

British Canoeing Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross

Paris 2024 Olympic Team Selection Policy

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 Olympic Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross selection policy (the 'Policy') is to determine the nomination of the GBR Olympic Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross Team members to the British Olympic Association (the 'BOA') for the Paris 2024 Olympics.

2. Principles

- 2.1. The aim of this policy is to select the strongest overall team to challenge for Olympic medals at the Paris 2024 Games.
- 2.2. Nominations will be based on the Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross International Panel's (the 'IP') assessment of individual athlete performance and team medal potential across the available boat quota places achieved through the International Canoe Federation's (the 'ICF') [Olympic Qualification System \(OQS\)](#).
- 2.3. To enable athletes' optimal preparation in event(s) that they have been selected for, nominations are planned to take place at three separate IP meetings in October 2023, April and June 2024.
- 2.4. All medal opportunities and medal events are considered of equal importance.

SECTION B: ELIGIBILITY

3. To be eligible for nomination, athletes must:

- 3.1. be a full member of British Canoeing or Home Nation Association that enables participation in competition;
- 3.2. comply with any eligibility criteria as set out by the BOA, International Olympic Committee (the 'IOC') and/or the ICF from time to time; and
- 3.3. either
 - 3.3.1. qualify into the 2024 Senior Canoe Slalom Team Selection series under the provisions of [the 2024 GBR Senior Team Selection Policy](#); or
 - 3.3.2. achieved a senior Canoe Slalom and/or Kayak Cross final result at a World Championships, European Championships/European Games or World Cup events in the 2022 or 2023 season.

SECTION C: SELECTION PANEL AND PROCESS

4. The IP is appointed by and reports to the Board of British Canoeing. It is responsible for all aspects of developing, approving and managing the implementation of this policy. The Terms of Reference can be found [here](#).
5. The IP comprises the following voting members: Andy Maddock (Chair and British Canoeing Head of Performance Operations), David Spencer (Slalom Committee Representative), Jim McConnachie (Independent Member), Mark Ratcliffe (British Canoeing Canoe Slalom and Kayak Cross Performance Director), Gareth Wilson (Podium Technical Coach). A member of the British Canoeing Governance Team and an external representative will attend as independent observers.
6. The Olympic Team nomination process is planned to take place at three selection meetings as follows:
 - 6.1.1. Stage 1 – October 2023 (section 12 below)
 - 6.1.2. Stage 2 – April 2024 (section 13 below)
 - 6.1.3. Stage 3 – June 2024 (section 14 below)

7. Confirmation of the dates of all IP Meetings to determine nominations under this policy will be published on the British Canoeing Website.
8. Nomination to the BOA does not guarantee selection for the Paris Olympics 2024. The BOA must ratify all nominations made by British Canoeing before the selection is confirmed.
9. The formal announcement of the Paris 2024 Olympic team will be made in conjunction with the BOA following confirmation by BOA of acceptance of the IP nominations.
10. Athletes are obliged to keep any notifications of nomination or non-nomination in respect of the Paris 2024 Olympic Team strictly confidential until authorised by the British Canoeing Performance Director.

SECTION D: 2024 OLYMPIC TEAM NOMINATION

11. 2024 Paris Olympic events:

- 11.1. The IP will determine nominations to Team GB in accordance with the rules set out in [OQS](#) and quota places qualified by GBR, including rules on athlete entry over multiple events. The OQS permits a team size of up to 6 athletes across up to 8 entries as per the table below:

| Female | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Canoe Single (WC1) | Kayak Single (WK1) | Kayak Cross (WX1) |
| Up to 1 entry per Nation | Up to 1 entry per Nation | Up to 2 entries per Nation |

| Male | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Canoe Single (MC1) | Kayak Single (MK1) | Kayak Cross (MX1) |
| Up to 1 entry per Nation | Up to 1 entry per Nation | Up to 2 entries per Nation |

12. Stage 1

- 12.1. In October 2023, following the conclusion of the identified international and domestic events listed below at 12.2.1.2 and 12.2.1.3, the IP will meet to determine nominations ('Stage 1 Meeting').
- 12.2. The IP will nominate athletes in line with the principles of this policy and may take into account:
 - 12.2.1. Individual athletes' performance record, which may include in the following priority order:
 - 12.2.1.1. attainment of a senior Canoe Slalom and/or Kayak Cross medal at a World Championships, European Championships/European Games or World Cup events in the 2022 or 2023 season ('Senior International Medal Profile');
 - 12.2.1.2. Level and consistency of athlete performances in Canoe Slalom and/or Kayak Cross at the 2022 and 2023 World and European Championships/European Games and World Cup events; and
 - 12.2.1.3. Canoe Slalom Athlete performances at the October 2023 Domestic 2024 Selection event; and
 - 12.2.2. Any other factors that in the reasonable opinion of the IP are relevant to selecting the strongest overall team to challenge for Olympic medals, or which provide context to individual athlete performances. These could include, but are not limited to, individual athlete's International Medal Profile and level and consistency of performance across multiple Olympic events, the impact of an athlete's illness or injury, strength of field and weather conditions at the identified international and domestic events at 12.2.1, and the recovery or projected recovery of an athlete from any illness or injury. The IP may request the input of athletes, WCP staff and medical support teams in identifying and understanding the relevance of these factors.
- 12.3. The IP reserves the right to not make nominations in relation to any Olympic event and delay its decision making to April or June 2024 if in its reasonable opinion doing so would allow it to make a nomination in line with the principles of this policy.

13. Stage 2

- 13.1.** Following the Domestic 2024 Kayak Cross Selection event in April 2024, the IP will meet to consider any further nominations following the Stage 1 meeting ('Stage 2 Meeting').
- 13.2.** At the Stage 2 Meeting, the IP will nominate athletes in line with the principles of this policy, particularly focused on selecting the strongest overall team, and may take into account:
- 13.2.1. Individual athletes' performance record which may include in the following priority order:
 - 13.2.1.1. Senior International Medal Profile (as defined at 12.2.1.1);
 - 13.2.1.2. Level and consistency of athlete performances in Canoe Slalom and/or Kayak Cross at the 2022 and 2023 World and European Championships/European Games and World Cup events; and
 - 13.2.1.3. Kayak Cross Athlete performances at the Domestic 2024 Kayak Cross Selection event and/or Canoe Slalom Athlete performances at the October 2023 Domestic 2024 Selection event; and
 - 13.2.2. Any other factors that in the reasonable opinion of the IP are relevant to selecting the strongest overall team to challenge for Olympic medals, or which provide context to individual athlete performances. These could include, but are not limited to, individual athlete's International Medal Profile and level and consistency of performance across multiple Olympic events, the impact of an athlete's illness or injury, strength of field and weather conditions at the identified international and domestic events at 13.2.1, and the recovery or projected recovery of an athlete from any illness or injury. The IP may request the input of athletes, WCP staff and medical support teams in identifying and understanding the relevance of these factors.
- 13.3.** The IP reserves the right to not nominate an athlete for any quota place and delay its decision making to June 2024 or another appropriate date if in its reasonable opinion doing so would allow it to make a nomination in line with the principles of this policy.

14. Stage 3

- 14.1.** Following the conclusion of the Global Qualification System in June 2024, the IP will meet to determine any outstanding nominations and nominations of reserves.
- 14.2.** The IP will nominate athletes and reserves in line with the principles of this policy, particularly focused on selecting the strongest overall team, and may take into account: *(Note section 14.2 has been amended in line with the published IP Statement of 5.3.2024)*
- 14.2.1. Individual athletes' performance record which may include in the following priority order:
 - 14.2.1.1. Attainment of a senior Canoe Slalom and/or Kayak Cross medal at a World Championships, European Championships/European Games or World Cup events in the 2023 or 2024 season (2024 International Medal Profile)
 - 14.2.1.2. Level and consistency of athlete performances in Canoe Slalom and/or Kayak Cross at the 2023 and 2024 World and European Championships/European Games and World Cup events; and
 - 14.2.1.3. Kayak Cross Athlete performances at the Domestic 2024 Kayak Cross Selection event and/or Canoe Slalom Athlete performances at the October 2023 Domestic 2024 Selection event; and
 - 14.2.2. Any other factors that in the reasonable opinion of the IP are relevant to selecting the strongest overall team to challenge for Olympic medals, or which provide context to individual athlete performances. These could include, but are not limited to, individual athlete's 2024 International Medal Profile and level and consistency of performance across multiple Olympic events, the impact of an athlete's illness or injury, strength of field and weather conditions at the identified international and domestic events at 14.2.1, and the recovery or projected recovery of an athlete from any illness or injury.

The IP may request the input of athletes, WCP staff and medical support teams in identifying and understanding the relevance of these factors.

SECTION E: DE-SELECTION AND FITNESS TO COMPETE

15. At any stage of the selection process prior to the date of the Delegation Registration Meeting in early July 2024 (provisional deadline is 23:00 UK time on 8th July 2024) (“DRM”), the IP reserves the right not to nominate, or to de-select, any athlete or reserve on the following grounds:
 - 15.1. Medical grounds – i.e. when an injury/illness may, in the reasonable opinion of the IP, inhibit the achievement of appropriate performance; or
 - 15.2. 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
 - 15.3. 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.
 - 15.4. The IP will provide any de-selected athlete with written grounds for its decision. Decisions on these grounds shall not be open to appeal.
16. Following the DRM, athlete de-selections and replacements are to be only allowed in accordance with the IOC’s “Late Athlete Replacement Policy”. This primarily provides for replacement in the case of injury and/or illness. In the event of there being a query over this, the following procedure will be adhered to:
 - 16.1. The Team GB’s Chief Medical Officer can require an athlete to undergo a medical examination to determine his/her fitness to participate. This examination will be carried out by the Team GB Chief Medical Officer or another doctor delegated by him/her. If the athlete fails the medical examination he/she will be withdrawn from the Team and British Canoeing may (if appropriate) nominate a replacement athlete in accordance with its Selection Policy.
 - 16.2. If the athlete passes the medical examination carried out in accordance with 16.1 above but British Canoeing and/or the BOA still have concerns over whether or not the athlete is able to compete to a level which would ordinarily have been expected of the athlete due to the underlying injury or illness, the Chef de Mission (in consultation with British Canoeing) can require the athlete to undergo a set of pre-determined sports specific performance tests. The tests will be conducted under the guidance of the sport’s Team Leader (or his/her delegate e.g. team physiotherapist) and a BOA representative or delegate will be present (if possible/available). If the athlete fails the test (which can be undertaken on more than one occasion and within a short time frame if appropriate), he/she will be withdrawn from the Team on medical grounds and, if appropriate, a replacement can be nominated by British Canoeing in accordance with the criteria set out in this Selection Policy.

SECTION F: APPEAL PROCEDURE

17. British Canoeing operates a formal Appeals Procedure for challenging selection decisions made under this policy. Any athlete wishing to submit an appeal must do so in line with the requirements of this Procedure. The Appeals Procedure can be found [here](#).
18. In the event that the BOA refuses to ratify a nomination by the IP, the athlete may appeal that decision under the BOA’s appeals policy, which will be provided upon request.
19. Guidance for athletes is available from the British Canoeing Performance Wellbeing Coach, zofia.campbell@britishcanoeing.org.uk. UK Sport funded World Class Programme athletes can also contact the BEAA at support@britishathletes.org for support and advice.

SECTION G: GENERAL PROVISIONS

20. Policy Changes

- 20.1.** The selection policy may be amended at any time by British Canoeing for one or more of the following circumstances:
- 20.1.1. any changes in rules governing a particular event;
 - 20.1.2. any change in ICF/IOC eligibility, rules or programme of events;
 - 20.1.3. to give effect to the selection process in case of a drafting error or oversight
 - 20.1.4. to clarify any ambiguity to the intended meaning of the selection policy
 - 20.1.5. 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
- 20.2.** Any changes will be communicated and publicised on www.britishcanoeing.org.uk

21. Data Protection

- 21.1.** 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 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.
- 21.2.** 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.
- 21.3.** 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.

22. Policies

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

23. Communication

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/carers.

24. 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 Director of Governance, to make a decision in line with the principles, strategy and mission of this selection policy.