

Hello everyone,

As members of the **2018/2019 Paddle Australia - Sprint National Talent Squad (NTS)**, I would like to take the opportunity to update you all on some recent and upcoming events.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate Kailey Harlen, Yasemin Ray, Anthea Warne, Jesse Kneebone-Ellis, Daniel Kurchaski and Carter Brodhurst-Hill on their recent performances at the 2018 Junior World Championships in Plovdiv Bulgaria. All six athletes remain members of the NTS for the upcoming season as are all still eligible for the 2019 Junior World Championships - next year, in Pitesti, Romania 25-29 July.

Also, a special mention to athletes moving out of the NTS following the World Championships, Tiarnee Massie, Mackenzie Duffy, Hannah Scott, Harry Armstrong, Byron Chadwick and Tom Hughes, it was great to see some solid performances all round. We wish these athletes all the best as they transition into the senior ranks and strive for future selection on Under 21, Under 23 and Senior National Teams.

2018 Junior and U23 World Championship Plovdiv, Bulgaria – RESULTS

A Finals

*U18 WK1 500m Kailey Harlen – 6th A final = **6th**

B Finals

*U18 K2 1000m Harrison Armstrong / Byron Chadwick – 1st B final = **10th**

*U18 K4 500m Daniel Kurcharski / Jesse Kneebone-Ellis / Harrison Armstrong / Thomas Hughes – 2nd B final = **11th**

*U18 WK2 500m Tiarnee Massie / Mackenzie Duffy – 3rd B final = **12th**

C Finals

*U18 K1 1000m Thomas Hughes – 1st C final = **19th**

*U18 K1 200m Jesse Kneebone-Ellis – 2nd C final = **20th**

U18 K1 500m Carter Brodhurst-Hill – 6th C final = **24th**

Other Results – athletes / crews not progressing to finals

*U18 WK4 500m Yasemin Ray / Hannah Scott / Kailey Harlen / Anthea Warne – 7th Semi Final = 13th

U18 WK1 1000m – Alicia Fay 7th Semi Final = (on time) 19th

*Olympic Events

Good Luck to our **Olympic Hopes Team** members Jenaya Massie, Phoebe Wills-Grace, Alisa van der Kwartel, Fletcher Armstrong, Lincoln Loughry and Jarrah Sheppard who will soon be heading off to Europe to contest the 2018 Olympic Hopes Regatta, Poznan Poland 14-16 September. It should be a fantastic tour and an outstanding development and learning opportunity. Coaches for the tour are 2017 World Champions and Olympians, **Kenny Wallace** 3 x Olympian (1 Gold and 2 Bronze) and Rio Olympian, **Alyce Burnett**. The team will be managed by Christine Duff (Duffy). Best wishes team we are looking forward to following the teams progress.

Jenaya Massie will have a busy couple of months – Jenaya also gained selection in Australia's youth Olympic Team to contest the 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires 1- 6 October. Jenaya will be Australia's only representative in Canoeing and is required to compete in both Sprint and Slalom disciplines. Good Luck Jenaya, we wish you all the best.

Important Information for the upcoming Domestic Season

There has been some important information and documents loaded onto the Paddle Australia's website <https://paddle.org.au> which all athletes, parents and coaches should read to gain a clear understanding of some of the activities and requirements for 2018/2019 season.

Follow, Paddle Sports – Sprint <https://paddle.org.au/paddlesports/canoe-sprint/>

Click on Pathways Tab <https://paddle.org.au/paddlesports/canoe-sprint/#sprint-pathways>

This will lead you some important information regarding NTS testing requirements – Athlete monitoring, Current NTS squad and NTS camps for 2018/2019 and how to gain selection for these camps.

In addition to the information provided under the National Talent Squad (NTS) section. I urge everyone to familiarise yourselves with additional information provided in the framework section. There is some very useful information provided to clarify our Canoe Sprint Pathway.

I also encourage everyone to regularly check the Pathways information on the website for updates and Pathway Developments.

2019 National Team Selections

In the coming months Paddle Australia will soon be releasing National Team Selection Policies for the following National Teams - keep an eye on the website for policies.

Asia Pacific Sprint Cup – New Zealand, May 10-12, 2019 (age groups U16, U18, U21)

Junior and U23 World Championships - Pitesti, Romania 25-29, July 2019 (age groups U18, U23)

Olympic Hopes – Venue TBA, usually middle September (age groups U15, U16, U17)

In the lead up to the 2018/2019 domestic season, I hope you are preparing well and approaching your training with enthusiasm. Gaining positions on 2019 National Teams will be tough and its guaranteed, performance standards set will be high. Keep up the good work and continue to striving for success.

David Foureur – National Pathways Lead, Canoe Sprint