

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 document is to outline the processes which will assist in the selection of a national development squad for canoe sprint athletes in Junior and U23 categories for 2022.

1.1 Principle

The underlying principle of this process is long term athlete development (LTAD). LTAD models are designed to allow developmental Junior and U23 athletes opportunities to train and race competitively at events aligned to their current ability while nurturing and supporting their transition into senior high performance sport. This process forms one part of the overall canoe sprint development plan which is currently under construction.

The process will be built on 3 areas which are key to successful LTAD.

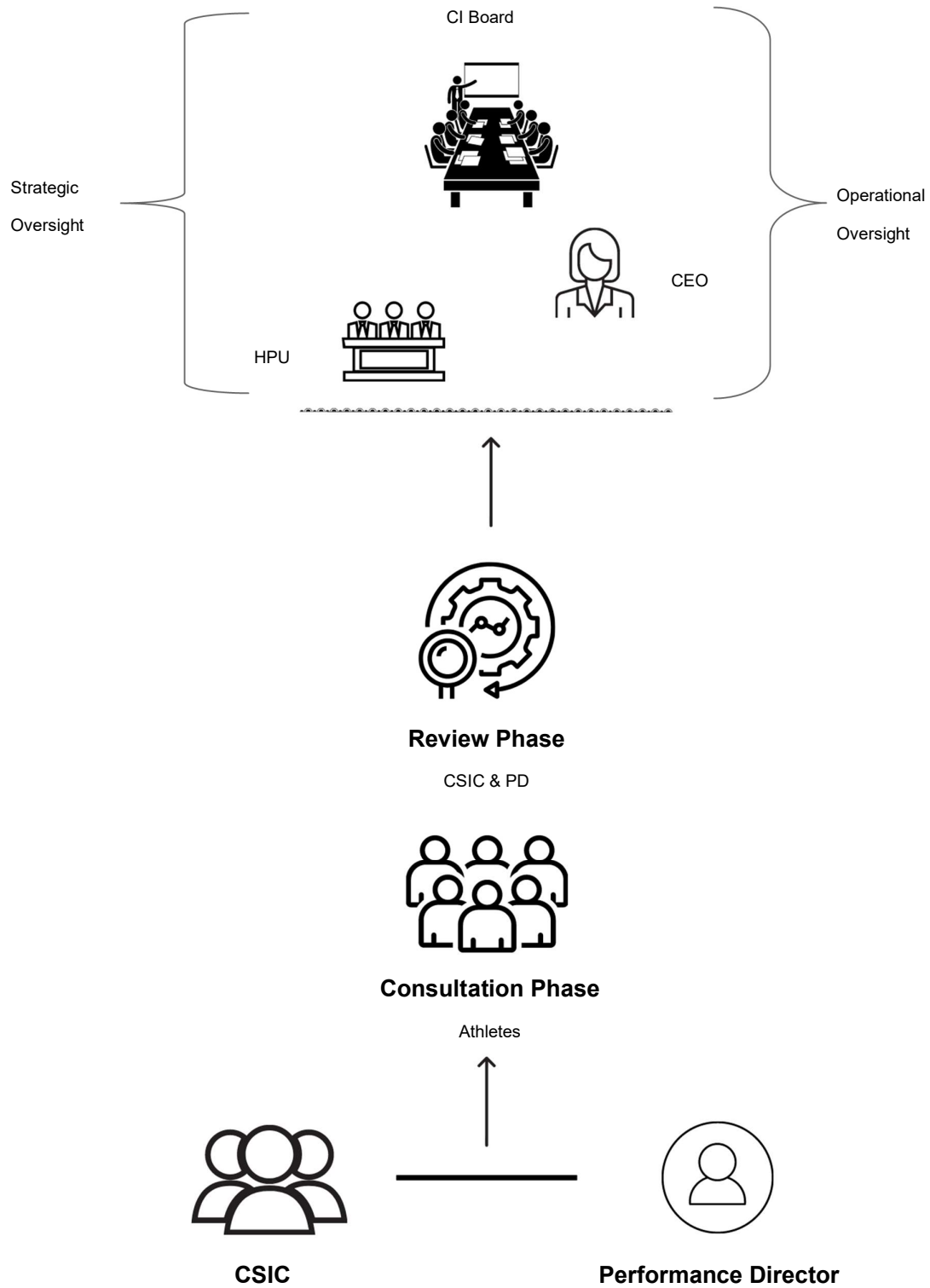
1. Inclusivity
2. Support
3. Opportunity

2. Eligibility for the Canoe Sprint National Development Squad

To be eligible to join the development squad and represent Ireland, paddlers must meet and maintain for the duration of the competition season the following athlete eligibility criteria:

- I. Be a current registered member of Canoeing Ireland.
- II. Hold 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 train and perform to the best of their ability.
- V. Has signed the athlete agreement

3. The Key Stakeholders and process outline



4. Canoe Sprint National Development Squad Terms & Conditions

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

4.1 No athlete can be considered for selection 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 Canoe Sprint National Development Squad. 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 may be replaced by the next ranked athlete.

4.3 Athletes who attend 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 Canoe Sprint National Development Squad shall be confirmed to that athlete in writing by the PD within 7 days of the squad being agreed.

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 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 document 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 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.

4.9 If deposits for trips are required, athletes must have said deposit paid by an agreed deadline. Deposits and deadlines will be communicated if and when needed.

5. The Canoe Sprint National Development Squad

The Canoe Sprint National Development Squad will be a squad of committed young athletes who aspire to be senior competitive athletes in the future. The squad will be inclusive and reflective of each athlete's current ability. The squad structure will represent 3 categories of ability.

Div.1 – Athletes of an ability to race competitively at major international events*

*(Boys/Girls A at Nottingham, U23 Men's/Women's A)

Div. 2 – Athletes of an ability to race at targeted international club events**

*(Boys/Girls B at Nottingham, U23 Men's/Women's B)

Div.3 – Athletes of an ability to race at events as part of the CSI development plan***

*(Boys/Girls C at Nottingham, U23 Men's/Women's C)

At the start of every competitive year athletes will be assigned to a Div. based on their racing results at the Nottingham Regatta in April. However, through ongoing assessment athletes may be promoted to the next Div. at any stage during the year if the National Development Coach and the athlete's personal coach agrees that it is in the best interest of the athlete to do so. This process can work in both directions in terms of moving up a Div. or down a Div.

5.1 Division assignment

Athletes may achieve their Div. selection via performance at the April Nottingham Regatta. At this event athletes will be ranked in accordance with their finished position within the criteria outlined below. 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.

5.2 Exemptions to this process

Canoeing Ireland and the Canoeing Ireland Sprint Committee recognise the importance of education for young athletes and the additional stresses that the Leaving Certificate places on young people. Where an athlete is in the final year of their Leaving Certificate, they will be included on the development squad in the Division that they achieved in the year prior (5th year). Such athletes will be supported to maintain their continuous performance journey.

Athletes will still be expected to qualify for selection to races as set out above.

5.2 Performance criteria for Div. 1

Category	Performance Criteria – all distances
K1 Junior Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Boy's A
K1 Junior Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Girl's A
K2 Junior Men	Top 3 (British/Irish boats) Finish Boy's A
K2 Junior Women	Top 3 (British/Irish boats) Finish Girl's A
C1 Junior Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Boy's A
C1 Junior Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Girl's A
K4 Junior Men	Top 3 (British/Irish boats) Finish Boy's A
K4 Junior Women	Top 3 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's A
K1 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's A
K1 U23 Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's A
K2 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's A
K2 U23 Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's A
K4 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's A
K4 U23 Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's A
C1 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's A
C1 U23 Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's A
C2 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's A
C2 U23 Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's A

Note: U23 Boats will be benchmarked against other U23 boats in each class. Seniors will be excluded.

5.2 Performance Criteria for Div. 2

Category	Performance Criteria – all distances
K1 Junior Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Boy's B
K1 Junior Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Girl's B
K2 Junior Men	Top 3 (British/Irish boats) Finish Boy's B
K2 Junior Women	Top 3 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's B
C1 Junior Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Boy's B
C1 Junior Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Girl's B
K4 Junior Men	Top 3 (British/Irish boats) Finish Boy's B

K4 Junior Women	Top 3 (British/Irish boats) Finish Girl's B
K1 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's B
K1 U23 Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's B
K2 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's B
K2 U23 Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's B
K4 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's B
K4 U23 Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's B
C1 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's B
C1 U23 Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's B
C2 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's B
C2 U23 Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's B

Note: U23 Boats will be benchmarked against other U23 boats in each class. Seniors will be excluded

5.2 Performance Criteria for Div. 3

Category	Performance Criteria – all distances
K1 Junior Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Boy's C
K1 Junior Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Girl's C
K2 Junior Men	Top 3 (British/Irish boats) Finish Boy's C
K2 Junior Women	Top 3 (British/Irish boats) Finish Girl's C
C1 Junior Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Boy's C
C1 Junior Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Girl's C
K4 Junior Men	Top 3 (British/Irish boats) Finish Boy's C
K4 Junior Women	Top 3 (British/Irish boats) Finish Girl's C
K1 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's C
K1 U23 Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's C
K2 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's C
K2 U23 Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's C
K4 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's C
K4 U23 Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's C
C1 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's C
C1 U23 Women	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Women's C
C2 U23 Men	Top 6 (British/Irish boats) Finish Men's C

Note: U23 Boats will be benchmarked against other U23 boats in each class. Seniors will be excluded

6. 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 for Div. 1 athletes only
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).

7. Extenuating Circumstances

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

If an athlete applying for Div.1 misses the selection event due to extenuating circumstances they may be asked to attend a further event to achieve a selection criterion. The event may be a time trial with a minimum time to be achieved or a head to head race off against their peers.

Note: The above is only applicable to any class/distance that remains empty after the official selection race in Nottingham. Athletes who have achieved the criteria at Nottingham will be eligible for selection for 2022. In this case an athlete who misses Div. 1 selection due to extenuating circumstances will be given the opportunity to travel and race as part of the Div.2 racing calendar.

If an athlete applying for Div. 2 misses the selection event due to extenuating circumstances they will be assigned to Div. 3 for assessment by the National Development Coach before being elevated to Div. 2 during the year or remaining in Div. 3 until sufficient progress is attained.

NOTE: In the case of extenuating circumstances, it is the athletes' responsibility to submit confirmation of said circumstances in letter form (GP letter) a minimum of 2 days prior to the scheduled assessment event. In all cases submissions shall be made to the PD. Circumstances where verifiable and obvious equipment failure occur during the selection event will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Note: In the event of the April Nottingham Regatta being cancelled for any reason, teams may be selected via the June Nottingham Regatta or other races or time trials in Ireland.

8. The Selection Panel

The Selection Panel (SP) will, after review of the results of the selection process for Div. 1 athletes only, 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.Funding Process

The development of Junior and U23 canoe sprint racing is a strategic objective within the Canoeing Ireland performance strategy. Funding will focus on the creation of opportunities for National Squad Athletes to travel and participate at events aligned with the development strategy. Funding is reliant on the amounts allocated to the CI HP budget within a given year and athletes may have to subsidise an amount towards their travel arrangements. Available funding will be made known after the Nottingham regatta and Divs. are established. The funding will align with the national development plan activities.

10. Ongoing Assessment

It is important that athletes understand that performance will be reviewed on an ongoing basis throughout the 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.

11. Selection Appeals Process

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

12. Appendix A – Key dates

Date	Events	Location
April 9 th – 10 th 2022	Selection Event	Nottingham England
June 23 rd - 26 th 2022	Junior & U23 European Championships	Belgrade, SRB
September 1 st - 4 th 2022	Junior & U23 World Championships	Szeged, HUN

13. Appendix B. Key Competition Dates

Event	Requirement	Date
Application Deadline	All 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	25 th March <u>COB</u>
SP Review	SP review all results from the selection event and confirm selection for each team and event to the PD	20 th April
Confirmation of Selection	PD notifies all selected athletes.	27 th April
Announcement	Official announcement of 2022 Canoe Sprint Teams	1 st May

