

POLICY	Governance
TITLE:	2021 Canoe Slalom U23 Team
AREA:	High Performance
RESPONSIBILITY:	National Performance Director
RELATED POLICIES:	PA Selection Procedures Policy
DRAFTED BY:	National Performance Director
DATE APPROVED:	15/12/2020
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1. DEFINITIONS

In these Criteria, the following words have the following respective meanings:

“Policy”	means the Selection Procedures Policy adopted by the Board of PA from time to time that governs the selection of athletes to Paddle Australia Teams.
“Category”	means Men’s K1, Women’s K1, Men’s C1, Women’s C1 and Mixed C2.
“Criteria”	means this Selection Criteria Supplement.
“PA”	Means Paddle Australia Ltd, the recognised governing body for Paddling in Australia
“Minimum Performance Standard (MPS)”	means the minimum performance standard required by PA for selection to a national team in addition to any other criteria as set out in clause 4 of this Criteria.
“Team”	means the 2021 Paddle Australia U23 Canoe Slalom Team to compete at the 2021 ICF Jnr/U23 Canoe Slalom World Championships.

Words not defined in these Criteria have the meaning ascribed to them in the [Constitution](#) of PA or the Policy unless a contrary meaning appears from the context.

2. SELECTION PROCEDURES

2.1 SELECTION PANEL

In accordance with the Policy, the Selection Panel members are:

- Shaun Stephens / National Performance Director (chair)
- Sarah Forsythe / Independent / ex athlete
- Mike Druce / Paddle Australia Coach
- TBC – if required

2.2 ELIGIBILITY

- 2.2.1 In order to be eligible for selection to the Team, athletes must comply with the Policy.
- 2.2.2 Request entry by written confirmation to the Performance Operations Manager (sara.latham@paddle.org.au) to the Australian Open for the purpose of entering the athlete into the ICF Entry system no later than 16 days prior to the beginning of each selection competition (27th January for Australian Open)
- 2.2.3 Athletes must be born between 1st January 1998 and 31st December 2006 to be eligible for Under 23 Team selection.

2.2.4 Athletes must have nominated for the Team according to Clause 2.3 of this criteria.

2.3 TEAM NOMINATION

- 2.3.1. The competitions for which the Team will be selected for in 2021 are:
- a) 2021 ICF Canoe Slalom U23 World Championships to be held in Tacen, Slovenia;
 - b) other ICF competitions as determined by PA
- 2.3.2. Athletes will be required to nominate for selection to the Team. The process of nomination will form part of the entry process for the selection competitions listed in clause 2.4 of this Criteria.
- 2.3.3. By nominating for selection to the Team, athletes agree to comply with:
- (i) this Criteria; and
 - (ii) the Policy.

2.4 SELECTION COMPETITIONS

The following competitions will be utilised for selecting athletes to the Team:

- (i) **Australian Open**, Penrith NSW, (12-14th, February, 2021)
- (ii) **Paddle Australia Canoe Slalom Selection Competition**, Penrith NSW, (27-28th February, 2021)

3. SELECTION CRITERIA & PROCESS

Athletes will be selected to the Team in each respective Category, up to the maximum number of quota places (3) awarded to Australia by the ICF for each individual Category, as follows:

3.1 SELECTION PROCESS – DOMESTIC RANKING SYSTEM

3.1.1 Selection events and Criteria for Selection include:

Selection Event #	Selection Competition Name	Stage of race	Result counting	Comment
1	Australian Open , Penrith NSW, (12-14 th , February, 2021)	Finals	U23 Ranking in the Official Final Results <i>(i.e only the official U23 race ranking and will be exclusive of all athletes who are not eligible for U23 Australian Team selection)</i>	i.e. no invitation race will be provided for U23 athletes. Athletes qualify through the official race progression system.

2a	Paddle Australia Canoe Slalom Selection Competition, Penrith NSW, (27-28th February, 2021)	Heat 1 only	Official race ranking (exclusive of all athletes who are not eligible for U23 Australian Team selection)	To ensure all athletes racing at same time/ conditions – heat 2 allows athletes to progress in the overall race, but not gain additional opportunity for MPS over those who qualifies via Heat 1
2b	Paddle Australia Canoe Slalom Selection Competition, Penrith NSW, (27-28th February, 2021)	Finals	U23 Ranking across official and invitational Semi-final and Finals (Not official race ranking and exclusive of all athletes who are not eligible for U23 Australian Team selection)	i.e. an U23 paddler who races in the invitational semi-final or final with a faster time than an U23 athlete in the respective official semi-final or final will be ranked higher for AUS selection purposes)

3.1.2 An athlete’s placing in each of the selection events outlined in clause 3.1.1 will be used to earn points for the purposes of the ranking athletes according to the following Table.

Paddle Australia Canoe Slalom Selection Events (Selection Events 1, 2a and 2b)			
1st	80	16th	18
2nd	72	17th	16
3rd	65	18th	14
4th	58	19th	12
5th	52	20th	11
6th	47	21st	10
7th	43	22nd	9
8th	38	23rd	8
9th	34	24th	7
10th	31	25th	6
11th	28	26th	5
12th	26	27th	4
13th	24	28th	3
14th	22	29th	2
15th	20	30th	1

3.1.3 To be clear, at each of the selection events, the ranking table in Clause 3.1.2 will be an U23 ranking, and will exclude all athletes who are not eligible, or have not nominated, for U23 selection under this Criteria.

3.1.4 Athletes will be ranked from highest points to lowest points in accordance with the following:

- (i) Only each athlete's two (2) highest point scores from the selection events set out in clause 3.1.1 will be totalled for the purposes of the rankings.
- (ii) Where two or more athletes have the same total ranking points score, the athlete who has the highest single ranking points score shall be ranked higher.
- (iii) Where two or more athletes are still ranked equally after consideration of the above clause and a choice must be made between the two athletes for the purposes of this Criteria, the athlete who achieves the best result at selection event 2b shall be ranked higher.

3.2 SELECTION CRITERIA

AUTOMATIC SELECTION

- 3.2.1 The two (2) highest ranked eligible U23 Male and two (2) highest ranked eligible U23 Female athletes, based on the ranking system outlined in clause 3.1, AND, achieved at least 1 x U23 MPS in any of the selection events outlined in clause 3.1.1, will be automatically selected in the Category or Categories they achieve the ranking results.
- 3.2.2 To be clear:
- a) to be AUTOMATICALLY selected, an athlete must have achieved at least 1 x U23 MPS,
 - b) an athlete who is ranked in the Top 2, who has not achieved 1 x U23 MPS, will not be AUTOMATICALLY selected, but may be selected by discretion according to Clause 3.2.3 (ie. the position does not automatically roll down to the next ranked athlete who has achieved MPS).

DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

- 3.2.3 The Selection Panel, at their absolute discretion, may select additional athletes in Olympic Categories up to the maximum number of quota places awarded to Australia by the ICF. In doing so, they will consider the following:
- 3.2.3.1 ranking of each athlete according to clause 3.1.4 of this Criteria
 - 3.2.3.2 application of MPS according to clause 4 of this Criteria
 - 3.2.3.3 in accordance with clause 6.2 (i) to (vi) inclusive, of this Criteria
 - 3.2.3.4 approved extenuating circumstances that may apply as outlined in clause 5, in which case a selection decision will be based on the weight of performance based evidence in accordance with clause 6.2 (i) to (vi) inclusive, of this Criteria
 - 3.2.3.5 Where the maximum number of ICF quota places are not filled by U23 athletes (based on the above criteria), and the number of Junior athletes

who achieve Junior MPS exceed the ICF quota, in a particular Category, then the Selection Panel, may, but are not obliged to, select Junior athletes.

3.3 RESERVES

The Selection Panel may, but are not obliged to, name Reserves for each Category at their absolute discretion in accordance with Clause 3.2.3.

3.4 CSLX SELECTION CRITERIA

The ICF and IOC have recently confirmed the inclusion of CSLX event as an Olympic event for Paris 2024. The ICF and IOC have made it clear that there will be no additional athlete quota positions available and hence, the CSLX athletes will have to come from the Slalom discipline pool of athletes. Hence, the following Criteria will be used to select athletes for all CSLX Events in 2021:

- 3.4.1 Athletes will be ranked in the K1M and K1W Canoe Slalom Categories according to the same ranking system outlined in Clause 3.1 of this policy, and specifically clause 3.1.4.
- 3.4.2 Where an athlete either chooses not to contest the CSLX event, then the position may roll down to the next ranked K1 athlete, subject to that athlete already being selected for the Team.
- 3.4.3 Subject to a position being available following the application of Clauses 3.4.1 through 3.4.2, the selection panel may, at their absolute discretion, select C1 athlete(s) who have already been selected for the Team.
- 3.4.4 Subject to a position being available following the application of Clauses 3.4.1 through 3.4.3, the selection panel may, at their absolute discretion, but are not obliged to, select athlete(s) who have not been selected for the Team.

4. MINIMUM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

- 4.1 The updated 2021 Canoe Slalom MPS will be set out in Schedule A of this criteria and will be applied at the absolute discretion of the Selection Panel according to Clause 4.2.
- 4.2 Where listed in the Criteria that there is a requirement for athletes to 'achieve MPS', means an athlete has:
 - 4.2.1 Achieved the necessary MPS in a single run within the performance standard listed in Schedule A for the relevant selection competition, whether on the Heats 1st run (only), Semi Final, or Final phase.
 - 4.2.2 If, for any reason, an athlete has not achieved MPS and the Selection Panel requires further evidence of an athlete's ability to achieve MPS, they may consider the following:

- Relevant performance times in relation to MPS from the athlete within the past 15 months, or
- Relative performances against other athletes who have achieved MPS within the past 15 months
- Approved Extenuating Circumstances according to Clause 5

5. EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

- 5.1 Notwithstanding anything contained within this Criteria, an athlete may apply in writing to the Selection Panel (via the Chair), to consider Extenuating Circumstances. Such application must incorporate substantive supporting evidence. This application must be received either prior to the Selection Competition beginning, or, as soon as practically possible and no later than 2 hours following the selection event in which the extenuating circumstances apply.
- 5.2 The Selection Panel is not obliged to accept or consider an application under this clause. Only Extenuating Circumstances which prevent an athlete from either attending a Selection Competition, or, finishing a selection event will be accepted.
- 5.3 For the purposes of this Policy, "Extenuating Circumstances" means:
- a) injury or illness, as confirmed by the PA Chief Medical Officer, or their authorised representative;
 - b) Covid related quarantine requirements, as confirmed by a Medical Officer
 - c) equipment failure (where applicable);
 - d) travel delays or restrictions;
 - e) bereavement or disability arising from death or serious illness of an immediate family member; and/or
 - f) an unanticipated event occurring at the Selection Competition(s).
- 5.4 If the Selection Panel accepts an Extenuating Circumstance application, a decision in each case of the weight afforded to the Extenuating Circumstances, will be made by the Selection Panel on an individual basis at its absolute discretion.

6. EVENT CANCELLATION AND SELECTION CONTINGENCY

In the event one or all of the selection events is cancelled (e.g. Covid restrictions, extreme weather, catastrophic pump failure at Penrith etc) – the following will apply;

- 6.1 If one of the three domestic selection events is cancelled, apart from the selection criteria related to that specific selection event, there will be no change to the selection criteria (i.e. each athlete's two (2) point scores from the selection events set out in clause 3.1.1 will be totalled for the purposes of the rankings).

- 6.2 If more than one of the three domestic selection events is cancelled, the selection panel will, at their absolute discretion, select athletes for the Team in each Category. In doing so, the selection panel may consider, but is not required to consider, any one or combination of the following factors (in no specific order of importance or weighting):
- (i) performances in ICF World Cup or U23 or Senior World Championships Competitions over the last 24 months;
 - (ii) performances in domestic competitions throughout 2020 and 2021;
 - (iii) demonstrated continual performance improvement over the last 24 months;
 - (iv) recent performances in relation to the Senior MPS, or in relation to the U23 or Junior MPS for those eligible U23 or Junior aged athletes, respectively;
 - (v) current athlete injury/illness or condition which may impair an athlete's performance; and
 - (vi) benefit and timing of a competition to assist an athlete's preparation for an U23 and/or Senior World Championships.
- 6.3 Notwithstanding anything in this Clause 6, as outlined in Clause 3 of the Policy, PA may amend or repeal this Criteria at any time for any reason as determined by PA in its absolute discretion. This may include cancellation, postponement or change to selection competition(s) and/or this Criteria.

7. SELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

- 7.1 Announcement of the Team and Reserves will be made within 1 week of the 2021 Paddle Australia Canoe Slalom Selection Competition.
- 7.2 Athletes must accept the offer of selection within 5 days of receiving the selection confirmation.

8. MIXED C2 STATEMENT

- 8.1 The ICF have indicated that there is currently no intention to pursue the MX C2 as an Olympic Category. The Paddle Australia selection principles, as directed by its principal funding partner (AIS), state that priority of resources etc will be provided to Olympic Category competitions, which the MX C2 Category is not currently.
- 8.2 Hence, Paddle Australia have made the decision not to include specific criteria relating to the MX C2 Category.
- 8.3 Once the Team have been selected, then coaches for each Team may select athletes into MX C2 boats for competitions from within the selected Team. E.g. The coaches for the Team may explore opportunities, but are not obliged to, to create one or more MX C2 from within the athletes already selected via C1 for the Team.

SCHEDULE A: MINIMUM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Implementation of the MPS:

1. At the conclusion of each selection competition under this Criteria, a Base Score is calculated as the average of the lowest total score recorded by any Australian athlete in C1 Men, C1 Women, K1 Men and K1 Women.
2. A Base Score is only calculated from the heats phase run 1 and from the Semi Final run at each Selection Competition.

3. Example:

The Base Score is calculated by adding the winning score (best eligible Australian) in any age category in C1M, C1W, K1M, K1W and dividing by 4. The percentage score for an athlete/crew at a competition is calculated by dividing the total score for that athlete/crew by the Base Score and multiplying by 100. For example, if the Base Score at a competition is 184.55 and athlete A has a score of 195.44, the percentage score is calculated as follows:

$$(195.44 / 184.55) \times 100 = 105.90\%$$

2021 MINIMUM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:

(updated in October, 2020, same as 2020 due to lack of International events in 2020)

Category	Senior MPS (% of Base Score)	U23 MPS (% of Base Score)	Junior MPS (% of Base Score)
Men's K1	<94.17%	<97.56%	<107.32%
Women's K1	<108.05%	<118.60%	<126.28%
Men's C1	<100.91%	<104.69%	<116.87%
Women's C1	<125.87%	<125.44%	<141.31%