

POLICY	Governance
TITLE:	Paralympic Paracanoe Nomination Criteria
AREA:	High Performance
RESPONSIBILITY:	National Performance Director
RELATED POLICIES:	PA Selection Procedures Policy Paralympics Australia General Selection Criteria IPC Qualification Regulations
DRAFTED BY:	Program Manager Paracanoe
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1. DEFINITIONS

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

“Class”	means the six (6) different classifications as applied to each athlete based on their impairment. (KL1, KL2, KL3, VL1, VL2 and VL3).
“Criteria”	means this Nomination Criteria Supplement.
“Event”	means one of the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic event categories of Paracanoe, being: Men’s KL1, KL2, KL3, VL2, VL3 and Women’s: KL1, KL2, KL3, VL2. All Paralympic Event distances are 200m.
“ICF”	means the International Canoe Federation
“IPC”	means the International Paralympic Committee.
“IPS”	means the 2021 Paralympic International Performance Standard used by PA to guide selection decisions to a national Team in addition to any other criteria as set out in clause 5 of this Criteria.
“NPD”	means the person appointed to the role of “National Performance Director” of Paddle Australia
“PA”	means Paddle Australia Ltd, the recognised governing body for Paddling in Australia
“Policy”	means the Selection Procedures Policy adopted by the Board of PA that governs the selection of athletes to Paddle Australia Teams. With regards to this criteria, it specifically relates to the nomination of athletes to Paralympics Australia, as opposed the selection of Athletes to Paddle Australia Teams.
“Team”	means the Australian Paralympic Team to compete at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games, to be held in 2021.

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.

Furthermore, where there is a conflicting statements between the Policy and either this Nomination Criteria Supplement or the Paralympic Australia General Selection Criteria, then latter two documents will take precedence.

2. NOMINATION PROCEDURES

The process of selecting athletes is a two stage process. PA will nominate athletes to Paralympics Australia based on the nomination criteria outlined below. Following nomination, the Paralympics Australia Board will be the sole selector of the Team.

2.1. PA SELECTION PANEL

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

- Shaun Stephens / PA National Performance Director (Chair)
- Greg Kaeding / PA Sprint Technical Committee
- David Rhodes / PA Selection Panel
- Hannah Davis / PA Selection Panel
- Tahnee Norris / Program Manager Paracanoe

2.2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.2.1. To be eligible for nomination to the Team, athletes must comply with the Policy; and
- 2.2.2. Any athlete nominated to the Team must be a national of Australia as determined by the IPC Athlete Nationality Policy detailed within the IPC Handbook.

The IPC Athlete Nationality Policy can be accessed by following this link:

<http://www.paralympic.org/the-ipc/handbook>

2.2.3. Classification:

- 2.2.3.1. Only qualified athletes that meet the ICF Paracanoe classification rules, have been allocated an international sport class and an appropriate sport class status by an ICF classification panel, as outlined, will be eligible to be nominated to the Team.
- 2.2.3.2. Athletes hold an international classification, listed on the ICF Paracanoe master-list, with a sports class status of 'Confirmed' or 'Review' with a review date after 31 December 2021.
- 2.2.3.3. Athletes agree to abide by the ICF Paracanoe classification rules and regulations, the IPC Athlete Classification Code and any relevant Paddle Australia and Paralympics Australia classification policies and requirements, including attending classification assessment as required.
- 2.2.3.4. Athletes agree to complete any classification education modules as released by the ICF, Paddle Australia or Paralympics Australia.
- 2.2.3.5. Athletes agree to disclose previous classification documentation and/or medical diagnostic documentation from relevant specialists for classification which may include;
- a) Providing medical diagnostic information detailing the athlete's underlying health condition and eligible impairment.
 - b) Undertaking any additional medical assessment or provide further medical diagnostic information as required by Paddle Australia, Paralympics Australia or the ICF for the purpose of classification.
 - c) If an athlete has any medical intervention, or if changes occur to the athlete's impairment which may impact on their classification, athletes must provide medical documentation to Paddle Australia, Paralympics Australia or the ICF.
- 2.2.3.6. Athletes agree to notify Paddle Australia, Paralympics Australia or the ICF if there is any change to assistive devices, or equipment used, which may impact their classification in any way and agrees to undergo further classification assessment if required.
- 2.2.3.7. Athletes have not breached the ICF classification rules and regulations,

or the IPC Athlete Classification Code, unless the athlete has been sanctioned for the breach and has completed the sanction imposed (unless the sanction was equal to or greater than 2 years, in which case the athlete is ineligible for nomination). For purpose of this clause, a breach may include, among other things:

- a) An athlete under investigation for International Misrepresentation where a notice has been issued, or the athlete has been sanctioned under the ICF Classification Rules and Regulations; or
- b) A failure to comply with an athlete's obligations under the ICF Classification Rules and Regulations.

2.2.3.8. Paralympics Australia reserves the right to review the selection of athletes, including deselection, if exceptional circumstances arise that relate to the athlete classification for the sport or classification qualification criteria as detailed in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games Qualification Guide (Revised in 2020).

2.3. TEAM LONG LIST

- 2.3.1. For the purpose only of identifying prospective members of the Team, PA will maintain a Long List of athletes.
- 2.3.2. For the avoidance of doubt, membership of the Long List does not increase, decrease or otherwise affect an athlete's prospects of being nominated by PA, or being selected by Paralympics Australia, to the Team.
- 2.3.3. As a member of the Long List, athletes agree:
 - a) to comply with this Criteria; and
 - b) to comply with the Policy; and
 - c) that they are bound by the Paralympics Australia General Selection Criteria;

2.4. NOMINATION COMPETITIONS

- 2.4.1. The following competitions will be utilised for the purpose of nominating athletes to the Team:
 - a) **Nomination Competition 1:**
2020 Paddle Australia Canoe Sprint Championships (Penrith) – 11 – 15 March
 - b) **Nomination Competition 2a:**
2021 Paddle Australia Canoe Sprint Championships (Penrith) – 17 - 21 March
 - c) **Nomination Competition 2b: (only if required):**
a separate Nomination Competition (race off), as required, held at the end of the 2021 Paddle Australia Canoe Sprint Championships between two Athletes of equal standings after the first 2 Nomination Trials (1 and 2a).
- 2.4.2. To be nominated to the Team, athletes must be available to tour with the Team between 12th July – 7th September 2021, unless extenuating circumstances apply, according to Clause 4.

3. NOMINATION CRITERIA & PROCESS

The following nomination criteria will be applied in each Paralympic Class and is subject to Paddle Australia securing Paralympic Quota position(s) in that Class from the ICF.

3.1 NOMINATION CRITERIA

3.1.1 Subject to demonstrating the ability to achieve the relevant IPS in neutral conditions for their Class, as defined in Clause 5, Athletes will be nominated to the Team in each respective Class, up to the maximum number of quota places awarded to Australia, as follows:

3.1.1.1 An Athlete who is the highest placed eligible Athlete in both Nomination Trial 1 and Nomination Trial 2a will be nominated to Paralympics Australia for selection to the Team.

3.1.1.2 Where there are two different winners (being two different highest placed eligible Australian Athletes) in an Event at Nomination Trial 1 and Nomination Trial 2a, a further Trial (Nomination Trial 2b) will be conducted. The highest placed eligible Athlete in Nomination Trial 2b, will be nominated to Paralympics Australia for selection to the Team.

3.1.1.3 The Selection Panel is NOT obliged to select a minimum number of Athlete(s) in any Class or Paralympic Event and the maximum number will be determined by the maximum number of quota positions awarded to Australia.

3.1.2 International Late Nomination Criteria: Subject to Australia achieving additional Quota Positions at the 2021 ICF Paracanoe World Cup (Szeged), athletes will be nominated to the Team in each respective Class, up to the maximum number of quota places awarded to Australia for each Class, as follows:

3.1.2.1 Any athlete, not yet nominated, who fulfils the Nomination Criteria, outlined in Clause 3.1.1, and;

3.1.2.2 demonstrates the ability of achieving the relevant IPS in neutral conditions for their Class, as defined in Clause 5.

3.2 RESERVES

If the number of athletes who achieve IPS according to Clause 5 is greater than the number of eligible quota positions, then reserves will be named in order of finishing position at Nomination Trial 2a at the 2021 Paddle Australia Canoe Sprint Championships. Reserve athletes will be selected to contest the 2021 Paralympic World Championships. Nevertheless, reserves will not be members of the Australian Paralympic Team until such time they are confirmed replacements to the Team. It will be at the complete discretion of the NPD as to whether any of the Reserves will travel with the team during any lead up events or training camps between the 2021 ICF Paracanoe World Cup, 2021 ICF Paracanoe World Championships and the Paralympic Games.

4. EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

4.1 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 Nomination Competition beginning, or, as soon as practically possible and no later than 2 hours following the Event in which the extenuating circumstances apply.

- 4.2 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 Nomination Competition, or, finishing an Event which holds selection status.
- 4.3 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) equipment failure (where applicable);
 - c) travel delays;
 - d) bereavement or disability arising from death or serious illness of an immediate family member; and/or
 - e) an unanticipated event occurring at the Nomination Competition(s).
- 4.4 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.

5. INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (IPS)

- 5.1 The 2021 Paracanoe IPS are set out in Schedule A of this criteria and will be applied at the absolute discretion of the Selection Panel according to Clause 5.2.
- 5.2 Where listed in the criteria that there is a requirement for athletes to 'demonstrate the ability' to achieve IPS, means an athlete has:
- 5.2.1 Achieved the necessary IPS in neutral conditions at one of the following competitions:
- (i) 2021 PA Canoe Sprint Grand Prix 2, Penrith NSW, or;
 - (ii) 2021 Paddle Australia Canoe Sprint Championships, Penrith, NSW
- 5.2.2 The assessment of neutral conditions and the final decision of whether any athlete has demonstrated the ability to achieve IPS is at the absolute discretion of the Selection Panel, based on the influence of external conditions that may either positively or negatively influence the ability of an athlete to achieve the IPS. Such conditions include, but is not limited to, wind speed/direction, water temperature, wave size and currents.
- 5.2.3 If, in any of the above listed events, there is either favourable or unfavourable conditions (i.e. not deemed neutral) and the Selection Panel requires further evidence of an athlete's ability to achieve IPS, they may consider the following:
- (iii) Relevant performance times in relation to IPS from the athlete within the past 15 months, or
 - (iv) Relative performances against other athletes who have achieved IPS within the past 15mths

- (v) Conducting a separate trial to be organised prior to March 30, 2021.
- (vi) Approved Extenuating Circumstances according to Clause 4

6. NOMINATION CONDITIONAL – CONTINUING FORM, FITNESS, MEDICAL AND PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

- 6.1 All athletes achieving nomination are subject to demonstration of continued form, fitness and medical assessment obligations.
- 6.2 An athlete may be required to undergo an independent medical and/or performance assessment. The performance assessment will be at the absolute discretion of the NPD and may be designed race or time trial at a time agreed with the NPD.
- 6.3 Paddle Australia may request the removal of any nominated athlete where it determines that the athlete fails to meet the Continuing Form, Fitness and Medical Assessment and/or has breached the provisions of the PA nomination criteria, however any decision to remove a selected athlete from the 2021 Australian Paralympic Team will be determined by Paralympics Australia in its sole and absolute discretion.

7. EVENT CANCELLATION

In the event of the 2021 Paddle Australia Canoe Sprint Championships being cancelled, the selection panel will, at their absolute discretion, nominate athletes for the Team in each Class. 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 World Championships Competitions over the last 24 months;
- (ii) performances in the 2020 and 2021 domestic season, including, GP2 and Paddle Australia Canoe Sprint Championships;
- (iii) demonstrated continual performance improvement over the last 24 months;
- (iv) current athlete injury/illness or condition which may impair an athlete's performance

8. ANNOUNCEMENT

- 8.1 Subject to confirmation of athlete quotas for the 2021 Paralympic Games, and any pending appeal received by PA under the Policy, announcement of selection to the Team will be made by Paralympics Australia following confirmation by the Paralympics Australia Board.
- 8.2 Subject to Paddle Australia receiving additional quota positions following the 2021 ICF Paracanoe World Championships, athletes earning International Late Nomination, will be announced by Paralympics Australia following confirmation by the Paralympics Australia Board.
- 8.3 The final deadline for nominating Athletes is the 15th June, 2021.

9. APPEAL PROCEDURE

The process for appeals is outlined in the Policy. For the purpose of this criteria, where the Policy references selection and/or non-selection to a PA Team, the interpretation should be nomination and/or non-nomination to Paralympics Australia.

SCHEDULE A

2021 International Performance Standards (IPS): The official 2021 IPS to be used in this nomination criteria has been updated from the 2019 ICF Paracanoe World Championships. The below table will be updated to reflect this.

2021 Paralympic IPS:

	KL1 200	KL2 200	KL3 200	VL2 200	VL3 200
Men	0:54:01	0:45:44	0:41:49	0:57:54	0:53:69
Women	1:03:55	1:00:52	0:54:52	1:11:51	n/a