based on clear parameters
2. Transparency:
The selection method will be easily interpreted and published prior to each season

1.4 Implementation of the Selection Policy

The policy will be binding on all athletes seeking selection and on the Slalom Committee. The policy will be overseen by the PD who will implement the selection process along with the Slalom Committee in line with this policy.

1.5 Selection Process Dates & Venues

See appendix A for dates in relation to applications, races and venues.

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2 Eligibility and Application Requirements

2.1 Eligibility Criteria that apply to all athletes

In order to be eligible for selection, all athletes applying for selection must;

- a) Show proof that they hold an Irish passport/be eligible to hold an Irish passport or a U.K. passport that shows the holder's birthplace to be in Northern Ireland
AND
- b) Be a current registered member of Canoeing Ireland who is eligible to represent Ireland at ICF Canoe Slalom Events in accordance with ICF Rules
AND
- c) Not have competed in any international canoe slalom event, other than for Ireland, in the previous 3 years.

2.2 Eligibility to Compete at Junior and Under 23 level

As stated in ICF rule 3.4, "The first year a competitor can compete in an ICF or International competition is the year that their 15th birthday falls in. The last year they can compete in a Junior category is the year that their 18th birthday falls in. The last year he/she can compete in Under 23 category is the year that their 23rd birthday falls in."

For more details concerning the eligibility to compete at Junior and Under 23 level, please refer to appendices C and D

Appendix C provides an extract of the ICF (International Canoe Federation) rules concerning Junior and Under 23 Eligibility

Appendix D provides an extract of those ECA (European Canoe Association) rules that differ from their ICF counterparts.

Juniors may seek selection at Junior, Under 23, and Senior level. Under 23 athletes may seek selection at both Under 23 and senior level.

2.3 Application Requirements

All Applicants should:

- a. Download the Application Form that will be available on www.canoe.ie/slalom
- b. Complete all sections of the form and Email the completed form to performance@canoe.ie before the due dates shown in Appendix A.
- c. Print and sign a hard copy of the application form. Then post or otherwise deliver the signed form to the offices of Canoeing Ireland so that it is received before close of business on the due date shown in Appendix A.
- d. Maintain the conditions and terms detailed in the 2019 Selection Policy.

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3 Types of Selection

Athletes may be selected by the following methods:

1. Pre-selection
2. Performance Selection
or
3. Discretionary Selection by the High Performance Unit of Canoeing Ireland

Regardless of how an athlete achieves selection, continued selection will always be conditional upon an athlete meeting and maintaining the Athlete Eligibility Criteria, outlined above, and by that athlete signing and complying with the terms and conditions contained in the Athlete Contract.

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4 Pre-Selection

Before the Selection Events take place, athletes may be pre-selected, either for the season or for particular events, on the basis of exceptional circumstances i.e. illness or injury to an athlete or on the basis that a race, in which the athlete wishes to compete, is scheduled too close to the date of the proposed Selection Events, to allow them to wait until then before making plans to compete.

4.1 Application for Pre selection

If an athlete is unable to attend or unable to compete at the designated Selection Events due to exceptional circumstances or if one or more of the races that require selection are scheduled so close to the Selection Events that it would be impractical to wait until then in order to make adequate preparations to compete at the race or races in question, he or she may apply, in writing, to the Performance Director for Pre Selection in advance of the selection events.

4.1.1 Applications related to Exceptional Circumstances

Applications for pre selection on the basis of exceptional circumstances; injury or illness, must provide evidence that the athlete could not reasonably be expected to attend or compete at the Selection Events.

Applications for Pre Selection on the basis of exceptional circumstances, including all supporting documentation, should be received at the offices of Canoeing Ireland by close of business on the date shown in Appendix A, as appropriate, or emailed to performance@canoe.ie by midnight on the same date.

Applications for Pre selection on this basis will only be considered after that date if the particular circumstance leading to the application, for example, the onset of illness or injury, occurred after that date. In these circumstances, the athlete must make their application as soon as it becomes apparent that they are unable to take part in the selection races.

4.1.2 Applications related to the scheduling of a race

Applications for pre-selection, for an event that takes place before the selection events or so shortly afterwards that it would be impractical to wait for selection before entering or making travel arrangements, should be sent to the Performance Director by the date shown in Appendix A or earlier, if interested parties are requested to do so. Pre-selection for a specific event is for that event only. If an Athlete is pre-selected for an early race, they will still need to compete for Team Selection for that year.

4.2 Consideration of Pre-selection Applications

In considering each application, the PD will appoint and be advised by the High Performance Unit (HPU) and the National Coach. The applicant's results, the nature of any exceptional circumstances, the seriousness of their injury or illness.

It is a condition of consideration for Pre-Selection that an athlete seeking Pre-Selection agrees to accept the decision of the HPU as final and binding.

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4.3 Decisions in relation to pre-selection Applications

Following consideration of the application, the HPU may;

1. Seek additional information or documentation before making a decision
2. Treat late applications, that are received too close to the selection events to allow a proper evaluation, as applications for discretionary selection that will be considered after the events are completed
3. Grant the request for pre-selection
4. Refuse the request.
5. Order that a race off take place, at a time to be determined by the HPU, between any or all of the following;
 - a. One or more of the athletes seeking pre-selection,
 - b. One or more of the athletes seeking discretionary selection,
and
 - c. One or more of the highest placed athletes in the selection races.

The HPU's decision with regard to Pre-Selection will be considered final.

Where an application is granted or a race off is ordered, the other candidates for selection in the relevant class will be advised as soon as practical so that they will be aware of how many places on the team are available to be won at the selection events.

A pre-selected athlete will be ranked behind athletes who achieved performance selection. For example, if two or more athletes achieve the performance standard, the first two will be ranked as one and two while the pre-selected athlete will be ranked as number three.

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5 Performance Selection

5.1 Summary

Athletes may achieve performance selection to the places available on the Senior, Under 23, and Junior teams, in the ranking order and taking into account those places assigned by Pre Selection, by finishing with the lowest time (including penalties), as a percentage of the leading MK1 time, at each of the designated Athlete Selection Events (hereinafter referred to as “Selection Events”), subject to the Athlete Assessment Process detailed below.

The dates and venues for the selection events are shown in Appendix A.

5.2 Selection Ranking System

5.2.1 Retained and Discarded Results

Each athlete’s ranking position is based on their best time, calculated as a percentage of the leading Irish MK1 athlete’s best time, over two runs, in each of the two selection races.

Of the two runs in each race, they will therefore discard their time in the run that produces the highest percentage of the leading Irish MK1 athlete, and retain their time in the run that produces the lowest percentage of the leading Irish MK1 athlete’s best time out of the two runs.

5.2.2 Ranking Order

Competitors will be awarded a percentage for each run using the following formula

$$\frac{\text{Competitors run time (raw time plus penalties)}}{\text{Fastest Irish MK1 time (raw time plus penalties) for the race}} * 100$$

- The result will be rounded to 2 decimal place
- Run time in all cases is the raw time plus penalties for a particular run
- Fastest MK1 is the fastest time recorded by an athlete eligible for selection in the MK1 class on the day

Competitors in the Selection Events will be ranked according to the sum of their best percentage in each of the selection races.

The lowest percentage achieved by an athlete in each race is his or her percentage for that race. The sum of these percentages is added for the two races and the athlete with the lowest combined percentage achieves first place for that class followed in order by those with the next lowest totals.

Appendix A provides an example of how the ranking order is calculated for the selection events governed by this policy.

5.2.3 Tie Breakers

In the event that one or more athletes are tied on the sum of their ranking percentages, the ranking order of the tied athletes will be decided, unless otherwise specified, using, in

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order, the following methods:

1. Tied competitors in the Selection Events will be ranked by awarding points to each athlete in respect of their overall finishing position in each race.
Points are awarded in the following order:

1st = 100 points,

2nd = 97 points,

3rd = 95 points,

4th equals 94 points, 5th equals 93 points, 6th = 92 points and so on (i.e. the number of points drop by one for each place after 3rd)

The points awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places decrease by differing amounts in order to reduce the chances of a tie on points and to incentivise the achievement of high places.

2. If two or more athletes are still drawn after Tie Breaker 1 is applied, they will be ranked in accordance with their best individual selection race run result.

5.3 Athlete Assessment Process

In order to verify that athletes are of a high enough standard to compete at international events, a Performance Standard for each class, expressed as a percentage of the leading Irish MK1 time, as detailed in Appendix A, will form the basis for selection.

5.3.1 Performance Standards

Athletes will be selected, up to the number of places available for each race, in accordance with their Selection Ranking, provided that each athlete achieves a Performance Standard, in a number of races or runs.

The Performance Standard is expressed as a percentage of the top Irish MK1, total time plus penalties in the two races and these percentages, are outlined in Appendix A.

The performance standards relate to ICF Level 1 and 2 races listed in Appendix B.

5.3.2 Selection to events other than those listed in Appendix B

Discretionary selection for ICF Level 3 races may be granted to an athlete who has proven international race experience in a previous season, on the basis of domestic race results in the current or a previous season.

Junior or Under 23 athletes who do not achieve the performance standard set for the Junior and Under 23 events listed in Appendix B may still apply for discretionary selection to represent Ireland at ECA Cup races.

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6 Selection Events

The HPU may decide that selection will be based on a number of races or runs that are scheduled to be held in Ireland, outside of Ireland, or any combination of the two.

6.1 Domestic Selection Events

6.1.1 Domestic Selection Event Organising Committee

The Performance Director in conjunction with the Slalom Committee will appoint a Selection Event Organising Committee to run domestic selection races. The Organising Committee will be made up of members of the slalom community, including, but not limited to, members of the slalom committee, who, in the view of that committee, are qualified, as a group, to perform this task.

6.1.2 Domestic Selection Events and the ICF rules

Each domestic selection race will, as far as the organising committee judge it to be possible, be run in accordance with ICF rules.

6.1.3 Changes to the published arrangements for domestic races

The organising committee, being aware that athletes may have travelled considerable distances to take part in selection on the advertised dates, will do everything they can to ensure that the races proceed as scheduled. However, some factors, such as the weather, cannot be predicted far in advance and, as a result, the PD, in consultation with the Organising Committee may have to make changes to the advertised schedule. In considering these issues, the safety of our athletes will be the paramount consideration.

The changes that may be made by the Slalom Committee, in consultation with the Organising Committee, include but are not limited to the following:

1. The cancellation of one or more of the races
2. Moving one or more races to any other site that, in the view of the Organising Committee, is suitable.
3. Cancelling or moving one or more races for a particular class.
For example, the Organizing Committee could decide that, for a particular race or races, the conditions at the designated race site are only suitable for Senior Athletes or athletes seeking senior selection.
4. In the event that the races cannot proceed as scheduled, the PD and the HPU may also decide to make changes to the manner in which the series is decided and/or the manner in which Ranking Points are awarded. The changes that may be made include, but are not limited to, the following:
5. In the event of one race not starting or not being completed, for some or all classes, the selection race series may be determined, for the classes that were not completed, by the results of the other races/runs held.
6. In the event that a race has to be cancelled before all classes have competed, the Slalom Committee may decide to accept the results of the classes that have

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completed their runs.

7. A race that is scheduled for two runs may be reduced to one run, and vice versa
8. Following any of these changes, the Slalom Committee may adjust the number of races or runs in which ranking points are awarded, the number of races or runs for which ranking points may be discarded, and the number of races or runs in which the performance percentage must be achieved.

6.2 Selection Events held outside Ireland

Selection events held outside Ireland will be run in accordance with the rules of the local ICF affiliated body. For example, events that are held in Britain will be run in accordance with the rules of the BCU.

Variation in the event that a run or a race is cancelled or numbers limited

In the event that a run or an entire race is cancelled by the race organisers, the HPU may

1. Arrange another run or race
or
2. Change the number of runs taken into account by the ranking order
and / or change the number of races or runs that are used to calculate the performance standard for each athlete.

6.3 Enquiries or Protests concerning Selection Race Results

6.3.1 Enquiries or protests concerning Domestic Race results

Enquiries concerning timing or penalties must be made to the Organising Committee for the race in question within 20 minutes of the race results for the competitor being published on-site, for example, within 20 minutes of the race card, showing times and penalties, being displayed for the competitor.

The Selection Event Organising Committee will appoint a Competition Jury to adjudicate on each enquiry/protest. No member of the Jury will be related to any athlete who is seeking selection.

The HPU will accept the outcome of the enquiry / protest and calculate ranking points accordingly.

6.3.2 Enquiries or protests concerning the results of International Selection Races

Enquiries/Protests concerning timing or penalties must be made to the organising authorities for the race in question, through the Team Manager appointed by the Slalom Committee. For example, the authorities for a British race will be those appointed by the BCU. In such cases, the HPU/Slalom Committee will accept the outcome of the enquiry/protest and calculate ranking points accordingly.

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7 Discretionary Selection

7.1 Process

Following the completion of the Selection Events, additional athletes may be offered a place on the team and in ranking order for one or more events at the discretion of the HPU, in the following circumstances

- a. places on the Senior, Under 23 or Junior Teams, for all races or for a particular race or races, remain unfilled by athletes who achieved the designated performance standard or who had been pre-selected
or
- b. places subsequently become available on a team, for all races or for particular races
or
- c. one athlete of a C2 crew is injured (in those years that crews are selected in the C2 class)

Except in the case where an athlete could not compete in the selection events due to exceptional circumstances i.e. illness, injury or bereavement. There is no need for athletes to apply for discretionary selection as the HPU will consider the suitability of the next ranked athletes in all cases where places remain unfilled by athletes who have achieved the performance percentage or who have been pre-selected. Applications related to illness or injury must be supported by medical evidence.

Unless exceptional circumstances are deemed by the HPU to justify the non-attendance of an athlete at one or more of the selection events, an athlete must compete at selection events in order to be offered a place at any event listed in appendix B.

The ranking order of the athletes will remain as determined by the Selection Race results and will not be altered as part of the Discretionary process.

When athletes are added by the Committee to fill a team, available places will be offered to eligible athletes not already attending the event in their selection ranking order. For clarification this means an eligible athlete ranked fourth will always have first refusal on any boat spaces made available.

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7.2 Athlete Assessment Panel

The High Performance Unit will act as the Athlete Assessment Panel

7.3 The High Performance Unit

The High Performance Unit will consider, but will not be limited to, the following factors;

1. Qualifying results and performance in the preceding season.
2. Future potential.
3. Physical fitness / injury during the season in question.

In each case, the Panel will be made up of members of the HPU. The HPU may invite other experienced members who are not related to any candidate for selection in the class for which the adding of athletes is being considered. In addition, any Athlete Assessment Panel member with any such conflict of interest will not take part in discussions or decisions on the application.

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8 Procedure Following Selection

8.1 Provisional Selection

Achievement of the selection criteria only confers Provisional Selection on an athlete.

8.2 Athlete Contract and Final Selection

All athletes will be required to sign an Athlete Contract. An athlete will only be considered finally selected when the Athlete Contract has been signed by the athlete and the Performance Director of Canoeing Ireland.

If the signed athlete contract is not returned on time, the boat space may be offered to another athlete. It will be sufficient to email a scanned copy of the signed contract.

8.3 Selection Results Ranking Order

The HPU/Slalom Committee will publish a list of athletes in their Selection Ranking Order for each class. The Selection Ranking Order will reflect the results of the selection events as adjusted for the places awarded to athletes that are pre-selected.

8.4 Financial Support

The achievement of selection will only confer on an athlete eligibility to compete in the respective events outlined in Appendix B and does not entitle a selected athlete to any support through the various Performance Support Programmes.

In addition, the provision of support to an athlete has no bearing on the Selection Process and cannot be used as a basis upon which an appeal or otherwise can be made in relation to the selection of athletes.

When the amount of the High Performance Grant, and the proportion of that grant that is available to support Slalom athletes, is known, the Committee will publish a separate document dealing with funding issues.

8.5 Acceptance of an offer to compete in specific races

Offers to compete in the races listed in Appendix B will be extended to athletes in accordance with their ranking order and the provisions for a released race outlined in section 10. Athletes will be asked to confirm their acceptance of the offer within 3 days so that any released boat spaces may be offered to the next ranked athletes.

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8.6 Deposits, Payments & Bills towards Team Athlete Expenses

Each event will include a variety of expenses for the Athlete. Once the teams for the events have been confirmed, we will work with the Athletes to help secure a variety of items in relation to the events.

8.6.1 Deposits / Pre- Payments

With this in mind, the athletes who accept the offer of a race or races can be asked to pay a deposit of €300.00 towards team accommodation, coaching, accreditation and transport in 2019.

We all understand that our sport is very expensive, with that in mind we will always try to secure the most inexpensive accommodation possible, but until we know who is attending are we able to divide the costings to get a cost per athlete.

Once accommodation is booked, withdrawal by any athlete may add to the costs incurred by the other participants in the race and, in those circumstances, it may not be possible to refund the deposit to the athlete who withdraws from a race or races.

8.6.2 Bills

At the end of each event, expenses will be calculated and Bills will be sent to the athlete for any additional expenses that have incurred and have not been paid for that event, i.e. Coaching, Car hire, et al.

Below are expense items for events but limited too:

- Accreditations
- Accommodation
- Food
- Coaching
- Water Fees
- Car Hire
- Other Transport; Flights; tolls
- Team Gear

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9 Selection Appeals Procedures

9.1 Right of Appeal

An athlete who fails to be selected may appeal against their non-selection.

Any appeal will proceed in accordance with the Canoeing Ireland Complaints and Appeals procedures, copies of which are available from the Canoeing Ireland office.

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10 Released Races and Released Boat Places

10.1 Boat allocations

10.1.1 Entries for ICF Level 1 and 2 Competitions

The ICF allow 3 boats per nation to be entered in each category for all Level 1 and level 2 competitions, i.e. 3 MK1, 3 WK1, 3 MC1 and 3 WC1.

There is also a 3 boat allocation for the XC2 category but it is not anticipated that Ireland will enter the XC2 category in 2019. If any suitably qualified athletes advise the HPU/Committee, during the period provided for the review of this document, that they intend to seek selection in XC2, the HPU/committee will provide a performance standard at that stage.

10.1.2 Entries for Level 3 Competitions

The entries are open without limitation of the number of boats per event and per federation. However, The Host National Federation can limit the number of boats per event per Federation with no less than 6 boats per event.

10.1.3 Entries for Level 4 Competitions

The organiser can set the number of entries per National Federation and per event.

10.2 Released race

In order to encourage the development of athletes, the HPU may reserve a particular race, such as a world cup, for athletes who are ranked below the top 3 places in their class.

For example, in a class which has more than three athlete who were pre-selected or who achieved the performance standard or who, although below the performance standard, are considered suitable for discretionary selection, the athletes who are ranked from four to six would be offered the opportunity to compete at the released race.

If any of the athletes ranked from 4 to 6 do not accept the offer to compete in this race, the released boat space will then be offered to those ranked 1 to 3 before, if a boat space or spaces still remain, being offered to athletes ranked below 6th provided that they are considered to be of a suitable standard to compete in the race.

10.3 Released Boat Places

In the event that an athlete, who has been selected to compete at a particular race or races, is unable to take part, the boat space will be released to the next ranked athlete in that class, provided that the next ranked athlete is considered by the committee to be of a suitable standard to compete in the race or races in question.

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10.4 Extreme Canoe Slalom

With the start of the Extreme Canoe Slalom categories in MCSLX and WCLSX, athletes will need to request at present their intentions to enter into this event. There are up to 2 boats per national federation per event for Level 1 and 2 competitions. For level 3 competitions, the organisers can set the number of entries per national Federation and per event.

At present we do not have selection for this event. You must notify us if you wish to participate in these events. We want to ensure equity and share out the race opportunities over the course of the season.

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11 Team Selection Pathway for the 2020 season excluding the Tokyo 2020 Olympics

It is proposed to host the Senior and U23 team selection races in October 2019 for two reasons;

1. To select the Senior and U23 athletes who will represent Ireland at European and World Championship races and Senior World Cup races.
2. To award athletes in each category the opportunity to compete for an available place on the Ireland squad at the Tokyo 2020 Test Event in October 2019. There will be a maximum of 2 places available per category.

11.1 U23 and Senior team selection event for the 2020

In order to facilitate athletes seeking to qualify a boat place for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and enable a good preparation period for the event, the HPU have proposed that the 2020 Irish Canoe Slalom Team Selection event for Senior and U23 athletes be held at Lee Valley, London in October 2019.

Preparations for this event are still at a preliminary stage. Complete details will be made available as soon as possible in 2019.

11.2 Selection process for 2020 U23 and Senior athletes

Athletes may achieve selection to the places available on the Senior and Under 23 teams, in the ranking order.

If an athlete qualifies a boat place for Ireland at the 2019 Senior World Championships they will receive automatic 2nd place qualification in their category on the 2020 Irish Canoe Slalom Team.

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12 Olympic Selection Policy for Tokyo 2020

The two opportunities for athletes to qualify a boat for Ireland in each of the 4 categories MK1, WK1, MC1 and WC1 will take place at the;

1. ICF Senior Canoe Slalom World Championships (WCH) in La Seu d'Urgell, 24th - 29th September 2019.
The athletes who qualify for the 2019 Irish Canoe Slalom Team will compete at the event.
2. ECA Senior Canoe Slalom European Championships (ECH) in Lee Valley, London, 15th - 19th May 2020.
The athletes who qualify for the 2020 Irish Canoe Slalom Team will compete at the event.

12.1 Contested and uncontested categories

Definition;

1. A contested category is a category with two or more athletes.
2. An uncontested category is a category with one athlete only.

12.2 Boat place qualified in a category at the 2019 WCH event

There will be a 3 race competition between athletes in a contested category to become the Canoeing Ireland and Team Ireland Olympic Athlete for Irish Canoe Slalom at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. The 2019 WCH will be the first of the 3 races.

The athlete who qualifies a boat place in a contested category at the WCH, will automatically receive qualification to attend the Tokyo 2020 Test Event in Tokyo during October 2019.

In addition the athlete;

- a. Will be deemed to have won the first of the 3 races.
- b. Will receive automatic 2nd place qualification in their category on the 2020 Irish Canoe Slalom Team.
- c. Will not be required to attend the 2020 Team Selection event at Lee Valley.
- d. Will have to compete in the next 2 races at the Tokyo 2020 Test Event in October 2019.

The athlete who qualified the boat place in an uncontested category will also receive automatic qualification on the 2020 Irish Canoe Slalom Team and will not be required to attend the 2020 Team Selection event at Lee Valley but is compelled to attend the Tokyo 2020 Test Event in October 2019.

Irish Canoe Slalom Selection Policy for 2019

12.3 Selection process for the Tokyo 2020 Test Event

The Tokyo 2020 Test Event is due to take place in Tokyo over 2 races on the 18th – 20th Oct and the 25th – 27th Oct 2019.

Athletes will compete at Senior and U23 team selection races in October 2019 for an available place on the Ireland squad at the Tokyo 2020 Test Event. There will be a maximum of 2 places available per category.

1. The athlete who finishes first in each category will automatically be awarded 1 of the 2 places available in that category and qualify to compete at the Tokyo 2020 Test Event.
2. If there is only 1 boat place available in a category after the 2019 Senior World Championships, i.e. a boat place for Tokyo 2020 was qualified at the WCH, then the athlete who qualified the boat place at the WCH and the athlete who finished first at the 2020 Selection races will be selected to attend the Tokyo 2020 Test Event in Tokyo.
3. If there are 2 places per category available after the 2019 Senior World Championships, i.e. no boat place for Tokyo 2020 was qualified, then the athletes who finished first and second in their respective categories at the 2020 Selection races will be selected to attend the Tokyo 2020 Test Event in Tokyo.

12.4 Boat place not qualified in a category at the WCH event

If a boat place is not qualified in a category at the WCH event athletes in that category will have to compete for a place on the 2020 Irish Canoe Slalom Team.

The top 3 Irish athletes in their category(s) who have qualified for the 2020 Irish Canoe Slalom Team will then compete at ECA Senior European Canoe Slalom Championships, Lee Valley, London, May 15-19th 2020.

The athlete(s) who secures a boat place for Ireland in their respective category will become a Canoeing Ireland and Team Ireland Olympic Athlete for Irish Canoe Slalom at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

Irish Canoe Slalom Selection Policy for 2019

12.5 Tokyo 2020 Test Event and Olympic Selection

The Tokyo 2020 Test Event is due to take place in Tokyo over 2 races on the 18th – 20th Oct and the 25th – 27th Oct 2019.

The races will form race #2 and race #3 in the 3 race competition to select the athlete in their respective category to become a Canoeing Ireland and Team Ireland Olympic Athlete for Irish Canoe Slalom at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

The athlete who qualifies a boat place in a contested category at the WCH, is deemed to have won the first of the 3 races.

The 2 athletes will compete in the 2 race Test Event.

The athlete who achieves 2 higher results or more over the competing athlete in the 3 race series will be deemed to have won the 3 race competition and will become a Canoeing Ireland and Team Ireland Olympic Athlete for Irish Canoe Slalom at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

12.6 Unforeseen Occurrence

Any unforeseen occurrence not covered by the articles of this Olympic Selection Policy for Tokyo 2020 will be referred too and dispositioned by the Canoeing Ireland HPU.

Irish Canoe Slalom Selection Policy for 2019

Appendix A

Information Bulletin regarding performance selection, on the basis of results achieved in defined races for the Senior, Under 23, and Junior teams that will represent Ireland in 2019.

This bulletin details provisional information regarding performance selection to the Senior, Under 23 and Junior teams that will represent Ireland in 2019.

A subsequent bulletin or bulletins will only be issued if further information becomes available.

Selection Events

For Juniors:

Performance Selection may be achieved on the basis of competing in 2 races. Athletes will have 2 runs each day. Results expressed as a percentage will be calculated on the basis of the 3 best runs out of the 4 on the following dates.

23rd March; The first race will take place for Junior Selection at Sluice Weir, Lucan, Co Dublin. This event is organised by the Irish Canoe Slalom Committee.

24th March; The second race for Junior Selection will be held in conjunction with the Irish Open at Sluice Weir, Lucan, Co Dublin. Organised by the Irish Canoe Slalom Committee

For U23 & Seniors:

Performance Selection may be achieved on the basis of results expressed as a percentage achieved in the following events to be held in La Seu D'Urgell, the 2019 Pyrenees Cup 2 and the 2019 Segre Cup.

13th April; The first race will be held during the Heats stage of the Pyrenees Cup 2 race. Athletes will have 2 runs.

14th April; The second race will be held at the semi-final stage of the Pyrenees Cup 2 race. Athletes will have 1 run only.

19th April; The third race will be held on day 1 of Segre Cup race, La Seu, D'Urgell. Athletes will have 2 runs.

Calculation of Ranking Order

Each athlete's ranking order will be based on the sum of his or her best percentage of the top Irish MK1 athlete at each of the Selection races.

Irish Canoe Slalom Selection Policy for 2019

Performance Standard

Each athlete must achieve a Performance Standard that is expressed as the sum of their best percentage of the top Irish MK1 total in each race (i.e. the time plus penalties of the 1st placed Irish MK1 athlete, not the 1st placed athlete.)

An athlete need not achieve a particular percentage of the top Irish MK1 at each race but the sum of the best percentage achieved by an athlete in race one and race two, when added together, must be equal to or lower than the Total Performance Standard for the class.

This is best illustrated by the example shown below for the MK1 class.

Example of the Ranking Order Calculation for the MK1 Class.									
The Total Performance Standard, measured over two races, is 214% (107% * 2 = 214%) of the leading Irish MK1									
Race 1					Race 2				
Leading Irish MK1 Time			105		Leading Irish MK1 Time			110	
Race 1 Run 1		Race 1 Run 2			Race 2 Run 1		Race 2 Run 2		
Athlete	Time	%	Time	%	Athlete	Time	%	Time	%
Andy	105	100%	110	105%	Andy	125	114%	140	127%
Billy	110	105%	108	103%	Billy	120	109%	122	111%
Christy	128	122%	141	134%	Christy	150	136%	110	100%
Davey	131	125%	135	129%	Davey	140	127%	130	118%

Total Performance % for each athlete	
Athlete	TOTAL of Best % in each Race
Andy	214%
Billy	212%
Christy	222%
Davey	243%

Each Athlete in Ranking Order			Achieved Total Performance Standard of 214% Y/N
Ranking Order	Athlete	TOTAL of Best % in each Race	
1	Billy	212%	Yes
2	Andy	214%	Yes
3	Christy	222%	No
4	Davey	243%	No

Irish Canoe Slalom Selection Policy for 2019

Table 1: The time, including penalties, of each athlete seeking performance selection to the Irish team for the 2019 season will be calculated as a percentage of the time, including penalties, of the top Irish MK1 athlete in each race and the sum of the percentages from the two races must be EQUAL TO or BELOW the TOTAL Performance Percentage that is shown below.

Target Percentage of the leading MK1 to be achieved in each race. This is provided for guidance purposes but it is the Total Performance Percentage (equal to Target % *2) that must be achieved.			
	Senior	Under 23	Junior
MK1	107	110	120
WK1	132	142.5	145
MC1	118	120	135
WC1	143.5	150	162

Total Performance Percentage of the leading Irish MK1 athlete to be achieved by adding the percentages achieved in the two races			
	Senior	Under 23	Junior
MK1	214	220	240
WK1	264	285	290
MC1	236	240	270
WC1	287	300	324

Table 2: Number of runs available to all Senior athletes at the selection races

Senior Races in La Seu D'Urgell	No of Runs available to all athletes	No of Runs, in each race, that contribute to the calculation of Selection Ranking	No of Runs, in each race, to be Discarded for the calculation of Selection Ranking
Race 1	2	1	1
Race 2	1	1	0
Race 3	2	1	1

Irish Canoe Slalom Selection Policy for 2019

Schedule of 2019 Selection Process Key Dates

Activity	Date	Relationship to Scheduled Race date
Selection Race Entry: Last date for entries to be received, by email, to performance@canoe.ie and by post to the offices of Canoe Slalom Ireland	28 th February	
Payment Due date of entry fee	28 th February	
Pre-Selection Application: Last date for applications. It is sufficient to apply by email, to performance@canoe.ie unless there is supporting documentation that cannot be scanned and which should be posted to Canoeing Ireland.	Juniors 23 rd February U23 & Seniors 12 th March	One month prior to the date of the first selection race. Applications will only be accepted after this date if the exceptional circumstances, on which the application is based, occur or first become apparent after this date.
Discretionary selection: Last Date for applications due to exceptional circumstances i.e. illness, injury or bereavement. It is sufficient to apply by email, to performance@canoe.ie unless there is supporting documentation that cannot be scanned and which should be posted to Canoeing Ireland.	Juniors 26 th March U23 & Seniors 24 th April	7 days after the 2 nd selection race, 26 th of April
Team Announcement: of 2019 Irish Canoe Slalom Teams	27 th April	Via Email and website
Appeals: Last date for receipt concerning selection. It is sufficient to apply by email, to performance@canoe.ie unless there is supporting documentation that cannot be scanned and which should be posted to Canoeing Ireland.	3 rd May	To be received within 7 days of the announcement, by the slalom committee, of the teams that are provisionally selected to represent Ireland.

Irish Canoe Slalom Selection Policy for 2019

Appendix B

2019 Events for Selected Athletes

Senior Team Events

Start Date	End Date	Event	Location
30/05/2019	02/06/2019	Senior European Championships	Pau, France
14/06/2019	16/06/2019	World Cup 1	Lee Valley, UK
21/06/2019	23/06/2019	World Cup 2	Bratislava
28/06/2019	30/06/2019	World Cup 3	Tacen
30/08/2019	01/09/2019	World Cup 4 Release Race	Markkleeberg
06/09/2019	08/09/2019	World Cup Final	Prague
24/09/2019	29/09/2019	Senior World Championships	La Seu d'Urgell

***NB World Cup 4 at Markkleeberg** will be designated as a released race and reserved for athletes outside of the top three ranked athletes in each senior class, as outlined in section 10.2 of this policy.

Junior and U23 Events

Start Date	End Date	Event	Location
04/07/2019	07/07/2019	Junior and Under 23 European Championships	Liptovsky Mikulas
16/07/2019	21/07/2019	Junior and Under 23 World Championships	Krakow, Poland

Irish Canoe Slalom Selection Policy for 2019

Appendix C

Extract from ICF Rules concerning Age Limits

http://www.canoeicf.com/icf/Aboutoursport/Canoe-Slalom/Rules-and-education/main/0/text_files/file/ICF%20Canoe%20Slalom%20Competition%20Rules%20013.pdf

3.4 The first year a competitor can compete in an ICF or International competition is the year in that their 15th birthday falls in. The last year they can compete in a Junior category is the year that their 18th birthday falls in. The last year he/she can compete in Under 23 category is the year that their 23rd birthday falls in.

6.2.2 A competitor may not participate in more than two (2) team events.

42.2 Age Limits

42.2.1 In the individual events of MK1, WK1, MC1, WC1, an athlete may only enter and compete in the same event in either Junior or U23. For these events Athletes may enter different events in different age groups.

42.2.2 In the C2M event an Athlete may enter in both age groups with different partners as long as they comply with Rule 3.4. They may not enter both age groups with the same partner.

42.2.3 Before the competition, the Team Manager must present an official document such as a passport or identification card that includes a photo, for age confirmation purposes of the competitors (Refer to Rule 3.4)

42.3 Team Events

Where a Federation does not have sufficient Athletes to make an entry in a Team event at an age group then in this case, up to two Athletes may compete in both age groups in the same Team event to complete a team as long as they comply with Rules 3.4 and 6.2.2

Irish Canoe Slalom Selection Policy for 2019

Appendix D

Extract from ECA Rules concerning Age Limits

<http://www.canoe-europe.org/index.php/documents/slalom/differences-slalom>

SLALOM:

ECA Slalom Championships will be held every year

Junior and U23 Championships will be organized together

Each nation can enter 3 boats per discipline in each category (3 for juniors, 3 for U23 and 3 for seniors).

Senior Championships should be organized during three and Junior and U23 European Championships should be organized during four days. Every Championships must have defined daily programme according to the disciplines. Only in exceptional circumstances, because of TV needs, the programme can deviate from standardized programme, but it has to be harmonized with ECA until the end of November the year before the championships.

ECA introduces its own competition format for advancing from heats to semi-finals and finals. From heats the following number of boats per category advances to the semi-finals: K1M: 30 boats; C1M: 20 boats; K1W: 20 boats; C2: 20 boats; C1W: 15 boats

From semifinal the following number of boats per category advances to the finals: K1M: 15 boats; C1M: 10 boats; K1W: 10 boats; C2: 10 boats; C1W: 8 boats

The same Competition format stays for one Olympic period. After four years on the base of entries analysis new format for advancing from heats to semi-final and final is introduced.

In all the other cases when ECA rules differences are not defined, ICF Rules for World Championships (Senior or Junior and U23) apply at ECA European Championships.

Only one run is organized in team event.

Entries for Junior and U23 events:

Any athlete may only enter the same event e. g. K1M once (either Junior or U23)

An athlete may enter an event in one age group and a team event (teams or C2) in the other age group (so long as they comply with rule 3.4), even if they are entered in a team event in the first age group.

i.e. An athlete who is U18 may enter Junior K1M, Junior K1M Teams and also U23 K1M Teams and/or U23 C2M.

End of Document