



Canoeing

Ireland



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

The PD and the CSIC will maintain a ranking profile of all athletes endeavouring to achieve placement on the 2022 Irish canoe sprint team.

1.1 Canoeing Ireland Strategic Performance Objectives – 2028

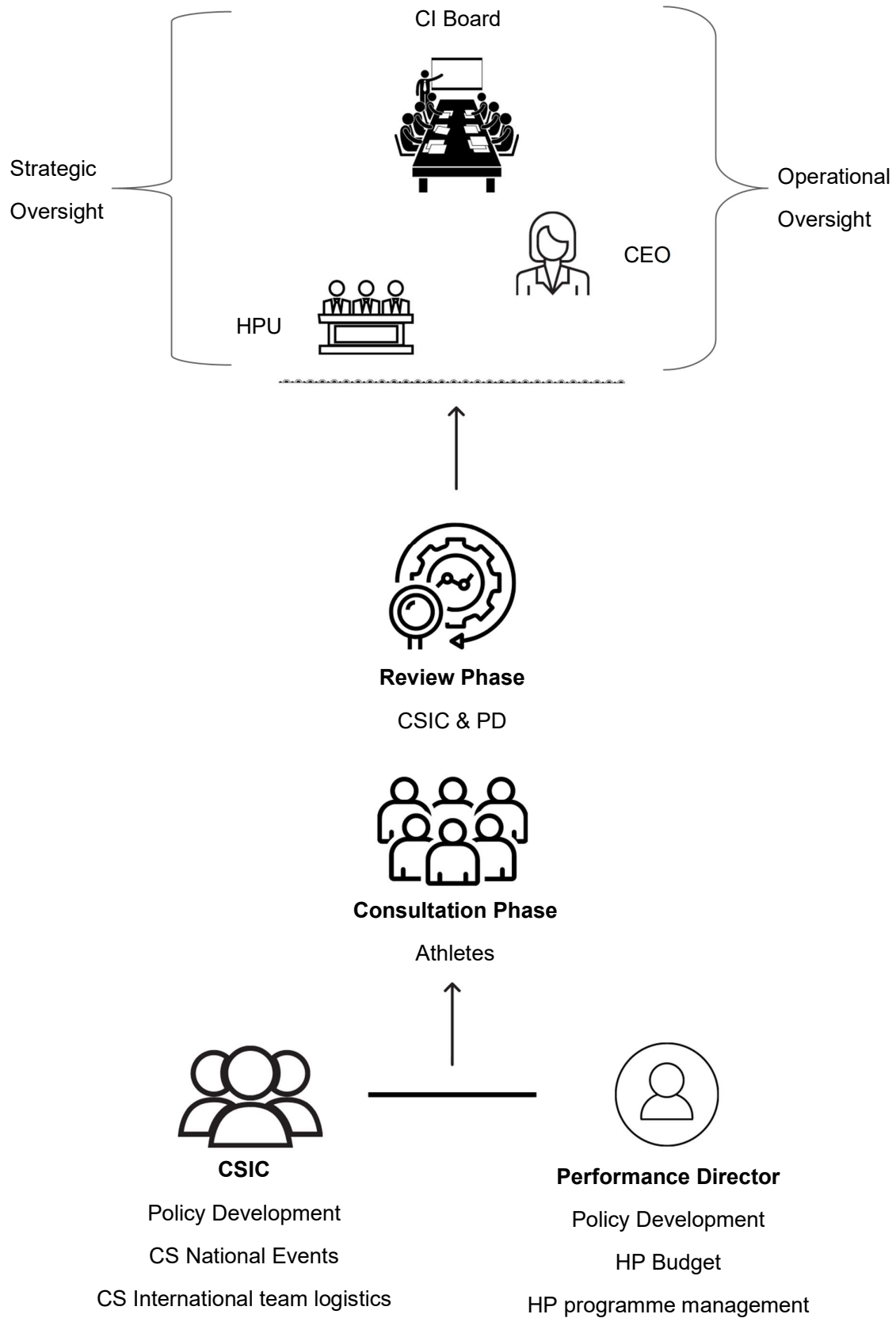
Canoeing Ireland is committed to the support and development of our current and future team of performance sprint athletes. We intend, within the next two Olympic cycles, to grow our capacity to be competitive in all classes (K1W, K1M, C1W, C1M and crew boats) and in all age categories (Senior, U23, U18) at the highest level of international competition (Olympic Games, World Championships, European Championships) through a comprehensive performance programme.

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 sprint events in accordance with ICF rules and have no outstanding debt to Canoeing Ireland or any of its technical committees.
- II. Hold or be eligible to hold an Irish passport.
- 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 2022 selection policy and the subsequent athlete contract.
- VI. Has paid the required deposit by the deadline provided (see 11.1).

3. The Key Stakeholders and process outline



4. 2022 Irish Canoe Sprint 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 sprint team by the SP 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 sprint team. Eligibility issues will be communicated in the first instance by the PD. Any athlete who has been removed from the 2022 Irish canoe sprint 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 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.

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 sprint athletes to canoe sprint/paracanoe 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 and the CSIC. 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 an athlete who has been found guilty of a disciplinary offence under Canoeing Ireland /ICF rules. This includes doping offences.

4.9 Athletes must have the required deposit paid by the stated deadline. Failure to adhere to this deadline will render the athlete ineligible and will be removed from the team.

5. The Selection Process

5.1 Pre-selection

An athlete who has won medal/s in the 2021 season (senior WC's, European Championships, World Championships) is eligible for pre-selection in 2022. Pre-selection will only apply to the distance that the athlete medaled in and will pre-select the athlete for World Cup 1 and 2 only.

Pre-selected athletes in 2022:

Patrick O Leary	VL3 200m
Jenny Egan	K1 5000m

5.2 Performance Selection

Athletes may achieve performance selection at the April Nottingham Regatta. At this event athletes will be ranked in accordance with their finished position within the criteria outlined below in Table 1. Local regatta rules will apply. Enquiries and protests must be submitted to the race organisers. Decisions made and upheld by the race organisers will be final.

5.3 Senior performance criteria

Table 1 – Senior

Category	Performance Criteria – all distances
K1 Men	Top 6 Finish Men's A
K1 Women	Top 6 Finish Women's A
K2 Men	Top 3 Finish Men's A
K2 Women	Top 3 Finish Women's A
C1 Men	Top 6 Finish Men's A
C1 Women	Top 6 Finish Women's A
K4 Men	Top 3 Finish Men's A
K4 Women	Top 3 Finish Men's A
K1 Men's Para	Top 6 Finish Men's KL3
Va-a Men's Para	Top 6 Finish Men's VL3

5.4 Performance criteria 5000m

The selection event for 5,000m will involve one event and will run as part of the *5K Series* (dates and details – Appendix B). The times shown in table 2 below will be used as a guide to assist in the selection of athletes for 5000m events. Athletes who finish 1st and 2nd at this event and who meet the expected times will be eligible for selection for World Cup 1 and World Cup 2. In the women's 5000m the fastest athlete not already selected will be eligible for selection (see 5.1).

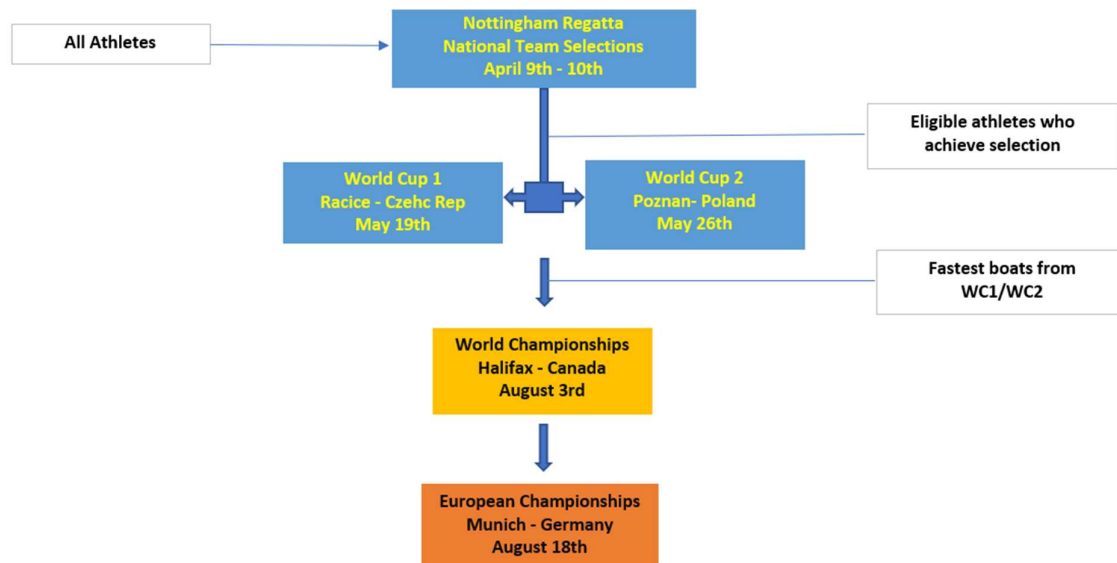
Event	Expected 5km Standard
Senior Men	22:39
Senior Women	25:48
Junior Men	23:46
Junior Women	28:26

6. Selection to European and World Championships

At the senior European and World Championships only one athlete per National Federation can race in any one distance per event and two athletes per distance in World and European Para championships. Therefore, the athlete/s to attend the senior European and World Championships must be the fastest of the 2 Irish boats or the fastest 2 Para boats at World Cup 1 and World Cup 2 (by placing). To be eligible for European Championships and World Championships athletes must finish within a B Final as a minimum at one World Cup.

If athletes are tied after this process, ranking positions obtained from the Nottingham selection race will decide the winner. The successful athlete/s will be selected for European and World championships - once all selection criteria remain in place (eligibility etc).

7. Selection events process diagram



8. Determining the results of the selection process

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

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

9. Extenuating Circumstances

Extenuating circumstances are serious, unforeseen circumstances beyond an athlete's control (i.e., illness, injury, family bereavement, etc) which genuinely prevent them from competing at the selection event.

If an athlete misses the selection event due to extenuating circumstances and that athlete has recognised international experience of 3 or more years, the following protocols may be activated.

- a. The slowest ranked boat in the class/distance being contested may be required to race a head-to-head with the athlete(s) who could not make the selection event. This head-to-head will take place at Lough Rynn or another suitable site that allows for head-to-head racing within 10 days of the selection event. The winner of this head-to-head will be ranked 2nd boat for WC1 and WC2.
- b. If the class/distance remains uncontested (there is only one athlete selected) an athlete may be selected as the 2nd boat by discretion if that athlete has recognised international experience of 3 or more years. If more than 1 athlete has applied under extenuating circumstances a head to head race off will take place.

NOTE: In the case of injury or illness, it is the athletes' responsibility to submit a letter from their medical practitioner (GP) a minimum of 2 days prior to the scheduled assessment event. In all cases submissions shall be made to the PD. DNF's will not be eligible to apply for selection under extenuating circumstance however, circumstances where verifiable and obvious equipment failure occur during the selection event, these will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

10. 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.

10.1 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.

10.2 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.

11. Funding Process 2022

For 2022, retrospective funding process will be in place. A tiered system has been developed which aims to support athletes who have achieved a specified result at World Cups, European Championships and World Championships.

Tier 1

Athletes who finish top 5 in an A-final at World Cup 1, World Cup 2, European Championships and World Championships will receive 100% funding (items covered are listed below). This is applicable to Olympic distances only (200m KL3/VL3, 500m, 1000m).

Funding will be allocated retrospectively and will cover:

- Accommodation
- Official Transfers
- Accreditation

Boat Hire

*Flights and carriage of paddles will not be funded

Tier 2

Athletes who finish 6-9 in an A Final or 1-4 in a B Final at World Cup 1, World Cup 2, European and World Championships will achieve 50% funding. This is applicable to Olympic distances only (200m KL3/VL3, 500m, 1000m).

Funding will be allocated retrospectively and will cover:

- Accommodation
Official Transfers
Accreditation
Boat Hire

*Flights and carriage of paddles will not be funded

Tier 3

25% funding will be allocated retrospectively for athletes who finish 5-9 in a B Final and progress no further. This is applicable to Olympic distances only (200m KL3/VL3, 500m, 1000m).

As above, funding will cover:

- Accommodation
Official Transfers
Accreditation
Boat Hire

*Flights and carriage of paddles will not be funded

Athletes who do not meet the specified results attached to Tier 1, Tier 2 or Tier 3 will receive no funding.

11.1 Payment deadlines and costs

To conclude the selection process and in line with eligibility criteria, athletes must have all competition fees paid four weeks prior to each competition. Failure to meet this payment deadline will result in the athlete becoming ineligible for selection. All payment details and information will be dealt with in the first instance by the International Team Coordinator.

Event	Payment Deadline
World Cup 1	April 22 nd
World Cup 2	April 29 th
World Championships	July 8 th
European Championships	July 22 nd

For guidance, an approximate breakdown of costs is supplied below. The cost includes airport transfers, boat hire, accreditation, and accommodation. Athletes who wish to stay outside of the designated ICF accommodation can do so but must organise and book this accommodation themselves and organise transfers separately, regardless all payments must be made through the NGB, and all deadlines must be respected.

Event	Approx. Cost
World Cup 1	€890
World Cup 2	€890
World Championships	€1450
European Championships	€1250

12. Ongoing Assessment

It is important that athletes understand that performance will be reviewed on an ongoing basis throughout the season. For the 2022 season, an athlete may be de-selected if sufficient evidence is available that the athlete is in breach of the Athlete's Code of Conduct, the Terms of Selection including eligibility, or the Athlete's Contract. The PD will engage with any athlete who is found to be in breach of any of the above.

13. Selection Appeals Process

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

14. Appendix A – Key dates

Event	Requirement	Date
Application Deadline	All senior athletes wishing to compete for Ireland in 2022 to submit application form to the CSIC Secretary <u>and</u> Chairperson: sprintchair@canoe.ie sprintsecretary@canoe.ie	28 th Feb <u>COB</u>
Application Review	The CSIC committee & the PD review all applications and	4 th March
SP Review	SP review all results from the selection event and confirm selection for each team and event to the PD	26 th April
Confirmation of Selection	PD notifies all selected athletes.	27 th April
Announcement	Official announcement of 2022 Canoe Sprint Teams	1 st May
Mid season Review	The PD and the CSIC confirms what athletes are selected for Senior European and World Championships.	4 th June
Confirmation of Selection	PD notifies athletes selected for the following teams: Senior European Championships Senior World Championships	10 th June

15. Appendix B. Key Competition Dates

Date	Events	Location
March 5 th	5K Series - Selection Event	SLP CC
April 9 th – 10 th 2022	Selection Event 2	Nottingham, UK
May 19 th 2022	World Cup 1	Racice, CZE
May 26 th 2022	World Cup 2 (includes Paracanoe)	Poznan, POL
August 3 rd 2022	Senior World Championships	Halifax, CAN
August 18 th 2022	Senior European Championships *Potential qualifier for the 2023 European Games	Munich, GER

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