

**Selection Criteria
2023 Canoe Slalom
National Development Squad**

22/12/2022

POLICY	Governance
TITLE:	2023 Canoe Slalom National Development Squad (NDS)
AREA:	Performance Pathways
RESPONSIBILITY:	National Performance Pathways Lead
RELATED POLICIES:	
DRAFTED BY:	National Performance Pathways Lead
DATE APPROVED:	22/12/2022
APPROVED BY:	Paddle Australia
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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 Pathways Program for the 2023 season are:

1. Identify athletes who exhibit potential to be Brisbane 2032 athletes (and to a lesser extent LA 2028) and 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 PROCEDURE

3.1 SELECTION PANEL

The Selection Panel members are:

- Ros Lawrence (Chair)
- Titouan Dupras
- Matt Dalziel

3.2 ELIGIBILITY

Athletes must be born between 1st January 2002 and 31st December 2011 to be considered for NDS selection (from 12 to 21 years of age)

Minimum Standard:

- 3.2.1 Athletes will be considered for invitation if they are recommended and endorsed by a Paddle Australia Foundation Level coach (club/state coaches). As a minimum requirement, athletes will need to:
- (i) Engage in regular weekly training as assessed by the selection panel in conjunction with state coaches
 - (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/state coaches) will be required to express the interest of their athletes for selection to the squad by COB Tuesday 3rd January 2023.
- 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/coach will receive communication that they have officially been accepted as an NDS nominee.
- 3.3.4. 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 NDS Training Camps and activities in 2023:
- (i) Camp in Penrith, April 2023
 - (ii) Camp (location TBC), May/June 2023
 - (iii) End of year camp (location TBC) 2023
- 3.4.2 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 Pathways Program coaches and staff to collaborate on the athlete's training plan. This will help to inform further education for coaches on training methods to improve the development of athletes, as well as provide a tool to implement best practice for the long-term development of the athlete.
- 3.4.3 In collaboration with their main coach, the NDS athletes may receive guidance from the Performance Pathways Program Coaches 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 Pathways Program Coaches 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 following primary age brackets
- 18 years old; Born in the year 2005
 - 17 years old; Born in the year 2006
 - 16 years old; Born in the year 2007
 - 15 years old; Born in the year 2008
 - 14 years old; Born in the year 2009

4.1.2 The Selection Panel, at their absolute discretion, may select athletes from the following age brackets.

- 21 years old; Born in the year 2002
- 20 years old; Born in the year 2003
- 19 years old; Born in the year 2004
- 13 years old; Born in the year 2010
- 12 years old; Born in the year 2011

In addition to the criteria outlined in 4.1.3, in selecting athletes from these age brackets the Selection Panel will consider the following criteria in no particular order:

- Commitment to training
- Class representation (K1/C1)
- Gender representation
- State representation
- Growth, maturation, and development trajectory

4.1.3 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. Read & plan lines on whitewater: can select and plan different techniques to negotiate upstream and downstream gates.
- ii. 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 sessions.
- ii. Generally, remain composed on a full run or race despite outcomes during the run.
- iii. Remain curious, inquisitive, show good sportsmanship and engage with groups and coaches around them.

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

- i. The level of whitewater skills demonstrated during the official races
- ii. The athlete's overall ranking in the race

4.1.4 Any Athlete who qualifies for the 2023 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 considered for selection in the 2023 NDS.

4.1.5 The selection panel will consider having approximately ten athletes with the aim of at least two athletes per class, gender equity and positive group dynamic. The selection panel, at its absolute discretion, is not obliged to select all positions.

4.1.6 If an Athlete does not make selection to the 2023 NDS in January/February, athletes may be considered for NDS selection at an alternate camp later in the year.

5 SELECTION OPPORTUNITIES

5.1 2023 AGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS & 2023 AUS OPEN

The NDS selection panel have identified two (2) opportunities to gain selection to the NDS squad.

- 2023 Age National Championships, Forth, Tasmania 5-8 January 2023
- 2023 Australian Open, Penrith, New South Wales 17-19 February 2023

To be considered for NDS selection, the athletes must attend at least one (1) of the two (2) opportunities to demonstrate their level of competency.

5.2 EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

In the circumstance where an athlete is unable to compete due to extenuating circumstances such as injury or illness, at the discretion of the selection panel a state-based assessment protocol may be distributed to a PA recognised 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 attend at least one of the two identified events should be selected to the NDS.

6 SELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcement of the final 2023 National Development Squad will be made shortly after the 2023 Aus Open.

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

Athletes accepting their selection to the 2023 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) sign a Paddle Australia Athlete Waiver