

DRAFT British Canoeing 2024 Senior & U23 Kayak Cross Team Selection Policy

The IP shares this draft policy for consultation and welcomes all feedback to help the development of the 2024 policies. The policies represent the decision to base the disciplines of Canoe Slalom and Kayak cross on their own selection process in order to select the strongest team. Understanding the costs involved and volunteer time, a two venue Canoe Slalom process is combined with kayak Cross selection.

Please feedback on the policy [HERE](#) by Midday on Monday 13th November 2023.

Or at:

https://britishcanoeing.formstack.com/forms/canoe_slalom_selection_consultation

Thank you in advance

Athletes wishing to contact the IP in relation to the relevant provisions in this policy should do so via email to enquiries.internationalpanel@britishcanoeing.org.uk

SECTION A: PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Kayak Cross selection policy is to establish the selection process for the 2024 GBR Senior & U23 Kayak Cross Teams which includes the final detail for the 2024 Senior Kayak Cross team for all international events named within this policy. This policy runs in conjunction with the separate [2024 Senior Team](#) and [Olympic Team selection](#) policies published on 28th March 2023.

2. Principles

- 2.1. The primary focus of 2024 Senior Team Selection will be to optimise performance at international competitions in priority order of Prague World Cup 2 (& Paris 2024 Olympic Qualification), Olympic Games, European Championships, Other World Cups.
- 2.2. For U23 athletes who are not part of the 2024 Senior team, the focus is on delivery in priority order at the World Championships and European Championships
- 2.3. Subject to section 5.1, the U23 & Senior team will be selected objectively based on the outcome of the Kayak Cross selection series.
- 2.4. The Selection Policy and timing of selection seeks to select the best athletes in a transparent way that prioritises optimal preparation time for achievement of international success.
- 2.5. 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.
- 2.6. Where athletes compete in more than one eligible selection event, the policy will be applied in isolation for each specific event.

SECTION B. ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY PROCESS, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AND COMMITMENTS

3. Eligibility: To be eligible to enter for selection, athletes must:

- 3.1. be over the age of 18 on 1st January 2024. (Juniors must enter Junior Team Kayak Cross selection) and meet the age criteria for competition (the first year a junior can compete at World and European Senior/U23/Junior Championships and Olympic Games is the year of their 15th birthday and the last year a junior or U23 can compete is the year of their 18th or 23rd birthday respectively);
- 3.2. and have either:
 - 3.2.1. qualified through the specific published Kayak Cross process detailed in section 13.1.1. (list below) of the [2024 Senior Team Policy](#) and meet the eligibility criteria stated in 3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5. AND entered and registered for the 2024 kayak cross series in section 7.1 by 14th February 2024:

MX1		WX1
Joe Clarke	Murray Robb	Kimberley Woods
Christopher Bowers	Ryan Westley	Mallory Franklin
Jonny Dickson	Adam Burgess	Phoebe Spicer
Ben Haylett	James Kettle	Lois Leaver
Etienne Chappell	Peter Linksted	Bethan Forrow
David Paterson	Kurts-Adams Rozentals	Ellis Miller
Sam Leaver	Luc Royle	Sophie Ogilvie
Huw Swetnam	Vittorio Pezzaioli	Amber Maslen
Jake Brown	Alfie Boote	Nikita Setchell
Thomas Mayer	Edward McDonald	Macy Kang
Edward Dickinson	Sonny Shevill	Joely Walling
Callum Walling	William Coney	Joanna Blythe-Shields
Finlay Yates-Jones	Philip Smith	Zoe Blythe-Shields
Eren Yalkin	Gabriel keen	Hannah Rhodes
Matthew Curry	Klass-Francisks Rozentals	Tazmin Brown
Oscar Wyllie		Rachel Ellis
Gwion Williams		Arina Kontchakov
MX1 32		WX1 17

- 3.2.2. **OR:** entered through the open entry process and able to demonstrate competency to race on the Lee Valley Olympic course, perform a kayak roll and launch off the kayak cross ramp. Full detail will be published with the entry process. In addition athletes must meet the criteria stated in sections 3.1, 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5.
- 3.3. comply with eligibility criteria in accordance with competition rules laid down by the International Canoe Federation (ICF) and the European Canoe Association (ECA) and the British Canoeing Eligibility Policy;
- 3.4. be a full member of British Canoeing or Home Nation Association that enables participation in competition; and
- 3.5. hold a valid passport with a minimum of 6 months unexpired validity and hold a valid European Health Insurance Card or a valid Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC). Details to apply for a free GHIC card can be found [here](#).
4. **Entry Process for selection:** The entry details will be confirmed on the British Canoeing website – www.britishcanoeing.org.uk by the 31st January 2024. The entry process will take place in three priority phases:
- 4.1. **Phase 1** – Those athletes listed in 3.2.1 have priority status if they register AND enter for the 2024 kayak cross series in section 7.1 by 12pm on Wednesday 14th February 2024: The registration process can be completed [here](#). Entering the race is not registration.
- 4.2. **Phase 2** – Open entry will open on the 20th February 2024 and close at midday on 14th March 2024. The Kayak Cross series will go to open entry (subject to meeting the eligibility criteria in section 3) with entries being allocated in order of acceptance until the entry limit of 70 (up to 35 Men & Up to 35 Women) is reached.
- 4.3. **Phase 3** – Any remaining places after the process in 4.1 and 4.2 above has been conducted will be determined at the absolute discretion of the IP.
5. **Performance Standards and Commitments**
- 5.1. Subject to contingency, all selections under this policy will be subject to an assessment of standard by the IP to ensure athletes are of the appropriate level for the competition they are being considered for.
- 5.2. The IP reserves the right not to nominate, or to de-select an athlete for any international event on the following grounds:
- 5.2.1. Medical grounds – i.e., when an injury/illness may, in the reasonable opinion of the IP and a suitable medical professional, inhibit the achievement of appropriate performance and/or mean the athlete cannot reasonably be considered fit to travel; or
- 5.2.2. Disciplinary grounds – where any athlete has been found guilty of a disciplinary offence under British Canoeing/BOA/ICF rules. This includes doping offences.
- 5.2.3. Poor form – i.e., when an athlete’s form in events and/or training has decreased to such a level that, in the opinion of the IP, they would no longer be able to achieve the required level of performance to be competitive at the applicable competition(s).

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5.3. Any decisions taken in accordance with 5.2.1, will only be made following consultation with the athlete, appropriate BC coaches and/or medical reports and in the case of 5.2.3. include reference to an assessment of standard.

SECTION C: GREAT BRITAIN KAYAK CROSS 2024 SENIOR & U23 TEAM SELECTION

6. 2024 Senior & U23 Kayak Cross Senior Team Selection will take place in the following events:

Female	Male
WX1 Senior	MX1 Senior

Selection will take place in two phases:

6.1. Phase 1 – Pre-Selection: (Senior Team Selection Only)

Senior Team Only - Any athlete nominated to Team GB for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games under stage 1 or stage 2 of the Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross Paris 2024 Olympic Team Selection Policy will retrospectively be added as the number one boat within the senior team selection order in the event(s) in which they are nominated for the Olympic Games or in the case of Kayak Cross in the order of the nominations to Team GB. see section 14 of the [2024 Senior Team policy](#).

6.2. Phase 2- Selection: Any remaining places will be allocated through the selection process outlined below. All registered athletes to the selection process who have entered the race will be eligible to compete in the Time Trial stages for each of the four races. Under ICF Rules, GBR is permitted to enter up to four boats per kayak cross event. Under ECA Rules, for European Championship events, GBR is only permitted to enter up to three boats.

7. Format of Kayak Cross Selection process:

7.1. Subject to contingency there will be one competition of 4 separate races over two days for Senior & U23 Kayak Cross team selection,

Day 1	(Races 1&2)	Sunday 31st March 2024	Lee Valley
Day 2	(Races 3&4)	Monday 1st April 2024	Lee Valley

7.2. Each race will follow the format as below: (Visualised in Diagram A)

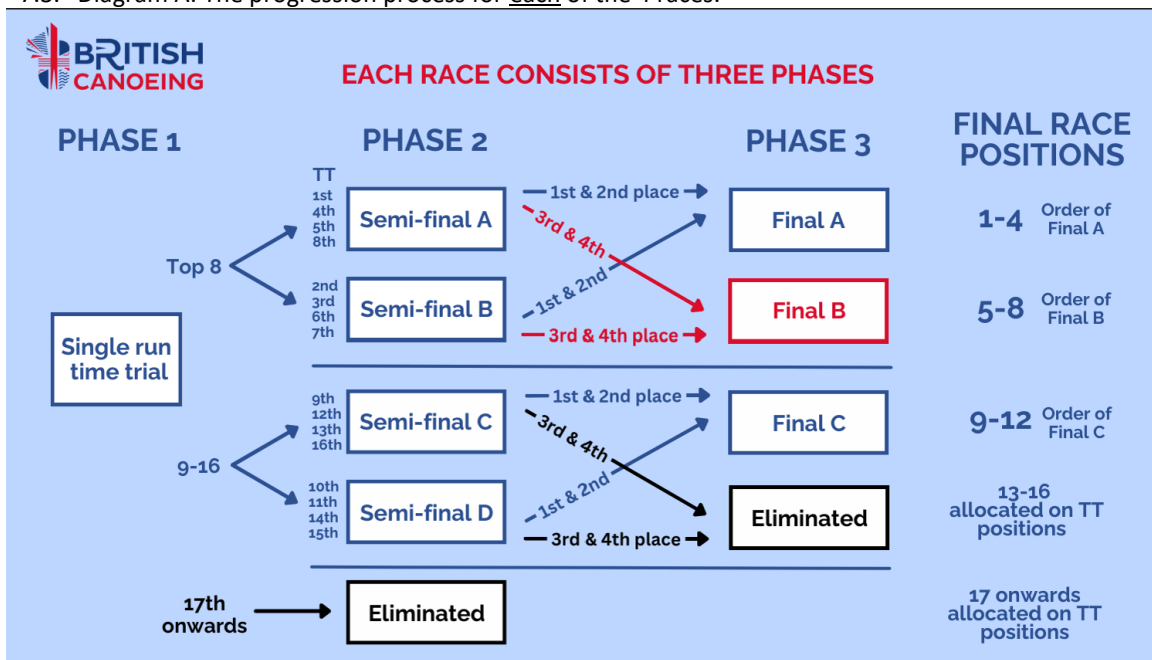
7.2.1. Phase 1 – Time Trial Phase (open to all entered athletes) (identifies the top 16 for Head to Head competition and sets the seeding) 17th place onwards are eliminated.

7.2.2. Phase 2 – Head-to-Head Semi Final (Determines the top 12 and who progresses to each of the 3 finals) 13th place onwards are eliminated.

7.2.3. Phase 3 – Head-to-Head Final A determines positions 1-4, Final B determines positions 5-8 and Final C determines positions 9-12. Places 13 – 16 are determined by the Position in the Time Trial.

7.2.4. Those athletes outside the top 16 in the Time Trial will be eliminated and score points based on the position in the Time Trial.

7.3. Diagram A: The progression process for each of the 4 races.



8. Calculating the overall 2024 Senior & U23 Kayak Cross Selection results:

For each category set out in section 6.0 above a points table will determine the overall selection ranking:

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- 8.1. For each race points will be awarded in order of the finishing order in Final A, Final B, Final C, Any athletes finishing outside the top 12 will be awarded points based on the order of the time trial position.
- 8.2. The points system used for each of the 4 races is:
Opts 1st place, 2pts 2nd place, 3pts 3rd place, 4pts 4th place, 5pts 5th place, 6pts 6th place and continues in 1-point increments until all competitors are awarded points.
- 8.3. The individual boat's lowest 3 points scores from the 4 races (as specified in **Appendix A**) are combined to give their overall selection ranking points score.
- 8.4. The results for every race of the selection series will be combined into a table (Final Selection Ranking Table) which will be ranked in ascending order of total points achieved (lowest total ranked highest).
- 8.5. Athletes are not required to compete in all 4 races of selection.
- 8.6. Where two or more athletes have the same overall selection ranking points score, their final position in the final selection ranking table will be resolved by comparing individual race results in the following order:
 - 8.6.1. Their best (lowest) points score from the up to 4 races. If unresolved, then 8.6.2 will apply
 - 8.6.2. Their second best (lowest) points score from the up to 4 races. If unresolved 8.6.3 will apply
 - 8.6.3. The higher finisher in the final race (race 4) of the competition (lowest points score)
- 8.7. Subject to exceptional circumstances and section 6.1, the team will be selected by reference to the final selection ranking table. Nominations for reserves will be at the total discretion of the International Panel based on reference to the time trial and head-to-head performance data from the selection series.

9. International Competitions Senior Teams 2024:

- 9.1. Subject to section 14 (exceptional circumstances) and section 12 (released race policy), the Great Britain 2024 Senior Kayak Cross Team will compete in the following races:

Senior European Championships	Tacen, SLO	15-19 May 2024
World Cup 1	Augsburg, GER	31 May - 2 June 2024
World Cup 2	Prague, CZE	7-9 June 2024
World Cup 3	Krakow, POL	14-16 June 2024
World Cup 4	Ivrea, ITA	13-15 September 2024
World Cup 5	La Seu D'Urgell, ESP	20-22 September 2024

- 9.2. Subject to section 6 and exceptional circumstances, all 2024 Kayak Cross senior team places will be awarded through the results of the 2024 Kayak Cross selection race series including reserves as outlined in section 8.

10. International Competitions U23 Teams 2024:

- 10.1. Subject to exceptional circumstances, the Great Britain 2024 U23 Kayak Cross Team will compete in the following races:

U23 World Championships	Liptovsky Mikulas, SVK	2-7 July 2024
U23 European Championships	Krakow, POL	15-18 August 2024

- 10.2. 2024 Kayak Cross U23 team places will be selected through the order of eligible U23 athletes in order of the results of the 2024 Senior Team Kayak Cross selection final selection ranking table.

11. Selection meeting and announcement of 2024 Great Britain U23 & Senior Kayak Cross Team:

Following a meeting of the International Panel, 2024 Junior, U23 & Senior Kayak Cross team selections will be announced on www.britishcanoeing.org.uk by 5pm on Wednesday 3rd April 2024.

12. 2024 Kayak Cross Released Race Policy:

- 12.1. Athletes Selected to the 2024 Senior Kayak Cross Team except those selected to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games must achieve a result in the Head to Head Heats round (Top 32 result) in Kayak Cross at one of the races identified below in order to retain their Kayak Cross team place for World Cups 4 & 5:

Senior European Championships	Tacen, SLO	TBC 2024
World Cup 1	Augsburg, GER	31 May - 2 June 2024
World Cup 2	Prague, CZE	7-9 June 2024
World Cup 3	Krakow, POL	14-16 June 2024

- 12.2. Any athlete(s) selected to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games will not be required to meet the performance criteria at 12.1 and will automatically have priority access to the races named above and retain their place(s) for World Cups 4 and 5.

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- 12.3. In the event of a Kayak Cross athlete not achieving the performance criteria at 12.1, they would release their place on the Kayak Cross senior team for the final 2 World Cup races of the 2024 season until the next selection is completed.
- 12.4. Any Kayak Cross released individual places from the 2024 senior team will be offered in the order of 2024 Senior Team named reserves.
- 12.5. Kayak Cross Senior Team named reserves are not eligible for the aforementioned performance criteria.
- 12.6. For World Cups 1 & 2 Only, to optimise preparation and performance at the Kayak Cross Olympic Quota race, The IP reserves the right to withdraw 'quota tied' athletes from one or more races and any decisions under this clause will be based on qualification strategy and may vary between Men's and Women's events.

SECTION D: CONTINGENCY AND EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

13. Contingency

- 13.1. The IP retains the right to implement contingency measures where circumstances arise that prevent full, fair and competitive racing and adapt racing to ensure as fair a selection process as possible. This may typically include weather conditions.
- 13.2. The Chief Judge will have the responsibility to assess all circumstances and make necessary decisions relating to the timetabling of the event. The Chief Judge and IP will also have the responsibility to make any adjustments to the timetable following any delays.
- 13.3. Should weather conditions or other significant issues arise making it inappropriate or impossible to conduct a selection race, then the Chief Judge and IP reserves the right to invoke any of the following non-exclusive alternatives in any way necessary to complete fair racing:
 - 13.3.1. Adjustments to race format/schedule/start or finish lines
 - 13.3.2. Early morning/evening racing under floodlights.
 - 13.3.3. Counting results from runs where a whole event/phase has been completed fairly.
 - 13.3.4. Reducing start intervals.
 - 13.3.5. Not changing the course between races.
 - 13.3.6. Changing order of events.
- 13.4. The minimum number of races that the GBR Team Kayak Cross Selection series will include is two.
- 13.5. Where possible, decisions made under 13.3 above will be done in advance of the start of a race(s) or event(s) that may be impacted.
- 13.6. All IP announcements relevant to contingencies will be posted on www.britishcanoeing.org.uk. During competitions, important information will be posted at race control on the live results messaging, on the British Canoeing Social Media or messaging App.

14. Exceptional circumstances –

- 14.1. Should an athlete miss a Selection event due to illness or injury during, or prior to, elements of the 2024 selection process; or have any other exceptional circumstances, the IP reserve the right to provide an opportunity for such a boat to be eligible for selection. For the purposes of this clause, exceptional circumstances are unplanned, unexpected, unavoidable and unforeseen.
- 14.2. To be considered for an exceptional circumstances in Kayak Cross, an athlete must have:
 - 14.2.1. For Senior European and World Cup events, the athlete must have made a Kayak Cross final (top 4) at the Senior World and/or Senior European Championships/Games in the previous 12 months.
 - 14.2.2. For U23 European and/or U23 World Championship events, the athlete must have made a Kayak cross final result at the U23 World and/or U23 European Championship in the previous 12 months or have met the Senior criteria as outlined in 13.2.1.
- 14.3. Where an athlete wishes to invoke this clause, exceptional circumstances requests should be directed to the IP prior to the commencement of the selection competition via email at enquiries.internationalpanel@britishcanoeing.org.uk and should provide:
 - 14.3.1. Certificated evidence of illness or injury, or other significant exceptional circumstance.
 - 14.3.2. Any evidence the athlete wishes the IP to consider which demonstrates in both training and racing, a superior performance level than other selected athletes.
- 14.4. When considering an athlete's application, the IP will consider the following:
 - 14.4.1. The athlete's application and supportive evidence provided;
 - 14.4.2. The athlete's training and racing profile (from GBR performance analysis data) in the event(s) requested;
 - 14.4.3. ICF World Ranking, Performance at Olympic, Senior & U23 World Championship, Senior & U23 European Championship/Games and/or World Cup races within the previous 24 months.

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- 14.5. Where the IP accepts an exceptional circumstance request following the process detailed above, the IP reserves the right to:
 - 14.5.1. Identify a single race opportunity whereby the lowest ranked boat that has been selected and the identified athlete(s) would compete for a GBR Team place;
 - 14.5.2. Where no athlete has been selected for the relevant event under this policy or a team place remains unfilled, accept the exceptional circumstances and select the athlete;
 - 14.5.3. Substitute the lowest placed selected athlete under this policy with the selection of the athlete making the exceptional circumstances request.
- 14.6. If this situation arises more detail would be provided following the IP meeting immediately after the appropriate Selection race series.
- 14.7. All decisions under this Clause that relate to injury, illness (including Covid-19) or medical conditions will be determined by the IP members. When assessing if an athlete is fit to race, the decision of the IP is final.
- 14.8. **The IP has the sole discretion to invoke the provisions in this clause and any decision is final and not subject to appeal.**

SECTION E: GENERAL INFORMATION

15. Acceptance of Team Places:

- 15.1. To ensure the most cost effective and efficient planning and to enable the appropriate logistics, selected athletes are required to confirm participation in each International competition as outlined in the team announcement. Any released places will be offered to reserve boat(s) on the understanding that the original selected athlete may apply to the Performance Director up to fourteen days prior to the date of competition commencing requesting re-instatement of their original place(s). The athlete has to satisfactorily demonstrate that circumstances justify the return of the released place from a performance perspective. The Performance Director will evaluate the justification and make the final decision which is not subject to appeal from any interested party.
- 15.2. In the event of a team place becoming available either within 2 days of the team travelling to a camp or competition or after the team have arrived at a camp or competition, then the Performance Director at their absolute discretion may nominate a replacement but the decision will be final.
- 15.3. Selection is conditional upon selected athletes on a funded programme having signed their Programme Athlete Agreement and completed a full medical disclosure and the fit to travel process. 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, completing the full medical disclosure and fitness to travel process and settle any outstanding payments prior to travel.
- 15.4. Once a GBR Team is selected, the Team Manager or Head Coach may optimise team event medal opportunities by filling unallocated team places with athletes selected in other events. This can also occur where injury/illness to a competing athlete happens. This clause is not applicable to individual canoe slalom events.

16. Responsibility

The Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross IP (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 Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross selection policies. The Terms of Reference can be found [here](#) and the IP comprises the following members: Andy Maddock (Chair), David Spencer, Jim McConnachie, Mark Ratcliffe, Gareth Wilson.

17. 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 Director of Governance.

18. Policy Changes

- 18.1. The selection policy may be amended at any time by British Canoeing for one or more of the following circumstances:
 - 18.1.1. Any changes in rules governing a particular event;
 - 18.1.2. Any change in ICF eligibility, rules or programme of events;
 - 18.1.3. To give effect to the selection process in case of a drafting error or oversight
 - 18.1.4. To clarify any ambiguity to the intended meaning of the selection policy

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18.1.5. 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

18.2. Any changes will be communicated and publicised on www.britishcanoeing.org.uk

19. Appeals Procedure

19.1. Certain decisions made throughout this Policy are not subject to appeal and where this is the case, specific reference will be made to the decision being final. For other selection decisions made under this Policy, the British Canoeing Appeals process applies and this procedure can be found [here](#).

19.2. Guidance is available from the British Canoeing Performance Wellbeing Coach, zofia.campbell@britishcanoeing.org.uk. UK Sport funded World Class Programme athletes who require support and advice can also contact the BEAA at support@britishathletes.org.

20. 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 British Canoeing Head of Governance, to make a decision in line with the principles, strategy and mission of this selection policy.

21. Data Protection

21.1. British Canoeing is a privacy conscious organisation and is strongly committed to an individual’s right to privacy. All data gathered during the selection process will only be utilised for the purposes of an athlete’s participation in a GBR Team. This may include administering their event/race entry and certain information may be published as part of the results and rankings of the event/race.

21.2. Any personal data will be processed and stored in compliance with the British Canoeing Data Protection Policy and in accordance with all applicable Data Protection laws in effect at the time of publication of this Selection Policy, including but not limited to, the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR.

21.3. Further information on British Canoeing’s approach to privacy and data protection, including British Canoeing’s privacy notices, policies and contact details, can be located in their Privacy Centre (<https://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk/about/privacy-centre>). Should an athlete wish any data British Canoeing hold relating to them to be deleted at any point; they should contact British Canoeing at GDPR@britishcanoeing.org.uk.

22. Policies

This Selection Policy operates in conjunction with all relevant British Canoeing policies including but not limited to, Equality, Anti-Doping, Pregnancy, Safeguarding, Anti-Bullying Anti-Bribery Policy and relevance disciplinary policies.

23. 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/carers.

-End of Policy-

Appendix A: Example Final Kayak Cross Final Selection Ranking Table

To Be Added in final policy and will reflect U23 scenario in examples

Appendix B: Course design & Race rules and details

- B.1. The start order for all 4 races will be the reverse order of 2024 Premier Canoe Slalom bibs with any qualified athlete who is not ranked in premier starting first in reverse order of their position in the entry process.
- B.2. There will be a different course design for each day of competition. The course for head-to-head races 1 & 2 and for races 3 & 4 will be the same. For Time Trial phases, only 2 upstream gates of the 4 in the head-to-head will be set for race 1 and race 3. For the Time Trial in races 2 and 4 the 2 upstream gates not used in the morning time trial will be used instead.
- B.3. There will be the opportunity for one official full-length practice run prior to the start of phase 1 on each day.
- B.4. Equipment rules will be in accordance with the 2023 ICF Kayak Cross rules. The IP has provided further guidance in this area on its statement of August 2023.
- B.5. The Back-up for this series would be dealt with within the dates above through the contingency outlined in section 13.