

# **Canoeing** **Ireland**



**Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross**

**Selection Policy**

**2025**

**All Ages**

## Contents

1 Purpose.....	2
2. Athlete Eligibility.....	2
3. The Key Stakeholders and process outline.....	2
3.1 Consultation.....	2
3.2 Oversight .....	2
4. Applications .....	2
5. Terms & Conditions .....	3
6. The Selection Process .....	3
6.1 Pre-Selection.....	3
6.2 Performance Selection .....	3
Senior Selection Flow Diagram .....	4
U23 Selection Flow Diagram .....	5
U18 Selection Flow Diagram .....	6
7. Extenuating circumstances .....	8
7.1 Discretionary Selection .....	8
8. Determining the results of the selection process .....	8
9. The Selection Panel .....	9
9.1 Construct of Selection Panel.....	9
9.2 Conflicts of Interest .....	9
10. Selection Appeal Procedures.....	9
11. Appendices .....	10
Table 1: CSL percentage performance criteria 2025.....	10
Table 2: Minimum standards based on ICF ranking release (2024.3) .....	10
Table 3 - Key competition dates .....	10
Table 4 – Key competition dates for U18/U23 .....	11

## 1 Purpose

Canoeing Ireland has traditionally selected teams through a race selection series, ranking individuals based on their performance at specific points in the season using a points or percentage system.

Looking ahead, it is proposed that team selection races be aligned with ICF ranking events. This adjustment anticipates potential changes where results from ICF ranking races, and the associated rankings could influence World Cup and Olympic quotas. To prepare for these changes, Canoeing Ireland is exploring the integration of the ICF World Ranking list into its selection criteria. The ICF may adopt this approach as early as 2026, prompting Canoeing Ireland to consider implementing these adjustments by the end of 2025.

The 2025 CSL selection policy will support optimal performance delivery at international events through a robust system that athletes can benchmark their progress on. This 2025 CSL selection policy has been developed by the CSL Working Group (PWG) which is chaired by the Canoeing Ireland Performance Director (PD). It has been ratified by the Canoeing Ireland CEO, HPU and the Board of Directors.

## 2. Athlete Eligibility

To be eligible to compete for Ireland, athletes must meet and maintain for the duration of the 2025 competition season the following athlete eligibility criteria:

1. Be a current registered member of Canoeing Ireland who is eligible to represent Ireland at ICF CSL events in accordance with ICF rules and have no outstanding debt to Canoeing Ireland or any of its technical committees.
2. Hold an Irish passport or be eligible to hold an Irish passport.
3. Is not under a doping violation investigation or serving a suspension/sanction for a doping violation.
4. Has attended the 2025 Canoeing Ireland Anti-Doping education course.
5. Is fit to perform to the best of their ability.
6. Has signed the athlete agreement and the subsequent athlete contract.

## 3. The Key Stakeholders and process outline

The Performance Director (PD) is responsible for the development of selection policies. The PD will be advised by a CSL Performance Working Group (PWG).

### 3.1 Consultation

Athletes will be consulted, and their input sought on the first and final draft of the selection policy prior to publishing.

### 3.2 Oversight

The CEO, HPU and the Board of Canoeing Ireland will all have oversight of the CSL Selection Policy for 2025. The Board will have ultimate authority in approving the CSL Selection Policy for publication.

The CSL Selection Policy for 2025 will be released in Q4 of 2024.

## 4. Applications

An online registration form will be available. An application for selection must be registered on or before January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (23:59). Late entries will not be accepted (Jan 25<sup>th</sup> 00:00).

## 5. Terms & Conditions

- a) Previous selection policies or criteria can have no bearing on this 2025 selection policy.
- b) No athlete can be considered for selection for the 2025 Irish CSL team if they do not meet and maintain the athlete eligibility criteria set out in section 2 above.
- c) An athlete who for any reason, fails to maintain eligibility may be removed from the 2025 Irish CSL team. Eligibility issues will be communicated in the first instance by the PD. Any athlete who has been removed from the 2025 Irish CSL team will be replaced by the next ranked athlete, if applicable.
- d) Athletes for all major international events must comply with the 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.
- e) The selection of an athlete for inclusion on the 2025 Irish CSL 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.
- f) 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.
- g) All entries of Irish CSL athletes to events must be made through the Canoeing Ireland office following the selection of athletes pursuant to the 2025 selection policy.
- h) Proposals to amend this 2025 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 policy will be submitted to the PD. All proposed amendments must be ratified by the Canoeing Ireland CEO in the first instance and approved by the HPU and Board. All final amendments will be clearly identified and will be binding on all athletes.
- i) Canoeing Ireland reserves the right to deselect and suspend any 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.

## 6. The Selection Process

### 6.1 Pre-Selection

- No pre-selection for 2025.

### 6.2 Performance Selection

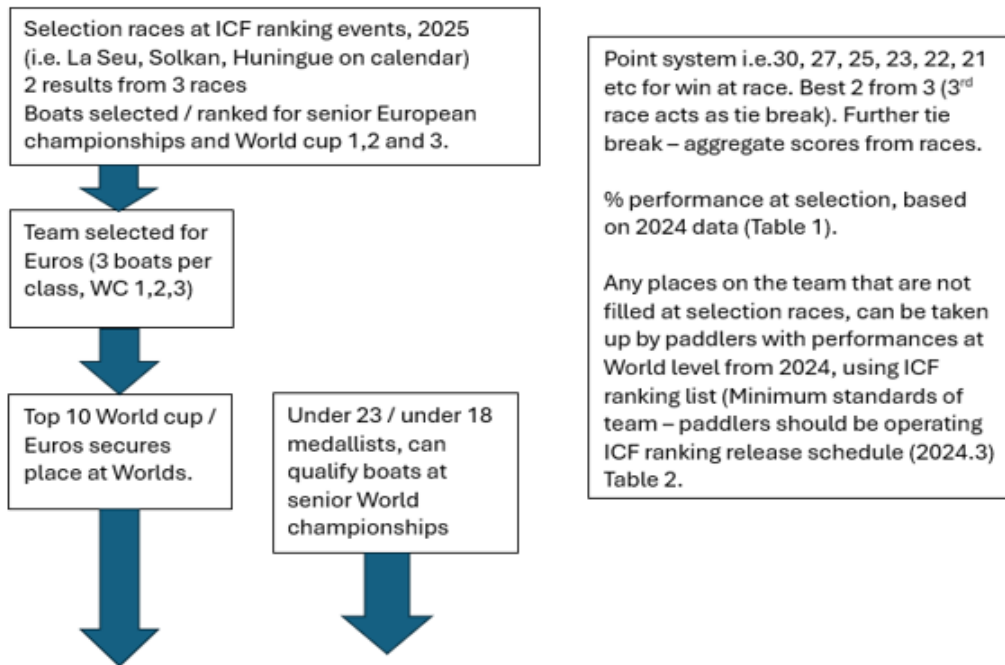
#### Summary

1. The 2025 teams will be selected through the 2025 selection race series, using a ranking list drawn from the nominated races, based on performance criteria.
2. Any unfilled spots in the 2025 selection series will be filled using the 2024.3 ICF ranking release, applying performance criteria.
3. The 2026 team selection may incorporate the 2025.4 ICF ranking list, with further details to follow during the season.
4. For U18 and U23 teams, senior selection will serve as the first phase. U23 and U18 boats selected for the Senior Euros (May 2025) will automatically secure spots on their respective teams. A second selection phase in June will identify additional eligible boats, if required.

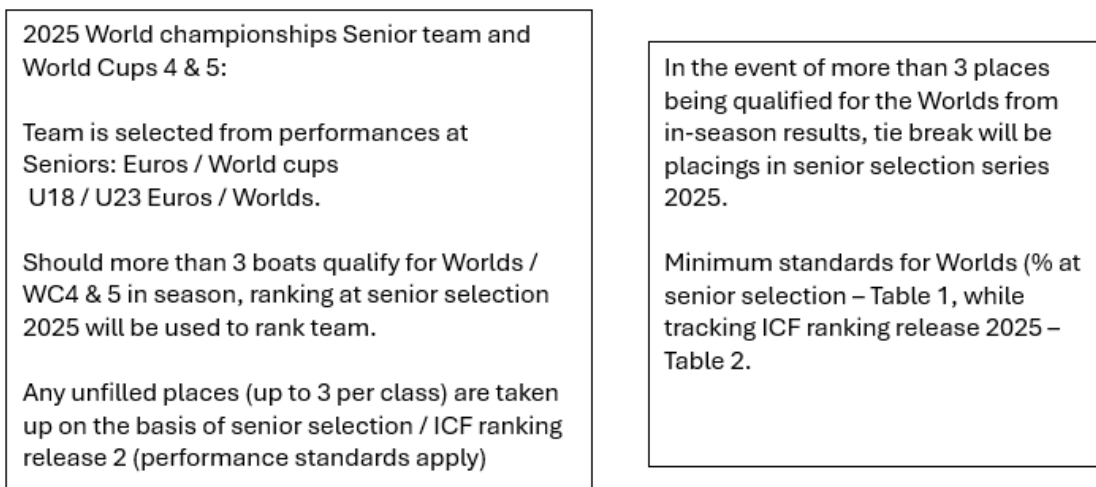
5. A separate Kayak Cross (CSLX) selection process will run in 2025. An integrated selection procedure for the 2028 Olympics may be required if ICF ranking lists are used for Olympic quotas. This would combine CSL and CSLX performance criteria to determine selection.
6. Performance percentages are detailed in Table 1 (see appendix).
7. Table 2 (see appendix) outlines criteria for filling unfilled 2025 team spots using the 2024.3 ICF ranking release. Additional criteria for potential 2026 selection, based on Olympic qualification and top 25 nations in CSLX, are also provided.

### Senior Selection Flow Diagram

1st half of season (Selecting to the Senior Euros, World cup 1,2,3)



2<sup>nd</sup> half of season (World cup 4, 5 & World championships)



## U23 Selection Flow Diagram

1<sup>st</sup> phase of process

Senior selection races at ICF ranking events (i.e. La Seu, Solkan, Huningue on calendar) 2 results from 3 races.



Any under 23 boats selected for senior European championships will be included in the 2025 U23 teams for the Worlds / Euros



2<sup>nd</sup> phase of process

Unfilled places at team will be contested at a nominated UK race series – TBD.  
Two races, both races count.  
Ranking list from races to be compiled



Team selected for Under 23 team  
July. Foix. Under 23 Worlds.  
August. Solkan. Under 23 Euros.

Using senior ranking list - Point system i.e.30, 27, 25, 23, 22 etc for win at race (3<sup>rd</sup> race ranking acts as tie break). Further tie break – aggregate race scores from H1 at all 3 races.

% performance at selection based on 2024 data (Table 1).

Any places on the team that are not filled at senior selection races or by paddlers racing at Euros, can be filled through the second phase of the series (Dates TBD)

Point system i.e.30, 27, 25, 23, 22 etc for win at race (take from 2, races). Tie break - aggregate scores from best run in each race.

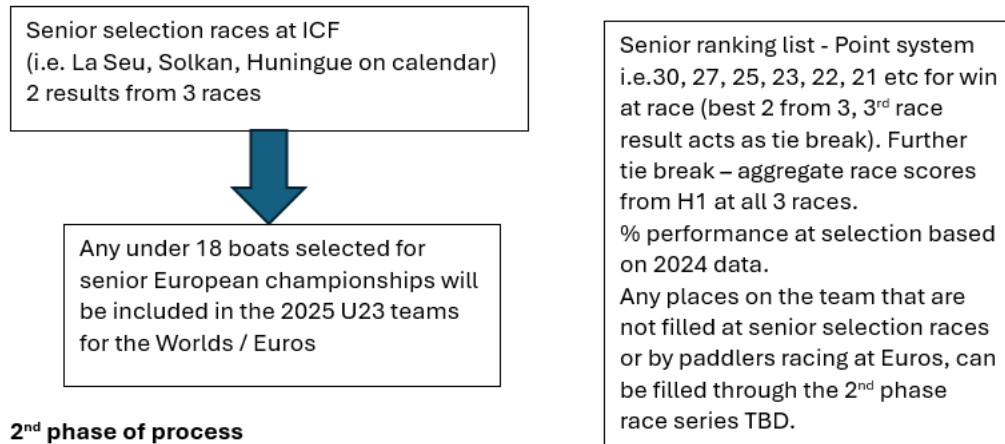
Performance standards to be confirmed prior to second phase of process.

To be automatically selected, paddlers must attain the performance criteria at either senior selection or the 2nd phase of the selection series.

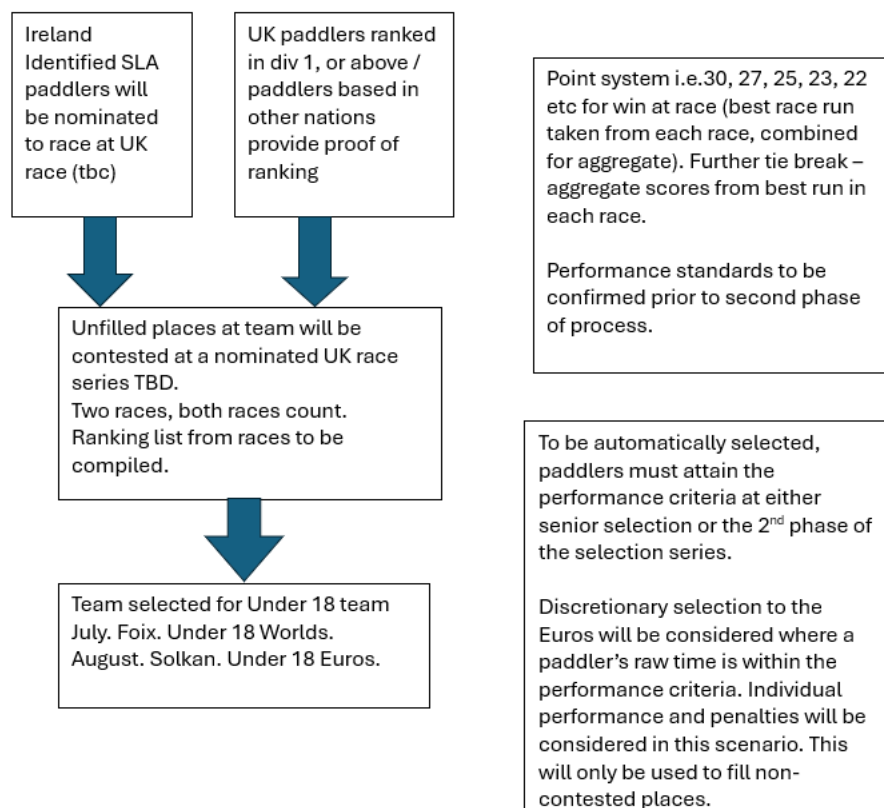
Discretionary selection to the Euros will be considered where a paddler's raw time is within the performance criteria. Individual performance and penalties will be considered in this scenario. This will only be used to fill non-contested places.

## U18 Selection Flow Diagram

### 1<sup>st</sup> phase of process



### 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of process





## CSLX Selection Flow Diagram

### 1<sup>st</sup> part of process

Prerequisite – CSLX 2023 / 2024 selected paddlers or Canoeing Ireland level 3 skills award/evidence of race ability and WW competency.

#### Senior selection races for Euros (Seu, Huningue)

##### Weekend one

Race one: Time trial: ranking list

Race two: Head-to-head: ranking list (No points scored if athlete does not qualify for head to head)

##### Weekend two

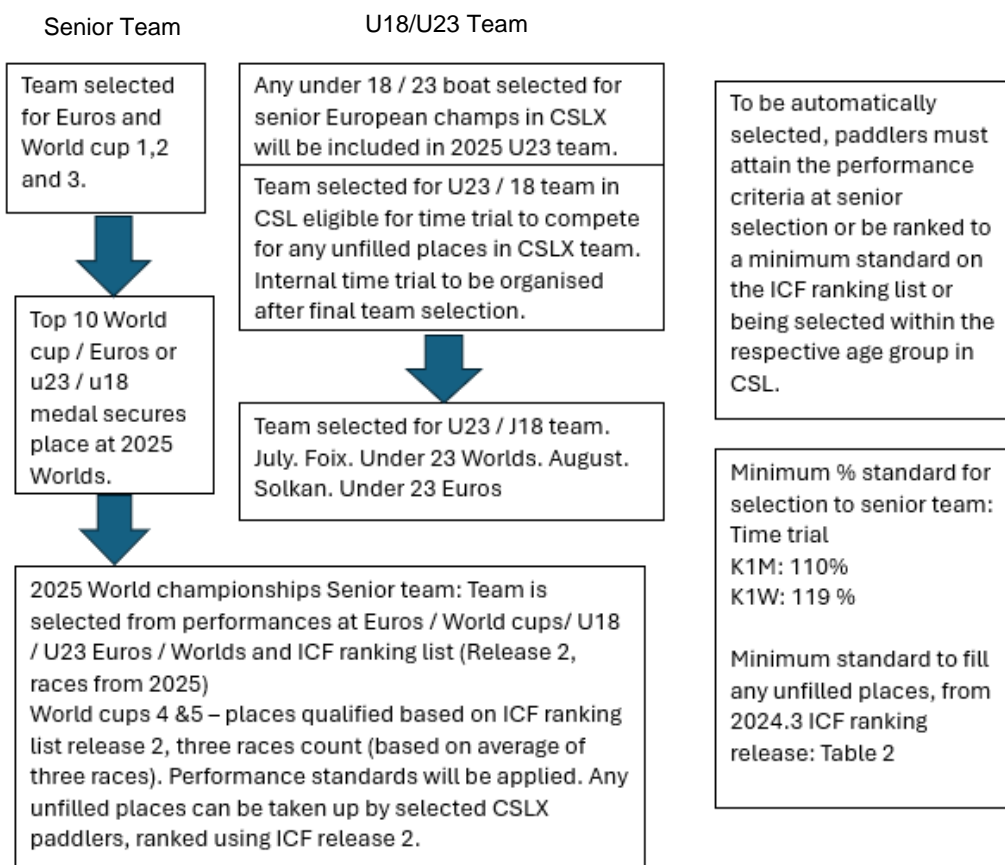
Race three: Time trial: ranking list

Race four: Head-to-head: ranking list (No points scored if athlete does not qualify for head-to-head phase)

Two races from four counts. Points aggregated from 2 races. Tie break on 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> result. If only 2 results are scoring, the tie break will be taken from the aggregate total of time trials

Points 1<sup>st</sup> = 30, 2<sup>nd</sup> = 27, 3<sup>rd</sup> = 25, 4<sup>th</sup> 23, 5<sup>th</sup> 22, etc

Senior ranking list - Point system i.e.30, 27, 25, 23, 22 etc for win at race (take from 2 races, 3<sup>rd</sup> race tie break, 2<sup>nd</sup> tie 4<sup>th</sup> race tie break). Further tie break – aggregate scores from races. % performance at selection, based on 2024 time-trial data. Any places on senior team that are not filled at 2025 selection races can be filled from 2024 ranking list (minimum standards applied).





## 7. Extenuating circumstances

Extenuating circumstances are unplanned, unexpected, unavoidable, and unforeseen. These include external forces, 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 compete at international competitions and championships subject to further conditions. Only athletes who have met the stated performance based criteria in the previous season (2024) can apply for selection under extenuating circumstances, see 7.1 for an explanation of this process.

Applications via 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 first selection race.

### 7.1 Discretionary Selection

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

1. The class for which the athlete is applying has available boat spaces (e.g., only two boats race in selection of the class being applied for).
2. The class is contested at the selection event, but performance criteria have not been achieved by at least one boat (ex, three boats race at selection, but only two boats make the criteria).
3. To be eligible for discretionary selection, a paddler must have achieved the criteria outlined in Table 2 (appendices) which uses ICF ranking release 2024.3.

## 8. Determining the results of the selection process

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

- PD will create a ranking list of results
- The selection panel will be convened
- The final ranking list for the participant athletes will be presented to the SP by PD
- The selection panel will meet and review the results and approve the selection of 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 period allowed the team 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).

## 9. The Selection Panel

The Selection Panel (SP) will, after reviewing 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

### 9.1 Construct of Selection Panel

The SP will be convened and chaired by a Board appointed member with relevant experience. The selection panel will be ratified by the Canoeing Ireland CEO. The SP will consist of the following 3 members:

1. Performance & Pathway Rep. (CI Board member)
2. The Performance Director
3. One member of the CI High performance Unit (HPU)

### 9.2 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.

## 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/>

## 11. Appendices

**Table 1: CSL percentage performance criteria 2025.**

To be used at selection 2025, as a percentage of class winner. These performance percentages are based on the averages for top 30 placings at senior championship and World cup races in 2024. Under 23 and under 18 age group are based on the top 30 standard at the World championship in 2024.

Class	Senior %	U23 %	U20 %	U18 %
<b>K1M CSLX</b>	110	112	116	118
<b>K1W CSLX</b>	119	121	123	125
<b>C1M</b>	114	117	121	123
<b>C1W</b>	125	131	137	141

**Table 2: Minimum standards based on ICF ranking release (2024.3)**

To be selected for unfilled places after the selection series. A paddler must have achieved the below ranking on the 2024.3 release. This is based on the minimum ICF ranking release points attained by Olympic qualifiers across CSL and by the 25<sup>th</sup> placing nation in CSLX.

Class	K1M	K1W	C1M	C1W	K1MCSLX	K1WCSLX
<b>ICF points</b>	Below 42.00	Below 56.00	Below 42.00	Below 56.00	Above 87.00	Above 75.00

CSL uses the benchmark of Olympic qualifiers (K1). CSLX uses benchmark of top 25 nations.

There may also be a possibility of using ICF ranking release to define minimum standards to represent Ireland, 2026, senior team. This will be recalibrated in ICF ranking release 2025.2.

**Table 3 - Key competition dates**

Date	Event	Location
15.16/03/25	Selection Race/ICF Ranking	La Seu D'Urgell (CAT)
29.30/03/25	Selection Race/ICF Ranking	Huningue (FRA)
05.06/04/25	Selection Race/ICF Ranking	Solkan (SLO)
14/05/2025	European Championships	Vaires Sur Marne (FRA)
05/06/2025	World Cup 1	La Seu D'Urgell (CAT)
12/06/2025	World Cup 2	Pau (FRA)
26/06/2025	World Cup 3	Prague (CZE)
28/08/2025	World Cup 4	Tacen (SLO)
04/09/2025	World Cup 5	Augsburg (GER)
01/10/2025	Senior World Championships	Penrith (AUS)

*Please note, these dates may be subject to change on the ICF calendar*

**Table 4 – Key competition dates for U18/U23**

<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
TBD	Selection Race	Britain TBD
08/07/2025	Junior and Under 23 World Championships	Foix (FRA)
30/07/2025	Junior and Under 23 European Championships	Solkan (SLO)

*Please note, these dates may be subject to change on the ICF calendar*

**End of Document**