

## Olympic Nomination Process

### Preamble

The process outlined below has been developed by the Canoe Slalom (CSL) Performance Working Group (PWG). The process has had oversight and input from all athletes and coaches of the CSL senior national team. Developing a fair, transparent process that is performance centred has been difficult, mainly due to the retrospective nature of the process designed by the International CANOE Federation (ICF) and the many possible scenarios that it creates. The PWG are satisfied that the process below is fair, transparent and places performance at the heart of it, while dealing with any relevant scenarios arising.

For clarity, Canoeing Ireland are not responsible for the selection of athletes to the Olympic team (Team Ireland). The Olympic Federation of Ireland have sole responsibility for this process. Canoeing Ireland will 'nominate' successful athletes (as per the process below) to the OFI for selection once all eligibility criteria and OFI requirements are satisfactorily met.

### One quota winner – one medallist

- A paddler gets nominated automatically at 2023 Worlds or 2023 Euros (on countback) if they are the only medallist or only quota winner.
- **World Championship gold** is the automatic nomination threshold (ace card) – all other medals will go to race off.

(In the cases above - reserves boats will be ranked on results at 2023 Worlds (F, SF, H1). Where more than one quota place is qualified, the reserve will be decided at through points system or potential race-off outlined below.)

### Where there is more than one quota place gained in a class

- Where more than one boat is within the quota placings (*K1 - top 15 nations, C1 top 12 nations*) they will all be recognised as securing a quota place. This will also be the case at the European Games where any Irish boat placed above the first nation not qualifying an Olympic quota place, will be recognised as securing a quota place.
- Points will be awarded from 2023 World Championships and European Games based on finishing positions (see table below), only those who have gained a quota place at Worlds or at the European Games will be eligible for the points system and a potential race off - **with an added exception** where a paddler medals at the European Games but does not secure a quota place at the European Games – this result will be deemed sufficient performance to force a race off if one quota place in the same class is secured at Worlds by another paddler.
- Appropriate points obtained will be carried forward to the race off as outlined below.

<b>Points system</b>
Quota (0 point)
Top 20 (1 point, European Games and Worlds)
Final (2 points, European Games and Worlds)
Top 5 (3 points, European Games and Worlds)
<b>Maximum points available to a paddler = 6</b>





\*For clarity, any points awarded in 2023 will carry over to the race off options in 2024, outlined below.

## Using the points to identify strong performances

If a boat that has won a quota place is 4 points clear of another boat that has won a quota place, they will be deemed the nominated paddler.

Example: If a paddler secures two top 5 placings (6 points) against a paddler who secures two top 20 finishes or a single top 10 (2 points); or a paddler gaining two finals (4 points) against a paddler with a quota (0 points).

If there is three points difference or less, the decision will go to a race off in early 2024. Two races will be held in Penrith, Australia as part of the proposed team training camp.

2024			
January	2024 OCEANIA CANOE SLALOM CHAMPIONSHIPS	 January 26, 2024 - January 28, 2024	 PENRITH <a href="#">SHOW DETAILS</a>
February	2024 ICF CANOE SLALOM WORLD RANKING -	 February 2, 2024 - February 4, 2024	 PENRITH <a href="#">SHOW DETAILS</a>

In the case of a race off with three eligible paddlers, if a paddler is more than three points behind the leader, that paddler will not contest nomination process, leaving a two-boat race-off.

One point will be available at each of three race-off races.

### Race-off options

#### Event 1- Weekend One:

Race 1 – Best of H1 and H2 (1 point) - \*H1/H2 used as relevant to racing at Olympic Games

Race 2 – Best single race run (i.e., semi-final) (1 point)

#### Event 2 - Weekend Two:

Race 3 – Full weekend race – results decided on progression through weekend and final placings.

Race 3 will also act as the overall tie breaker for the series and Olympic qualification, if required. (1point available)

### **What happens if Event 1-Weekend 1 is cancelled?**

Event 2-Weekend 2 will be used in the following format:

- Race 1 will be H1 and H2\*
- Race 2 will be SF
- Race 3 will be F

\*(through liaison with organisers to give two race runs on each day)

### **What happens if Event 2-Weekend 2 is cancelled?**

The results will be taken from Event 1-Weekend 1

- Race 1 Best of H1 and H2 (1 point)
- Race 2 – Best single race run (i.e., semi-final) (1 point)
- Race 3 – Best single race run (i.e., final) (1 point) –the results of the second run of the Sunday race will only count towards the nomination process in this scenario

### **What happens if both Event 1-Weekend 1 AND Event 2-Weekend 2 are cancelled?**

While this scenario is unlikely, if it were to unfold, the race off process will be moved to Europe and at an event that best suits the timelines for nomination to the OFI. In this scenario Canoeing Ireland reserve the right to use a single event race off if required, however, all avenues will be explored to follow a two event race off format.

### **Extenuating circumstances**

Matters relating to potential extenuating circumstances will be dealt with, in the first instance, by the Canoeing Ireland Selection Panel.

### **The European Games - Continental Qualifier.**

**In regard to clause D.1.5.3 of the ICF Continental qualification criteria** which states that *“each NOC can only earn a maximum of one (1) athlete quota place per gender”*:

In this situation a tie break is needed between the athletes who have secured the quota placings in the respective classes at the European Games. This will be based on the athlete’s nation placing at the 2023 World championships.

**For clarity** - It will be based on the individual athlete’s position within the number of nations ranked outside of the quota threshold placing in K1 (ranking above 15<sup>th</sup> nation) and C1 (ranking above 12<sup>th</sup> nation), in:

1. Final and Semi Final placings.
2. Heat 1 placings.

**Example:** If the K1 athlete who has secured continental quota place is ranked as the second nation outside of the cut off at the Worlds (17<sup>th</sup> nation), and the C1 athlete who has secured a continental quota place is ranked as the third nation outside of the cut off (14<sup>th</sup> nation) - the K1 athlete will be deemed the winner of the tie break. In this example, athletes who have not won a quota place will not be considered in the calculation at the World championships.

Should further tie breaks be required:

- 3 Race % at Worlds compared with class winner (F).
4. Race % at Worlds compared with respective class winner (SF)
5. Race % at Worlds compared with class winner (H1).

Where two athletes in the same class have gained a quota place at the European Games (i.e., both athletes are placed above a nation who have not qualified a place) and the quota place is awarded to that class, the nomination process will go to a race off, as above.

## **Kayak Cross**

Only two boats per gender can compete at the Olympic Games in Kayak Cross. In theory we could have three boats qualify (per gender) for the Olympic Games:

Example

- K1 (M or F) from World Championships or European Games
- C1 (M or F) from World Championships or European Games
- 1 from Kayak Cross (M or F) from global qualifier in 2024

If this scenario arises, we will have three boats all eligible to race Kayak Cross at the Games. So, to establish which two boats are selected to race Kayak Cross, the following process is proposed.

1. Only one boat from the K1 and C1 quotas (M or F) will compete in Kayak Cross at the Olympic Games.  
To decide which boat is selected for Kayak Cross a head-to-head race off will be used at World Cup 1 (Augsburg) in 2024 to identify which boat will race Kayak Cross at the Olympic Games
2. Any Irish boat who qualifies a global quota place at the Kayak Cross event in 2024 will be nominated as a Kayak Cross boat for the Olympic Games.

This results in two boats being selected for the Games for Kayak Cross, as per the Olympic criteria.

**Note:** In the case of no quota place being won at the Kayak Cross global qualifier, the athletes who gained the respective C1 and K1 Olympic nominations will be eligible to race in Kayak Cross at the Olympic Games.

## **Appeals**

Appeals must follow the Canoeing Ireland athlete appeals procedure –

<https://www.canoe.ie/governance-documents/>

No athlete can be nominated to the OFI until all internal appeals have been satisfactorily concluded