

POLICY	Governance
TITLE:	2022 Canoe Slalom National Development Squad (NDS)
AREA:	High Performance
RESPONSIBILITY:	National Performance Pathway's Coach
RELATED POLICIES:	
DRAFTED BY:	National Performance Pathway's Coach
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CONTENTS

CONTENTS	2
1. DEFINITIONS	3
2. PHILOSOPHY	3
3. SELECTION PROCEDURES	3
3.1 SELECTION PANEL	3
3.2 ELIGIBILITY.....	4
3.3 TEAM NOMINATION.....	4
3.4 SQUAD BENEFITS	4
4. SELECTION POLICY & PROCESS	5
4.1 SELECTION CRITERIA	5
5. SELECTION OPPORTUNITIES	7
5.1 COMPETENCY BASED ASSESSMENT CAMP	7
5.2 2022 AGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS & 2022 OCEANIA CHAMPIONSHIPS	7
5.3 COVID-19 TRAVEL CONTINGENCIES	7
6. SELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS	8

1. DEFINITIONS

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

“Athlete”	a person who has made a nomination to PA that they wish to be considered for selection to the NDS.
“ Criteria”	means this Selection Criteria.
“NDS”	means the Canoe Slalom National Development Squad
“PA”	means Paddle Australia Ltd, the recognised governing body for Canoeing in Australia

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

2. PHILOSOPHY

To give context to this policy and processes, the intentions of the Performance Pathway for the 2022 season are:

1. Identify athletes who exhibit potential to be LA 2028 and Brisbane 2032 athletes, who are at the beginning of their performance pathway career.
2. Expose identified athletes to coaching, training methods, and training opportunities to set them up for success later in their paddling career.
3. Provide a development squad for athletes who can show a strong level of drive & commitment to canoe slalom.

3. SELECTION PROCEDURES

3.1 SELECTION PANEL

The Selection Panel members are:

- Robin Jeffery (chair)
- Titouan Dupras
- Julien Billaut

3.2 ELIGIBILITY

Athletes must be born between 1st January 2001 and 31st December 2010 to be considered for NDS selection (from 12 to 21 years of age)

- 3.2.1 Athletes will be considered for invitation if they are recommended and endorsed by a Paddle Australia Foundation Level coach (club/states coaches). As a minimum requirement, athletes will need to:
- (i) Meet the required standard of six (6) hours a week in the boat
 - (ii) Be able to perform basic canoe slalom skills on moving water, and progressing towards executing these skills on whitewater
 - (iii) Be able to complete a roll, on whitewater
 - (iv) Demonstrate a willingness to progress through the Performance Pathway
 - (v) Possess the necessary skill level to benefit from training camps at
 - i. Brady's Lake, Tasmania
 - ii. Penrith Whitewater Stadium, New South Wales.
- 3.2.2 As a minimum standard, the eligible athlete should be a proficient Talent 1 (T1) in the Foundation Talent Elite Mastery (FTEM) framework.

To refer to Foundation, Talent, Elite, Mastery (FTEM) framework and National Athlete Pathways Framework (NAPF) Documents on the PA website, click [HERE](#)

3.3 TEAM NOMINATION

Nomination:

- 3.3.1. Foundation Level coaches (club/states coaches) will be required to express the interest of their athletes for selection to the squad by COB Wednesday 5th January 2022.
- 3.3.2. This process is to be in writing to Performance Pathways Coordinator, Jill Bassett on jill.bassett@paddle.org.au
- 3.3.3 Once this is complete, the athlete will receive communication that they have officially been accepted as an NDS nominee.
- 3.3.5 By being nominated for selection to the NDS, the athletes agree:
- (i) to comply with this Criteria; and
 - (ii) to comply with all Policies and Procedures of PA.

3.4 SQUAD BENEFITS

- 3.4.1 The NDS is largely a self-funded development squad who will gain access to the following development opportunities in 2022:
- (i) National Development Squad (NDS) Training Camps and activities

- NDS camp in Brady's Lake, Tasmania, April 2022
- NDS camp in Penrith, October 2022
- NDS International camp (NZL), 2022*
**(subject to international travelling restrictions)*

- 3.4.2 Selected NDS athletes will receive a subsidy on development opportunities outlined in 3.4.1(i)
- 3.4.3 As part of the NDS, athletes will be given access to a basic training monitoring tool that will allow the athlete, daily coach, and Performance Pathway coach and staff to collaborate on the athletes training plan. This will help to inform further education for coaches on training methods to improve developmental athletes, as well as provide a tool to implement best practice for the long-term development of the athlete.
- 3.4.4 In collaboration with their main coach, the NDS athletes may receive guidance from the Performance Pathway Coach in various fields of performance that are identified as important for each athlete. This guidance may occur during camps, as well as in-between camps if required. The Performance Pathway Coach will use the training monitoring tool to inform the discussion.

4. SELECTION POLICY & PROCESS

4.1 SELECTION CRITERIA

4.1.1 Athletes may be selected in each of the age brackets

- 21 years old; Born in the year 2001
- 20 years old; Born in the year 2002
- 19 years old; Born in the year 2003
- 18 years old; Born in the year 2004
- 17 years old; Born in the year 2005
- 16 years old; Born in the year 2006
- 15 years old; Born in the year 2007
- 14 years old; Born in the year 2008
- 13 years old; Born in the year 2009
- 12 years old; Born in the year 2010

- 4.1.2 The Selection Panel, at their absolute discretion, will select athletes to the NDS. In exercising its absolute discretion, the Selection Panel will consider a combination of skills encompassing both T1 and T2 levels:

Whitewater Skills Competency

- i. Ability for athletes to produce canoe slalom skills during a specific delivery session and/or races
- ii. Read & plan lines on whitewater: Can select and plan different techniques to negotiate upstream and downstream gates.
- iii. Ability to perform a range of techniques in gates - flat water to

whitewater.

On and off Water fitness

- i. Demonstrate the ability to complete two whitewater sessions a day on multiple days.
- ii. Although there are no physical performance standards involved in the selection, the overall fitness level may play a part in selecting one paddler instead of another

Demonstrated commitment and dedication to Canoe Slalom

- i. Show a satisfactory level of maturity to be able to fully benefit from multiple whitewater session
- ii. Generally, remain composed on a full run or race despite outcome during run.
- iii. Remain curious, inquisitive and engage with groups and coaches around them.

- 4.1.3 The 2022 Canoe Slalom Junior and U23 World Championships Team selection concludes on the 28th of February 2022. Any athlete who qualifies for the 2022 Junior Canoe Slalom World Championship Team and has not already been named to the NDS, National Emerging Squad (NES) or National Performance Academy (NPA) may be consider for selection in the 2022 NDS.
- 4.1.4 The selection panel will consider having 8 to 10 athletes with a minimum of 2 athletes per class, with the aim of gender equity and positive group dynamic. the selection panel, at its absolute discretion is not obliged to select all quota positions.
- 4.1.5 If an Athlete does not make selection to the 2022 NDS in January, Athletes may be considered for NDS selection at an alternate camp in Penrith in September.

5. SELECTION OPPORTUNITIES

The NDS selection panel have identified three (3) opportunities to gain the selection to the NDS squad.

- 2022 Age National Championships, Eildon, 7-9 January 2022
- Competency based assessment camp, Penrith, 22-23 January 2022
- 2022 Oceania Championships, Penrith, 28-30 January 2022

To be considered for NDS selection, the athletes must attend at least two (2) of the three (3) opportunities to demonstrate their level of competencies.

5.1 COMPETENCY BASED ASSESSMENT CAMP

These two days will be run in conjunction with the All-States sessions over the weekend. The selection panel will attend at least 3 out of the 4 sessions and will observe and assess the NDS nominees based on the section 4.1.2.

This camp is self-funded, and athletes/families will be responsible for all travel, accommodation and food.

5.2 2022 AGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS & 2022 OCEANIA CHAMPIONSHIPS

On the two race events, the selection panel will focus by order of priority on:

1. The level of Whitewater skills demonstrated during the official races
2. The athletes overall ranking of the race

5.3 COVID-19 TRAVEL CONTINGENCIES

In the circumstance whereby travel to the competency assessment camp, the Oceania Championships or/and the Age National Championships is unable to occur due to COVID-19 specific travel restrictions (boarder closure and/or quarantine requirements) a state-based assessment protocol will be distributed to a state recognised PA Talent Level coach to administer.

This assessment will be designed to provide adequate information to the selection panel, to decide at their absolute discretion, whether or not, athletes who are not able to make the Penrith based camp or identified events should be selected to the NDS.

6. SELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcement of the final 2022 National Development Squad will be made on Tuesday 1st February at the conclusion of three identified opportunities, the 2022 Age Nationals, competency assessment camp and the 2022 Oceania Championships.

Athletes must accept the offer of their selection within 5 days of receiving the selection confirmation.

Athletes accepting their selection to the 2022 National Development Squad will be expected to:

- a) abide by all PA policies and procedures
- b) participate in domestic training camps when they are planned
- c) complete on potential competition tours where applicable, subject to Covid travel risks and constraints.