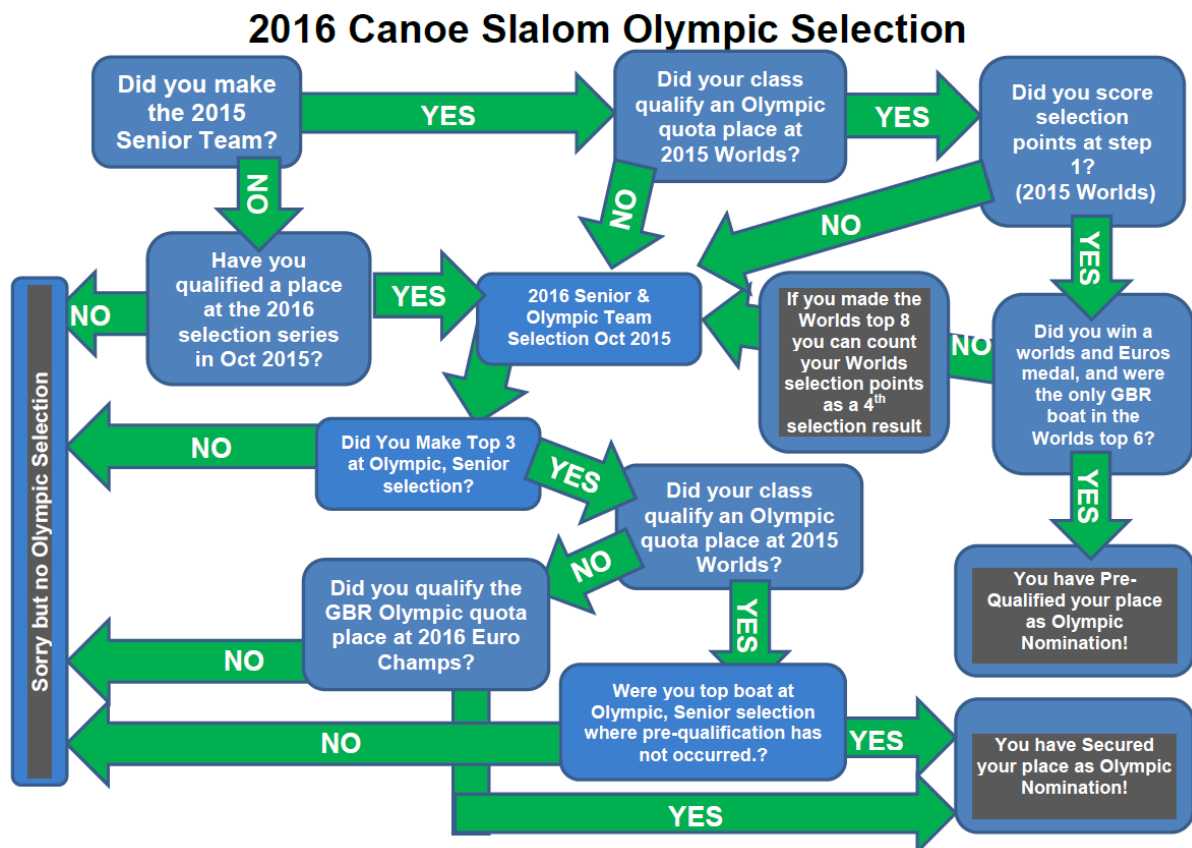


# British Canoeing FINAL Canoe Slalom Selection Policy 2016

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## **SECTION 1 – OVERVIEW**

### **British Canoeing Canoe Slalom International Panel**

Since January 2005, The British Canoeing Board has been responsible for GB Team Selection through the formation of an International Panel in the two Olympic disciplines of Canoe Sprint and Canoe Slalom. The International Panel is appointed by and reports to the British Canoeing Board.

The Canoe Slalom International Panel is responsible for proposing and agreeing the selection policy on an annual basis including the Olympic Selection policy for 2016 and for selecting the Great Britain teams against this policy. The discipline committee play an integral part in helping to formulate the draft selection policy for consultation within the sport.

The members of the International Panel are selected on the basis of experience and competency. The level of experience required relates to previous experience of selection/GB Team matters and current knowledge and first hand practical experience of the sport at a national and International level. The panel retains overall authority for all aspects of policy including selection venues and dates and for selecting all Great Britain representative teams at Senior, Under 23 and Junior levels.

The International Panel for 2015/16 will consist of the following members (all with voting rights):

**Chair:** Andy Maddock (Programmes Director)

**Core members:** Jacky Brookes (Slalom Committee representative) and John Anderson (Performance Director), Paul Ratcliffe (Canoe Slalom Head Coach)

The British Canoeing Slalom Committee also has a non-voting appointed observer: Martyn Setchell (appointed by the Slalom Committee) he attends all International Panel meetings and is copied in on all correspondence as an observer. In the event of the chair declaring an interest Martyn has the authority of the Slalom Committee to stand in as acting chair with full voting rights.

Additional members: Following the completion of each selection series, National coaches from UK Programmes with representation from Home Nation Programme Coaches are invited to attend the International Panel Meeting to advise on team selection with reference to the published policy. Invites are sent out in advance inviting Home Nations and programmes to send a nominated representative.

### **International Panel Vision Statement - Canoe Slalom 2014-2016**

London 2012 was the most successful Olympics of the modern era for Team GB and it was the finest performance at any Games for British Canoeing (Slalom & Sprint) with 4 medals: 2 Gold, 1 Silver and 1 Bronze.

In Canoe Slalom, Great Britain won its first Olympic Gold medal paving the way for a fantastic legacy in our sport and an inspiration for all British athletes to work toward on the Road to Rio 2016. The bar has been raised significantly for Olympic sport in this country and the competition for funding is fiercer than it has ever been.

The Rio cycle began in 2013 and following a strategic review a four year plan was compiled to give British Canoeing the best possible chance of delivering its medal target at the Rio Olympics. The plan will also provide development opportunities for Tokyo 2020 athletes.

## **2016 GREAT BRITAIN SENIOR, OLYMPIC & U23 TEAM SELECTION POLICY – ADVANCED POLICY INFORMATION**

### **Not to be read in conjunction with 2015 policy.**

#### **2016 Aims**

Total focus on optimising the best chance of winning medals at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games.

To win medals at the 2016 U23 and Junior World and European Championships with athletes profiled for Tokyo 2020 and beyond.

As in previous Olympic Cycles, The Senior & Olympic Team selection policy 2016 is published an extra year ahead as it will utilise results in the 2015 season and in this instance 2016 team selection will take place in 2015. For this reason the full Senior & Olympic Team selection policy is published within this document.

The 2016 Junior & U23 Selection policies will be published as usual in December 2015 with only specific information that will be used from the 2015 season outlined in this document.

#### **Qualification for Great Britain Senior & Olympic Team Selection 2016**

Senior and Olympic Team selection 2016 will take place over 3 days at Lee Valley Whitewater centre on 24-26 October 2015. It intends to continue with the established principles of Olympic Selection used since 2004 and the timing of the selection races is determined in order to maximise access opportunities on the 2016 Olympic course which will only be completed in late 2015.

Athletes eligible to participate in the Great Britain 2016 Senior & Olympic Team Selection Series can qualify to race at the 2016 Team selection series in October 2015 by achieving the following:

	K1M	K1W	C1M	C2	C1W
<b>Overall 2015 Senior Team Selection Points List</b>	Top 5 boats per class (includes pre-selected athletes/crews)				
	The top 3 U22 boats per class (including those already qualifying above)				
<b>May HPP Premier final results</b>	Top 4 boats who have not already qualified plus top 2 U22 boats (Including those qualifying in top 4)		Top 3 boats who have not already qualified plus top U22 boat (Including those qualifying in top 3)		Top 2 boats who have not already qualified plus top U22 boat (Including those qualifying in top 2)
<b>September HPP Premier Final results</b>	Top 4 boats who have not already qualified plus top 2 U23 boats (Including those qualifying in top 4)		Top 3 boats who have not already qualified plus top U23 boat (Including those qualifying in top 3)		Top 2 boats who have not already qualified plus top U23 boat (Including those qualifying in top 2)
<b>Total Possible Boats</b>	<b>Up to 20</b>	<b>Up to 20</b>	<b>Up to 16</b>		<b>Up to 14</b>

Note – For 2016 team selection qualification, appropriate performance percentages relevant to age (Senior, U23 or U20) must be achieved as per the published performance criteria.

The International Panel reserves the right to include an athlete/crew in exceptional circumstances as a result of illness or injury.

### Events Senior Team 2016 (based on provisional calendar and subject to change)

Olympic Test Event**	Rio De Janeiro, BRA	25-29 Nov 2015
Senior European Championships	Liptovsky Mikulas, SVK	May 2016
World Cup 1	Ivrea, ITA	June 2016
World Cup 2	La Seu D'Urgell, ESP	June 2016
World Cup 3	Pau, FRA	June 2016
2016 Olympic Games*	Rio De Janeiro, BRA	7-11 Aug 2016
World Cup 4	Augsburg, GER	August 2016
World Cup 5	Prague, CZE	September 2016
World Cup Final	Tacen, SLO	September 2016

\* In accordance with the published Olympic Team Selection Policy 2016

\*\* Subject to entry restrictions (Max 2 boats per class).

### Pre-qualification into 2016 Senior & Olympic Team

An Individual or crew can earn the right through elite medal winning championship performances at the 2015 World Championships to be nominated for the Team GB place at the Rio Olympic Games only under the following circumstances:

An athlete/crew winning a 2015 individual Senior World Championship medal will be eligible for pre-qualification to the 2016 Senior & Olympic team if both of the following occur:

- The 2015 Senior World Championship medallist crew/individual won an individual 2015 Senior European Championship medal in the same category.
- That the next best placed British boat at the 2015 Senior World Championships in the same category finished outside of the top 6 (inside top 6 defined as finishing in places 1-6 inclusive) in the final results.

Note: The same criteria apply for non-Olympic events for Pre-Qualification to the 2016 Senior Team.

### Pre selection into 2016 Senior Team

Other than the opportunity to pre-qualify to the 2016 Senior & Olympic Team outlined above, there will be no pre-selection to the 2016 Senior Team. Instead additional points are available at the 2015 Senior World Championships as outlined in this policy to recognise and reward World championship performance.

### Pre selection into 2016 Junior & U23 Team

There are up to 2 places available for application to the IP for 2016 U23 Team pre-selection in each class which can be qualified in the following priority order (if multiple qualifiers at each opportunity then position determines priority order until spaces filled):

1. 2015 Senior World Championship finalists (excludes team events) if under 23 on 1 Jan 2016.
2. 2015 U23 World Championship medallists (excludes team events) if under 23 on 1 Jan 2016.
3. Athletes remaining Under 23 on 1 Jan 2016 who are selected for the 2016 Senior Team.

The deadline for application is 15<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

There is no pre-selection to a 2016 junior team (except through Senior/U23 policy).

### 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). For Olympic Eligibility see below.

The first year a junior can compete at World and European Senior/U23 Championships is the year in which his/her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday falls.

The last year an U23 may compete in World and European U23 Championships is the year in which his/her 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday falls.

Please note that there is currently a difference in the rules between ECA age range Championships and ICF age range Championships for athletes doubling up, which may affect team selection in accordance with this policy.

### **Team GB Olympic Eligibility**

Entry to the Olympic Games 2016 is subject to qualification rules as agreed between the International Canoe Federation ICF and the International Olympic Committee IOC. The International Panel will nominate the Olympic Team Canoe Slalom. This will be submitted to the British Olympic Association for approval and final selection into Team GB for Rio 2016.

ICF 2016 Olympic Qualification System OQS available on: <http://www.canoeicf.com/icf/Olympic-Games/Rio-2016.html>

To be eligible for Team GB 2016 selection athletes must hold a full GB passport at the time of the Olympic Qualifying competitions in 2015 & 2016, and must otherwise comply with any eligibility criteria as set out by the BOA, IOC and/or the ICF from time to time. They will be nominated by their National Governing Body (NGB) and approved by the BOA.

Athletes selected to Team GB will be required to sign the Team GB Team Members Agreement to be eligible to race at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games.

The selection process for the Olympic Games 2016 in Rio will be based on results achieved in 2015 as laid out in this 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.

### **Selection into GB Senior Team 2016**

The Senior Team for 2016 will be selected for:

Olympic Test Event\* (\*subject to ICF/British Canoeing entry restrictions), Senior European Championships (Liptovsky Mikulas, SVK), World Cup 1 (Ivrea, ITA), World Cup 2 (La Seu D'Urgell, ESP) and World Cup 3 (Pau, FRA).

The top three boats (except Olympic test event) in each class within Senior Team Performance percentage criteria will be selected. Named reserve boats outside the top three are non travelling reserves that will travel only in case of withdrawal of an entry (note that World Cup numbers determined by ICF World Ranking allocation).

For the Olympic Test event it is intended to send the nominated Olympic boat plus the nominated Olympic reserve boat. Priority support to the nominated Olympic reserve boat will continue from Olympic selection through until the date at which substitution is no longer possible subject to full engagement in training and preparation programmes.

### **Process for places released by selected athletes:**

For the Senior European Championships (Liptovsky Mikulas, SVK), World Cup 1 (Ivrea, ITA), World Cup 2 (La Seu D'Urgell, ESP) and World Cup 3 (Pau, FRA).

1. Senior Team named reserves
2. U23 Selected named athletes (including named reserves)

### **Released Race Policy 2016 – World Cup 4 (Augsburg,GER), World Cup 5 (Prague, CZE) & World Cup Final (Tacen, SLO)**

The top ranked senior boat in each class at 2016 senior & Olympic team selection will have the option to compete at all of these races.

2016 Senior Team athletes ranked in places 2 & 3 will be eligible to race in all of these races if they have achieved one or more of the following upon completion of the first 3 World Cups:

- Ranked in top 10 in 2016 World Cup Overall standings after first 3 races
- Won an individual medal in one of the first 3 World Cups of 2016
- Have made a World Cup Final in one of the first 3 World Cups of 2016 (If under 25 on 1 Jan 2016)
- Have made a final at the 2016 Senior European Championships

Remaining places and places released by qualifiers above will be offered in the following order:

1. Individual medallists at the 2016 U23 World Championships (in order if multiple qualifiers)
2. Individual medallists at the 2016 U23 European Championships (in order if multiple qualifiers)
3. 2016 U23 Team selected athletes in order of the selection points table
4. 2016 U23 selected named reserves in order of the selection points table
5. 2016 Junior selected named athletes in order of Junior selection points table\*
6. 2016 Senior Team list

\* subject to achieving junior World Championships performance standards.

Where athletes may be doubling up, the policy will be applied in isolation for each specific class therefore doubling up may not be possible.

In line with the spirit of the released race policy to develop young paddlers, any U23 or Junior paddlers selected for released race places will take available senior places first.

### **Points allocation for 2016 Senior & Olympic Team Selection ranking**

**Step 1:** Race 1 athletes collect 2016 Senior & Olympic selection points through the 2015 Senior World Championships (Olympic classes plus C1W):

Gold Medal	33 points	5 <sup>th</sup> Place	30 points
Silver Medal	33 points	6 <sup>th</sup> Place	29 points
Bronze Medal	33 points	7 <sup>th</sup> Place	28 points
4 <sup>th</sup> Place	31 points	8 <sup>th</sup> Place	27 points

Note – All British boats achieving the 2015 Worlds top 8 in final results will receive points as outlined above as long as an Olympic boat quota place is qualified in that class. C1W finishing in the 2015 Worlds Top 8 will receive step 1 points outlined above.

### **Step 2: Races 2, 3 & 4 Senior & Olympic Team Selection**

Race 2            Lee Valley            Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2015  
 Race 3            Lee Valley            Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2015  
 Race 4            Lee Valley            Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2015  
 Reserve(s)      Sat 31<sup>st</sup> October/Sun 1 November 2015      alongside 2015 British Open\*

\* All athletes are advised to ensure that they enter the British Open sufficiently early as a back up to selection to ensure a place is available.

Races 2, 3 & 4 ICF rules - 2 run race – best run counts towards final result

Start order:      Race #2: Both runs in reverse order of Premier Division National Ranking 2014 with 2015 Great Britain Senior Team Top 3 Boats going last in reverse order.  
                          Race #3: Both runs in reverse order of overall selection points standings after races #1 & 2  
                          Race #4: Both runs in reverse order of overall selection points standings after races 1,2 & 3.

The points system used for Race 2, 3 & 4 is: 30pts 1<sup>st</sup> place, 27pts 2<sup>nd</sup> place, 25pts 3<sup>rd</sup> place, 23pts 4<sup>th</sup> place, 22pts 5<sup>th</sup> place etc for each of the three races.

2016 Senior & Olympic Team Selection will be run as one race each day. Points will be allocated based on the single set of results each day with one single points table for the selection series. Selection will be made by reference to positions of eligible paddlers in the final overall selection points table.

### **Olympic Selection for 2016 Olympic classes where an Olympic boat quota place is not qualified in 2015**

**Step 3:** Used only for categories not qualifying ICF Olympic boat quota during 2015 World Championships.

date tbc 2016 Senior European Championships – Liptovsky Mikulas, SVK  
 (= Final ICF Continental Olympic Qualifier)

The following is only applicable for classes not qualifying an Olympic boat place at the 2015 World Championships (Step 1) Then Olympic selection will become a combination of Step 2 and 3 Only. Only the top 3 boats from the 2016 Senior selection series (Step 2 - 24-26 Oct 2015) will be eligible to compete at the 2016 Senior European Championships.

The 2016 Great Britain Senior Team (up to 3 boats) will race at the 2016 Senior European Championships (Step 3) to qualify a boat quota place. The boat that qualifies a nation place at the 2<sup>nd</sup> round Olympic Qualifier will secure the nomination to the British Olympic Association for a place at the 2016 Olympic Games.

### **2016 Senior & Olympic team selection points calculation**

The individual boat's points result from step 1 count as a fourth result at Step 2.

Therefore the points calculation is determined in the following way:

The best two points scored from the 3 races in step 2 (or 4 races in the case of an athlete/crew having World Championship points scored in Step 1)

Ties in points decided using, in order:

- Highest result at the 2015 World Championships final results.
- Most Number of Wins in 2016 Lee Valley Selection (Races 2,3,4)
- Best discarded result if applicable (points)
- Higher finisher in final race of Lee Valley 2016 Selection (race 4)

In order to produce the 2016 Senior & Olympic team selection ranking, in Olympic classes where Olympic pre-qualification has not occurred the boat with the highest points total, secures a nomination to the British Olympic Association for the place at the 2016 Olympic Games. The Selected Olympic boat will be treated as the top ranked boat for the 2016 senior team.

The International Panel retains the right to adapt racing to ensure a fair process in line with the contingency section later in this document.

Start/finish lines, water volumes and course configurations will remain the same as used at the 2015 World Championships until completion of step 2.

### **Selection Meeting & announcement of 2016 GB Senior & Olympic Team**

Team selections will be made following completion of Race 4 at an International Panel meeting and announced on [www.canoeslalom.co.uk](http://www.canoeslalom.co.uk) and/or [www.britishcanoeing.org.uk](http://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk) by 5pm on the day after completion of step 2. The announcement of the 2016 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 2016 Olympic Team strictly confidential until authorised by the British Canoeing Team Leader.

### **Application of Performance standards Senior & Olympic Teams.**

Performance standards are required to be achieved at step 2 of the selection process and in all classes are worked on scores (accuracy 0.01 seconds) as a % of the winning MK1 (In race 2,3 & 4 this will be the best single run over the 2 runs in a day). In order to be considered for selection into a GB Team in 2016 a boat must achieve at least two runs inside the performance standard as detailed below:

#### **Example percentage calculation on single run**

*Winning MK1: score = 94.44 secs total; 5th place WK1: score = 109.93 secs total, thus 5th place WK1 percentage: 116.4%. <107% means 106.9999% or less*

### **Performance standards for 2016 GB Teams**

	<b>MK1</b>	<b>WK1</b>	<b>C1M</b>	<b>C2</b>	<b>C1W</b>
<b>Senior</b>	<b>&lt;107%</b>	<b>&lt;126%</b>	<b>&lt;115%</b>	<b>&lt;126%</b>	<b>&lt;145%</b>

In order to be considered for selection into a Great Britain Olympic or Senior Team in 2016 the Senior Standard must be achieved regardless of age.

Paddlers who are doubling up will need to demonstrate a full commitment to the competition programme of both classes in the case of being selected into the Olympic and/or GB Senior team. Any decision would be determined by reference to coaching staff to determine if appropriate training is being undertaken. If this is not the case, then the place will be awarded to the next boat in line (pending fulfilment of selection criteria). Athletes who double up and relinquish places in a single class will be able to take these places up at a later date (three weeks prior to the race date) in the case where the partner (crew boat) becomes injured after the selection series.

### **Contingency**

The International Panel retains the right to adapt racing to ensure a fair process in line with the following principles and processes:

The chief judge will have the responsibility to measure wind conditions and make necessary decisions relating to the timetabling of the event. The chief judge and International Panel will also have the responsibility to make any adjustments to the timetable following any delays. Should local conditions threaten the planned racing then the chief judge reserves the right to amend the race format/schedule in any way necessary to complete fair racing.

Examples of such amendments could include:

- Early morning/ Evening racing under floodlights
- Taking results from first runs.
- Counting results from runs where a whole class/race run has been completed fairly (e.g. first runs)
- Reducing start intervals
- Not changing the course between races
- Changing order of categories
- Single run races/multiple races in 1 day

This is not an exhaustive list and all other options are also able to be considered to complete a fair selection series in accordance with the specific challenge(s) identified. The minimum number of races that the Great Britain 2016 Senior & Olympic Team Selection series at Step 2 will include is 3 excluding the 2015 World Championships.

### **Course Design Stage 2 2016 Senior & Olympic Selection Series**

For 2016 Selection the course designers will be drawn on the day before the first day of competition after the last training session of that day. For each race two coaches are responsible for course design. There will be two hats and one course designer will be drawn from each hat for each race. Hat 1 contains technical coaches from the Olympic Podium Programme and hat 2 contains employed coaches from Scotland (1), Wales (1) England (1) as well as the Olympic Podium Potential Programme (2). The appointed chief judge will be involved directly in the course design proposals. Course approval takes place immediately following demonstration runs. Final pole adjustments are made by the course designers (or delegated to the Head Coach) in consultation with the Chief Judge.

### **Mitigating Circumstances 2016 Senior & Olympic Team**

For Categories where an Olympic Boat Quota Place has been qualified in 2015:

Should an athlete or crew (C2) of a given standard (criteria listed below) miss the 2016 Senior Selection series due to illness or injury during or prior to the 2015 season (certificated detail of which must be given to the panel prior to the International panel selection meeting) or any other mitigating circumstances (which must be provided to the panel prior to the commencement of the race series), the International Panel reserve the right to delay the selection of the Olympic boat in the appropriate class(es).

In such circumstance the 2016 senior team selection races will determine a points table winner who would then be invited to compete in a two way race off at an identified race opportunity. The Olympic boat nomination will be awarded to the highest placed of the two athletes/crews in the final results in the specific class at the identified race(s).

For C1W or where an Olympic Boat Quota Place has not been qualified in 2015:

Should an athlete or crew (C2) of a given standard (criteria listed below) miss or suffer injury during or prior to the 2016 Senior Selection Series in 2015 due to illness/injury during or prior to the 2015 season (certificated detail of which must be given to the International Panel prior to the IP selection meeting) or any other mitigating circumstances (which must be provided to the IP prior to commencement of the race series or at the IP Meeting if during the series) the IP reserve the right to provide an opportunity for such an athlete (or crew) to compete at the 2016 Senior European Championships. In such a case the IP may identify a single race opportunity whereby the 3<sup>rd</sup> boat of the senior selection series and the identified athlete(s) would compete for a 2016 Senior and/or Olympic Team place. If this situation arises more detail would be provided following the IP meeting immediately after the 2016 Senior Team Selection Series.

The International Panel has the sole discretion to invoke these clauses if required and may prioritise International race entries to facilitate this. This clause cannot override any Olympic Boat nomination gained through Pre-Qualification as identified in this policy.

Any decision arising from these clauses will be made through a panel involving the British Canoeing Performance Director, Head Coach Canoe Slalom and the British Canoeing Chief Medical Officer (CMO) or nominated representative to ensure a transparent process that also considers the medical needs of the athlete/crew involved. When assessing if an athlete/crew is fit to race, the CMO decision is final.

To be considered under this mitigating circumstances section, the athlete/crew must meet at least one of the following criteria (in order of priority) for consideration in that category (excludes team events):

1. Medallist at 2014 or 2015 Senior World Championships
2. Finalist (top 10) at the 2014 or 2015 World Championships
3. Top 8 at 2014 or 2015 Senior European Championships
4. Top 5 in overall 2014 or 2015 World Cup Ranking
5. Medallist in Individual World Cup Race in 2014 or 2015
6. An established consistent track record in training and racing performance that statistically demonstrates their performance above other athletes/crews based upon performance analysis training data and other objective data such as ICF World Ranking for the previous period.

For International Panel announcements refer to [www.canoeslalom.co.uk](http://www.canoeslalom.co.uk) and/or [www.britishcanoeing.org.uk](http://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk) and during the event important information will be posted at race control and on the British Canoeing Facebook page.

### **SECTION 3 2016 GENERAL INFORMATION – APPLICABLE TO ALL GB TEAMS**

Full details of the 2016 Great Britain Junior & U23 Team Selection and the process for qualification to 2017 Senior & U23 selection will be published by 1 Jan 2016 (including ways of Pre-Selection to the 2017 Senior team and qualification processes to 2017 team selection races).

It is intended to run 2016 Junior & U23 Selection together on a combination of 2 venues in March/April 2016. There will be no formal qualification process to enter the U23 races in 2016 but premier ranking status and registration by a published date will be required. Full policy details including dates and venues will be published with the selection policy in December 2015.

#### **Funding and Participation (All GB Teams except Olympic)**

Selection to a Great Britain Team is to specific identified races in accordance with the prevailing selection policy. Selected paddlers who are not funded through a British Canoeing UK Programme may apply in writing to the athlete's Home Nation representative for support. Applicants for such support are reminded that these funds are limited and securing other funding will almost certainly be necessary and that an athlete contribution will be required.

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).

For Championship events once funding is in place equality within the Team environment is assured. All funding through Home Nation Slalom Committee and Programme sources is dealt with centrally thus supporting Team identity with group travel, group accommodation, technical support, physiotherapy (basic emergency cover) and agreed coaching support are facilitated.

For Senior Championship events, selected athletes will be fully funded by British Canoeing to attend World Cups and Preparation/training camps for non-funded athletes are the responsibility of the individual athlete and not part of the GB Team programme unless agreed. British Canoeing will prioritise support to events up to and including the Olympic Games. No guarantee of funding or coaching support is available to programme and non-programme athletes selected to attend 2016 World Cups after the Olympic Games.

At U23 & Junior championship events British Canoeing will provide a small subsidy towards selected non programme athletes, but the majority of the cost will have to be paid for by the individual athlete through an athlete contribution. The athlete contribution required and the date that payment would be required will be published alongside the selection registration information.

Following the meeting of the International Canoe Federation (ICF) Board in November 2013 at which the programme for Canoe Slalom at the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games was confirmed, British Canoeing provided clarity on its athlete funding position from 2015:

- From 1 January 2015 Great Britain will continue to select C2M athletes for International events in line with published policy and performance standards but British Canoeing will cease to subsidise attendance by non-programme selected C2M Junior, U23 and Senior athletes at championship events (all athletes will have to self-fund the full costs of attendance). Other than funding contributions, all GB Team selected athletes will remain treated equally at championship events. The C2M event will remain a full ICF World Championship discipline but as a non-Olympic event, it can no longer be supported by UK Sport lottery funding.

#### **Injury/Illness & Proof of Fitness**

The International Panel reserve the right not to nominate or to de-select any, athlete(s) from identified race(s) or competitions on the basis of injury/illness, lack of commitment to training or lack of fitness. Such decisions will only be taken following consultation with appropriate coaches and/or medical reports.

#### **Olympic Team Selection**

At any stage of the selection process prior to the date of the Delegation Registration Meeting on 18 July 2016 ("DRM"), the Selection 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 selection 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.

#### **Appeals Procedure**

In the event of dissatisfaction with the outcome of a decision made by the International Panel, in the first instance where further clarification regarding the rationale behind a decision is requested, a written representation should be made to the chair of the International Panel. If subsequently a member wishes to formally appeal a decision then the British Canoeing Dispute resolution and Disciplinary Procedures policy will be followed (available from British Canoeing). No Appeals will be allowed against the content of this published Selection Policy (as amended from time to time).

#### **Paddler agreement (All GB Teams)**

Paddlers on a funded programme need to have signed their Programme Agreement. Paddlers 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 event.

- End of policy -