

## Nomination Criteria

### Paris Olympic Games Sprint Canoe/Kayak

#### 1 Definitions and Interpretation

##### 1.1 Definitions

Unless otherwise defined below, capitalised terms in this Nomination Criteria have the meaning given to them in the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law, certain of which have been reproduced below for the sake of convenience.

**2023 Canoe Sprint World Championships** has the meaning given in the Qualification System.

**AOC** means the Australian Olympic Committee Inc and any of its officers, employees or agents and any committee it convenes including the AOC Selection Committee.

**AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law** means the document adopted by the Executive which governs, among other things, the nomination and selection of Athletes to a Team for an Olympic Games or Olympic Winter Games and which is available at <https://www.olympics.com.au/the-aoc/athlete-guidelines/>.

**AOC Selection Committee** means the committee established by the AOC to select athletes to the Australian Olympic Team for the Games.

**AOC Selection Criteria** means the criteria adopted by the AOC in respect of the Games which outlines the requirements for an athlete to be selected by the AOC to participate in the Games and which appears at Appendix A of this Nomination Criteria.

**Athlete** means a person who:

- (a) participates in the Sport; and
- (b) is recognised by the National Federation or the AOC as eligible for nomination to the AOC for selection to the Team pursuant to this Nomination Criteria.

**Crew(s)** means where an Event involves more than one person, the Athletes who compete together and who seek nomination for the Team.

**Event(s)** means the following event classes for the Sport at the Games:

- (a) Men: MK1 1000m, MK2 500m, MK4 500m, MC1 1000m and MC2 500m; and
- (b) Women: WK1 500m, WK2 500, WK4 500m, WC1 200m and WC2 500m.

**Executive** means the Executive of the AOC.

**Extenuating Circumstances** means:

- (a) injury or illness;
- (b) equipment failure;
- (c) travel delays;
- (d) bereavement or disability arising from death or serious illness of an immediate family member, which means a spouse, de facto partner, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild or sibling; or
- (e) any other factors considered by the National Federation to constitute extenuating circumstances.

**Games** means the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

**International Federation** means International Canoe Federation.

**PS** means the 2024 Performance Standard time for each Event set out at Appendix B.

**National Federation** means Paddle Australia (PA).

**Nomination Dates** means the following:

- (a) 25 February 2024 for Athletes in Kayak Events that have achieved nomination following Nomination Trial 1;
- (b) 17 March 2024 for Athletes that have achieved nomination following Nomination Trial 2; and
- (c) 1 July 2024 for Athletes that achieve nomination through a reallocation of quota places by the International Federation as set out in clause 9.

**Qualification Period** means 23 August 2023 to 10 March 2024.

**Qualification System** means the eligibility, participation and qualification criteria for the Sport in respect of the Games issued by the International Federation.

[https://www.canoeicf.com/sites/default/files/2023-08-22\\_-\\_olympic\\_games\\_paris\\_2024\\_qualification\\_system\\_-\\_icf\\_-\\_canoe\\_sprint\\_-\\_english.pdf](https://www.canoeicf.com/sites/default/files/2023-08-22_-_olympic_games_paris_2024_qualification_system_-_icf_-_canoe_sprint_-_english.pdf)

**Reserve Athlete(s)** has the meaning given in clause 10.

**Selection Panel** means the Canoe Sprint Senior Selection Panel set out at clause 11.1.

**Sport** means Sprint Canoe/Kayak.

**Sport Entries Deadline** means the date on which entries to a Games must be submitted by the AOC, being 8 July 2024.

**Team** means the team of athletes and officials selected by the AOC to participate in the Sport at the Games.

## 1.2 Interpretation

- (a) Unless the context otherwise requires, reference to:

- (i) a clause is to a clause of this Nomination Criteria;
  - (ii) the singular includes the plural and the converse also applies;
  - (iii) persons include incorporated and unincorporated bodies, partnerships, joint ventures and associations and vice versa and their legal personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns and substitutes; and
  - (iv) a party includes the party's executors, administrators, successors and permitted assigns and substitutes.
- (b) If a person to whom this Nomination Criteria applies consists of more than one person, then this Nomination Criteria binds them jointly and severally.
- (c) A reference to time, day or date is to time, day or date of Sydney, Australia.
- (d) Headings are for convenience only and do not form part of this Nomination Criteria or affect its interpretation.

## **2 General**

- 2.1 This Nomination Criteria is issued by the board of the National Federation. The National Federation must make this Nomination Criteria available to all Athletes participating in the Sport, including by publishing this Nomination Criteria on the National Federation's website.
- 2.2 The National Federation may only nominate Athletes to the AOC in accordance with this Nomination Criteria.
- 2.3 This Nomination Criteria will take effect on and from the date of approval by the AOC and will cease to have effect at the conclusion of the Games.
- 2.4 This Nomination Criteria applies to:
- (a) all Athletes;
  - (b) the National Federation; and
  - (c) the AOC.
- 2.5 The terms of the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law are incorporated by reference into this Nomination Criteria. The National Federation must provide and make available on the National Federation's website the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law to all Athletes.

## **3 Long List**

- 3.1 For the purpose only of identifying prospective members of the Team, the National Federation and AOC may maintain a Long List of Athletes.
- 3.2 For the avoidance of doubt, membership of the National Federation's or the AOC's Long List does not increase decrease or otherwise affect an Athlete's prospects of being nominated by the National Federation, or being selected by the AOC, to the Team.

#### **4 Athlete Quota Positions**

- 4.1 The National Federation may only nominate Athletes to the AOC for selection to the Team where, pursuant to the Qualification System, the International Federation has awarded the AOC or the National Federation athlete quota positions.
- 4.2 A National Federation may not nominate more Athletes than the number of athlete quota positions awarded to the AOC or the National Federation under the Qualification System.
- 4.3 The National Federation may nominate less Athletes than the number of athlete quota positions awarded to the AOC or the National Federation under the Qualification System.

#### **5 Eligibility Criteria**

The National Federation will not nominate an Athlete unless, as at the Nomination Date, the National Federation is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the Athlete:

- (a) is an Australian citizen;
- (b) is a member of the National Federation;
- (c) satisfies the Qualification System;
- (d) will satisfy the AOC Selection Criteria set out at Appendix A of this Nomination Criteria;
- (e) has not breached the AOC Anti-Doping By-Law, unless the Athlete has been sanctioned for the breach and has completed the sanction imposed; and
- (f) does not, and is not likely to in the foreseeable future, suffer from any physical or mental impairment that would prevent the Athlete from competing at the Games to the highest possible standard for that Athlete.

#### **6 Nomination Trials and Nomination Procedure**

- 6.1 Unless otherwise stated, the National Federation will use the following competitions to nominate Athletes to the AOC for selection to the Team:
- (a) **Nomination Trial 1:** Paddle Australia Canoe Sprint GP2 and the Oceania Championships (16 –18 February 2024), otherwise known as the “2024 Oceania Olympic Qualification Competition”.
  - (b) **Nomination Trial 2:** Paddle Australia Canoe Sprint Championships (6 –10 March 2024).
- 6.2 For the avoidance of doubt, for the purposes of assessing an Athlete or Crew’s final result at a Nomination Trial, only eligible Athletes and Crews will be considered by the National Federation. For example, an eligible Athlete or Crew that achieves a second place at Nomination Trial behind an ineligible Athlete or Crew (for example, an Athlete or Crew from a different nation), will be deemed to have achieved first place for the purposes of this Nomination Criteria.

- 6.3 If there is a dead heat for first place between two Athletes or Crew in Nomination Trial 1 both Athletes or Crew will be deemed to have achieved first place in that event.
- 6.4 If there is a dead heat between two Athletes or Crew in Nomination Trial 2 and the Selection Panel, in its absolute discretion, decides that two Athletes or Crews must be separated for the purposes of nomination, the National Federation will use the following to determine which Athletes or Crews will be nominated to the AOC, subject to the availability of a quota place:
- (a) a separate race off will be held by the National Federation at the end of Nomination Trial 2 (**Race Off 1**);
  - (b) then if still a tie, the Athletes or Crew with the best result in Nomination Trial 1 will be nominated; and
  - (c) then if still a tie, a second race off (**Race Off 2**) will occur at a specified date and location decided by the National Federation's National Performance Director.
- 6.5 The National Federation will apply the following process in relation to the cancellation of Nomination Trial 2 or Race Offs 1 or 2 (including, for the purposes of this clause, any Event within the relevant Nomination Trial or Race Off):
- (a) prior to the cancellation of a Nomination Trial or Race Off referred to above at clause 6.3, the National Federation's competition jury will investigate opportunities to postpone a particular Nomination Trial or Race Off. If a Nomination Trial or Race Off is postponed the National Federation will communicate the new date and location of the Nomination Trial or Race Off to Athletes as soon as practicable.
  - (b) if the National Federation's competition jury forms the view that it is not possible to postpone Nomination Trial 2 or Race Offs 1 or 2, the National Federation will cancel the relevant Nomination Trial or Race Off and the Selection Panel will nominate Athletes to the AOC at its absolute discretion applying the discretionary factors in clauses 11.2 and 11.3.
- 6.6 The National Federation will apply clauses 7 and 8 to determine which Athletes to nominate to the AOC for selection to the Team. However, where the National Federation deems an Extenuating Circumstance to apply under clause 13, it may nominate in its sole and absolute discretion nominate a different Athlete, despite anything else in clause 7 and 8.

## **7 Kayak Nominations**

### *MEN'S KAYAK*

- 7.1 Subject to clause 7.2, the National Federation will nominate all eligible Athletes, or eligible Athletes who comprise a Crew, to the AOC for selection to the Team, who:

- a) finish 5<sup>th</sup> place or higher at the 2023 Canoe Sprint World Championships; and
  - b) finish as the first placed eligible Athlete or eligible Crew at either Nomination Trial 1 or Nomination Trial 2 and achieve this result in a PS (as set out in Appendix B).
- 7.2 For the avoidance of doubt, for any Athletes that comprise a Crew to be considered for nomination under clause 7.1, their Crew must comprise the same Athletes that compete in the qualifying races at the 2023 Canoe Sprint World Championships as those that compete in the Nomination Trial in which they satisfy the requirement in clause 7.1(b).
- 7.3 If after applying clause 7.1, the number of Athletes nominated is less than four (4) and Australia has remaining quota places to be filled under the Qualification System, then the National Federation will also nominate the Athletes that comprise the next highest ranked Crew in the MK2 500 at Nomination Trial 2 that have achieved the PS at any Nomination Trial.
- 7.4 If after applying clause 7.1 and 7.3, the number of Athletes nominated is less than six (6) and Australia has remaining quota places to be filled under the Qualification System, then the National Federation will also nominate the next highest ranked Athlete(s) in the MK1 500 Event at Nomination Trial 2 that has also achieved the PS at any Nomination Trial.
- 7.5 If after following the process in clauses 7.1 to 7.4, Australia has remaining quota places to be filled under the Qualification System, then the Selection Panel may identify an Athlete(s) according to the discretionary criteria at clauses 11.2 to 11.3 of this Nomination Criteria and, if the Selection Panel does so, the National Federation will nominate that Athlete to the AOC for selection to the Team.

#### **WOMEN'S KAYAK**

- 7.6 Subject to clause 7.7, the National Federation will nominate all eligible Athletes, or eligible Athletes who comprise a Crew, to the AOC for selection to the Team, who:
- a) finish 5<sup>th</sup> place or higher at the 2023 Canoe Sprint World Championships; and
  - b) finish as the first placed eligible Athlete or eligible Crew at either Nomination Trial 1 or Nomination Trial 2 and achieve this result in a PS (as set out in Appendix B).
- 7.7 For the avoidance of doubt, for any Athletes that comprise a Crew to be considered for nomination under clause 7.6, their Crew must comprise the same Athletes that compete in the qualifying races at the 2023 Canoe Sprint World Championships as those that compete in the Nomination Trial in which they satisfy the requirement in clause 7.6(b).
- 7.8 If after applying clause 7.6, the number of Athletes nominated is less than four (4) and Australia has remaining quota places to be filled under the Qualification System, then the National Federation will nominate the Athletes that comprise the next highest ranked Crew in the WK2 500 at Nomination Trial 2 that has achieved the PS at any Nomination Trial.
- 7.9 If after applying clause 7.6 and 7.8, the number of Athletes nominated is less than five (5) and Australia has remaining quota places to be filled under the Qualification System, then the

National Federation will also nominate the next highest ranked Athlete(s) in the WK1 500 Event at Nomination Trial 2 that has achieved the PS at any Nomination Trial.

- 7.10 If the International Federation awards Australia an additional quota place for Women's Kayak based on Athlete performances at the Oceania Championships that form part of Nomination Trial 1, then the National Federation will nominate the next highest ranked Athlete in the WK1 500 Event at Nomination Trial 2 that has also achieved the PS at any Nomination Trial.
- 7.11 If after following the process in clauses 7.6 to 7.10, Australia has remaining quota places to be filled under the Qualification System, then the Selection Panel may identify an Athlete(s) according to the discretionary criteria at clauses 11.2 and 11.3 and, if the Selection Panel does so, the National Federation will nominate that Athlete to the AOC for selection to the Team.

## **8 Canoe Nominations**

### *MEN'S CANOE*

- 8.1 If only one (1) Athlete quota place is qualified at Nomination Trial 1, the National Federation will nominate the highest placed eligible Athlete in the MC1 1000 Event at Nomination Trial 2, subject to the Athlete having achieved the PS in the MC1 1000 Event at any Nomination Trial.
- 8.2 If two (2) Athlete quota places are qualified at Nomination Trial 1, the National Federation will nominate the eligible Athletes who achieve the highest place in the MC2 500 Event at Nomination Trial 2, subject to the Crew having achieved the PS in the MC2 500 Event at any Nomination Trial.
- 8.3 If after applying clauses 8.1 and to 8.2, Australia has remaining quota places to be filled under the Qualification System, then the Selection Panel may identify an Athlete(s) according to the discretionary criteria at clauses 11.2 and 11.3 and, if the Selection Panel does so, the National Federation will nominate that Athlete(s) to the AOC for selection to the Team.

### *WOMEN'S CANOE*

- 8.4 If only one (1) Athlete quota place is qualified at Nomination Trial 1, the National Federation will nominate the highest place eligible Athlete in the WC1 200 Event at Nomination Trial 2, subject to the athlete having achieved the PS in the WC1 200 Event at any Nomination Trial.
- 8.5 If two (2) Athlete quota places are qualified at Nomination Trial 1, the National Federation will nominate the eligible Athletes who achieve the highest place in the WC2 500 Event at Nomination Trial 2, subject to the Athletes' Crew achieving the PS in the WC2 500 Event at any Nomination Trial.

- 8.6 If after following the process in clauses 8.4 and 8.5, Australia has remaining quota places to be filled under the Qualification System, then the Selection Panel may nominate an Athlete(s) according to the discretionary criteria at clauses 11.2 and 11.3 of this Nomination Criteria and, if the Selection Panel does so, the National Federation will nominate that Athlete(s) to the AOC for selection to the Team.

## **9 Quota Reallocation**

If the International Federation reallocates additional quota place(s) for Australia under the Qualification System prior to the Sport Entries Deadline, the National Federation will nominate eligible Athletes to the AOC for selection to the Team based on the finishing order in that specific event at Nomination Trial 2, subject to the Athlete/Crew achieving the PS in that specific event at any Nomination Trial. Where the highest ranked Athlete/Crew for the purposes of this clause has not achieved the PS in that specific event at any Nomination Trial, then the Selection Panel may in its absolute discretion nominate an Athlete / Crew according to the discretionary criteria at clauses 11.2 and 11.3.

## **10 Reserve Athletes**

- 10.1 The Selection Panel may in its absolute and sole discretion identify up to two (2) male and two (2) females for all Events, in no particular order, as Reserve Athletes.
- 10.2 If a selected Athlete is de-selected, the decision as to which Reserve Athlete will be nominated to the AOC for selection to the Team to replace the de-selected Athlete will be at the absolute discretion of the Selection Panel based on the characteristics required for the relevant Event.
- 10.3 An Athlete named as a Reserve Athlete in any Event Class will not be part of the Team unless and until they are required to replace a selected Athlete and only if the replacement satisfies any applicable rules of the IOC, International Federation or the Organising Committee governing athlete replacements at the Games, including the IOC / Paris 2024 Late Athlete Replacement Policy.
- 10.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the Selection Panel will in its absolute discretion decide whether any of Reserve Athletes will travel with the Team during any lead up competitions or training camps between the Nomination Date and the Games.

## **11 Selection Panel and Discretionary Factors**

- 11.1 The Canoe Sprint Senior Selection Panel (**Selection Panel**) members are:
- David Foureur (GM Performance - Chairperson)
  - Kim Crane (National Performance Director)
  - Lyndsie Krishnamoorthy (nee Fogarty) (Independent – ex Athlete)



- Steve Bird (Independent – ex. Athlete)

11.2 Where in this Nomination Criteria the Selection Panel has discretionary power to decide whether or not to nominate an Athlete or Athletes, the National Federation may exercise its discretion to nominate Athletes who, in the opinion of the Selection Panel, at its absolute discretion:

- a) will be most likely to achieve the highest competitive results at the Games;
- b) have the best potential to enhance the National Federation’s medal outcomes at future Olympic Games; and
- c) are, and will remain until the conclusion of the Games, a positive ambassador for the Sport, the National Federation and the Games.

11.3 In considering an Athlete against the criteria in clause 11.2, the Selection Panel may have regard to any, all or none of the following considerations, in its absolute discretion and in no order of priority or weighting:

- a) relevant factors applicable to Crew combinations, including but not limited to, historical team boat performances (National and International), technical compatibility, Crew compatibility, attitude and coachability;
- b) relevant factors applicable to team size, competition schedules and the versatility of an Athlete to contribute to medal outcomes at the Games;
- c) the Athlete’s current physical form and fitness;
- d) the likelihood that the Athlete will suffer an injury in the lead up to or during the Games;
- e) an Athlete’s national and international performances over the past 12 months;
- f) Extenuating Circumstances as outlined in clause 13;
- g) the benefit or detriment of the Athlete’s membership on the Team with respect to team dynamics, team behaviour and team performance; or
- h) the extent to which the Athlete has demonstrated, during the Qualification Period:
  - (i) discipline;
  - (ii) motivation; and
  - (iii) commitment to the Sport and to the Team.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Selection Panel need not have regard to any of these considerations and may apply such weighting or otherwise to any of them as it considers appropriate.

## **12 Olympic Events**

12.1 In determining which specific Event(s) a nominated Athlete will compete in at the Games, the

Selection Panel will consult with the National Federation's coaching staff and nominated Athletes / Crew and consider, in its absolute discretion, any one or more of the following criteria in no particular order or weighting:

- a) the competition schedule for the Sport of the Games;
- b) the most likely opportunity for medal success at the Games, as determined by the Selection Panel in its absolute discretion;
- c) individual Athlete and Crew boat performances in specific events at any of the Nomination Trials set out in this Nomination Criteria;
- d) individual Athlete and Crew boat performances at the 2023 Canoe Sprint World Championships;
- e) individual Athlete and Crew boat performances at 2024 ICF World Cups, training camps or trials conducted following the Nomination Date and prior to the Sport Entries Deadline; or
- f) any other factors the Selection Panel, in its absolute discretion, considers relevant in the circumstances.

12.2 The Selection Panel, at its absolute discretion, may nominate an Athlete to compete in multiple events at the Games.

### **13 Extenuating circumstances**

13.1 In determining whether to nominate an Athlete under this Nomination Criteria, National Federation may, in its absolute discretion, have regard to Extenuating Circumstances.

13.2 If an Athlete determines that he or she is unable to attend any of the Nomination Trials or Race Offs set out in this Nomination Criteria, that Athlete must notify the National Federation of his or her non-attendance in writing as soon as practicable.

13.3 The National Federation may consider an Athlete's non-attendance at a Nomination Trial or Race Off to be an Extenuating Circumstance in its absolute discretion. The National Federation may require an Athlete to undergo a medical examination, conducted by the PA Chief Medical Officer, or their authorised replacement, as a condition of treating the Athlete's non-attendance at a Nomination Trial as an Extenuating Circumstance.

### **14 Submission of Nominations**

14.1 The National Federation must notify Athletes of the Nomination Date in writing.

14.2 The AOC may, in its absolute discretion extend the Nomination Date for the National Federation for any reason.

14.3 The National Federation must nominate Athletes to the AOC by the Nomination Date. The National Federation must inform Athletes of their nomination or non-nomination by no later

than:

- (i) 48 hours prior to the Nomination Date, where such written notice would be received by the Athlete 14 days prior to the Sport Entries Deadline; or
- (j) 24 hours prior to the Nomination Date, where such written notice would be received by the Athlete within 14 days of the Sport Entries Deadline,

or such later date as the AOC advises the National Federation.

14.4 Nominations submitted to the AOC must be in the form prescribed by the AOC or in a form that is otherwise acceptable to the AOC and include any such information that is required under the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law.

14.5 The AOC may, in its absolute discretion, accept a nomination submitted after the Nomination Date where it is submitted by the National Federation as a result of an appeal brought in accordance with the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law.

## **15 Amendments**

15.1 This Nomination Criteria may only be amended with the written consent of the AOC.

15.2 The AOC may amend the AOC Selection Criteria from time to time in its absolute discretion. If advised by the AOC of such an amendment, the National Federation must update Appendix 1 to this Nomination Criteria and re-upload an updated Nomination Criteria to the National Federation's website and advise Athletes of the amendment.

15.3 Where the AOC forms a reasonable opinion that this Nomination Criteria requires amendment, the AOC must notify the National Federation of the required amendments. The National Federation must work collaboratively with the AOC in good faith to amend this Nomination Criteria to the satisfaction of the AOC.

## **16 Appeals**

16.1 A non-nominated athlete may only appeal against their non-nomination (**Nomination Appeal**) in accordance with the procedure set out in clause 9.6 or clause 9.9 of the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law (**AOC By-Law**).

16.2 Any Nomination Appeal arising out of this Nomination Criteria which is commenced under clause 9.6 of the AOC By-Law will be heard by the NST General Division in accordance with clause 9.6(c) of the AOC By-Law. For clarity, clause 16.2 does not apply to appeals against non-nomination commenced under clause 9.9 of the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law (**Nomination Fast Track Appeal**).

## **17 Governing Law**

This Nomination Criteria is governed by the laws of the State of New South Wales.

## **18 Priority of Documents**

To the extent of any inconsistency, the following documents shall be given the following descending order of precedence:

- (i) the AOC Constitution;
- (j) the AOC Olympic Team Nomination and Selection By-Law (including AOC Selection Criteria); and
- (k) this Nomination Criteria.

**APPENDIX A**

**AOC SELECTION CRITERIA**

## APPENDIX B

### PADDLE AUSTRALIA SPRINT CANOE / KAYAK

#### 2024 Performance Standards (PS)

##### 2024 Men's Kayak Performance Standards are:

	K4 500	K2 500	K1 1000	K1 500
Senior	1:22.72	1:32.44	3:33.33	1:40.82

##### 2024 Women's Kayak Performance Standards are:

	K4 500	K2 500	WK1 500
Senior	1:35.57	1:43.50	1:54.28

##### 2024 Canoe Performance Standards are:

	WC1 200	WC2 500	MC1 1000	MC2 500
Senior	00:49.24	02:06.39	3:59.56	01:43.32

#### Assessing Performance Standards

Where the PS is listed as a requirement in this Nomination Criteria that the Athlete(s)/Crew(s) must achieve for a relevant Event, the following process will be applied:

- (l) An Athlete or Crew will meet the necessary PS if it achieves the relevant time in neutral conditions in the Heat, Semifinal or Final during any of the Nomination Trials set out in this Nomination Criteria.
- (m) Whether an Athlete or Crew has achieved the PS in neutral conditions is at the absolute discretion of the Selection Panel. The Selection Panel will base its assessment on the influence of external conditions on Athlete or Crew performances in a particular race at the Nomination Trials. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to, wind speed/direction, water temperature, wave size and currents.
- (n) If there are unsuitable conditions and the Selection Panel requires further evidence of the ability of the Athlete or Crew to achieve the PS, it may consider any, all or none of the following and deem an Athlete to have satisfied the PS following such a consideration:
  - relevant performance times in relation to the 2024 PS from the

- Athlete/Crew in neutral conditions within the past 12 months;
- relative performances against other Athletes/Crews who have achieved PS in neutral conditions within the past 12 months; or
  - Extenuating Circumstances according to clause 13.