

Stand Up Paddleboard Selection Policy 2024

All athletes wishing to be considered for Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP) Open and Junior team selection during 2024 are required to compete at the Paddle Logger GB SUP Falmouth Bay Open event on 29th & 30th June 2024.

Athletes wishing to contact the Selection Panel in relation to the relevant provisions in this policy should do so via email to the Selection Panel chair: samantha@barefootsup.com.

SECTION A: PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

1. Purpose

The purpose of the SUP Selection Policy is to clearly outline the processes which will lead to the selection of the SUP teams for the 2024 ICF SUP World Championships. It also aims to support the longer-term goals of the discipline.

2. Principles

- 2.1. The primary focus of national team Selection will be to optimise performance at the 2024 ICF SUP World Championships.
- 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, with selection based primarily on a first past the post basis.
- 2.3. Selection will be based on results in selection races, with all eligible athletes considered equally for selection against the stated selection criteria regardless of, training location, age, and National Association.
- 2.4. Where athletes compete in more than one eligible selection event, the policy will be applied in isolation for each specific event.

SECTION B. ELIGIBILITY AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

3. Eligibility

- 3.1. To be eligible to be selected to any 2024 GBR Team, athletes/crews must meet the following conditions:
 - 3.1.1. comply with eligibility criteria in accordance with competition rules laid down by the International Canoe Federation (ICF) the Paddle UK¹ Eligibility Policy;
 - 3.1.2. meet age and nationality criteria for international competitions as outlined below;
 - 3.1.3. be a full member of Paddle UK or National Association that enables participation in competition;
 - 3.1.4. athletes will be expected to sign up to the Paddle UK Athletes Code of Conduct on accepting selection as well as settling any outstanding payments prior to travel;
 - 3.1.5. hold a valid passport with a minimum of 6 months unexpired validity and have either an Electronic System for Travel Authorisation ([ESTA](#)) visa waiver or a visa;
 - 3.1.6. have completed the ICF online anti-doping course prior to competing.
- 3.2. Paddle UK reserves the right to deselect an athlete who has been found guilty of a disciplinary offence under Paddle UK/ICF rules. This includes doping offences.

4. International Eligibility

- 4.1. Selection will be subject to eligibility in accordance with competition rules laid down by the International Canoe Federation (ICF).
- 4.2. The first year an athlete can compete at World Championships is the year of their 15th birthday.

¹ Paddle UK is a trading name of British Canoeing which is a Company registered at Companies House with the registered number 01525484.

SECTION C: SUP GREAT BRITAIN TEAM SELECTION 2024

5. Selection Panel Composition

- 5.1. The Stand Up Paddleboarding Selection Panel (Selection Panel) will be appointed by Paddle UK.
- 5.2. The Selection Panel for 2024 will consist of the following members:

Chair:

Samantha Rutt

Voting Members:

Glenn Eldridge
Marie Buchanan
Emily King
Scott Warren

Non-voting, independent representatives:

An employee of Paddle UK may attend selection meetings as a non-voting observer and where appropriate offer support and guidance to the Selection Panel.

- 5.3. Selection meetings to decide the composition of international teams will only be held once a final set of results has been checked and can be properly considered. The meetings may be held in person or by teleconference or video conference.

6. 2024 International Programme

- 6.1. The 2024 ICF SUP World Championships will be held at Sarasota, Florida, USA between 20th - 24th November 2024 (“World Championships”). Individual entries for the World Championships remain open and any athlete can enter themselves through the World Championships entry system. Individuals remain responsible for trip logistics and any associated costs. This Selection Policy will select athletes into the Team events at the World Championships.

7. World Championships Team Selection Overview

- 7.1. Selection will be made for the following Team events at the World Championships:

Event/Age Category	Number of Athletes Spaces
Long Distance (Junior Female)	4
Long Distance (Junior Male)	4
Long Distance (Open Female)	4
Long Distance (Open Male)	4
Technical (Junior Female)	4
Technical (Junior Male)	4
Technical (Open Female)	4
Technical (Open Male)	4

- 7.2. The **maximum** team size is 32 athletes although there is no obligation to select this number of individual athletes.
- 7.3. Selection for the World Championships will be determined using the results of the open 14^{ft} hardboard and junior category for the Long Distance and Technical events at the Paddle Logger Falmouth Bay Open on 29th & 30th June 2024.
- 7.4. Selection will be “first past the post” with 4 places available (see 7.1) in each event, meaning the finishing order in the relevant individual event will determine the order of team qualification.
- 7.5. Places will be offered to athletes in finishing order with athletes able to be selected to compete across multiple events. Should an athlete be unavailable to compete at the World Championships or chose to release their place in any given event in which they have been selected, the next athlete in order of finishing results will be offered the available team place.
- 7.6. In each event up to 2 non travelling reserves will be identified in addition to the 4 places already identified in each event.

8. Selection Meetings and Announcements of 2024 GB SUP Teams

- 8.1. A meeting of the Selection Panel will take place following the selection event at Paddle Logger Falmouth Bay Open with the announcement of teams for the World Championships taking place within 5 days of the selection meeting. Selection announcements will be made via the Paddle UK website.

9. General Provisions

- 9.1. The Selection Panel reserves the right not to nominate, or to de-select for any international event, any individual athlete or reserve on the following grounds:
 - 9.1.1. Medical grounds – i.e., when an injury/illness may, in the reasonable opinion of the Selection Panel, inhibit the achievement of appropriate performance and/ or mean the athlete cannot reasonably be considered fit to travel; or
 - 9.1.2. Suitability as a team member, where for example (but not limited to) an athlete's behaviour or attitude leads the Selection Panel to determine in its reasonable opinion that the selection of such athlete would be inappropriate; or
 - 9.1.3. Poor form – i.e., when a selected athlete's form in events and/or training post selection has decreased to such a level that, in the reasonable opinion of the Selection Panel, they would no longer be able to achieve the required level of performance to be competitive at the applicable competition(s).
- 9.2. Any decisions taken in accordance with 9.1 will only be made following consultation with the athlete, appropriate coaches and/or medical reports and in the case of 9.1.3 include reference to objective performance data.

SECTION D: CONTINGENCY AND EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

10. Contingency

- 10.1. The Selection Panel retains the right to implement contingency measures where circumstances arise that prevent full, fair and competitive racing and adapt racing to ensure as fair a selection process as possible. This may include circumstances such as water and weather conditions.
- 10.2. If weather conditions or other significant issues arise rendering it inappropriate or impossible to conduct a selection race during or, in advance of competition, the Selection Panel may declare that a race(s) will not be used for selection and invoke one or more of the following non-exclusive alternatives:
 - 10.2.1. Rescheduling of any affected selection race(s) to early morning/ evening racing within the same event (if scheduling and weather conditions permit).
 - 10.2.2. Rescheduling of any affected selection races to an alternative competition (if appropriate).
 - 10.2.3. Rescheduling to a reserve date if available and appropriate.
- 10.3. Any decision made under these provisions of the policy will be made by a minimum of two Selection Panel Members.

11. Exceptional circumstances

- 11.1. Should an athlete miss a selection event due to illness or injury during, or prior to, elements of the 2024 selection process; or have any other exceptional circumstances, the Selection Panel reserves the right to provide an opportunity for such an athlete to be eligible for selection. For the purposes of this clause, exceptional circumstances are unplanned, unexpected, unavoidable and unforeseen.
- 11.2. Where an athlete wishes to invoke this clause, exceptional circumstances requests should be directed to the Selection Panel prior to the commencement of the selection competition via email at samantha@barefootsup.com and should provide:
 - 11.2.1. Certificated evidence of illness or injury, or other significant exceptional circumstance.
 - 11.2.2. Any evidence the athlete wishes the Selection Panel to consider which demonstrates in both training and racing, a superior performance level than other selected athletes.
- 11.3. To be considered for an exceptional circumstances, an athlete must be able to demonstrate the following performance level:
 - 11.3.1. Achieved top 15 results at ICF World Cup or Euro Tour events.

11.4. Where the Selection Panel accepts an exceptional circumstance request following the process detailed above, the Selection Panel reserves the right to:

11.4.1. Identify a single race opportunity whereby the lowest ranked athlete that has been selected and the identified athlete(s) would compete for a GBR Team place. If this situation arises more detail would be provided following the Selection Panel meeting immediately after the appropriate selection race series.

11.4.2. Where no athlete has been selected for the relevant event under this policy, accept the exceptional circumstances and select the athlete;

11.4.3. Substitute the selection of the athlete under this policy with the selection of the athlete making the exceptional circumstances request.

11.5. All decisions under this Clause 11 that relate to injury, illness or medical conditions will be determined by the Selection Panel members. When assessing if an athlete is fit to race, the decision of the Selection Panel is final.

11.6. **The Selection Panel has the sole discretion to invoke the provisions in this clause and any decision is final and not subject to appeal.**

SECTION E: GENERAL INFORMATION

12. Conflicts of Interest

Paddle UK is committed to upholding high standards of integrity and as such any person who sits on the Selection Panel shall declare any conflicts or potential conflicts 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. For the avoidance of doubt and for the purposes of this policy, a material conflict of interest does not necessarily include the fact that a member of the Selection Panel may know an athlete or have specialist knowledge and experience of the athletes. If a person is unsure whether they have a conflict or potential conflict they should consult the Paddle UK Director of Governance (or their designee).

13. Funding, Participation, and Logistics

13.1. All athletes selected to represent the GBR teams must:

13.1.1. be prepared to meet all costs associated with participation at the event(s) in question. In addition, they must be prepared to organise and arrange their own travel and accommodation;

13.1.2. be prepared to accept team leader (if appointed) direction regarding behaviour and racing as well as wearing the GBR SUP team uniform (if available).

14. Policy Changes

14.1. The selection policy may be amended at any time by the Selection Panel for one or more of the following circumstances:

14.1.1. Any changes in rules governing a particular event;

14.1.2. Any change in ICF eligibility, rules or programme of events;

14.1.3. To give effect to the selection process in case of a drafting error or oversight;

14.1.4. To clarify any ambiguity to the intended meaning of the selection policy;

14.1.5. Any other reason determined by Paddle UK at its total discretion that is in the best interest of Paddle UK and in line with the principles outlined for selection;

14.2. Any changes will be communicated via the Paddle UK Website.

15. Appeals Procedure

15.1. Certain decisions made throughout this Policy are not subject to appeal and where this is the case, specific reference will be made to the decision being final. For other selection decisions made under this Policy, the Paddle UK Non-Olympic Discipline Appeals process applies and this procedure can be found [here](#).

16. Data Protection

16.1. Paddle UK 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 SUP 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.

16.2. Any personal data will be processed and stored in compliance with the Paddle UK 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.

16.3. Further information on Paddle UK's approach to privacy and data protection, including Paddle UK's privacy notices, policies and contact details, can be located in their Privacy Centre (<https://paddleuk.org.uk/privacy-centre/>). Should an athlete wish any data Paddle UK hold relating to them to be deleted at any point; they should contact Paddle UK at GDPR@paddleuk.org.uk.

17. Policies

This Selection Policy operates in conjunction with all relevant Paddle UK policies including but not limited to, Equality, Anti-Doping Policy, Safeguarding, Anti-Bullying Policy, Covid Vaccination Policy and Anti- Bribery Policy.

18. Communications

The Selection Panel 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 Selection Panel, the Chair of the Selection Panel will be available to speak informally to athletes and in the case of minors, parents.

19. Force Majeure

"Force Majeure" means any act, event, omission, cause or circumstance not within the reasonable control of Paddle UK, the SUP Competitions and Events Committee 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 Selection Panel shall have the sole discretion, in consultation with the Paddle UK Director of Governance, to make a decision in line with the principles, strategy and purpose of this selection policy.

-End of Policy-