

POLICY	Governance
TITLE:	2023 Canoe Slalom World Cup/Championship Team
AREA:	High Performance
RESPONSIBILITY:	National Performance Director
RELATED POLICIES:	PA Selection Procedures Policy
DRAFTED BY:	Manager Performance Operations – Canoe Slalom
DATE APPROVED:	
APPROVED BY:	Paddle Australia
NEXT REVIEW:	

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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 PA Teams.
“Event”	means Men’s K1, Women’s K1, Men’s C1, Women’s C1.
“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 2023 PA U23 Canoe Slalom Team to compete at the 2023 ICF Jnr/U23 Canoe Slalom World Championships.
“Ranking List”	means the 2023 PA U23 Canoe Slalom Team ranking list which will list all nominated and eligible U23 athletes.
“Benchmark Event (BME)”	mean the pinnacle event of the season – either the World Championships or Olympic Games

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 AIMS

To give context to the following policy and processes, the aims of the PA High Performance Program for the 2023 season are to:

- a) Identify the top 3 senior athletes within each Event to contest the ICF Canoe Slalom World Cup and World Championship Events in 2023
- b) Qualify Olympic quota places for Australia through the Olympic Qualification Event
- c) Provide potential LA 2028 and Paris 2024 athletes, who reach the necessary age-related minimum performance standards, an opportunity to compete in ICF International competitions (if maximum number of ICF quota positions are not filled).

3. SELECTION PROCEDURES

3.1 SELECTION PANEL

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

- Kim Crane (Chair)
- Sue Natoli
- Kynan Maley
- Robin Jeffery.

3.2 ELIGIBILITY

- 3.2.1. To be eligible for consideration for selection to the Team, athletes must comply with the Policy.
- 3.2.2. For the purpose of being entered into the ICF Entry system athletes must request entry to the Australian Open no later than 16 days prior to the beginning of each selection competition (25 January for the Penrith Open and 1 February for the Australian Open). Such requests must be in writing and sent to the PA Performance Operations Manager (sara.latham@paddle.org.au).
- 3.2.3. Athletes must be born on or before 31 December 2008 to be eligible for consideration for Team selection.
- 3.2.4. To be eligible for consideration for selection under any criteria that incorporates a specific age category (i.e. age related MPS) the age will be determined as of 31 December, 2023.
- 3.2.5. Athletes must have nominated for the Team under clause 3.3 of this Criteria.

3.3 TEAM NOMINATION

- 3.3.1. The competitions for which the Team may be selected for in 2023 are:
 - a) 2023 ICF Canoe Slalom World Cups;
 - b) 2023 ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships;
 - c) other ICF competitions as may be determined by PA.
- 3.3.2. Athletes must nominate for selection to the Team. The process of nomination will form part of the entry process for the selection competitions listed in clause 3.4 of this Criteria.
- 3.3.3. If, in accordance with clause 7 of this Criteria, the selection competitions are cancelled prior to the entry process closing, then PA will communicate an alternate nomination process.
- 3.3.4. By nominating for selection to the Team, athletes will simultaneously nominate for consideration for selection to all Teams for which they are eligible during the 2023 Canoe Slalom Selection Competitions.
- 3.3.5. By nominating for selection to the Team, athletes will comply with:
 - (i) this Criteria; and

- (ii) the Policy.

3.4 SELECTION COMPETITIONS

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

- (i) **2022 World Championships**, Augsburg, Germany (26 – 31 July 2022)
- (ii) **Penrith Open**, Penrith NSW, (10 – 11 February 2023)
- (iii) **Australian Open**, Penrith NSW, (17 – 19, February 2023)

How each of the races will be utilised is detailed below.

4. SELECTION CRITERIA & PROCESS

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

4.1 SELECTION PROCESS – INTERNATIONAL EARLY PRE AND DOMESTIC RANKING SYSTEM

4.1.1 International races where an athlete is eligible for early pre-selection:

Selection Trial #	Selection Competition Name	Stage of Competition	Result counting	Comment
1	2022 World Championships , Augsburg, Germany (26–31 July 2022)	Final	Official Race Ranking	This race is to be used for the purposes of Early pre-selection only. The result that is required for this to occur is a podium (Top 3) official race result.

4.1.2 Domestic selection trials and Criteria for selection include:

Selection Trial #	Selection Competition Name	Stage of Competition	Result counting	Comment
2	Penrith Open Penrith NSW, (10–11 February, 2023)	Finals	Ranking across Final A & Final B <i>(exclusive of non-Australian athletes)</i>	i.e. a paddler who races in the Final B will be ranked lower than a paddler in Final A regardless of whether their time was faster or not.
3a	Australian Open , Penrith NSW, (17–19 February, 2023)	Heat 1 only	Official race ranking <i>(exclusive of non-Australian athletes)</i>	To ensure all athletes are racing at the same time/conditions – heat 2 allows athletes to progress in the overall race, but not gain additional opportunity for MPS over those who qualify via Heat 1.

3b	Australian Open, Penrith NSW, (17–19 February, 2023)	Finals	Ranking across official and invitational Semi- final and Finals (Not official race ranking and exclusive of non- Australian athletes)	i.e. a paddler who races in the invitational semi-final or final with a faster time than an athlete in the respective official semi- final or final will be ranked higher for AUS selection purposes.
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4.1.3 An athlete’s placing in each of the domestic selection trials outlined in clause 4.1.2 will be used to earn points for the senior ranking list for the purpose of ranking athletes according to the following Table.

Paddle Australia Canoe Slalom Selection Competitions (Selection Trials 2, 3a and 3b)			
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

4.1.4 To be clear;

a. At each of the selection trials, the ranking table in clause 4.1.3 will exclude all non-Australian athletes, athletes who are eligible for early pre-selection under clause 4.2.1, and athletes who have not nominated for Senior selection under this Criteria.

b. The athletes who are excluded for the purposes of building the ranking list (non-Australian athletes, early pre-selected athletes - clause 4.2.1, and athletes who have not nominated for Senior Selection) under 4.1.4 a), will remain in the official race progression system for the chosen format.

4.1.5 To be clear, at each of the selection trials, the ranking table in clause 4.1.3 will exclude all non-Australian athletes, athletes who are eligible for early pre-selection under clause 4.2.1, and athletes who have not nominated for Senior selection under this Criteria.

4.1.6 Using the senior ranking list, athletes will be ranked from highest points to lowest points in accordance with the following:

- (i) An athlete who is eligible for early pre-selection under clause 4.2.1 of this Criteria will be ranked first (boat 1), in the Event that they have achieved early pre-selection.
- (ii) Only each athlete's two (2) highest point scores from the three (3) selection trials set out in clause 4.1.2 will be totalled for the purposes of the rankings.
- (iii) 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.
- (iv) 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 trial 3b shall be ranked higher.

4.2 SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection to world cup and world championship competitions up to the maximum ICF quota positions for Australia (3) will be allocated by:

INTERNATIONAL (EARLY) PRE-SELECTION

Early pre-selection is to recognise individuals who achieve a podium (top 3) result at International Benchmark Events (World Championships and Olympic Games) and to support continued Benchmark Event success.

- 4.1.1 To be selected to the Team under this clause, an athlete must have achieved a podium (top 3) result at the 2022 World Championships

AUTOMATIC SELECTION

The following criteria (4.2.2 and 4.2.3) applies for World Cups 1, 2, 4, 5, and World Championships.

- 4.1.2 After the application of clause 4.2.1, automatic selection for the remaining allocation of quota spots will be made in order of the highest ranked eligible Male and highest ranked eligible Female athletes, based on the ranking system outlined in clause 4.1, AND, having achieved at least 1 x Senior MPS or U25 MPS (for eligible Athletes aged 25 years or younger), in any of the selection trials outlined in clause 4.1.2, will be automatically selected in the Event or Events they achieve the ranking results.
- 4.1.3 To be clear:
 - a) To be AUTOMATICALLY selected, an athlete must be ranked in the Top 1, 2, or 3 places as outlined in clause 4.1, up to the remaining allocation of quota spots available to Australia after the application of clause 4.2.1, AND
 - b) To be AUTOMATICALLY selected, an athlete must have achieved at least 1 x Senior MPS (or U25 MPS for eligible Athletes aged 25 years or younger),

- c) an athlete who is ranked in the Top 1, 2, or 3, who has not achieved 1 x Senior MPS (or U25 MPS), will NOT BE AUTOMATICALLY selected, but may be selected by discretion according to clause 4.2.7 (ie. the position does not automatically roll down to the next ranked athlete who has achieved MPS).

AUTOMATIC SELECTION

The following criteria (4.2.4) applies for World Cup 3:

- 4.1.4 After the application of clause 4.2.1, the first two (2) positions are automatically selected up in the order of highest ranked eligible Male and highest ranked eligible Female athletes, based on the ranking system outlined in clause 4.1, AND having achieved at least 1 x Senior MPS (or U25 MPS for eligible Athletes aged 25 years or younger), in any of the selection events outlined in clause 4.1.2, will be automatically selected in the Event or Events they achieve the ranking results.
- 4.1.5 To be clear:
 - a) To be AUTOMATICALLY selected, a maximum of two (2) positions will be selected after the application of clauses 4.2.1 and 4.2.4
 - b) an athlete must be ranked in either the Top 1 or in the Top 1 or 2 places as outlined in clause 4.1, after the application of clause 4.2.1, AND
 - c) To be AUTOMATICALLY selected, an athlete must have achieved at least 1 x Senior MPS (or U25 MPS for eligible Athletes aged 25 years or younger),
 - d) an athlete who is ranked in the Top 1 or 2, who has not achieved 1 x Senior MPS (or U25 MPS), will not be AUTOMATICALLY selected, but may be selected by discretion according to Clause 4.2.7 (ie. the position does not automatically roll down to the next ranked athlete who has achieved MPS).
- 4.1.6 The remaining allocations up to the maximum quota positions available for Australia will be subject to fulfilling the following criteria in order:
 - 4.1.6.1 The highest ranked U21 athlete who has not already been selected for World Cups 1, 2, 4, 5, or World Championships and has achieved at least 1 x U23 MPS
 - 4.1.6.2 The highest ranked U23 athlete who has not already been selected for World Cups 1, 2, 4, 5, or World Championships and has achieved at least 1 x U25 MPS
 - 4.1.6.3 The highest ranked U18 athlete who has not already been selected for World Cups 1, 2, 4, 5, or World Championships and has achieved at least 1 x U21 MPS
 - 4.1.6.4 The highest ranked athlete who has not already been selected for World Cups 1, 2, 4, 5, or World Championships and has achieved at least 1 x SNR MPS

DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

The Selection Panel may consider, where teams are not filled to the maximum allocated spots, applying its absolute discretion to select athletes whose performances are suitable for international representation.

4.1.7 The Selection Panel, at its absolute discretion, may select additional athletes in Olympic Canoe Slalom Events up to the maximum number of quota places awarded to Australia by the ICF. In doing so, it may consider any or all or none of the following in no particular order:

- 4.1.7.1 ranking of each athlete according to clause 4.1.5 of this Criteria
- 4.1.7.2 application of Senior MPS according to clause 5 of this Criteria
- 4.1.7.3 performances in relation to the Senior MPS, or in relation to the U25 and U23 MPS for those eligible U25 and U23 aged athletes, respectively.
- 4.1.7.4 in accordance with clause 7.5 (i) to (vi) inclusive, of this Criteria
- 4.1.7.5 approved extenuating circumstances that may apply as outlined in clause 6, in which case a selection decision will be based on the weight of performance-based evidence in accordance with clause 7.5 (i) to (vi) inclusive, of this Criteria.

In the application of Discretionary Selection, the Selection Panel, at their absolute discretion, may select athlete(s) for one, or more than one, ICF World Cup Competition (including World Championships). In doing so, it may select additional athletes under the Reserve Criteria (clause 4.3), to fill any available quota places awarded to Australia by the ICF

4.3 RESERVES

The Selection Panel may, but is not obliged to, name Reserves for each Event and competition. The Selection Panel may at its sole discretion, select the same, or different athletes for a reserve position for each Event and competition outlined by this Criteria.

To be clear, the Panel may select a different athlete as a reserve for each Event (K1/C1) AND/OR Competition (World Cup, 1,2,3,4,5 & Worlds).

All decisions made by the Selection Panel in the process of selecting reserves for Events and the competition, will be made according to clause 4.2.7 (Discretionary Selection).

If a selected Athlete chooses not to or is unable to compete in any of the selected competitions, then the Reserve athlete will replace the selected Athlete in that competition.

4.4 CSLX SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection to the CSLX competitions at the 2023 ICF Canoe Slalom Senior World Championships and World Cups will be determined by an athlete's ranking in K1 and C1 Canoe Slalom Selection Events.

- 4.4.1 Athletes will be offered a quota position for each CSLX competition based on the K1, and C1 Canoe Slalom Events according to the same ranking system outlined in Clause 4 of this policy.

Paddle Australia CSLX Quota Allocation Subject to selection to the Team			
1st	K1 – Boat 1	4th	C1 – Boat 2
2nd	C1 – Boat 1	5th	K1 – Boat 3
3rd	K1 – Boat 2	6th	C1 – Boat 3

- 4.4.2 Where an athlete chooses not to contest the CSLX competition, then the position may roll down to the next ranked athlete, subject to that athlete already being selected for the Team
- 4.4.3 Subject to a position being available following the application of clauses 4.4.1 and 4.4.2, the Selection Panel may, at its absolute discretion, but is not obliged to, select athlete(s) who have previously made the Top 32 athletes (Brackets Stage) at World Cups and World Championships from the previous two (2) years and have not already been selected for the Team.

5. MINIMUM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (MPS)

- 5.1 The 2023 canoe slalom MPS are outlined in Schedule A of this Criteria and may be applied in the absolute discretion of the Selection Panel according to clause 5.2.
- 5.2 The requirement for athletes to ‘achieve MPS’, means an athlete has:
- 5.2.1 Achieved the necessary MPS in a single run within the performance standard listed in Schedule A for the relevant Event in a Selection Competition, whether on the Heats 1st run (only), Semi-Final, or Final phase.
 - 5.2.2 Where an athlete does not qualify through the official progression of the competition into the official semi-final, an invitational semi-final will be available to allow all athletes to receive a minimum of four (4) opportunities to achieve a MPS.
 - 5.2.3 Where an athlete racing in an invitational semi-final achieves a score that would have placed them in the official final, they are then able to compete in an invitational final.
 - 5.2.4 Athletes who are eligible for early pre-selection under clause 4.2.1 will still have their race times included in base score calculations as outlined in Schedule A of this Criteria if they are the fastest boat for their Event during a relevant MPS race.
 - 5.2.5 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 for discretionary selection, it may consider any or all or none of the following in no particular order:

- Relevant performance times in relation to MPS from the athlete within the 2022 or 2023 calendar years, or
- Relative performances against other athletes who have achieved MPS during the 2022 or 2023 calendar years,
- Relevant World Cup or World Championship (Junior/U23/Senior) performances from the previous 24 months,
- Approved Extenuating Circumstances according to clause 6.

6. EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

6.1 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 of the Extenuating Circumstances. 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 Event in which the extenuating circumstances apply

6.2 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 an Event which holds selection status.

6.3 For the purposes of this Criteria, **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.
- 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).

6.4 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.

7. COMPETITION/EVENT CANCELLATION AND SELECTION CONTINGENCY

Prior to cancellation of any Selection Event/Competition, PA will investigate all opportunities to postpone and/or re-schedule a particular Selection Event/Competition for the purpose of allowing the selection process to proceed. If a Selection Competition and/or Event is cancelled for any reason (e.g. Covid restrictions, extreme weather, catastrophic pump failure at Penrith etc), the following process will apply.

7.1 If Selection Competition 3.4(ii) is cancelled, apart from the Selection Criteria related to that specific Selection Competition, there will be no change to the Selection Criteria (i.e. each athlete's two (2) point scores from the selection trials set out in clause 4.1.2 will be calculated for the purposes of the rankings).

7.2 If circumstances arise where Selection Competition/Event 3.4(ii) has been completed, and Selection Competition/Event 3.4(iii) is cancelled for any reason and cannot be reasonably rescheduled, in order to fulfil clause 4.1.5 and for the purposes of this Criteria, Heat 1 and Final Ranking (across official and invitational Semi-final and Finals - Not official race ranking and exclusive of non-Australian athletes) from selection competition 3.4(ii) will be used for the two (2) necessary selection trials to rank nominated athletes, and subsequently select the Team. Under this circumstance, each athlete's two (2) point scores from these two trials from Selection Competition 3.4(ii) will be calculated for the purposes of the rankings.

7.3 To be clear:

- a) If Selection Competition/Event 3.4 (ii) is completed in full, and Selection Competition/Event 3.4 (iii) is cancelled and cannot be rescheduled, for the purposes of this Criteria the selection trials that will be used to select the Team in each Olympic Canoe Slalom Event are:
 - i. **Selection Trial 2a:** Penrith Open, Penrith NSW, (10–11 February, 2023), Heat 1 only, official race ranking (exclusive of non-Australian athletes)
 - ii. **Selection Trial 2b:** Penrith Open, Penrith NSW, (10–11 February, 2023), Final result, ranking across official and invitational semi-final and finals (not official race ranking and exclusive of non-Australian athletes)

7.4 If clauses 7.2 to 7.3 (ii) are enacted, where two or more athletes are ranked equally and require a tie break for the purposes of this Criteria, following the application of clause 4.1.5 (i) and (ii), the athlete who achieved the best result at Selection Trial 2b will be ranked higher.

7.5 Where a circumstance occurs where the cancelling of Selection Competitions/Events means the opportunity to participate in two (2) selection trials is not possible, and all avenues to re-schedule and postpone the Selection Competitions/Events have been exhausted, the selection panel may, at their absolute discretion, select athletes for all World Cup/Championship competitions in each Event. In doing so, the Selection Panel may consider, but is not required to consider, any or all or none of the following factors (in no specific order of importance or weighting):

- (i) performances in ICF World Cup or World Championships Competitions over the past two (2) International seasons (2021 and 2022);
- (ii) performances in domestic and international World Cup, or Junior/U23/Senior World Championships) competitions throughout 2022 and 2023

- (iii) demonstrated continual performance improvement over the last 24-months;
- (iv) recent performances in relation to the Senior MPS, or in relation to the U25 and U23 MPS for those eligible U25 and U23 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 or Senior World Championships.

7.6 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.

8. SELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 8.1 Announcement of the Team will be made within 2 weeks of the 2023 Australian Open.
- 8.2 Athletes must accept the offer of selection within 5 days of receiving the selection confirmation. If they do not accept within the time the offer lapses

9. SCHEDULE A: MINIMUM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Implementation of MPS:

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

The Base Score is calculated by adding the winning score (best eligible Australian) in any age category in MK1, WK1, MC1 and WC1, 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:

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

2023 MINIMUM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:

Event	Senior MPS	U25 MPS	U23 MPS	U21MPS	Junior MPS	U16 MPS
	(% of Base Score)	(% of Base Score)	(% of Base Score)	(% of Base Score)	(% of Base Score)	(% of Base Score)

K1 Men	<94.26%	<96.35%	<98.43%	<103.00%	<107.56%	<112.56%
K1 Women	<107.92%	<112.54%	<117.16%	<122.14%	<127.12%	<132.12%
C1 Men	<101.09%	<102.77%	<104.45%	<110.51%	<116.57%	<121.57%
C1 Women	<124.72%	<125.48%	<126.24%	<133.30%	<140.35%	<145.35%

10. SCHEDULE B: 2025 EARLY PRE-SELECTION STATEMENT OF INTENT

Given the mission of the Australian Canoe Slalom Team is to achieve success and support continued success at international Benchmark Events (BME) – Senior World Championships and Olympic Games, proven success at these events is seen as a significant predictor of future success.

Furthermore, with the next competition year after 2023, being an Olympic year, any early pre-selection nomination criteria, will be governed by the Australian Olympic Committee's (AOC) athlete nomination policy.

It is the intent of PA, that for the next World Championships in the LA2028 quadrennial (2025), that any BME success (Top 3) achieved in 2024, will be rewarded, with early pre-selection in the corresponding Event to the 2025 Senior World Championships team.