

Canoe Sprint U23 Selection Policy 2022

Athletes can find supporting information relating to this policy [here](#).

All athletes wishing to be considered for Senior & U23 Team selection during 2022 should complete the online registration document by 16th March 2022 [here](#) or link:

https://britishcanoeing.formstack.com/forms/pre_registration_form

Athletes wishing to contact the IP in relation to the relevant provisions in this policy should do so via email to enquiries.internationalpanel@britishcanoeing.org.uk

SECTION A: PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Canoe Sprint selection policy is to clearly outline the processes which will lead to the selection of the GBR Canoe Sprint Teams for all 2022 international events named within this policy. It also aims to support the longer-term goals of the sprint strategy to 2024 and 2028.

2. Principles

- 2.1. The primary focus of National Team Selection will be to optimise performance in targeted Olympic events.
- 2.2. The Selection Policy seeks to select the best athletes in a transparent way that prioritises optimal preparation time for achievement of international success.
- 2.3. Selection will be based on results in selection races together and subject to an assessment of performance standards.
- 2.4. Selection will support and encourage choice for athletes.
- 2.5. The Selection Policy provides opportunities to use unfilled event places for development opportunities.

SECTION B. ELIGIBILITY AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

3. Eligibility

- 3.1. To be eligible to be selected to any 2022 GBR Team, athletes/crews must meet the following conditions (full detail can be found in British Canoeing's [Eligibility Policy](#)):
 - 3.1.1. Meet age and nationality criteria for international competitions as outlined below
 - 3.1.2. Be a full member of British Canoeing or Home Nation Association that enables participation in competition
 - 3.1.3. Athletes on a funded programme need to have signed their Programme Athlete Agreement. Athletes outside Programme funding will also be expected to sign up to the British Canoeing Great Britain Team participation agreement on accepting selection at least two weeks before travelling to the first competition and settle any outstanding payments prior to travel.
- 3.2. All eligible athletes will be considered equally for selection against the stated selection criteria regardless of club, training location, age, Home Nation and programme status.

4. International Eligibility

- 4.1. Selection will be subject to eligibility in accordance with competition rules laid down by the International Canoe Federation (ICF) and the European Canoe Association (ECA).
 - 4.1.1. The first year a junior can compete at World and European Senior/U23/Junior Championships is the year of their 15th birthday.
 - 4.1.2. The last year an U23 may compete in the Under 23 category is the year of their 23rd birthday.
- 4.2. Where athletes compete in more than one eligible selection event, the policy will be applied in isolation for each specific event.
- 4.3. British Canoeing reserves the right to deselect an athlete who has been found guilty of a disciplinary offence under British Canoeing/ICF rules. This includes doping offences.

5. Performance Standards

The International Panel (IP), at its sole discretion, may apply a performance standard for all selections under this policy to ensure athletes/crews are of the appropriate level for the competition they are being considered for. The performance standard will typically be based on an agreed percentage of the World Leading Time (the average of the best 40 times recorded in that event at international level competition).

SECTION C: GREAT BRITAIN SPRINT U23 TEAM SELECTION 2022

6. U23 Team Selection Overview

- 6.1. Athletes may choose to prepare for early season international competition by competing in the April regatta (9th/10th April) for a place in the European Championship Pool or alternatively may focus just on selection for the World Championships at the selection Regatta on 2nd/3rd July at Holme Pierrepont.
- 6.2. The stand-alone selection points for the European Championships and World Championships allows athletes to prepare without the constraint of a multi-point selection.
- 6.3. Team Selection for all events will be based on performances in the identified selection regattas.

7. 2022 U23 Sprint International Competitions and Selection Announcements

Announcements by the IP of selections made at identified selection regattas will be as per Table 1:

Table 1: 2022 Competitions			
Competition/Regatta	Venue	Date	Date of Selection Announcement by IP
U23 European Championships selection	Holme Pierrepont, GBR	9 th /10 th April 2022	On www.britishcanoeing.org.uk by 5pm Tuesday 12 th April 2022
European Championships	Belgrade, SRB	23 rd /26 th June 2022	N/A
U23 World Championship Selection	Holme Pierrepont, GBR	2 nd /3 rd July 2022	On www.britishcanoeing.org.uk by 5pm Tuesday 6 th July 2022
U23 World Championships	Szeged, HUN	1 st /4 th Sept 2022	N/A
FISU Canoe Sprint Championships	POL	16 th /18 th Sept 2022	Details to be published separately

CANOE SPRINT U23 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP SELECTION

8. Events

8.1. U23 European Championship Pool Events

All events listed in Table 2 are eligible to be used as part of the U23 European Championship Pool.

Table 2			
Men's Kayak	Women's Kayak	Men's Canoe	Women's Canoe
K1 200m	K1 200m	C1 200m	C1 200m
K1 500m	K1 500m	C1 500m	C2 200m
K2 500m	K2 500m	C1 1000m	C1 500m
K4 500m	K4 500m	C2 500m	C2 500m
K1 1000m	K1 1000m	C2 1000m	
K2 1000m			

9. U23 European Championships Pool Qualification Criteria

- 9.1. Subject to the assessment of performance standards, athletes will be selected to the 2022 U23 European Championship pool by achieving a race position at the April selection regatta on April 9th/10th in line with the tables below.
- 9.2. Athletes will be selected in either a specific event **and** to the Pool **or** to a Pool only place.
- 9.3. In the event of places in a designated 'Pool' remaining unfilled either by the same athlete achieving the criteria in more than one event or another reason, the IP will consider the allocation of additional places in the following way:
- 9.3.1. All athletes in the events identified in the policy who have achieved the specified performance criteria will be considered.
- 9.3.2. The athletes above will be ranked in order of their percentage from the race winner in their event with the smallest percentage ranked first.
- 9.3.3. The IP will consider the ranking and available places to determine any additions in order of the closest percentage to the winner of the event.

9.4. Men's Kayak – up to 9 athletes places in the Pool

Table 3				
Event	How?	Total No to Pool	Notes:	
K1 200m	First 2 boats qualify to Pool	Up to 2	Winning Boat entry to specific event at the U23 European Championships	Must be within 108% of the winning boat.
K1 500m	First 3 boats qualify to Pool	Up to 3		
K2 500m	Winning Boat qualifies to Pool	Up to 2		
K1 1000m	First 2 boats qualify to Pool	Up to 2		

9.5. Women's Kayak – up to 9 athlete places in the pool

Table 4				
Event	How?	Total No to Pool	Notes:	
K1 200m	First 2 boats qualify to Pool	Up to 2	Winning Boat entry to specific event at U23 European Championships	Must be within 108% of the winning boat.
K1 500m	First 5 boats qualify to Pool	Up to 5		
K2 500m	Winning Boat qualifies to Pool	Up to 2		

9.6. Women's Canoe – up to 7 athlete places in the pool

Table 5				
Event	How?	Total No to Pool	Notes:	
C1 200m	First 3 boats qualify to Pool	Up to 3	Winning Boat entry into C1 200m at U23 European Championships	Must be within 108% of the winning boat.

9.7 Men's Canoe – up to 3 athlete places in the pool

Event	How?	Total No to Pool	Notes:	
C1 500m	First 2 boats qualify to Pool	Up to 2	Winning Boat entry into C1 500m at U23 European Championships	Must be within 108% of the winning boat.
C1 1000m	Winning boat qualifies to Pool	Up to 1	Winning boat entry in C1 1000m at the U23 European Championships.	

10. U23 European Championship Entries Determinations

- 10.1. Where there are available event entries after the initial allocation of guaranteed places, the relevant WCP section coach will consult with athletes and their personal coaches to determine how any available entries are filled for the events outlined in section 8.1 U23 European Championship Pool events. The final decision on event entries will be made by the British Canoeing U23 Head Coach. Possible rationale will include, in no priority order and not limited to:
- 10.1.1. Race ranking from the April selection regatta in specific events
 - 10.1.2. Trialling of crew combinations
 - 10.1.3. Development opportunity for athlete(s) to have more start lines
- 10.2. The K4 combinations that will be entered for U23 European Championships will be determined by the British Canoeing U23 Head Coach from athletes in the U23 European Championship Pool.
- 10.3. In the case of athletes not taking up a place in the U23 European Championship Pool prior to the event, the IP may nominate the next best placed athlete(s) for selection under 9.3 above.

U23 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SELECTION

11. Qualification Criteria

- 11.1 Where athletes have been selected for multiple events at the World Championships, they and/or their coach will be consulted **prior** to the relevant IP meeting about which events they would like to be considered for and a prioritisation of these events. If an athlete wishes to be considered for multiple events the IP will at its sole discretion make a decision on which event(s) the athlete is selected for.
- 11.2 Subject to point 11.1 and assessment of performance standard, the highest ranked available boat in the events in Table 7 at the July 2nd/3rd 2022 regatta will be selected to the World Championship team.

Men's Kayak	Women's Kayak	Men's Canoe	Women's Canoe	Mixed Events
K1 500m	K1 200m	C1 500m	C1 200m	K2 500m
K2 500m	K1 500m	C2 500m	C1 500m	C2 500m
K4 500m	K2 500m	C4 500m	C2 500m	
K1 1000m	K4 500m	C1 1000m	C4 500m	
K2 1000m	K1 1000m	C2 1000m	C1 1000m	
K1 5000m	K1 5000m	C1 5000m	C1 5000m	

Any athlete finishing within 102% of a winning selected athlete will be named as a reserve.

12 General Provisions

- 12.1. The IP reserves the right not to nominate, or to de-select for the World Championships or any international event, any athlete or reserve on the following grounds:
- 12.1.1. Medical grounds – i.e. when an injury/illness may, in the reasonable opinion of the IP, inhibit the achievement of appropriate performance; or
 - 12.1.2. Suitability as a team member, where for example (but not limited to) an athlete's behaviour or attitude leads the IP to determine in its opinion that the selection of such athlete would be inappropriate; or
 - 12.1.3. Poor form – i.e. when an athlete's form in events and/or training has decreased to a level which, in the opinion of the IP, would inhibit the achievement of appropriate performance.
- 12.2. Such decisions will only be taken following consultation with the athlete, appropriate BC coaches and/or medical reports.
- 12.3. Following the selection of a crew boat to the World Championships, the U23 Head Coach must propose any changes to the composition of the crew due to injury, illness, poor performance or other

circumstance to the IP who will consider the circumstances and determine an appropriate process to follow.

- 12.4. The U23 Head Coach has discretion to use events within the World Championship programme that are unfilled for further start line opportunities that do not otherwise compromise performance. This must be communicated to the Chair of the IP in advance of the relevant competition commencing.
- 12.5. A non-travelling reserve may be named in each individual event based solely on position in the identified selection race where performance standards have been achieved. In order of selection, named reserves will only travel in the event of injury or illness to a selected athlete or where a place(s) is declined.

SECTION D: CONTINGENCY, COVID-19 PROVISIONS AND EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

13. Contingency

- 13.1. The IP retains the right to implement contingency measures and adapt racing to ensure as fair a selection process as possible.
- 13.2. The IP has developed an internal protocol for monitoring weather conditions ahead of a selection race, during the race and a process for communication of real-time information. The protocol will be in place ahead of the start of the 2022 domestic regatta season and is intended to assist in making fair decisions and communicating information quickly in the event of inclement conditions.
- 13.3. If weather conditions become inappropriate to conduct a selection race, the IP may declare that a race(s) will not be used for selection and/or invoke one or more of the following non-exclusive alternatives:
 - 13.3.1. Rescheduling of any affected selection race(s) to early morning/ evening racing within the same regatta (if scheduling and weather conditions permit).
 - 13.3.2. Rescheduling of any affected selection races to reserve competition (as described below)
 - 13.3.3. Changing the location of racing
 - 13.3.4. Amending lane draw for direct comparability of performances
- 13.4. Where possible, decisions made under 13.3 above will be done in advance of the start of a race(s) that may be impacted and in consultation with the National or International Regatta Competition Committee.
- 13.5. Where a decision is made under 13.3, the Monday immediately following the affected regatta are reserved as a back-up selection regatta. A back up is only required in the event of racing conditions being declared inappropriate during or in advance of competition and will be made by a minimum of two IP Members (including the Chair) plus a member of the National Regatta Competition Committee and communicated at the earliest opportunity through British Canoeing channels.
- 13.6. All IP announcements relevant to contingencies will be posted on www.britishcanoeing.org.uk. During competitions, important information will be posted at race control on the live results messaging, on the British Canoeing WhatsApp group <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FJFF2D6VQ4D9cjDMeXzoQQ> as well as the Facebook/Twitter page.

14. Covid-19 Provisions

- 14.1. In the event that government guidance relating to Covid-19 in one or more of the home countries precludes athletes from attending a selection event, the IP will consider whether the selection race should be run, taking into account the following principles:
 - 14.1.1. Aligning decisions with government guidance
 - 14.1.2. Putting athlete, volunteers and staff health and wellbeing first
 - 14.1.3. Making decisions regarding selection in the most transparent and fair way given the constraints/ challenges presented
- 14.2. In order to deliver a selection process to most effectively select representative teams, the IP may implement the following non-exhaustive contingency measures (in addition to those laid out in 13.3 of this Section):
 - 14.2.1. Changes to regatta dates and/or venue(s)
 - 14.2.2. Reduced start lines based upon divisional status (to comply with limits on numbers)
 - 14.2.3. Adjustments to format of racing or total number of races
 - 14.2.4. Prioritising of events for competitions that are closest in time frame
 - 14.2.5. Limits placed on coaching, support staff and or spectators

- 14.2.6. Holding closed events with a limited number of officials and competitors
- 14.2.7. Proceed with selection as planned but addition of a race off event opportunity for athletes unable to attend the selection event and who meet the exceptional circumstances criteria laid out in clause 15 below (should timelines allow)
- 14.3. In making decisions under this clause, the IP may engage with the British Canoeing Head of Governance. Due to the likely time constraints, any decisions taken is final and binding.
- 14.4. Any athlete found to be in breach of government guidance relating to Covid-19, including lockdown restrictions or requirements to self-isolate, may be removed from any selection process.

15. Exceptional circumstances

- 15.1. The IP has the sole discretion to invoke the provisions in this clause and any decision is final
- 15.2. Should an athlete miss an event or fall ill during, or prior to, elements of the 2022 selection process; or have any other mitigating circumstances, the IP reserve the right to provide an opportunity for such a boat to compete and challenge for selection under the following conditions:
 - 15.2.1. Certificated evidence of illness or injury other significant mitigating circumstance must be provided in writing with the IP prior to the commencement of the selection competition via email
 - 15.2.2. In such a case the IP may identify a single race opportunity whereby the top boat of the selection series and the identified athlete(s) would compete for a World Championship place
 - 15.2.3. If this situation arises more detail would be provided following the IP meeting immediately after the appropriate 2022 Selection regatta
- 15.3. Where an athlete/crew seek the IP to consider any other mitigating circumstances, the athlete/crew must satisfy the criteria stated below:
 - 15.3.1. In the case of an incident occurring during racing then details must be provided in writing to the Chair of the IP within two hours following the end of the specific race in which the incident occurred (such as a broken paddle in competition).
 - 15.3.2. In all other cases certified details must be provided to the IP no later than 1 hour prior to a scheduled selection competition via email
 - 15.3.3. The athlete/crew must be able to demonstrate an established consistent track record in racing performance that objectively demonstrates their performance above other athletes/crews based upon performance analysis training data (from GBR performance analysis data) and other objective data such as performance at Olympic, World Championship, European Championship and/or World Cup races for the previous period.
- 15.4. An athlete wishing the IP to consider exceptional circumstances related to Covid-19 must notify the IP at least 14 days prior to the first scheduled day of selection competition unless the Covid-19 exceptional circumstance arose after this time, in which case the athlete must notify the IP as soon as possible.
- 15.5. All decisions under mitigating circumstances that relate to injury, illness (including Covid-19) or medical conditions will be determined by the Performance Director, Senior Podium Coach and British Canoeing Chief Medical Officer (CMO) to ensure a transparent process that also considers the medical needs of the athlete involved. When assessing if an athlete is fit to race, the CMO decision is final.
- 15.6. Any request for exceptional circumstances should be directed to the IP via email.

SECTION E: GENERAL INFORMATION

16. Responsibility

The Canoe Sprint IP, which is appointed by and reports to the Board of British Canoeing, is responsible for all aspects of developing, approving and managing the implementation of the Canoe Sprint selection policies. The Terms of Reference can be found [here](#).

17. Conflicts of Interest

Any member of the IP 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. If a person has any queries in this area, they should consult the British Canoeing Head of Governance.

18. Policy Changes

- 18.1. The selection policy may be amended at any time by British Canoeing for one or more of the following circumstances:
- 18.1.1. Any changes in rules governing a particular event;
 - 18.1.2. Any change in ICF eligibility, rules or programme of events;
 - 18.1.3. To give effect to the selection process in case of a drafting error or oversight
 - 18.1.4. To clarify any ambiguity to the intended meaning of the selection policy
 - 18.1.5. Any other reason determined by British Canoeing at its total discretion that is in the best interest of British Canoeing and in line with the principles outlined for selection
 - 18.1.6. Circumstances arising from Covid-19 restrictions
- 18.2. Any changes will be communicated on www.britishcanoeing.org.uk

19. Appeals Procedure

- 19.1. The British Canoeing Appeals process applies to all decisions made under this policy and can be found [here](#).
- 19.2. Impartial guidance is available from the British Canoeing Performance Wellbeing Coach, zofia.campbell@britishcanoeing.org.uk. UK Sport funded World Class Programme athletes who require support and advice can also contact the BAC at support@britishathletes.org.

20. Data Protection

- 20.1. British Canoeing is a privacy conscious organisation and is strongly committed to an individual's right to privacy. All data gathered during the selection process will only be utilised for the purposes of an athlete's participation in a GBR Canoe Sprint Team. This may include administering their event/race entry and certain information may be published as part of the results and rankings of the event/race.
- 20.2. Any personal data will be processed and stored in compliance with the British Canoeing Data Protection Policy and in accordance with all applicable Data Protection laws in effect at the time of publication of this Selection Policy, including but not limited to, the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR.
- 20.3. Further information on British Canoeing's approach to privacy and data protection, including British Canoeing's privacy notices, policies and contact details, can be located in their Privacy Centre (<https://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk/about/privacy-centre>). Should an athlete wish any data British Canoeing hold relating to them to be deleted at any point; they should contact British Canoeing at GDPR@britishcanoeing.org.uk.

21. Policies

This Selection Policy operates in conjunction with all relevant British Canoeing policies including but not limited to, Equality, Anti-Doping Policy, Pregnancy, Safeguarding, Anti-Bullying Policy and Anti-Bribery Policy.

22. Communications

British Canoeing is committed to providing open and informative communication in relation to selection. All athletes will receive formal confirmation of the selection and for those athletes who wish to discuss the outcome of decision made by the IP, the Chair of the IP will be available to speak informally to athletes and in the case of minors, parents.

23. Force Majeure

"Force Majeure" means any act, event, omission, cause or circumstance not within the reasonable control of British Canoeing or the race organisers, including but not limited to any strike, lockout or other industrial action, any civil commotion or disorder, riot, invasion, war or terrorist activity or threat of war or terrorist activity, any action taken by a governmental or public authority of any kind (including, without limitation, not granting a consent, exemption, approval or clearance), any fire, explosion, storm, flood, earthquake, subsidence, epidemic or other natural physical disaster. In the event of such Force Majeure affecting the application of the policy, the IP shall have the sole discretion, in consultation with the British Canoeing Head of Governance, to make a decision in line with the principles, strategy and mission of this selection policy.

-End of Policy-