



British Canoeing Canoe Sprint Senior & Olympic Team Selection Policy 2021

Following the disruption to the 2020 season, subject to exceptional circumstances this policy sets out a clear framework for selection to international competition in the 2021 season. For clarity while the Tokyo OCOG have retained the use of Tokyo 2020 for the reorganised 2021 Games, This policy has used the term 2021 to clarify and differentiate from the original Games planned for 2020 and postponed due to Covid-19.

DEFINITIONS	
BC	British Canoeing
British Canoeing Member	An individual holding current British Canoeing 'on the water' membership or National Association equivalent membership
IP	International Panel (appointed by the British Canoeing Board)
ICF	International Canoe Federation
IOC	International Olympic Committee
OCOG	Organising Committee of the Olympic Games
'World Cup & European Championship pool'	The International panel will oversee the selection of a World Cup & European Championships pool through the published policy who are then able to race identified World Cup & European Championship events to maximise opportunities for crew preparation & individual athlete development. The final race schedule for World Cup & European Championship pool athletes will be determined by Head Coach, Section Coach and Coaches of Individual Athletes.

Clarification of Responsibilities - This document relates to the selection of individual and crew boats at identified selection regattas which is the responsibility of the International panel and is detailed in this selection policy. How crew boats are formed fall outside the remit of the IP and this policy. It should also be noted that this is selection to GBR teams and not World Class Programme qualification which falls outside of the remit of the IP.

IMPORTANT - All Canoe Sprint athletes wishing to be considered for Senior & Olympic Team selection in 2021 should complete the online registration document [here](https://britishcanoeing.formstack.com/forms/senior_event_registration_form) or link:

https://britishcanoeing.formstack.com/forms/senior_event_registration_form by 28th February 2021.

Why do we need registration?

The IP has identified two key reasons for introducing registration for selection:

1. Subject to eligibility, selection is an open event but as selection is run alongside national regattas there is no clear way of knowing who wishes to put themselves forward for the selection process. Registration is intended to provide clarity to the IP on those seeking selection to enable the IP to know how many and who are seeking selection and to enable communication on any important related selection matters.
2. With selection running alongside national regattas, particularly highlighted by Covid-19 restrictions, the possibility of restrictions continuing into spring 2021 requiring contingency measures to be implemented, it is essential for the IP who is wishing to be considered for selection to ensure that any contingencies can retain a transparent process.

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IMPORTANT - All athletes wishing to be considered for Senior & Olympic Team selection should complete the online registration document [here](https://britishcanoeing.formstack.com/forms/senior_event_registration_form) or link: https://britishcanoeing.formstack.com/forms/senior_event_registration_form by 28th February 2021.

SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION

1.0 Purpose

The Purpose of this Selection Policy is to outline the processes which will lead to the selection of athletes to represent Great Britain at the identified senior international canoe sprint competitions in 2021. The Selection Policy is designed to allow athletes to maximise preparations and performances at the 2021 Tokyo Olympic Games, and 2021 Senior World Championships through a clear selection process.

1.1 Canoe Sprint Olympic strategy Tokyo 2021 through to 2028

The first round of Global qualification for the Tokyo Olympic Games took place at the 2019 World Championships where Great Britain qualified one Olympic Boat quota place in the Men's K1 200m event. This policy focuses on aligning performance delivery with the remaining rounds of the Olympic Qualification System and performance at the Olympic Games.

The target agreed with UK Sport is for British Canoeing to win one medal and an additional 'A' finalist at the Tokyo Olympic Games and to demonstrate a stronger base for targeting more medal success in Paris 2024.

The Junior & U23 Selection policy will also support the optimal performance delivery in Tokyo 2021 Olympic events and U23 athletes selected for the Olympic team will be required to prioritise Olympic team activity.

SECTION 2- ELIGIBILITY & PRE SELECTION FOR GBR SELECTION 2021

2.1 Pre-selection to Senior & Olympic Team 2021

In line with the published 2019 selection policy, the following athlete is pre-selected to all senior MK1 200m start lines for the 2021 Great Britain Senior Team and to Team GB as announced on 10th October 2019 on the basis of his gold medal winning performance at the 2019 Senior World Championships:

Senior & Olympic Team 2021	
Name	Event
Liam Heath	Men's K1 200m

For clarity, pre-selected boats racing in the spring 2021 selection series will retain their number one status in team selection regardless of finishing position.

There were two other opportunities for performances in 2019 to count towards selection in 2021. As no additional quota places were received by 31st December 2019 then it is deemed that the below opportunity has expired and that from 1st January 2020 the 2021 Selection policy (section 5) will apply:

Any GBR boat which qualifies an Olympic boat quota place for Great Britain at the 2019 World Championships will secure the equivalent of a race win in the envisaged 2021 Olympic Team three race selection process.	No Athlete/Crew met the criteria
2019 Senior World Championship Gold medalists from each of the Non-Olympic events will be invited to apply to the International Panel for Pre-Selection to the 2021 Senior World Cup & 2021 European Championship team in the boat in which they medaled.	No Athlete/Crew met the criteria

2.2 Eligibility

To be eligible to be selected to any 2021 GBR Team, athletes/crews must meet the following conditions (full detail can be found in British Canoeing's [Eligibility Policy](#)):

1. Meet age and nationality criteria for international competitions as outlined below
2. Be a full member of British Canoeing or Home Nation Association that enables participation in competition
3. Athletes on a funded programme need to have signed their Programme Athlete Agreement. Athletes outside Programme funding will also be expected to sign up to the British Canoeing Great Britain Team participation agreement on accepting selection at least two weeks before travelling to the first competition and settled any outstanding payments prior to travel.

Note that eligibility for selection to the Great Britain 2021 Olympic Team is subject to additional eligibility criteria outlined in section 5 of this policy.

2.3 International Eligibility

Selection will be subject to eligibility in accordance with competition rules laid down by the International Canoe Federation (ICF) and the European Canoe Association (ECA).

- The first year a junior can compete at World and European Senior/U23/Junior Championships is the year of their 15th birthday.

Where athletes compete in more than one eligible selection event, the policy will be applied in isolation for each specific event. British Canoeing reserves the right to deselect an athlete who has been found guilty of a disciplinary offence under British Canoeing/ICF rules. This includes doping offences.

2.4 Registration for Selection - IMPORTANT

To be considered for selection athletes must complete the online registration form found [here](#) by the end of February 2021. Registration is not entry to a regatta so please ensure that entry to appropriate regatta(s) is taken care of.

SECTION 3 – GREAT BRITAIN SENIOR TEAM & OLYMPIC TEAM SELECTION POLICY 2021

3.1 Team Selection is based upon performances in identified selection regattas and at International competitions. Subject to mitigating circumstances In order to be considered for selection, athletes must participate in all applicable regattas and events. GBR Teams will be selected for the following competitions in 2021 at the April regatta on 17/18 April 2021 (with back up 19th April 2021):

Table 1 - 2021 SENIOR TEAM

Competition/Regatta	Venue	Date	Date of Selection Announcement by IP
2021 Continental Qualifier	Szeged, HUN	12-13 May 2021	20 th April 2021
World Cup 1	Szeged, HUN	14-16 May 2021	
2021 Global Qualifier	Barnal, RUS	20-23 May 2021	
World Cup 2 – Olympic/Global Qualifier boats only	Barnal, RUS	20-23 May 2021	
2021 European Championships	Duisburg, GER	3-6 June 2021	25 th May 2021
2021 Olympic Games	Tokyo, JPN	2-7 Aug 2021	Date tbc after completion of the remaining ICF Boat Quota qualification process following the 2 nd Global Qualifier event
2021 World Championships	Copenhagen	16-19 Sept 2021	6 th July 2021

3.2 Senior Team Selection Overview

All 2021 team selection originates at the 17/18 April 2021 domestic regatta, and will continue at identified events as shown in section 4.

The 2021 World Cup and European Championships Team will originate from one domestic selection competition 17/18 April 2021 which will be used to select athletes/crews to the Second round Olympic qualification events and to select a squad for the ICF World Cups and the European Championships.

Note that the crew boat process outlines how the crew boat selection originates at this event but may change as potential crew combinations are explored through the season leading into the identified priority competitions.

Selection for the World Championships will be from the domestic regatta on 3/4 July 2021 with the ability to gain selection from the World Cups/Second round Olympic qualification events.

3.3 Format of Racing

The selection will be based on the outcome of the identified selection race(s) at the 2021 Selection regattas.

3.4 Notification of Selection and announcement of 2021 Great Britain Teams

Following a meeting of the International Panel, team selections will be announced on the news section of the British Canoeing website www.britishcanoeing.org.uk at 5pm on the date specified in table 1 above.

SECTION 4- OVERVIEW OF 2021 SENIOR TEAM SELECTION REGATTA DETAIL (All races at Holme Pierrepont Regatta course unless stated)

2021 Date	Regatta	Selection Detail	Team Selection For
17/18 April	April Domestic Regatta	2021 Olympic Qualifier, World Cup and European Championship SELECTION REGATTA - ALL SENIOR CREW BOAT & INDIVIDUAL SELECTION TRIALS To be considered for selection to the 2021 Senior World Cup, European Championship team and/or the ICF Olympic qualification Continental or 2 nd Global qualification event, athletes are required to race at the regatta on 17/18 April 2021 All 2021 Selection decisions originate from the results from the April domestic regatta Back Up Race – Monday 19 th April 2021	Olympic Games, Continental and global qualifier, European Championship & World Cup Team Selection
12/13 May	Continental Qualifier Szeged (HUN)	Top boat qualified in April selection process in eligible classes goes to Olympic qualification event to seek boat quota place for GBR	
14-16 May	World Cup 1 Szeged	Open to athletes selected to the World Cup Squad at 2021 April regatta for World Cup 1 competition including boats selected to Olympic qualification process (& pre-selected boat). To be selected to the Senior World Championships from the World Cups a boat must: For all events excluding 5km be the top ranked GB boat and achieve a top 5 finish within the top 20% of the field in the final results For 5km event athletes must finish in the top 12 and top 30% of the field in the final results. Any athlete/boat that qualifies for the Olympic Games in 2021 is required to be the top ranked GB boat at the April Selection race to secure selection to the World Championship team.	World Championships
20-May	Global Qualifier Barnaul (RUS)	Top boat qualified in April selection process goes to Olympic qualification event to seek boat quota place for GBR (unless already qualifying a quota place at the continental qualifier) (Note – Only K1 and C1 races are contested at the Global Qualifier)	
21-23 May	World Cup 2 Barnaul (RUS)	Olympic Qualified boats and boats selected to Global Olympic Qualification event only.	
3-6 June	European Champs Duisburg (GER)	Team selected from athletes selected at April regatta to the World Cup 1 Squad including boats selected to Olympic qualification process (& pre-selected boat). Team selected following World Cup 2 exclusively from athletes in the World Cup squad.	
3-4 July	July Domestic Regatta	2021 World Championships Selection regatta (for events not selected from World Cups) Back up race – Monday 5 th July	World Championships
3-8 August	Olympic Games	Olympic Sprint Event – Tokyo Japan – See Olympic selection process – section 5	
16-19 September	World Championships Copenhagen 2021	Team selected at July regatta with pre-qualification possible from World Cups and Olympic team members. A top 5 finish and the highest placed British Boat at the Szeged World Cup Race subject to finishing in top 20% of field, for 5km events the top British boat finishing in the top 12 and top 30%, to be selected to Senior World Championships. Selection to the Olympic Games will also result in selection to the World Championships in that event. All remaining events will be selected at the July regatta.	

The Events: Selection will be considered in the following events for 2021. Events are prioritised in accordance with the system below to optimise Olympic qualification:

Senior Selection World Cups and Olympic Qualification Regattas 2021 (Crew Boat and Individual) All selection originates through performance at the 2021 April regatta. Selection in Olympic events (except K4 500m) qualifies the athlete/crew to compete in that event at the 2021 World Cups. Selection to the World Cup Pool only selects athletes onto the World Cup Team, the European Championship Team is selected following the World Cups from the World Cup pool. The Head Coach, Section Coach and Individual Athlete Coaches will determine final event entries in each competition.

Men's	Women's	Domestic Selection	Selection Criteria	
Olympic Single and Double boats		K4 will be comprised of athlete in the World Cup squad to enable development of a crew.		
K1 200m		Purpose: To identify the best boat not already selected for World Cup 1 alongside pre-selected boat	The highest senior boat (with pre-selected boat removed from the results) will be selected to World Cups 1	
K1 1000m C1 1000m	K1 200m K1 500m C1 200m	Purpose: to identify the top 2 K1's/C1's - Up to 2 boats per event will be selected for World Cup 1 and top boat for European Championships	The top senior boat will be selected for continental and global Olympic qualification (see section 5), World Cup 1 and Senior European Championships. The second ranked boat in C1/K1 events will be selected to World Cup 1 team pool.	
K2 1000m C2 1000m	K2 500m C2 500m	Purpose: to identify the top K2/C2 for World Cup & European Championships		
World Cup 1 Pool		Purpose: to allow for the development of crews and athletes through World Cup & European Championship competitions, whilst allowing established crews the ability to focus on key events.	World Cup 1 Pool Qualification criteria: Men's Kayak (Up to 12 athletes): a) K1 200/1000m & K2 1000m athletes meeting above criteria b) Top 2 highest ranked K2 500m c) Next two K1 500m* athletes not already qualified in part a) and b) subject to finishing the respective selection race within 105% of the winner. Women's Kayak (Up to 12 athletes): a) K1 200m/500m & K2 500m athletes already meeting above criteria b) Next six* highest ranked athletes based on combined K1 500m and K1 200m time from athletes not already qualified in part a) subject to finishing the respective selection race within 105% of the winner. Women's Canoe (Up to 7 athletes): a) C1 200m & C2 500m athletes meeting above criteria b) 2 nd placed C2 500m c) Highest ranked C1 200m* not already qualified above subject to finishing the respective selection race within 105% of the winner. Men's canoe – not included	
K2 500m K1 500m K2 200m K4 500m K4 1000m	K2 200m C2 200m C1 500m K4 500m			
Mixed K2 And any other vacant start lines including 2 nd spots in Olympic events where available (e.g. WK2 500m)		Selection to the World Cup 1 Pool & European Championship pool only selects athletes onto the team for World Cup 1. The Head Coach, Section Coach and Individual Athlete Coaches will determine final event entries in each competition and submit rationale to the International Panel for sign off. The European Championships will be selected from the World Cup 1 Pool and used to maximise start line experience.		
Non-Olympic Events		Up to 1 boat per event selected to World Cup 1 & European Championships if the event is staged and subject to performance data assessment as in the right column if the starting field is less than 5 boats.		
C1 200m K1 5000m C1 5000m	K1 1000m K1 5000m C1 5000m		Note that in event where there are less than five boats contesting selection, the IP has sole discretion to select an athlete/crew based on available performance data.	

*Subject to event availability

Senior World Championships

For events not prequalified through either Olympic team selection or the 2021 World Cup the team will be selected from the July Regatta. In events where a boat is pre selected, the reserves will also be selected from these regattas

Men's	Women's	Domestic Selection	Selection Criteria	
Senior World Championships				
K1 200m K1 1000m C1 1000m K2 1000m C2 1000m K4 500m K2 200m K2 500m	K1 200m K1 500m C1 200m K2 500m C2 500m K4 500m K2 200m C2 200m	Purpose: to identify the top boat in each event to race at the Senior World Championships or the reserve boats in events with boats pre-qualified to the World Championship team	July Regatta the highest ranked boat in each event selected to the World Championship team (or as reserve*) Any athlete finishing within 2% of the winner will be named as a reserve.	For Other Events raced at World Championships (eg Mixed K2 or Mens K4 1000m) to be selected from the world championship team + up to 2 additional athletes taken from the next 2 best athletes in the K1 500m event if required at the discretion of the Performance Director and IP
5km Events		Top boat at World Cup 1 selected provided they finish in the top 12 and top 30% of the field.		

Note 1: In order to prioritise senior performances, selected U23 Athletes/crews who are also selected to the 2021 Olympic Team are required to turn down at least one of either the U23 World Championships or U23 European Championships if taking up an Olympic Team Place.

SECTION 5 - 2021 CANOE SPRINT OLYMPIC TEAM SELECTION POLICY

(To be read in conjunction with Section 4)

Events: Olympic Team 2021

Olympic Games, Tokyo, JPN, 3rd – 8th August 2021

5.1 Team GB Olympic Eligibility

Entry to the Tokyo 2021 Olympic Games is subject to qualification rules as agreed between the ICF and the IOC and as agreed with the British Olympic Association (BOA). The International Panel will nominate the Olympic Team for Canoe Sprint and this will be submitted to the BOA for ratification and final selection into Team GB.

The ICF 2021 Olympic Qualification System is available on the [ICF Website](#).

To be eligible for Team GB 2021 selection, athletes must hold a full GB passport at the time of the Olympic Qualifying competitions in 2019 & 2021, and must otherwise comply with any eligibility criteria as set out by the BOA, IOC and/or the ICF from time to time.

Athletes selected to Team GB will be required to sign the Team GB Team Members Agreement to be eligible to race at the 2021 Tokyo Olympic Games. All athlete nominations will be subject to meeting additional 'Opt In' eligibility criteria as set out by the BOA/Team GB related to requirements set out to attend the Tokyo Games.

The selection process for the Tokyo 2021 Olympic Games will be as laid out in this 2021 selection policy.

British Canoeing reserves the right to deselect an athlete who has been found guilty of a disciplinary offence under British Canoeing/ICF rules. This includes doping offences.

2021 Olympic Selection will be split into distinct Stages in order of qualification towards the Olympic Games:

5.2 Stage 1 Selection into GB Senior Team 2021:

Athletes must attend the April selection regatta, win the selection race in one of the eligible events below to be considered for selection to the 2021 senior team.

5.3 Stage 2 – Continental qualification (Europe) 12/13 May 2021

Continental qualification opportunities for the Tokyo 2021 Olympic Games are available in the following events:

Men's Events		Women's Events	
Kayak	Canoe	Kayak	Canoe
K1 1000m K2 1000m	C1 1000m C2 1000m	K1 200m K1 500m K2 500m	C1 200m C2 500m

Results from the 2021 Selection Regatta will be used to select the highest eligible GBR representative at the continental qualifier.

Note: In the event that an athlete(s) qualifies at the Continental qualifier they would be unable to race the global qualifier (stage 3) and a replacement would be selected based upon the finishing positions at the 2021 Selection Regatta.

5.4 Stage 3 – 2nd round global qualification 20th May 2021

Second round global qualification for the Tokyo 2021 Olympic Games is available in the following events:

Men's Events		Women's Events	
Kayak	Canoe	Kayak	Canoe
K1 1000m	C1 1000m	K1 200m K1 500m	C1 200m

Results from the 2021 Selection Regatta will be used to select the GBR representative at the global qualifier with the top athlete yet to qualify a quota place selected.

5.5 Final nomination of 2021 Olympic Team [\(The ICF Olympic Qualification System can be found here\)](#)

5.5.1 Continental Qualification: (stage 2)

- If GBR qualifies more quota places than the maximum permitted by the [Olympic Qualification System \(OQS\)](#) in the Continental Qualification event, in determining which quota place(s) to retain, the decision will be made with reference to the objectives of the GBR team not necessarily to specific athletes. At the Continental Qualification event each NOC can qualify a maximum of 2 Athlete quota spots and a maximum of one K1/C1 boat in each category.

- In the situation that GBR qualifies a single boat(s) and a double boat in the same category (3/4 quota places) the double boat quota will be accepted to optimise Team GB's athlete quota spots and to reflect that one further opportunity exists to qualify further places at the Global Qualification event in the single boat events.
- In the situation that more than one single boat quota place is qualified, in line with the OQS, GBR will be awarded and accept the place in the longer distance.
- The athlete placing highest at the April regatta would be nominated to Team GB in any qualified event.

5.5.2 Global Qualification (stage 3)

- The Athlete placing highest at the April regatta in any qualified quota spot at the Global Qualification event will be nominated to Team GB.

5.5.3 Important Note: In the event of Great Britain being re-allocated any Olympic quota place(s) after the 1st January 2020 that refer back to the 2019 Senior World Championships & Global qualification, subject to 5.5.3.1, the International panel in consultation with the BOA will at its absolute discretion determine if and how nominations are made. Any decisions will be made in line with the order from the original April 2021 selection regatta and this policy supersedes all aspects of the published 2019 and 2020 Senior Team Selection Policy including the announcement of 21st March 2019 as the opportunity for pre-qualification will be deemed to have expired.

5.5.3.1 Selection process for an Olympic WK4 only in the event of re-allocation of quota places:

In the event of GBR being reallocated a K4 from the 2019 World Championships 4 athletes would be selected to Team GB in the following way:

At the April Selection regatta the following athletes would be selected

- I) Highest placed K1 200m.
- II) Highest placed K1 500m
- III) The next 2 athletes in either the K1 200m or K1 500m that finish within the closest percentage to the winner of that event.

5.5.3.2 Process for any additional places reallocated from the 2019 World Championships

In the event of GBR being reallocated any K1/C1 or K2/C2 quota places from the 2019 World Championships the highest placed boat at the April Selection regatta would be selected to Team GB

5.6 Selection Meeting & announcement of additions to 2021 GB Olympic Team

Subject to exceptional circumstances, team selection will be made at an International Panel meeting following written confirmation from the ICF of any additional Olympic boat quota place(s). The announcement of additions to the Tokyo 2021 Olympic team will be made in conjunction with the BOA following confirmation by BOA of acceptance of Team GB nominations. Athletes are obliged to keep any notifications of selection or non-selection in respect of the Tokyo 2021 Olympic Team strictly confidential until authorised by the British Canoeing Performance Director.

5.7 Application of Performance standards Olympic Teams.

As Olympic selection will be conducted from athletes already selected to the 2021 Great Britain Senior Team through the published policy, no additional performance standards apply beyond those specified in the 2021 senior team selection policy.

5.8 Olympic Team Selection

At any stage of the selection process prior to the date of the Delegation Registration Meeting (DRM) in early July 2021 (provisional deadline is 23:00 UK time on 7th July), the International Panel reserves the right not to nominate, or to de-select, any athlete or reserve on the following grounds:

- a) Medical grounds – i.e. when an injury/illness may, in the reasonable opinion of the International Panel, inhibit the achievement of appropriate performance; or
- b) Suitability as a team member, where for example (but not limited to) an athlete's behaviour or attitude leads the International Panel to determine in its opinion that the selection of such athlete would be inappropriate; or
- c) Poor form – i.e. when an athlete's form in events and/or training has decreased to a level which, in the opinion of the International Panel, would inhibit the achievement of appropriate performance.

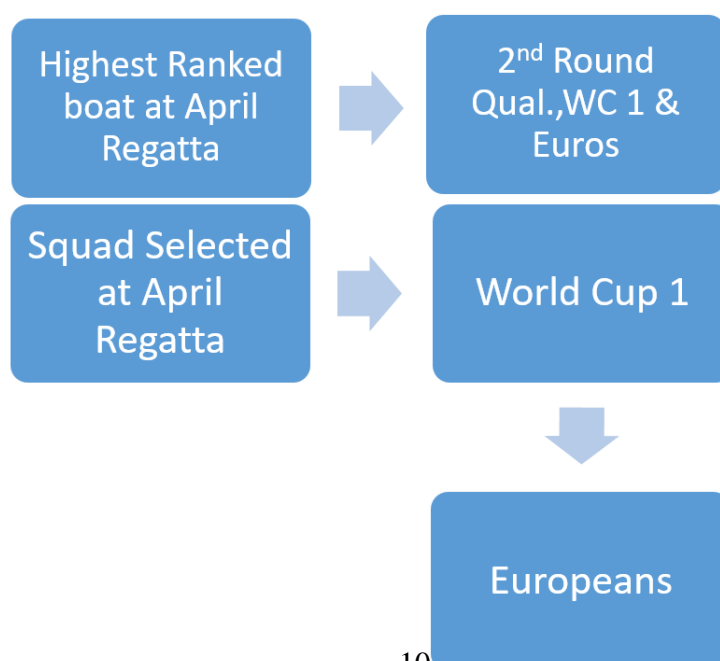
After the DRM has been completed, de-selection and selection of a replacement athlete is only allowed in accordance with the ICF's Qualification Document and IOC's Late Athlete Replacement Policy (or any revised or amended IOC policy dealing with athlete replacement). This primarily provides for replacement in the case of injury and/or illness. In the event of there being a query over the following procedure will be adhered to:

- (i) The Team's Chief Medical Officer can require an athlete to undergo a medical examination to determine his/her fitness to participate. This examination will be carried out by the Team's Chief Medical Officer or another doctor delegated by him/her. If the athlete fails the medical examination he/she will be withdrawn from the Team and British Canoeing (BC) may (if appropriate) nominate a replacement athlete in accordance with its' Selection Policy.
- (ii) If the athlete passes the medical examination carried out in accordance with (i) above but BC and/or the BOA still have concerns over whether or not the athlete is able to compete to a level which would ordinarily have been expected of the athlete due to the underlying injury or illness, the Chef de Mission (in consultation with BC) can require the athlete to undergo a set of pre-determined sports specific performance tests. The tests will be conducted under the guidance of the sport's Team Leader (or his/her delegate e.g. team physiotherapist) and a BOA representative or delegate will be present (if possible/available). If the athlete fails the test (which can be undertaken on more than one occasion and within a short time frame if appropriate), he/she will be withdrawn from the Team on medical grounds and, if appropriate, a replacement can be nominated by BC in accordance with the criteria set out in this Selection Policy.

Simplified Flow Diagram of 2021 Olympic Selection Process



Simplified Flow Diagram of 2021 Olympic Qualification Event process, World Cup and European Team selection Process



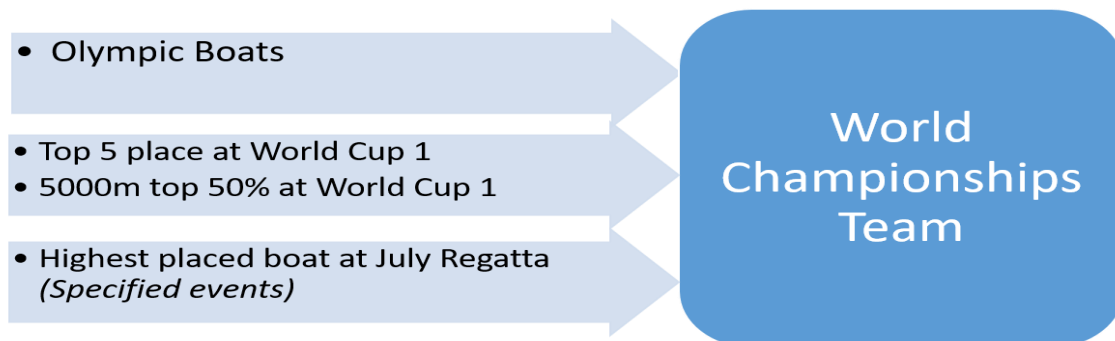
SECTION 6 –WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SELECTION DETAIL

The team for the 2021 senior world championships will be selected from the July regatta for all events not pre-qualified from the 2021 World Cup and Olympic qualifying series.

The highest ranked boat in the following events at the July regatta will be selected to the World Championship team

- Men's, K1, K2 – 200m, 500m, 1000m, K4 500m
- Women's K1, 200m, 500m, 1000m, K2 200m, 500m, K4 500m
- Women's C1, C2 – 200m, 500m
- Men's C1, C2, - 200m, 500m, 1000m
- Men's K4 1000m, Women's K2 1000m, Men's C4 and Mixed events can be put together from athletes already making the team in other events and where the event does not compromise their other events.

Simplified Flow Diagram of 2021 World Championships Selection Process



SECTION 7- GENERAL INFORMATION – 2021 GBR TEAMS

7.1 Contingency

The IP retains the right to adapt racing to ensure a fair process in line with the following principles and procedures:

In extreme circumstances the IP will implement contingency measures and adapt racing to ensure as fair a selection process as possible within the limited options available. The IP will observe weather conditions throughout the competition and if conditions become inappropriate to conduct a selection race, they may declare that a race(s) will not be used for selection.

Where possible this will always be done in advance of the start of a race(s) that may be impacted and in consultation with the National or International Regatta Competition Committee.

Examples of other such amendments could include:

- Rescheduling of any affected selection race(s) to early morning/ evening racing within the same regatta (if scheduling and weather conditions permit).
- Rescheduling of any affected selection races to reserve competition (as described below)
- Changing the location of racing
- Amending lane draw for direct comparability of performances

This is not an exhaustive list and all other options may be considered to complete a fair selection regatta in accordance with the specific challenge(s) identified.

Should weather conditions at a domestic or international selection regatta be such that it would not be possible to complete fair racing within that regatta then the Monday's immediately following the regatta are reserved as a back-up selection regatta. A back up is only required in the event of racing conditions being declared inappropriate during or in advance of competition and will be made by a minimum of two IP Members plus a member of the National Regatta Competition Committee and communicated at the earliest opportunity through British Canoeing channels.

For IP announcements refer to www.britishcanoeing.org.uk and during the competition important information will be posted at race control on the live results messaging, on the British Canoeing WhatsApp group <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FJFF2D6VQ4D9cjDMeXzoQQ> as well as the Facebook/Twitter page.

7.2 Monitoring Racing Conditions

The International Panel have developed an internal protocol for monitoring weather conditions ahead of a selection race, during the race and a process for communication of real-time information. The protocol will be in place ahead of the start of the 2021 domestic regatta season and is intended to assist in making fair decisions and communicating information quickly in the event of inclement conditions.

7.3 Exceptional circumstances Senior Team 2021

Should an athlete miss an event or fall ill during, or prior to, elements of the 2021 selection process; or have any other mitigating circumstances, the IP reserve the right to provide an opportunity for such a boat to compete and challenge for selection under the following conditions:

- Certificated evidence of illness or injury other significant mitigating circumstance must be logged with the IP prior to the commencement of the selection competition via email enquiries.internationalpanel@britishcanoeing.org.uk
- In such a case the IP may identify a single race opportunity whereby the top boat of the selection series and the identified athlete(s) would compete for a World Championship place
- If this situation arises more detail would be provided following the IP meeting immediately after the appropriate 2021 Selection regatta
- Where there are other mitigating circumstances, certified details must be provided to the IP no later than 1 hour prior to a scheduled selection competition via enquiries.internationalpanel@britishcanoeing.org.uk
- The IP has the sole discretion to invoke this clause if required and any decision is final
- The athlete/crew must satisfy the criteria stated below:

The athlete/crew must be able to demonstrate an established consistent track record in racing performance that objectively demonstrates their performance above other athletes/crews based upon performance analysis training data (from GBR performance analysis data) and other objective data such as performance at Olympic, World Championship, European Championship and/or World Cup races for the previous period.

In the case of an incident occurring during racing then details must be provided in writing to the Chair of the IP within two hours following the end of the specific race in which the incident occurred (such as a broken paddle in competition).

Where an athlete who has met the selection criteria has been selected to the World Championship Team and withdraws or is unable to compete, the IP at its total discretion may select a replacement athlete. The IP is not

obliged to replace an athlete and will make the decision in line with the time prior to competition and principles outlined.

All decisions under mitigating circumstances that relate to injury, illness or medical conditions will be determined by the Performance Director, Head Coach Canoe Sprint and British Canoeing Chief Medical Officer (CMO) to ensure a transparent process that also considers the medical needs of the athlete involved. When assessing if an athlete is fit to race, the CMO decision is final. Any request for exceptional circumstances should in the first instance be directed to enquiries.internationalpanel@britishcanoeing.org.uk who will then share with the panel.

For the avoidance of doubt, Covid-19 or associated issue would be classed as applicable to invoke exceptional circumstances, policy amendments (8.10) or Force Majeure (7.12).

Covid-19 has presented unprecedented challenges for all aspects of society and continues to impact many aspects of normal life. Accurate forward planning has become very difficult and any selection process relies on a degree of certainty and stability to be fully equitable and transparent. Whilst it is hoped that selection races will be able to run as outlined in selection policies, it is necessary to highlight that it remains likely that there may be some adjustments required in order to determine representative teams in the timeframes required which will have to respond to prevailing circumstances at the time.

British Canoeing would like to acknowledge that everyone will have been impacted by Covid-19 to some extent but the level of impact on each individual will vary hugely and across a broad range of areas such as financially, emotionally, personally, medically etc.

Recognising that eligibility for selection to a Great Britain and Northern Ireland team involves athletes from 4 Home countries each with devolved powers relating to guidance around covid-19. In the event that government guidance precludes all athletes from one (or more) home country from attending a selection event the decision to run a selection race will consider other options prior to proceeding.

In determining if selection processes can go ahead, British Canoeing will follow the following principles to aid decision making:

- Base decisions on government guidance
- Put athlete, volunteers and staff health and wellbeing first
- Make decisions regarding selection in the most transparent and fair way given the constraints/challenges presented

Covid-19 related requests for consideration of individual athlete exceptional circumstances:

- If an athlete wishes consideration of any issue that they are aware of 14 days or more before the first day of competition, this can only be considered if notified at least 14 days prior to the first scheduled day of selection competition.
- Within 14 days of the competition, only matters arising within this period will be considered under exceptional circumstances.

For both the above, only athletes meeting the criteria laid out above in 7.3 will be eligible for consideration.

In order to deliver a selection process to most effectively select representative teams, some examples of contingency measures in addition to those laid out in 7.1 that may be put in place are listed below:

- Changes to regatta dates and/or venue(s)
- Reduced start lines based upon 2019 divisional status (to comply with limits on numbers)
- Adjustment to format of racing or total number of races
- Prioritise which events are run to reflect targeted events for Olympic/Paralympic Qualification
- Prioritise events for competitions that are closest in timeframe
- Limits on coaching, support staff and or spectators
- Closed event with a limited number of officials and competitors
- Use of 2019 team selection processes until a fair selection process is possible
- Proceed with selection as planned but addition of a race off event opportunity for athletes unable to attend the selection event and who meet the exceptional circumstances criteria in 7.3 (should timelines allow) rather than the use of historical data from more than 12 months ago

This is not an exhaustive list and other scenarios will be considered.

Any athlete found to be in breach of government guidance, including local lockdown restrictions or requirements to self-isolate, may be removed from any selection process.

Any decisions under this clause will engage with the BC Head of Governance and due to the likely time constraints, any decisions taken by a selection panel/committee due to covid-19 is final and binding.

7.4 British Canoeing Canoe Sprint International Panel (IP)

The Terms of Reference of the Canoe Sprint IP can be found on the [British Canoeing Website](#).

The IP, which is appointed by and reports to the Board of British Canoeing, is responsible for all aspects of developing, approving and managing the implementation of the selection policy. This includes the annual policy for all Great Britain Canoe Sprint representative teams at Senior, Under 23 and junior levels and also the Olympic Selection policy for 2021.

The IP has consulted with athletes, coaches, clubs and the Sprint Racing Committee in the formulation of policies.

The Canoe Sprint IP for 2021 consists of the following voting members:

Chair: Paul Dimmock (Independent) (has casting vote in the event of a tie)

Core Members: Paul Ratcliffe (British Canoeing Performance Department), Barney Wainwright (Independent), Hayleigh Mason (Independent), Scott Simon (British Canoeing Performance Department), Andy Maddock (British Canoeing Performance Department).

Non-voting member Sprint Racing Committee Observer: Tim Scott, Chair SRC

Additional non-voting contributors: At each meeting of the IP, the Panel may at its absolute discretion invite additional individuals (e.g. coach(es)/medical practitioner/parent) who have specific class knowledge, in order to advise and provide evidence on athlete performance. These invitees will have no voting rights.

All correspondence regarding selection should be addressed to enquiries.internationalpanel@britishcanoeing.org.uk and then it will be passed to the chair and other members.

7.5 Conflicts of Interest

Any member of the IP shall declare any conflicts or potential conflicts of interest and shall refrain from participation in the discussion of and any vote in respect of any selection matter in which they have a material conflict of interest. If a person has any queries in this area they should consult the British Canoeing Head of Governance and Compliance.

7.6 Funding and Participation

Selection to a Great Britain Team is to specific identified races in accordance with the prevailing selection policy. Any athlete putting themselves forward for selection to a British Team in 2021 should be aware that there may be significant costs to attend any event(s) to which they are selected. For this reason British Canoeing have provided the approximate costs for all competitions to assist athletes and families to prepare. Some support may be available through the Sprint Racing Committee and/or National Associations but almost certainly some costs will have to be funded by the selected individuals. Subject to confirmed funding, the funding principles and estimated costs for attending the 2021 competitions are as outlined below:

Olympic Events	Non-Olympic events:
All boats selected to participate in continental and/or global Tokyo qualification events will be funded by UK Sport to attend. Athletes selected to the Tokyo Games will be funded to attend the Olympics, European Championships & World Championships.	All athletes selected in events not featuring in the Paris 2024 programme and who are not on the World Class Programme will be required to fund their direct costs for each event. The direct costs for attending the 2021 events, based on flight and event daily participation fee (which includes accommodation and transfer) are approximately: ICF World Cup 1: Total Cost approximately £1000 ICF World Cup 2: Total Cost approximately £1000 ICF World Cup 1 & 2 Combined £-- Senior European Championships: Total Cost approximately £1300 Senior World Championships 2021: Total Cost approximately £1300
All World Class Programme Athletes selected in Paris 2024 events for the 2021 World Cup, European Championships & World Championships will be funded by UK Sport to attend.	Where the level of contribution towards non-Olympic event attendance are not yet known, we recognise a reduction in UK Sport monies which will have repercussions across the board. Further update from Senior Team Manager Holly Fairclough from March 2021 which will include clarity on world cup/European Championship pool contributions.
Non World Class Programme athletes selected to Paris 2024 events in 2021 will be funded to attend European Championships and World Championships.	

Alongside travel and logistics support for these competitions, team management, emergency medical treatment, race day support will be provided. Preparation/training camps for non-funded athletes are the responsibility of the individual athlete and not part of the GBR Team programme unless specified above.

All athletes putting themselves forward for selection for a Great Britain team are expected to hold a valid passport with a minimum of 6 months unexpired and hold a current European Health Insurance Card (EHIC).

7.7 Injury/Illness

The International Panel reserves the right not to nominate, or to de-select for The World Championships or any international event, any athlete or reserve on the following grounds:

- a) Medical grounds – i.e. when an injury/illness may, in the reasonable opinion of the International Panel, inhibit the achievement of appropriate performance; or
- b) Suitability as a team member, where for example (but not limited to) an athlete's behaviour or attitude leads the International Panel to determine in its opinion that the selection of such athlete would be inappropriate; or
- c) Poor form – i.e. when an athlete's form in events and/or training has decreased to a level which, in the opinion of the International Panel, would inhibit the achievement of appropriate performance.

Such decisions will only be taken following consultation with appropriate section coaches and/or medical reports.

7.8 Appeals Procedure

The British Canoeing Appeals process applies to all decisions made under this policy and can be found [here](#). Impartial guidance can also be offered through zofia.campbell@britishcanoeing.org.uk. The manual link to the appeals process is: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DOq7jk345m47oHxVolBJDBDtAbth1hjv/view?ts=5df8fe0d>

7.9 Data Protection

British Canoeing is a privacy conscious organisation and is strongly committed to an individual's right to privacy. That is why we have drafted a Privacy and Data Protection Statement, which follows guidelines set out in the Data Protection Act 2018 and which can be found on our website: <https://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk/privacy-statement/>

Please note that any data gathered in the course of selection will be used in accordance with this Statement and in particular will not be shared with any third party without appropriate consent.

7.10 Policies

For the avoidance of doubt this selection policy operates in conjunction with all relevant British Canoeing policies including but not limited to, Equality, Anti-Doping Policy, Pregnancy, Anti Bullying Policy and Anti Bribery Policy.

7.11 Communications

British Canoeing is committed to providing open and informative communication in relation to selection. All athletes will receive formal confirmation of the selection and for those athletes who wish to discuss the outcome of decision made by the IP, the Chair of the IP will be available to speak informally to athletes and in the case of minors, parents.

7.12 Force Majeure

"Force Majeure" means any act, event, omission, cause or circumstance not within the reasonable control of British Canoeing or the race organisers, including but not limited to any strike, lockout or other industrial action, any civil commotion or disorder, riot, invasion, war or terrorist activity or threat of war or terrorist activity, any action taken by a governmental or public authority of any kind (including, without limitation, not granting a consent, exemption, approval or clearance), any fire, explosion, storm, flood, earthquake, subsidence, epidemic or other natural physical disaster. In the event of such Force Majeure affecting the application of the policy, the IP shall have the sole discretion, in consultation with the BC Head of Governance and Compliance, to make a decision in line with the principles, strategy and mission of this selection policy.

SECTION 8 - SELECTION PRINCIPLES 2021:

1. This selection policy provides the process to all athletes/crews on how selection decisions will be made and which competitions will be used to determine selection for International race(s) outlined in this policy.
2. The primary focus of National Team Selection will be to optimise performance in targeted Olympic events. Supportive events may be used as athlete development events from athletes included within the selected squad of athletes.
3. Competition results at the nominated selection competition combined with published performance standards are taken into consideration when making selections. Subject to mitigating circumstances athletes achieving the stated criteria are automatically selected (including reserves).
4. The selection policy seeks to select the best athletes in a transparent way that prioritises optimal preparation time for achievement of International success.

5. It is acknowledged that Canoe Sprint is an outdoor sport where results can be affected by environmental conditions and lane draws. Where conditions may hamper holding a fair selection competition, contingency measures may be considered as outlined in section 7 of this policy. This decision will be made at the total discretion of the IP in line with an agreed internal protocol for monitoring racing conditions (7.2).
6. All eligible athletes will be considered equally for selection against the stated selection criteria regardless of club, training location, age, Home Nation and programme status.
7. A non-travelling reserve may be named in each individual event based solely on position in the identified selection race where performance standards have been achieved. This is to recognise achievement of athletes achieving performance standards who are outside the finishing position(s) required for selection. In order of selection, named reserves will only travel in the event of injury or illness to a selected athlete or where a place(s) is declined.
8. The respective Head Coach and Team Manager can jointly at their total discretion within the selected team use events within the international competition programme for further start line opportunities subject to not compromising performances at the main event that athletes have been selected for. This only applies where events are unfilled by the maximum British athlete quota and must be communicated to the Chair of the IP in advance of the competition commencing. Athletes selected to an event under this clause may not be eligible for selection in that event for a subsequent competition.
9. Following the selection of a crew boat to a GBR team, the respective coach must propose any changes to the composition of the crew due to injury, illness, poor performance or other circumstance to the IP who will consider the circumstances and determine an appropriate process to follow.
10. The selection policy may be amended at any time by British Canoeing for one or more of the following circumstances:
 1. Any changes in rules governing a particular event
 2. Any change in ICF eligibility, rules or programme of events
 3. To give effect to the selection process in case of a drafting error or oversight
 4. To clarify any ambiguity to the intended meaning of the selection policy
 5. Any other reason determined by British Canoeing at its total discretion that is in the best interest of British Canoeing and in line with the principles outlined for selection
 6. Circumstances arising from Covid-19 restrictions (Solely for 2020 & 2021)

SECTION 9 - 2022 ADVANCED INFORMATION

The 2022 Canoe Sprint team selection policy will be published by 1st January 2022

- **End of 2021 policy** -