Canoe Sprint & Paracanoe Selection Policy 2021

Junior, U23 & Senior

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0.List of abbreviations (in alphabetical order)

CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CI	Canoeing Ireland
CSIC	Canoe Sprint Ireland Committee
DNF	Did not finish
ECA	European Canoe Association
HPU	High Performance Unit
ICF	International Canoe Federation
ICSC	Irish Canoe Slalom Committee
NGB	National Governing Body
ODR	Olympic Discipline Representative
PD	Performance Director
SP	Selection Panel

1 Introduction

1.0 Purpose

The Purpose of this selection policy is to outline the processes which will lead to the selection of athletes to represent Ireland at the identified Junior, U23 and Senior international canoe sprint and paracanoe competitions in 2021. The selection policy is designed to allow athletes to maximise preparations and performances at the European and World Championships, and World Cups in 2021 through a clear and objective selection process. The nomination process of any athlete who secures an Olympic boat space to the Olympic Federation of Ireland is outlined in a separate document which will be available in December 2020.

1.1 Canoeing Ireland Strategic Performance Objectives – 2028

By 2028, Canoeing Ireland will have a world-class high-performance system. This system will help foster our full potential of being fully represented in canoe sprint at the highest level of international competition (Olympic Games, World Championships, European Championships) in all classes (K1W, K1M, C1W, C1M and crew boats) and in all age categories (Senior, U23, U18) whilst delivering podium performances.

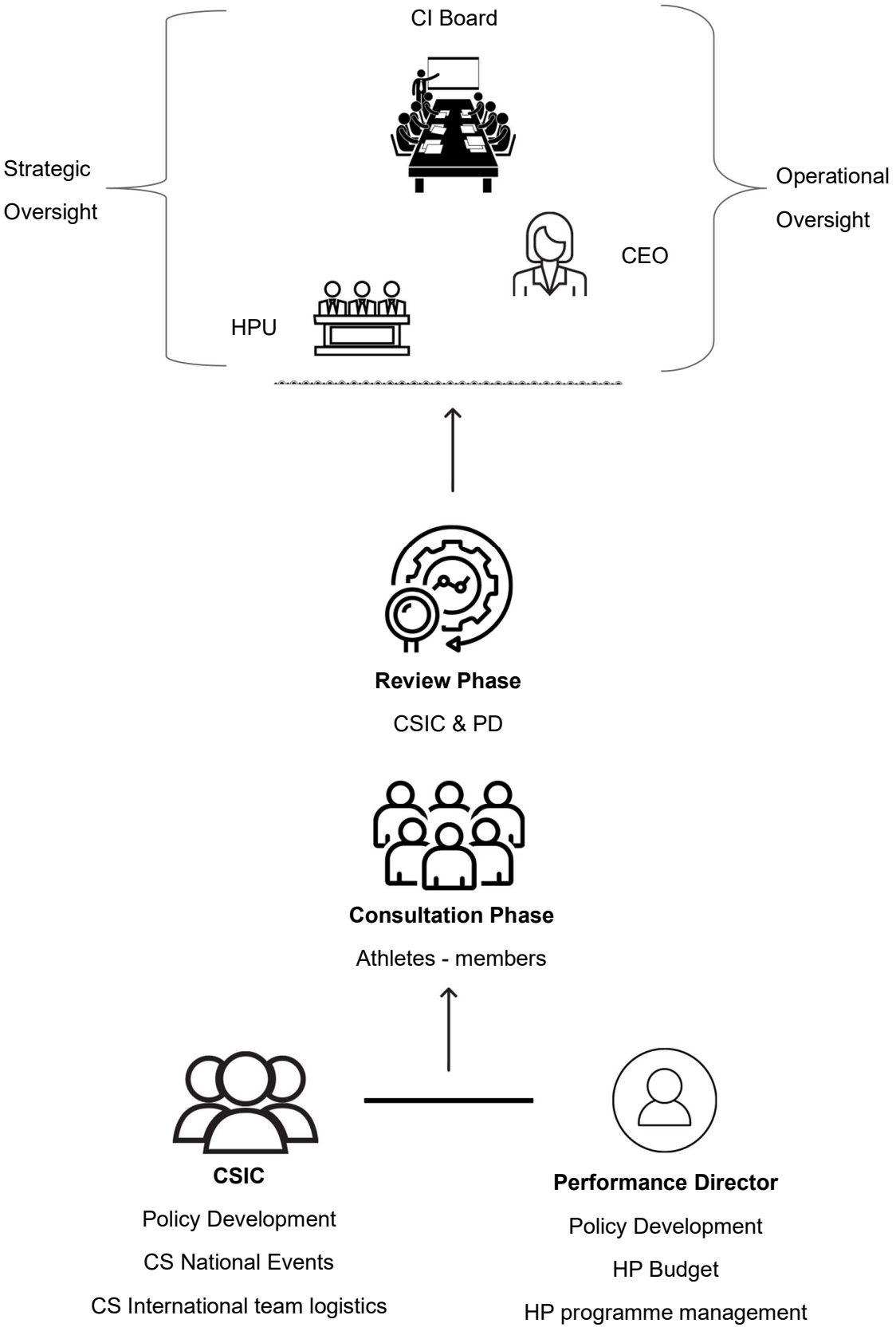
The 2021 canoe sprint selection policy will support optimal performance delivery at international events through a robust system that performance and development athletes can benchmark their progress on. The Olympic Hopes Regatta will be used to provide additional international opportunities to developing junior athletes. This 2021 canoe sprint selection policy has been developed by the Canoeing Ireland Performance Director (PD) and the Canoe Sprint Ireland Committee (CSIC).

2. Athlete Eligibility

To be eligible to compete for Ireland, athletes must meet and maintain for the duration of the 2021 competition season the following athlete eligibility criteria:

I. Be a current registered member of Canoeing Ireland who is eligible to represent Ireland at ICF canoe sprint events in accordance with ICF rules and have no outstanding debt to Canoeing Ireland or any of its technical committees.
II. Hold an Irish passport in their name, or a UK passport showing their place of birth as being on the Island of Ireland.
III. Is not the subject of a doping violation investigation or suspension.
IV. Is fit to perform to the best of their ability.
V. Has signed the athlete agreement found at the end of this 2021 selection policy and the subsequent athlete contract.

3. The Key Stakeholders and process outline



4. The Selection Panel

4.0 Purpose of the Selection Panel

The Selection Panel (SP) will oversee the implementation of the 2021 selection policies for both Olympic canoe sport disciplines. The SP will ensure the 2021 canoe sprint selection policy is administered in a fair, transparent and effective manner.

4.1 Construct of Selection Panel

The SP will be convened and chaired by the Canoeing Ireland Olympic Discipline Representative (ODR). The selection panel will be ratified by the Canoeing Ireland CEO. The SP will consist of the following 5 members:

I. The Olympic Discipline Representative
II. The Performance Director
III. One member of the CSIC
IV. One member of the ICSC
V. One independent member*

*Independent member can be from another NGB or a retired canoe sport athlete from any discipline.

4.2 The remit of the Selection Panel

The SP can only consider an athlete who meets and maintains the athlete eligibility criteria set out in section 2. The SP shall have the final determination, acting reasonably, as to whether an individual athlete meets the athlete eligibility criteria.

The SP will maintain a ranking profile of all athletes endeavouring to achieve placement on the 2021 Irish canoe sprint team. Ranking will be achieved through a number of agreed selection events explained later in this policy. On completion of the ranking profile the SP will present the provisional Irish canoe sprint team for 2021 to the CSIC. An official team announcement will be made by the PD to the successful athletes when the window for appeals closes and no appeals have been lodged in respect of any team placements. On completion of all appeals and notifications to athletes, the CSIC will publish the official Irish canoe sprint team for 2021.

4.3 Conflicts of Interest

Any member of the SP shall declare any conflicts or potential conflicts of interest and shall refrain from participation in the discussion of and any vote in respect of any selection matter in which they have a material conflict of interest.

A conflict of interest might occur when, for example:

- A Selection Panel member is a club coach to a particular athlete vying for selection.
- A Selection Panel member is closely aligned or is a member of a club for which an athlete vying for selection is also a member of.
- A Selection Panel member is a family member or close friend of an athlete vying for selection.
- Or any circumstance where a Selection Panel member has a personal relationship with an athlete or athletes vying for selection which could influence his or her decision, or him or her stands to gain in any way from the outcome of a selection decision.

5. 2021 Irish Canoe Sprint Team Selection Policy Terms & Conditions

5.0 Previous selection policies or criteria can have no bearing on this 2021 selection policy.

5.1 No athlete can be considered for selection for the 2021 Irish canoe sprint team by the SP if they do not meet and maintain the athlete eligibility criteria set out in section 2 above.

5.2 An athlete who for any reason, fails to maintain eligibility may be removed from the 2021 Irish canoe sprint team. Eligibility issues will be communicated in the first instance by the PD. Any athlete who has been removed from the 2021 Irish canoe sprint team will be replaced by the next ranked athlete.

5.3 Athletes for all major international events must comply with International Canoe Federation (ICF) Rules and European Canoe Association (ECA) Rules. Entry to ICF and ECA events is restricted to members of the National Governing Bodies affiliated to the ICF and the ECA. In Ireland, the affiliated National Governing Body is Canoeing Ireland.

5.4 The selection of an athlete for inclusion on the 2021 Irish canoe sprint team shall be confirmed to that athlete in writing by the PD within 7 days of the official team being agreed on and all appeals, if any, have concluded.

5.5 If an athlete's selection is made subject to that athlete meeting further conditions, such further conditions will be communicated as soon as possible to the athlete.

5.6 All entries of Irish canoe sprint athletes to canoe sprint/paracanoe events must be made through the Canoeing Ireland office following the selection of athletes pursuant to the 2021 selection policy.

5.7 Proposals to amend this 2021 selection policy may be put forward by the SP where the SP forms a collective opinion that amendments are necessary and such amendments are determined to be in the best interest of athletes and Canoeing Ireland. Proposals to amend this 2021 policy will be put forward by the SP to the CSIC and the CEO of Canoeing Ireland. All proposed amendments must be ratified by the Canoeing Ireland HPU and Board. All final amendments will be clearly identified and will be binding on all athletes.

5.8 No athlete is eligible for pre-selection for the 2021 national team. However, if only one athlete meets the eligibility criteria for selection, they may follow the easier Selection Pathway A (outlined in Section 6.2).

5.9 Canoeing Ireland reserves the right to deselect an athlete who has been found guilty of a disciplinary offence under Canoeing Ireland /ICF rules. This includes doping offences.

6. The Selection Process

The 2021 selection process involves 4 key phases:

- Phase 1: Application Process (Dates)
- Phase 2: Assessment Phase (Dates)
- Phase 3: Mid-Season (Dates)
- Phase 4: Late-Season (Dates)

6.1 Phase 1

The PD will receive and compile all athlete applications and determine which Selection Pathway will be used for each discipline.

6.2 Phase 2

The athletes compete across a series of assessment events outlined in Table 1 below. Depending on the number of athletes applying to compete in each event, one of two Selection Pathways may be used:

- ***Selection Pathway A***: Only one athlete meets eligibility requirements for this event.
  - Minimum standard achieved during Phase 2 assessments.

- ***Selection Pathway B***: Two or more athletes meet eligibility requirements for this event.

  - Best ranked athlete at the end of Phase 2 assessments.

Following Phase 2, the teams will be announced for Phase 3.

6.3 Phase 3

Phase 3 will include the;

- Olympic Qualifiers - World Cup 1 & Senior European Championships
- Junior/U23 European and Junior/U23 World Championships.

6.4 Phase 4

Phase 4 occurs after these mid-season international competitions conclude and includes a final assessment event 4. Following Assessment Race 4, a mid-season review of performance data will determine the final selection for the Senior World Championships and Olympic Hopes Regatta. After the final regatta of the season, a review of the full season is conducted, and plans are put in place for the 2022 season. Selection criteria for all events are outlined in Section 5 below. The timelines for the Senior and Junior selection process are outlined in Figures 3.1a and 3.1b, respectively. Key meetings and competition dates for the 2021 season are listed in Tables 3.2 and 3.3, respectively.

NOTE: The ranking system operating in Selection Pathway B and outlined in Tables 3.1a and 3.1b is based on the lowest ranking (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.) across the 3 key assessment races conducted during Phase 2. Rankings are based on Final finishing position in the chosen event.

6.5 Ties

In the event of a tie based on rankings, the following process will determine final selection:

1) Final times from all 3 Assessment Races in Phase 2 will be corrected for wind speed and averaged.

2) Best average time will be selected (±2% margin of error).

3) If times are within a 2% margin of error, a final decider race will be run on Sunday May 2nd.

6.6 Extenuating circumstances

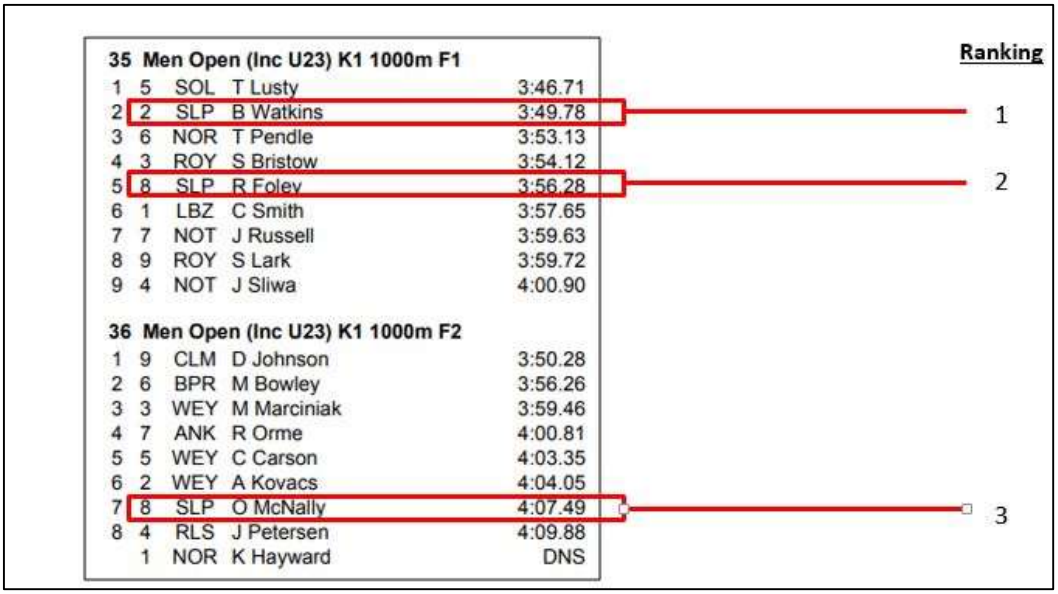
If an athlete misses an event due to extenuating circumstances such as an injury or illness which is certified by a practicing GP or physiotherapist, the following protocols will be applied.

1) Final times from 2 other Assessment Races in Phase 2 will be corrected for wind speed and averaged.

2) Average final time will then be used to rank the missing event.

3) If there is a tie at the end of this process, a final decider race will be run on Sunday, May 2nd.

NOTE: In the case of injury or illness, it is the athletes' responsibility to submit a letter from their medical practitioner (doctor or physiotherapist) a minimum of 2 days prior to the scheduled assessment event. In all cases submissions shall be made to the PD. In the case of Selection Pathway B, absence from more than 1 scheduled event due to illness or injury will result in the athlete being withdrawn from the selection process. In the case of an athlete not finishing a scheduled assessment event due to equipment failure (DNF), a member of the SP will be on-hand to document the equipment failure and a note will be submitted to the SP, as part of the race report. A list of defined equipment failures is being drafted by the SP and will accompany the final selection policy as an appendix.



					Ranking
35	**Men Open (Inc U23) K1 1000m F1**				
1	5	SOL	T Lusty	3:46.71	
2	2	SLP	B Watkins	3:49.78	1
3	6	NOR	T Pendle	3:53.13	
4	3	ROY	S Bristow	3:54.12	
5	8	SLP	R Foley	3:56.28	2
6	1	LBZ	C Smith	3:57.65	
7	7	NOT	J Russell	3:59.63	
8	9	ROY	S Lark	3:59.72	
9	4	NOT	J Sliwa	4:00.90	
36	**Men Open (Inc U23) K1 1000m F2**				
1	9	CLM	D Johnson	3:50.28	
2	6	BPR	M Bowley	3:56.26	
3	3	WEY	M Marciniak	3:59.46	
4	7	ANK	R Orme	4:00.81	
5	5	WEY	C Carson	4:03.35	
6	2	WEY	A Kovacs	4:04.05	
7	8	SLP	O McNally	4:07.49	3
8	4	RLS	J Petersen	4:09.88	
	1	NOR	K Hayward	DNS	

Figure 1: Example of ranking system from past results (BCU Regatta, April 2019)

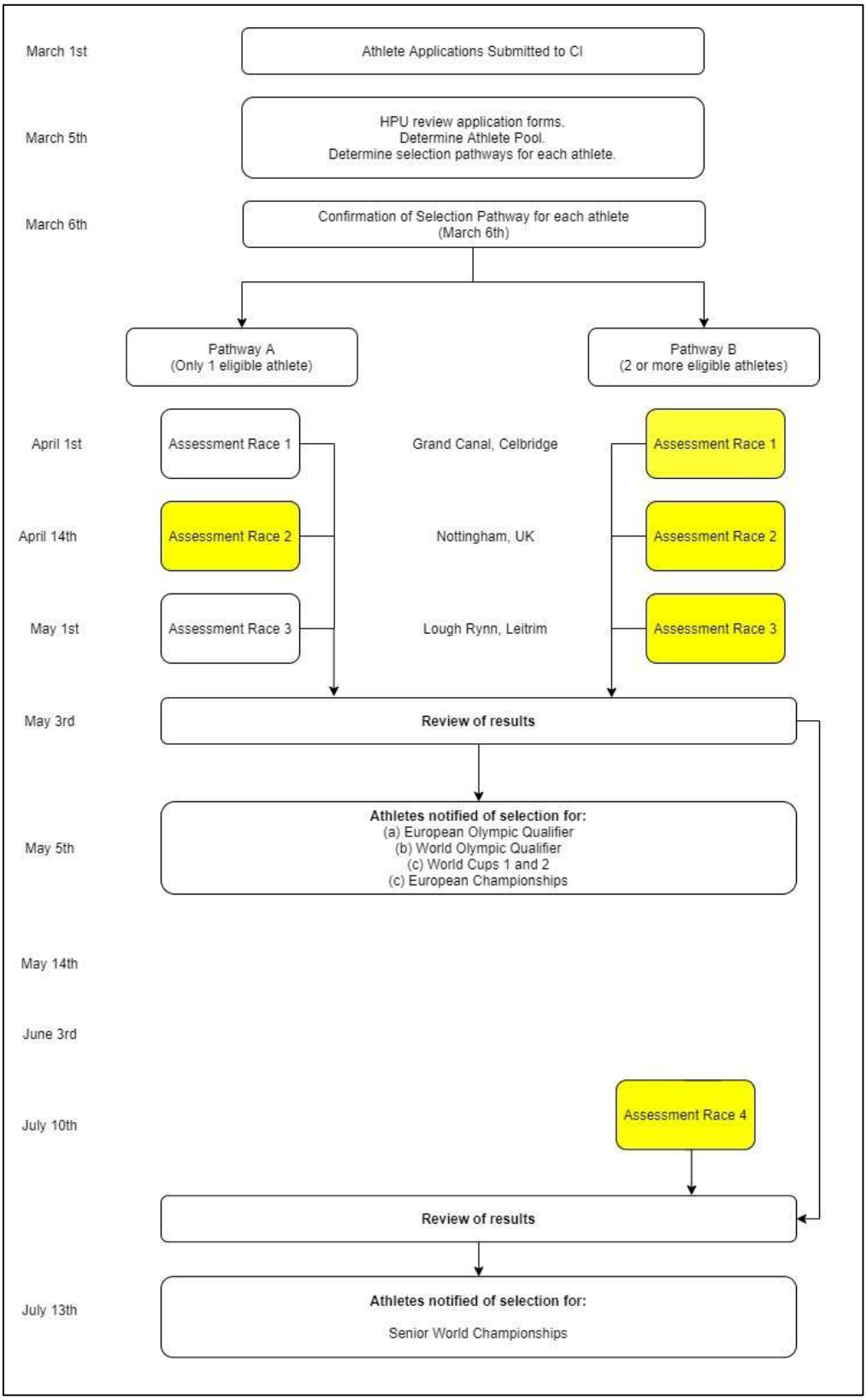


Figure 2: Timeline for senior selection process

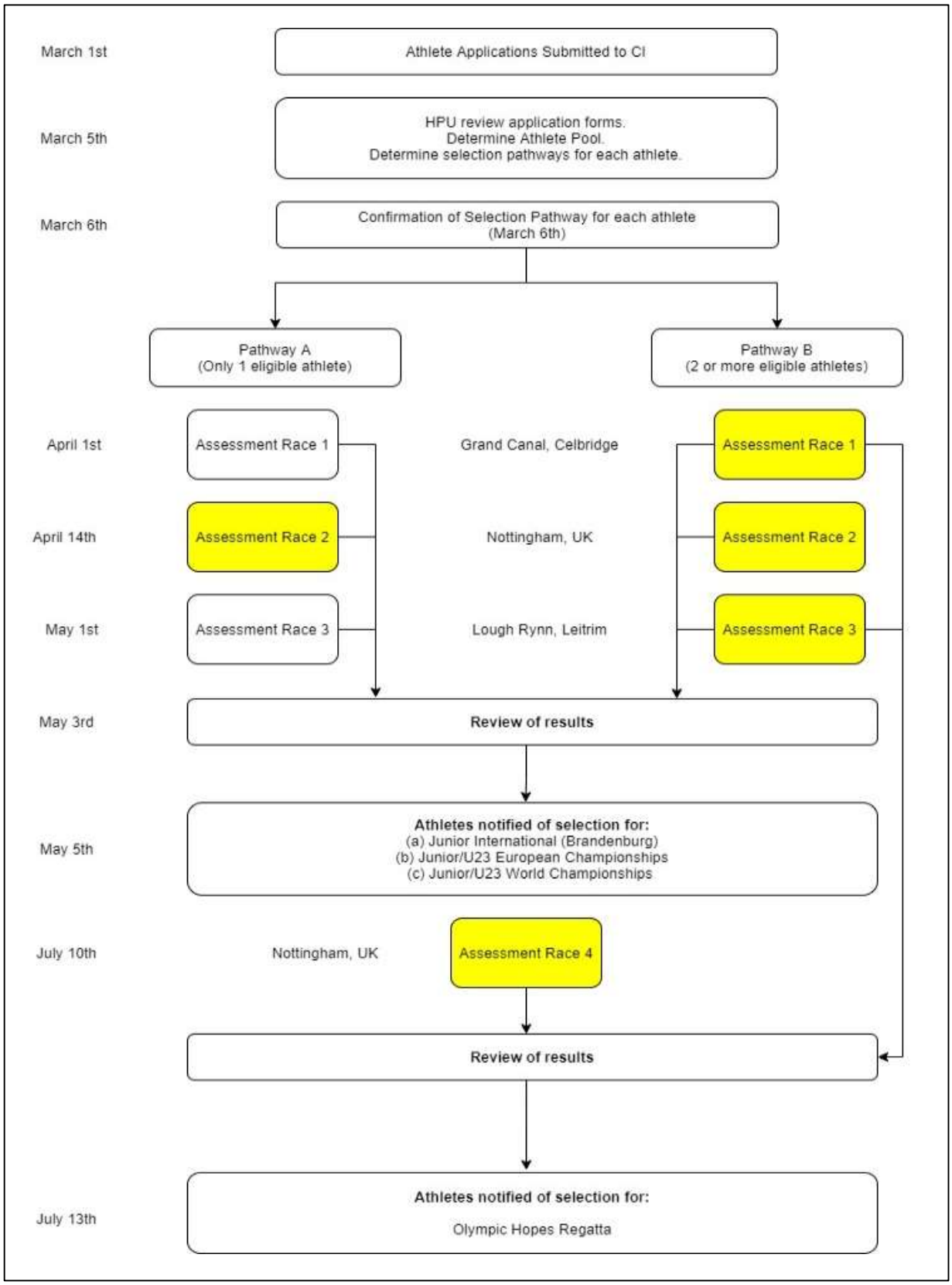


Figure 2a: Timeline for junior/U23 selection process

7. Key Meeting Dates

Table 1 key meeting dates for 2021

Event	Requirement	Date
Application Deadline	All senior, U23, Junior U18, U16, and U14 athletes wishing to compete for Ireland in 2021 to submit application form to *performance@canoe.ie*	1st March
SP Phase 1 Review	SP review all applications, validate athlete performance data and confirm selection pathways for each discipline.	5th March
Confirmation of Selection Pool	The PD notifies all athletes of selection pathway for their chosen disciplines.	6th March
CSIC Meeting	CSIC to discuss final preparations for 2021 assessment phase. Confirm all logistics arranged for Assessment Races 1, 2 and 3.	10th March
CSIC Meeting	CSIC to conduct mid-phase review of assessment results. Confirm all logistics arranged for Assessment 3.	20th April
SP Phase 2 Review	SP review all Phase 2 results, validate athlete performance data and confirm selection for each team and event.	3rd May
CSIC Meeting	CSIC to conduct Phase 2 review. Confirm all logistics in place for Olympic Qualifiers and World Cup 1.	5th May
Confirmation of Selection	PD notifies all athletes selected for the following teams: Olympic Qualifiers and World Cup 1 Junior International Regatta (Brandenburg) Junior/U23 European Championships Junior/U23 World Championships	5th May
Announcement	Official announcement of 2021 Canoe Sprint Teams	8th May
SP Phase 3 Review	SP conduct mid-season review of performance data. Confirm events where athletes selected for Senior World Championships.	14th June
CSIC Meeting	CSIC to confirm all logistics in place for Assessment Race 4 and Junior/U23 European and World Champs.	16th June
Confirmation of Selection	PD notifies athletes selected for the following teams: Senior World Championships Team Olympic Hopes Regatta Team	13th July
SP Phase 4 Review	SP conduct end-of-season review of performance data.	3rd October
Pre-AGM meeting	CSIC and PD finalise draft selection policy for 2022 season. Draft reports prepared for AGM. PD to publish draft selection policy for public review.	27th October
2021 AGM	CSIC to hold 2021 AGM. Review of 2021 season. Discussion of draft selection policy. Election of new officers.	27th November

8. Key Competition Dates

Table 2: Key competition dates

Event ID	Phase	Date	Events	Location
IRL1		January 30th 2021	Winter Assessment 1	Grand Canal, Celbridge
IRL2		February 6th 2021	Junior 5K Series	Salmon Leap CC
IRL3		February 27th 2021	Winter Assessment 2	Grand Canal, Celbridge
IRL4		March 6th 2021	Junior 5K Series	Salmon Leap CC
IRL5		March 27th 2021	Junior 5K Series	Salmon Leap CC
IRL6		April 1st 2021	Assessment Race 1	Grand Canal, Celbridge
UK1		April 17th – 18th 2021	Assessment Race 2	Nottingham, UK
IRL7		May 1st 2021	Assessment Race 3	Lough Rynn, Leitrim
OLY 1		May 12th – 13th 2021	European Continental Olympic Qualifier	Szeged, HUN
SEN 1		May 14th – 16th 2021	World Cup 1	Szeged, HUN
PARA 1		May 14th – 16th 2021	World Cup 1	Szeged, HUN
JUN 1		TBC	Junior International Regatta	Brandenburg, Germany
OLY 2		May 20th 2021	Global Olympic Qualifier	Bernal, RUS
SEN 2		May 21st – 23rd 2021	World Cup 2	Bernal, RUS
SEN 3		June 3rd – 6th 2021	Senior European Championships	Duisburg, GER
PARA 2		June 3rd – 6th 2021	Paracanoe European Championships	Duisburg, GER
JUN 2		June 24th – 27th 2021	Junior and U23 European Championships	Poznan, POL
UK 2		July 10th – 11th 2021	Assessment Race 4	Nottingham, UK
JUN 2		July 15th -18th 2021	Junior and U23 World Championships	Montemar, POR
OLY 3 **PARA 3**		August 3rd-8th 2021 August 25th – 6th September 2021	Tokyo 2021 Olympic Games Paralympic Games	Tokyo, Japan
JUN 3		24th – 26th September 2021	Olympic Hopes Regatta	Racice, CZE
IRL 7		October 1st 2021	Irish National Sprint Championships	Lough Rynn, Leitrim

9. Selection Criteria

Table 3: Selection Criteria for World Cup 1

Category	Performance Criteria
K1/C1 Olympic	1) Top 2 ranked athletes in Phase 2 who have achieved minimum performance criteria at one of the assessment events. 2) Finishes Top 12 at Assessment Race 2.
K2 Olympic	1) Both crew members have achieved minimum performance criteria in their K1 at one of the Phase 2 assessment events. 2) Crew Finishes Top 5 at Assessment Race 2.
K4 Olympic	1) All crew members have achieved minimum performance criteria in their K1 at one of the Phase 2 assessment events. 2) Crew Finishes Top 3 at Assessment Race 2.
Paracanoe	1) Top 2 ranked athletes who have achieved minimum performance criteria at one of the Phase 2 assessment events. 2) Finishes Top 9 at Assessment Race 2.

Table 3a: Selection criteria for Olympic Qualifiers and Senior European Championships

Category	Performance Criteria
K1/C1 Olympic	1) Top ranked athlete in Phase 2 who has achieved minimum performance criteria at one of the assessment events. 2) Finishes Top 9 at Assessment Race 2.
K2 Olympic	1) Both crew members have achieved minimum performance criteria in their K1 at one of the Phase 2 assessment events. 2) Crew Finishes Top 3 at Assessment Race 2.
K4 Olympic	1) All crew members have achieved minimum performance criteria in their K1 at one of the Phase 2 assessment events. 2) Crew finishes Top 2 at Assessment Race 2.
Paracanoe	1) Top ranked athlete who has achieved minimum performance criteria at one of the Phase 2 assessment events. 2) Finishes Top 9 at Assessment Race 2.

Table 3b: Selection criteria for Senior World Championships

Category	Performance Criteria
K1/C1 Olympic	1) Top 18 finish in WC1 or European Championships. 2) If two athletes achieve top 18 result, highest placed athlete from Phase 2 is selected. 3) If no athlete achieves top 18 result, highest ranked athlete from Assessment 4.
K2 Olympic	1) Top 18 finish in WC1 or European Championships. 1) If two crews with a top 18 result, highest placed crew in Phase 2 is selected. 2) If no crew achieves top 18 result, top 3 result from Assessment 4.
K4 Olympic	1) Top 18 finish in WC1 or European Championships. 2) If two crews with a top 18 result, highest placed crew is selected. 3) If no crew achieves top 18 result, top 3 result from Assessment 4.
Paracanoe	1) Attain a top 18 finish in WC1 or European Championships. 2) If two athletes achieve top 18 result, highest placed athlete in Phase 2 is selected. 3) If no athlete achieves top 18 result, highest ranked athlete from Assessment 4.

Table 3c: Selection criteria for Junior International Regatta (Brandenburg)

Category	Performance Criteria
K1/C1 Olympic	1) Top 2 ranked athletes in Phase 2 who have achieved minimum performance criteria at one of the assessment events. 2) Finishes Top 9 in U18 category or Top 3 in U16 category at Assessment Race 2.
K2 Olympic	1) Both crew members have achieved minimum performance criteria in their K1 at one of the Phase 2 assessment events. 2) Crew Finishes Top 5 in U18 category at Assessment Race 2.
K4 Olympic	1) All crew members have achieved minimum performance criteria in their K1 at one of the Phase 2 assessment events. 2) Crew Finishes Top 3 in U18 category at Assessment Race 2.

Table 3d: Selection criteria for Junior/U23 World Championships

Category	Performance Criteria
K1/C1 Olympic	1) Top ranked Junior or U23 athlete in Phase 2 who has achieved minimum performance criteria at one of the Phase 2 Assessment events. 2) Finishes Top 9 at U18 or U23 category at Assessment Race 2.
K2 Olympic	1) Top ranked crew where both crew members have achieved minimum performance criteria in their K1 at one of the Phase 2 Assessment events. 2) Crew Finishes Top 5 at Assessment Race 2.
K4 Olympic	1) Top ranked crew where all crew members have achieved minimum performance criteria in their K1 at one of the Phase 2 assessment events. 2) Crew Finishes Top 3 at Assessment Race 2.

Table 3e: Selection criteria for Olympic Hopes Regatta

Category	Performance Criteria
K1/C1 U15	1) Top ranked U15 athlete in Phase 2* who has achieved minimum performance criteria at one of the assessment events. 2) Finishes Top 6 U15 paddlers at Assessment Race 4. 3) Meets minimum performance criteria at Assessment Race 4.
K1/C1 U16	1) Top ranked U16 athlete in Phase 2* who has achieved minimum performance criteria at one of the assessment events. 2) Finishes Top 6 U16 paddlers at Assessment Race 4. 3) Meets minimum performance criteria at Assessment Race 4.
K1/C1 U17	1) Top ranked U17 athlete in Phase 2* who has achieved minimum performance criteria at one of the assessment events. 2) Finishes Top 6 U17 paddlers at Assessment Race 4. 3) Meets minimum performance criteria at Assessment Race 4.
K1/C1 U18	1) Top ranked U18 athlete in Phase 2* who has achieved minimum performance criteria at one of the assessment events. 2) Finishes Top 6 U18 paddlers at Assessment Race 4. 3) Meets minimum performance criteria at Assessment Race 4.

NOTE: Due to the Olympic Hopes Regatta taking place in late September, Phase 2 Assessment events for this regatta will include Assessment Race 1, Assessment Race 3, and Assessment Race 4. Athletes are encouraged to attend Assessment Race 2, however results at this regatta will not count towards selection for the Olympic Hopes Regatta.

10. Minumum standards

In order to be eligible to represent Ireland at International competitions in 2021, athletes must have achieved the minimum performance standard at an official assessment event or timed regatta within the 12 months prior to May 3rd 2021. Minimum Performance Standards for all athletes are listed in Tables 4 and 5 below:

Table 4: Minimum Performance Standards for Male Athletes

Men's Kayak	1000m	500m	200m
Senior	03:46	01:46	00:38.33
U23	03:56	01:51	00:40.00
Junior U18	04:06	01:56	00:41.66
Junior U17	04:16	02:01	00:43:33
Junior U16	04:26	02:06	00:45.00
Junior U15	04:36	02:11	00:46.66
Junior U14	04:46	02:16	00:48.33

Table 5: Minimum Performance Standards for Female Athletes

Women's Kayak	1000m	500m	200m
Senior	04:13	01:59	00:43.30
U23	04:23	02:04	00:45.18
Junior U18	04:33	02:09	00:47.05
Junior U17	04:43	02:14	00:48.65
Junior U16	04:53	02:19	00:50.80
Junior U15	05:03	02:24	00:52.35
Junior U14	05:13	02:29	00:54.45

Table 6: Minimum Performance Standards for ParaCanoe Athletes

Event	Men	Women
KL3	48.1	56.75
KL2	58.49	66.75
KL1	63.69	71.18
VL3	57.47	76.56
VL2	60.54	82.04

Table 7: Minimum Performance Standards for K2

Men's K2	**1000m**	**500m**	**200m**
Senior	03:27	01:38	00:35.33
U23	03:32	-	-
Junior U18	03:37	-	-
Women's K2			
Senior	04:00	01:49	00:40.66
U23	-	01:54	-
Junior U18	-	01:59	-

Table 8: Minimum Performance Standards for 5000m

Event	Minimal 5km Standard
Senior Men	22:39
Senior Women	25:48
Junior Men	23:46
Junior Women	28:26

NOTE: Minimum performance times set out in Tables 4 and 5 are taken from British Canoeing Racing Standards. U15 and U17 times are interpolated from U14, U16 and U18 times. Minimum performance times set out in Table 6 are calculated as the bottom 10% of paracanoe heat times from Szeged 2019. Table 7 is calculated from 75th percentile of combined heat and semifinal times from Szeged 2019 (senior) and combined times from Pitesti 2019 and Minsk 2016 (junior/U23). Where possible, data has been corrected for prevailing wind conditions. Table 8 is based on minimum 5k standard used by Canoe Marathon Ireland racing committee.

All times achieved during the Phase 2 Assessment Races will be corrected for wind speed using the following equation:

$$y = -0.00004x^5 + 0.0005x^4 + 0.0083x^3 – 0.1863x^2 + 1.4169x + 0.0196$$

Where x is the wind speed ($m.s^{-1}$) which occurred during a given race and y is the % correction factor applied to the minimum performance standards for that race. This equation has been developed using existing modelling data from 2 separate published resources (Barber, 2018; Higgins *et al.* 2016). The Barber study which was conducted in Canada, measured the aerodynamic drag of a sprint kayaker in a wind-tunnel data and on-water measurements of drag during 200m trials in different weather conditions. The Higgins study modelled hydrodynamic and aerodynamic drag across a range of 1000m K1 race velocities at an indoor nautical facility in Southampton and compared their predictive model against race data from the 2012 London Olympics. By combining data from both studies, the selection panel aims to more accurately compare performances from race to race and give each athlete the fairest opportunity to meet the standards for national selection. A graph of the correction equation is provided in Figure 3 below.

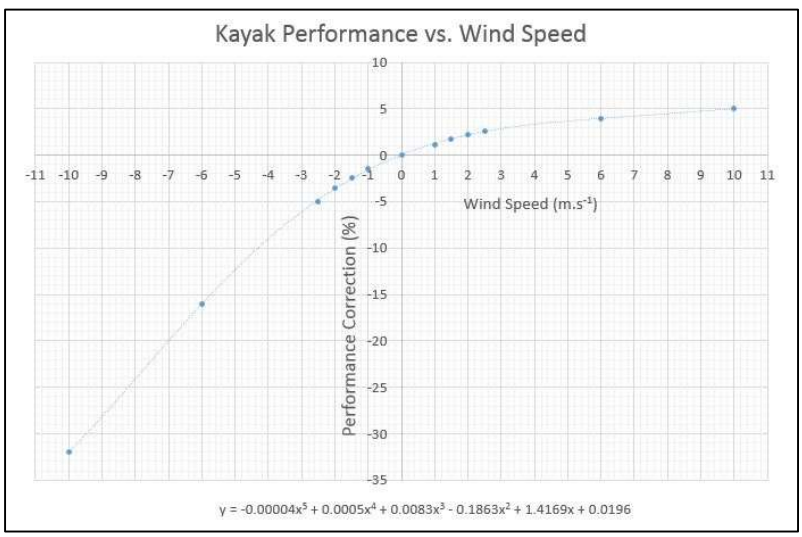


Figure 3: A graph of the equation to predict the effect of wind speed on kayak performance. Negative wind speeds indicate to head-wind conditions. Positive wind speeds indicate tail-wind conditions. Performance correction factor is added to finish time for tail-wind and subtracted from finish time for head-wind conditions.

Data combined from:

1) Higgins *et al.*, (2016) Development of a kayak race prediction including environmental and athlete effects. *Procedia Engineering* 147, 305-310.
2) Barber, H. L. (2018) Effect of wind in the field of play for elite Sprint kayakers. *Thesis submitted to the Department of Mechanical and Environmental Engineering, Carlton University, Ontario.*

11. Athlete funding contributions

Athletes meeting the selection criteria above and being the highest ranked Irish athlete in their event will qualify for the Olympic/Paralympic Qualifier.

Athletes achieving the criteria above and being the top two ranked Irish athletes in their event will qualify for WC1/WC2

Funding for athletes will be decided on when the HP grant is received. The PD and the CSIC will hold a planning meeting and agree on aspects of investment for the canoe sprint programme which will be in line with our strategic objectives. This meeting will take place in December every year.

12. Ongoing Assessment

It is important that athletes understand that performance will be reviewed on an ongoing basis throughout the season. For the 2021 season, the SP may de-select an athlete if:

- A senior athlete fails to maintain minimum performance standards on 3 or more consecutive occasions during the season.
- A junior athlete fails to achieve the minimum performance standards at Assessment Race 4.
- Sufficient evidence is available that the athlete is considered to be in breach of the Athlete's Code of Conduct, the Terms of Selection, or the Athlete's Contract.

13. Selection Appeal Procedures

13.1 An athlete who fails to be selected for the team set out in this Selection Policy may appeal against omission from that team in accordance with 13.2 of this procedure.

13.2 The sole grounds of any appeal by an athlete are that:

- An athlete's omission from the team was because of a failure by the Selection Panel to properly or fairly apply the Selection Criteria set out in the Selection Policy or;
- The Selection Panel demonstrated clear bias in favour of a selected athlete.
- Any appeal will proceed in accordance with the procedures set out below

13.3 Any athlete wishing to appeal against his/her omission from the team (herein after referred to as the "Appellant") shall email the CI Performance Director outlining the reasons together with supporting evidence to substantiate the appeal (herein after referred to as the "Initial Appeal"). Such an email must be received within 48 hours of the athlete receiving the outcome of the Selection Panel decision. The CI Performance Director will consider the Appellant's appeal and shall email an answer to the Appellant within 48 hours of receiving the Appellant's email (herein after referred to as the "Appeal Response").

13.4 If the Appellant is not satisfied with this response received pursuant to clause 13.3 above they may forward a further written Notice of Appeal to the Canoeing Ireland Chief Executive Officer at the Canoeing Ireland office, to be received within 48 hours of the date of the Appeal Response. The written Notice of Appeal should refer to any communications that the Appellant has had with the CI Performance Director in relation to the decision pursuant to clause 13.3. Communications referred to in clause 13.3 are not binding but they may be referred to in any appeal. Email ceo@canoe.ie

13.5 The written Notice of Appeal itself shall contain the succinct grounds for appeal and ideally should not exceed 2 pages/1000 words in length. The time limits for lodging the Notice of Appeal and accompanying appeals document is mandatory. Failure to comply with these time limits will result in an appeal being dismissed without consideration.

13.6 The written Notice of Appeal must also be accompanied by a contribution to the costs of the appeal of €200 payable by the Appellant by electronic transfer to Canoeing Ireland. This €200 sum will be refunded to the Appellant by Canoeing Ireland in the event the appeal is upheld.

13.7 The Chief Executive Officer shall supply copies of the written Notice of Appeal to the Selection Panel who shall be entitled to respond in writing within 5 working days, or such other

time as may be specified by the Chief Executive Officer (herein after referred to as the "Response").

13.8 The Chief Executive Officer shall without delay supply copies of the Response to the Appellant who may make further written representations (within 48 hours) in reply to the Response. The Appellant may request the Chief Executive Officer proceed with the Hearing of the Appeal (herein after referred to as "the Request for Hearing").

13.9 The Chief Executive Officer shall, following receipt of the Request for Hearing, constitute as expeditiously as possible a panel to hear the appeal (herein after referred to as "the Appeal Panel"). The Appeal Panel will comprise three members, namely:

- A member of the Canoeing Ireland Board nominated by the Chief Executive Officer.
- An ex-International Canoe Sport Athlete.
- An informed independent person who could be a member of another National Governing Body or the Sport Dispute Resolution Ireland Arbitration Panel (formerly Just Sport Ireland).

13.9.1 The Panel shall appoint one of its members to chair the appeal (herein after referred to as "the Appeal Panel Chairperson").

13.9.2 When constituting the Appeal Panel, the Chief Executive Officer shall have regard to the principle that the Appeal Panel should be and should be seen to be impartial and open-minded.

13.9.3 Time and Place of Appeal

13.9.4 The Chief Executive Officer shall notify all the parties concerned as soon as possible of the place and time of the appeal together with the names of the members of the Appeal Panel.

13.9.5 The Chief Executive Officer will as early as possible prior to the date of the appeal circulate to the individual members of the Appeal Panel, the Appellant, and the CI Performance Director copies of:

- The Initial Appeal.
- The written Notice of Appeal and other relevant documentation on which the Appellant wishes to rely.
- The Response.
- The Request for Hearing.
- Any further written representations.

13.9.6 The Appeal Panel is empowered to call witnesses, to seek expert advice as necessary and to hear evidence from persons nominated by the parties concerned, where requested. Strict rules of evidence do not apply but all involved should be aware that “hearsay” evidence is unlikely to carry as much weight as evidence within the direct knowledge of the parties and any witnesses.

13.9.7 The Appellant may be accompanied or represented at the hearing by a maximum of 2 people.

13.9.8 The Appeal Panel will hear the evidence in private unless the parties agree otherwise.

13.9.9 If at any time during the hearing there is any unreasonable behaviour in the reasonable opinion of the Appeal Panel Chairperson then the Appeal Panel Chairperson may elect to bring the proceedings to a close and thereafter the Appeal Panel will determine the appeal on the basis of the written and verbal submissions prior to that time.

14. Appeal Hearing Procedure and Decision

14.1 The Appeal Panel shall hear the appeal in the following order:

14.2 The Appellant will present his/her case without interruption, except for the purpose of clarification, from the Appeal Panel.

14.3 The Appeal Panel will ask questions.

14.4 The CI Performance Director will present his/her case without interruption, except for the purpose of clarification, from the Appeal Panel.

14.5 Either party may raise questions through the Appeal Panel Chairperson.

14.6 Each Party shall make final submissions to the Appeal Panel with the Appellant having the right to be heard last following which the appeal shall be concluded.

14.7 The Appeal Panel will consider the evidence and having done so shall decide and shall notify the parties in writing of its decision as soon as possible and preferably within 24 hours of the appeal hearing.

14.8 The Appellant can withdraw an appeal at any time.

15. Panel’s Recommendations

15.1 In the event of an appeal being upheld the Appeal Panel shall be entitled to make recommendations to the CI Performance Director having regard to:

- The timing of the selection cycle.
- The proximity of any Championships.
- The CI Performance Director will make every effort to have the Appeals Panel's recommendations implemented.

15.2 The CI Performance Director will provide a written report of any action taken or not taken to the Chief Executive Officer. If the Appeal Panel's recommendations are not implemented, the CI Performance Director shall state his/her reasons in his/her report. A copy of this report will be sent to the relevant parties.

15.3 A decision of the Appeal Panel may be appealed exclusively to Sport Dispute Solutions Ireland (Herein after referred to as the "SDSI"), for resolution in accordance with the SDSI Arbitration rules.

15.4 Any appeal to SDSI must be filed within seven (7) days from receipt of the Canoeing Ireland Appeals Panel decision by the party filing the appeal. Thereafter, the procedural rules of SDSI apply.

16. Athlete selection process agreement:

I _____ hereby acknowledge that:

1. I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the terms of selection as detailed in the 2021 Selection Policy for canoe and paracanoe sprint.
2. I acknowledge that I am bound by, and confirm that I shall comply with, all of the provisions of the Anti-Doping Rules (as amended from time to time), the World Anti-Doping Code and the International Standards issued by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), as amended from time to time, and published on WADA's website.
3. I will be responsible for some personal expenses as part of the selection process and I accept full responsibility for such expenses.
4. I will be specifically bound in the case of a dispute, complaint, or appeal to abide by the selection appeals procedures set out in the 2021 selection policy. In the event for any technical reason a dispute, complaint, or appeal cannot be dealt with by the selection appeals procedures, I hereby also agree that any such dispute, complaint or appeal may be referred to Sport Dispute Solutions Ireland for final and binding mediation and/or arbitration.
5. In the event of me being selected to represent Ireland on the 2021 Irish canoe sprint team - I will abide by the above policy and processes.

Signed (athlete) _____ Date _____

Signed and completed athlete selection process agreement must be emailed to the CI Performance Director. Closing date for receipt: **March 1st, 2021**

Digital signatures are acceptable

Email: performance@canoe.ie

17. Athlete Eligibility Form

Name:	
Address:	
CI Membership No:	**Expiry Date:**
Date of Birth:	**Home Telephone:**
Mobile:	**Work:**
Email Address:	
Passport Number:	**Expiry Date:**
Emergency Contact:	**Relationship:**
Mobile:	**Work:**

**Please include a copy of your passport with this section.

Please indicate which competitions you wish to be selected for (X in the appropriate boxes):

Senior Events		**Junior/U23 Events**	
World Cup 1		Brandenburg	
World Cup 2		European Championships	
European Olympic Qualifiers		World Championships	
World Olympic Qualifiers		Olympic Hopes Regatta	
European Championships			
World Championships			

Please indicate which events you wish to compete in at these competitions:

	200m	500m	1000m	5000m
K1				
K2				
K4				

	200m
KL1	
KL2	
KL3	
VL1	
VL2	

END OF DOCUMENT

WE WISH YOU THE BEST OF LUCK