

Canoeing

Ireland

Canoe Slalom
Selection Policy 2022
U23 & Senior



Contents

0. List of abbreviations (in alphabetical order)	2
1 Introduction	3
1.0 Purpose.....	3
2. Athlete Eligibility	3
3. The Key Stakeholders and process outline.....	4
4. 2022 Irish Canoe Slalom Team Selection Policy Terms & Conditions	5
5. The Selection Process.....	6
5.1 Performance Selection.....	6
5.2 Extenuating circumstances (Discretionary selection and further opportunities).	6
5.2.2 Discretionary Selection	7
6. Extreme Slalom (CLSX Selection Round 1).....	8
6.1 Extreme Slalom (Selection round 2).....	9
6.2 CSLX Under 23 and under 18.....	10
7. Determining the results of the selection process.....	10
8. The Selection Panel	10
9 Key Competition Dates – Seniors	12
9.1 Key Competition Dates – u23/Juniors.....	12
10. Selection Appeal Procedures –	13

0.List of abbreviations (in alphabetical order)

CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CI	Canoeing Ireland
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
K1	Kayak class
C1	Canoe class
CSLX	Extreme Slalom

1 Introduction

1.0 Purpose

The Purpose of this selection policy is to outline the processes which will lead to the selection of the best athletes to represent Ireland at senior & U23 international canoe slalom competitions in 2022. The selection policy is designed to allow athletes to maximise preparations and performances at the European and World Championships, and World Cups in 2022 through a clear and objective selection process.

The 2022 canoe slalom selection policy will support optimal performance delivery at international events through a robust system that athletes can benchmark their progress on. This 2022 canoe slalom selection policy has been developed by the Canoeing Ireland Performance Director (PD) and the Irish Canoe Slalom Committee (ICSC). It has been ratified by the Canoeing Ireland CEO, HPU and the Board of Directors.

1.1 Canoeing Ireland Strategic Performance Objectives – 2028

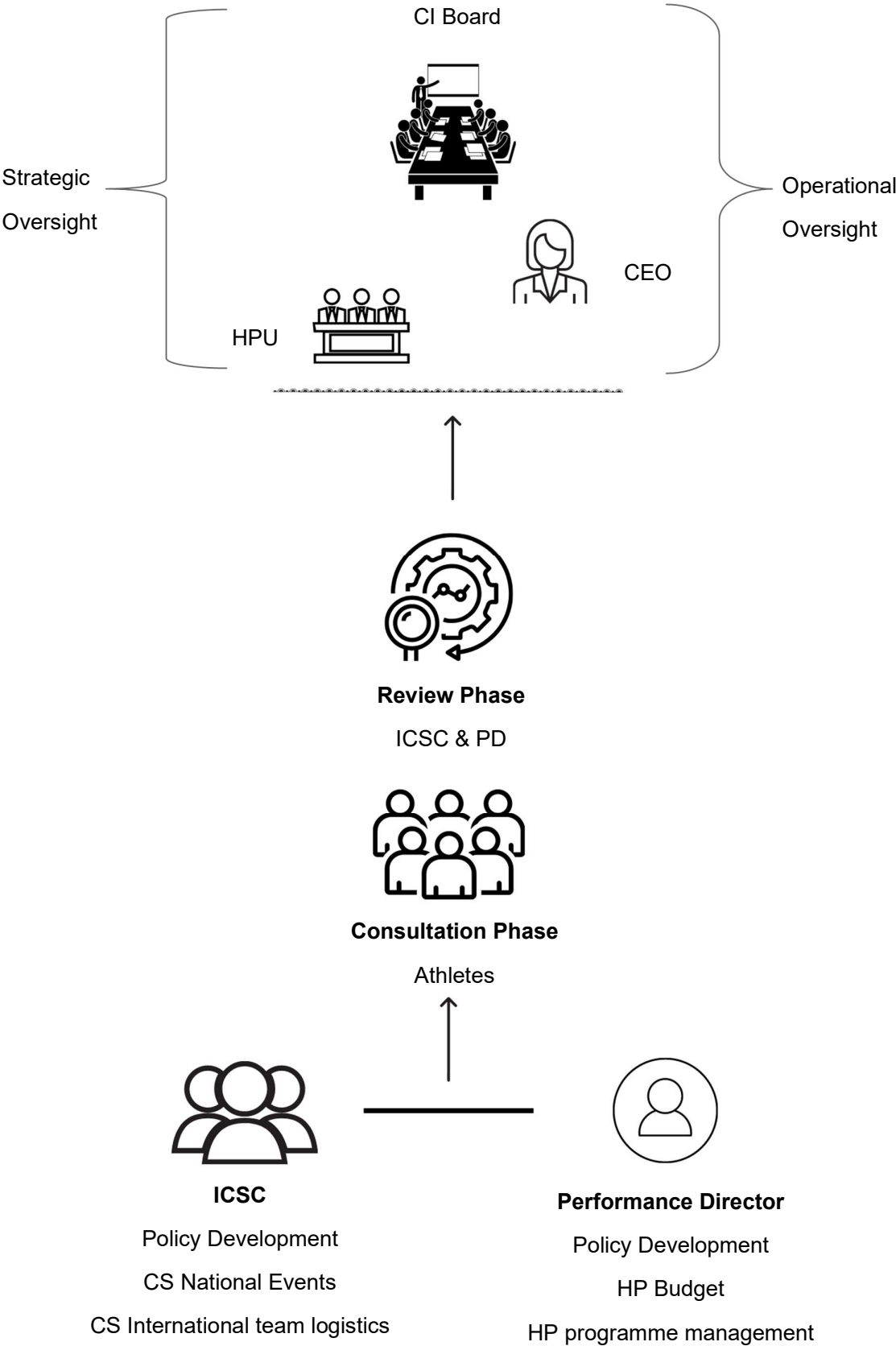
By 2028, Canoeing Ireland will have a world-class high-performance system. This system will foster our full potential of being fully represented in canoe slalom at the highest level of international competition (Olympic Games, World Championships, European Championships) in all classes (K1W, K1M, C1W,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

2. Athlete Eligibility

To be eligible to compete for Ireland, athletes must meet and maintain for the duration of the 2022 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 slalom 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 or be eligible to hold an Irish passport.
- III. Is not under a doping violation investigation or serving a suspension/sanction for a doping violation.
- IV. Is fit to perform to the best of their ability.
- V. Has signed the athlete agreement and the subsequent athlete contract.

3. The Key Stakeholders and process outline



4. 2022 Irish Canoe Slalom Team Selection Policy Terms & Conditions

4.0 Previous selection policies or criteria can have no bearing on this 2022 selection policy.

4.1 No athlete can be considered for selection for the 2022 Irish canoe slalom team if they do not meet and maintain the athlete eligibility criteria set out in section 2 above.

4.2 An athlete who for any reason, fails to maintain eligibility may be removed from the 2022 Irish canoe slalom team. Eligibility issues will be communicated in the first instance by the PD. Any athlete who has been removed from the 2022 Irish canoe slalom team will be replaced by the next ranked athlete.

4.3 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.

4.4 The selection of an athlete for inclusion on the 2022 Irish canoe slalom 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.

4.5 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.

4.6 All entries of Irish canoe slalom athletes to events must be made through the Canoeing Ireland office following the selection of athletes pursuant to the 2022 selection policy.

4.7 Proposals to amend this 2022 selection policy may be put forward if amendments are necessary and such amendments are determined to be in the best interest of athletes and Canoeing Ireland. Proposals to amend this 2022 policy will be submitted to the PD. All proposed amendments must be ratified by the Canoeing Ireland CEO in the first instance and approved the HPU and CI Board. All final amendments will be clearly identified and will be binding on all athletes.

4.8 Canoeing Ireland reserves the right to deselect or suspend an athlete who is under investigation for disciplinary offences under Canoeing Ireland /ICF rules. Any athlete who is serving an active sanction arising from a disciplinary matter will not be eligible for team membership. This includes doping offences.

5. The Selection Process

5.1 Performance Selection

The 2022 selection race will take place in Lee Valley, London, England on the weekend of March 5th and 6th. This is a Div. 1 race within the British system. The selection ranking list for each class will be based on the cumulative results of the best run (percentage) of each day for each paddler. In the event of a tie the next best percentage taken from the race series (third run from either day) will be taken into account, while the fourth run will be used as a further tie breaker if required.

The performance standards for selection are listed below in Table 1 and are benchmarked off the fastest Irish boat at the selection event. The purpose behind these percentages is to identify athletes that can race and compete for semi-finals and finals at senior international events.

Table 1. Performance percentages

Age	K1 Men	K1 Women	C1 Men	C1 Women
Senior	107%	124%	115%	135%
Under 23	111%	127%	120%	138%
*U20's	115%	130%	123%	141%
Best run of each day counts towards selection ranking, based on two results from the weekend. *Used as a developmental tool to assist in identifying u19/u20 paddlers of an ability to gain experience.				

Competitors run time (raw time plus penalties) / fastest Irish time (raw time plus penalties) for the run being scored) *100

- The result will be rounded to 2 decimal places (100th of a second / .00 of a percent)
- Run time in all cases is the raw time plus penalties for the particular run being scored

5.2 Extenuating circumstances (Discretionary selection and further opportunities).

Extenuating circumstances are unplanned, unexpected, unavoidable, and unforeseen. These include external forces, the International and individual effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, medically certified injuries and illness and other extenuating circumstances.

If an athlete is unable to contest selection, Canoeing Ireland reserves the right to provide further opportunities to qualify to compete at international competitions and championships subject to further conditions.

Applications for selection based on extenuating circumstances, including certificated evidence of illness or other exceptional circumstances must be submitted to the PD no less than 24 hours prior to the commencement of the selection race.

5.2.1 Repêchage system

If athlete(s) are unable to attend the selection race due to genuine and verifiable extenuating circumstances they may apply for team selection via a repêchage system. The repêchage system will only be employed under the following conditions:

1. The athlete applying has a minimum of a semi-final result from the previous season (WCups, WCs or ECs at senior events)
2. Boats* that achieve performance percentage at the selection race have no semi-final results from the previous season.

**Proviso* – A boat at the selection event which ranks 1st place within the performance percentage *and* has beaten a boat with a semi-final finish from the previous season (2021) is eligible for selection for the season.

This repêchage system will allow eligible athletes to race off against a ranked boat or boats from the selection race (which have no semi-final results from the previous season) at an additional designated race in April. This will be a head-to-head with boats being ranked in order of finishing position. The highest ranked boats (based on race progression) at this race will be eligible for selection for the season.

5.2.2 Discretionary Selection

If athletes are unable to attend the selection race due to genuine and verifiable extenuating circumstances they may apply for discretionary team selection. Discretionary selection will only be employed under the following conditions:

1. The class in which the athlete is applying for has available slots or;
2. The class is contested but performance percentages have not been achieved by at least one boat.
3. The athlete(s) applying for discretionary selection have a semi-final result from a senior World Cup, World Championships or European Championships from the previous

season or they have shown ability in recording a superior performance standard at senior international level in the previous season

Note: A superior performance is defined as gaining a performance standard percentage at senior World cup, World or European championships, based on the winning K1M.

Age	K1 Men	K1 Women	C1 Men	C1 Women
Senior	107%	124%	115%	135%

Note - Any athlete applying for discretionary selection who has been unable to show previous performance ability (i.e., has not made performance percentage in previous selection events at u23 or senior level) will be given the opportunity to achieve a performance standard at a suitable race no later than May 31st, 2022. The SP reserve the right to decide the venue and standard of race.

Note: The SP will make all decisions relating to applications made for team selection via extenuating circumstances. For transparency and peace of mind, all decisions made in light of extenuating circumstances must have oversight and approval of the CEO of Canoeing Ireland. The CEO may refer the decision to the Canoeing Ireland HPU for further oversight.

6. Extreme Slalom (CLSX Selection Round 1)

Selection to European Championships & World Cup 1.

Selection round 1 will take place within the main selection event of March 5th and 6th, 2022.

Paddlers will be ranked in line with the results of the individual selection process criteria and any resultant repêchage races. Any paddlers ranked through a discretionary selection will be considered the lowest ranked of the selected boats for the European championships and World Cup 1.

The ranking will alternate between the results of K1 and C1 classes.

- CSLX Boat 1 - K1 1st
- CSLX Boat 2 - C1 1st
- CSLX Boat 3 - K1 2nd
- CSLX Boat 4 - C1 2nd and so forth.

This will create a combined kayak and canoe ranking list which will inform selection for the CSLX team to race at the European championships and World Cup 1.

Top 16 (quarter finals) finish in CSLX at the European Championships will secure a boat space for World Championships, World Cup 4, and World Cup 5 regardless of results at World Cup 1, World Cup 2, and World Cup 3.

****Paddlers must confirm their attendance by May 5th, 2022****

6.1 Extreme Slalom (Selection round 2)

(Selection to World Championships, WC4 and WC5)

Four places at World cup 2 and four places at World cup 3 will be released to paddlers who have registered an interest in CSLX and competed at the slalom selection series, ranked in order of the combined CSLX ranking list. Remaining places which will be confirmed following the main selection event will be released to the wider paddling community.

Selection for remaining places at the senior World championships, WC4 and WC5 will be based on the individual results from WC1, WC2 and WC3, which allows up to 12 paddlers to compete for the available boat spaces.

Paddlers will be ranked on their progression through rounds at WC1, WC2, WC3.

Example - Where a paddler progresses to semi-final stage (last 8) they will be higher ranked than a paddler who progresses to quarter final stage (last 16).

Where there is a tie, the results of the time trial, using a performance standard based on the fast time recorded in the time trial will be used to differentiate between paddlers. This will be calculated to 2 decimal points.

Only paddlers who progress beyond the round of 32 (i.e., to last 16 of World Cup race 1,2,3) will be considered for automatic selection to World Championships, WC4 and WC5.

Paddlers will then be ranked on their time trial performances to inform an overall ranking list from WC1, WC2 and WC3.

The ranking list for the World Championships, WC4 and WC5 will be ordered as follows.

- Paddlers who secured a place at the European championships
- Paddlers who have progressed through rounds at WC1, WC2 and WC3 are ranked on level of progression.
- Paddlers who recorded a time trial at WC1, WC2, WC3, ranked based on performance in time trials.
- Any unfilled places will be offered to the selected slalom team members who are attending the World championships, WC4 and WC5.

The CSLX team for World Championships and WC4 and WC5 will be confirmed in the week commencing 27th June 2022.

6.2 CSLX Under 23 and under 18

Selection to World and European championships

The CSLX team will be based on the combined results of the K1 and C1 ranking list of the main selection event at Lee Valley.

Any unfilled places will be offered to eligible paddlers who compete at WC1, WC2 and WC3, ranked in order of the CSLX ranking list following WC3.

7. Determining the results of the selection process

On completion of the selection process the following actions will occur:

- PD/ICSC will create a ranking list of results
- The selection panel is convened
- The final ranking list for the participant athletes is presented to the SP by PD
- The selection panel review the results and select the team (provisional subject to appeals)
- All participants are informed of the results of the selection meeting
- Any non-selected athletes are permitted to appeal within the defined process
- If appeals are received, they are dealt with through the normal appeals process
- If no appeals are received within the time period allowed the team as selected is confirmed as final.
- The PD will write to all successful athletes and inform them of their selection (provisional pending the signing of the athlete contract).

8. The Selection Panel

The Selection Panel (SP) will, after review of the results of the selection process, ensure that all proposed athletes meet the eligibility criteria prior to official selection confirmation. The SP can only consider an athlete who meets and maintains the athlete eligibility criteria set out in section 2, and therefore shall have the final determination, acting reasonably, as to whether an athlete meets the eligibility criteria.

8.1 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.

8.2 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 to 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 stands to gain in any way from the outcome of a selection decision

9 Key Competition Dates – Seniors

Table 1 key dates for 2022

Start Date	End Date	Event	Location
26/05/2022	29/05/2022	European Championships	Liptovsky Mikulas
04/06/2022	05/06/2022	ICF Ranking Race	Augsburg, Germany
10/06/2022	12/06/2022	World Cup 1	Prague, Cz
17/06/2022	19/06/2022	World Cup 2	Krakow, PL
24/06/2022	26/06/2022	World Cup3	Ljubljana- Tacen
26/07/2022	31/07/2022	World Championships	Augsburg, Germany
26/08/2022	28/08/2022	World Cup 4	Pau, France
02/09/2022	04/09/2022	World Cup Final	La Seu D'Urgell, Spain
17/09/2022	18/09/2022	ICF Ranking Race	Lee Valley, UK

9.1 Key Competition Dates – u23/Juniors

Table 2 key dates for 2022

Start Date	End Date	Event	Location
05/07/2022	10/07/2022	Junior and Under 23 World Championships	Ivrea, Italy
11/08/2022	14/08/2022	Junior and Under 23 European Championships	Ceske Budejovice

10. Selection Appeal Procedures –

The Canoeing Ireland Athlete Appeals Process can be found on the Canoeing Ireland website link: <https://www.canoe.ie/governance-documents/>

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