



BRITISH CANOEING

SPRINT RACING

JUNIOR SELECTION POLICIES 2017

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Section 1 International Panel

The Canoe Sprint International Panel (IP) is appointed and governed by the British Canoeing (BC) Board as outlined in BC committee regulations which also defines its remit.

The BC Board is responsible for the selection of international teams. They do this through the formation of an International Panel (IP) that will draft a Selection Policy for Sprint Racing. The Selection Policy and the makeup of the IP must also be approved by the BC Board.

The IP is a separate entity to the Performance Department. Its key responsibilities are:

- a) Proposing and agreeing the selection policy for all GBR canoeing teams;
- b) Holding I.P meetings in accordance with the selection process.
- c) Communication of selected teams within 24 hours of IP meetings.

All core members of the IP have voting rights at IP meetings where selection policy is reviewed. IP members with voting rights for each section are shown on the right of Table 1 below. In the event of a tied vote the Chair of the IP has the casting vote. For the 2017 season the core IP members are:

COMPOSITION OF IP: To be confirmed by the British Canoeing Board

Additional persons with specific knowledge to a class and BC performance staff can be invited by the IP to attend IP meetings in order to advise and provide relevant evidence on performance with reference to the published policy. These invitees will have no voting rights.

All IP members and any persons asked to advise and provide evidence on athlete performance must promptly declare in writing to the IP if they have an interest (e.g. family connection or coaching involvement) with any athlete being considered for selection.

Section 2 2017-20 Olympic Strategy

The Tokyo cycle is already underway and following a strategic review, a four year plan has been developed to give British Canoeing the best possible chance of delivering its medal target of 1-2 Canoe Sprint medals at the Tokyo Olympics and to continue to provide development opportunities for athletes targeting 2024 and beyond.

Vision: To be the No.1 Olympic Canoe Sprint Nation by 2028, with strength and depth at every level

2020 Mission: The British Canoeing 4 year strategy targets 6 events at the Tokyo Olympic Games with a goal to win 1-2 Olympic medals while simultaneously creating a Canoe Sprint programme which expects to, and consistently does, deliver athletes to A finals in all Junior and U23 World Championship events so that it qualifies in 10 medal events by the 2024 Olympics.

The medal target events identified for Tokyo 2020 are WC1 200m, WC2 500m, WK2 500, WK1 500, MK1 200m & MK2 1000m. Our 2017-20 Senior Team selection policies will be key tools to support this strategy. British Canoeing will also enter other events where athletes demonstrate their ability to race competitively.

2017 Senior Target: One Senior World Championship medal & 2-3 World Championship A finals

2017 Junior Target: One Junior medal & 5 World Championship A finals

Section 3 Eligibility for Selection

Any athlete wishing to be considered for selection must be a full member of BC. In addition, upon selection they must sign the BC Athlete Agreement and must comply with BC, International Canoe Federation (ICF), and European Canoe Association (ECA) rules and regulations.

NOTE: An athlete is not allowed to race for two Nations in the same year. Athletes who are not British passport holders must have been released from their own National Federation to be eligible for selection.

Any athlete wishing to be considered for selection must comply with ICF general rule 3 and complete and sign the British Canoeing Code of conduct form. Any breach of the code of conduct may be dealt with in accordance to the British Canoeing Dispute Resolution and Disciplinary procedures.

Section 4 Overview of the Selection Process

Sprint racing is an outdoor sport where race results can be affected by environmental conditions and lane draws. Therefore the IP recognise that a first past the post system will not always be fair or appropriate when selecting teams for international competitions.

The primary aim of the Junior international competition programme is to provide opportunities for athletes to develop the racing skills and experiences required to be a successful senior athlete. The emphasis will be on gaining a range of skills and experiences to prepare athletes to compete at future Olympic Games, but these experiences may not always be limited to Olympic events.

Fundamental to performing at the Olympic Games, is the ability to deliver a peak performance on a specific day. Developing the skill set to do this is central to the Olympic Development Programme (ODP) and underpins our selection strategy for Junior Championship events.

For Junior competitions, the Major International event is the Junior World Championships and this is the primary target event for Junior athletes. In 2017 this is the ICF World Junior Championships in Romania

While all Junior events provide development opportunities, the primary target event is focussed on performance delivery and is predominantly aimed at athletes of a standard to make a World Championship final. The goal is to maximise the overall performance of the Team, which will be measured by the number of medals won, and the number of events in which a GBR boat reaches an A final.

Other events including the ECA European Junior Championships will have a greater development focus, and provide opportunities for athletes at the appropriate level to gain international racing experience.

The selection regattas will be scheduled to enable optimum preparation for the event.

Junior International Competition Programme 2017

Competition	Venue	Dates
Piestany International Regatta	Piestany SK	26 -28 May
ECA Junior European Championships	Belgrade, SRB	22-25 June
ICF Junior World Championships	Pitesti, ROM	27-30 July
Olympic Hopes International Regatta	Racice, CZE	22-24 Sep TBC

A full list of 2017 events will be published in the Racing Yearbook. Additional events and other information relevant for the selection process will be published on the BC website. www.britishcanoeing.org.uk

Section 5

Performance Standards

A guide to the performance standard required to be selected for each international competition is set out in section 6 below. This is expressed in terms of a finishing position and/or a time gap to the podium. The selection process aims to select athletes who meet these standards in the identified selection events, through a combination of objective race performance data and coaching insight.

To aid this process, a Medal Winning Time (MWT) has been calculated for each event based on the actual Gold, Silver and Bronze medal winning times at the last four World Junior Championships, combined with knowledge about the Championship, and expected age related progression.

This provides a guide to the performance required in good conditions to win a medal at the World Championships.

In our experience, it is not possible to assess the actual race times recorded at National Regattas against the World Championship MWT's, due to the impact of the environmental conditions on race times.

A better assessment can be achieved by assessing what these performances equate to under environmentally normalised conditions. British Canoeing's weather monitoring technology together with coach and IP observation of the racing conditions will be used to help quantify the performance level, and compare these with the MWT's. This comparison will be used as a guide to help assess whether a crew has met the performance standard required for selection to a specific GBR team.

Section 6 Junior Competitions Selection Process

1) Piestany International Regatta, May 26–28 2017 (Minor International: development focus)

The goal of this competition is to provide an international racing opportunity for Junior athletes, in a GBR Team environment.

A squad of up to 20 athletes will be selected to the 2017 GBR Piestany Regatta Team from K1/C1 performances at the May 6-7 2017 National Regatta. These standards are outlined below:

- The minimum performance standard to be considered for selection is U18 MWT + 10% in an Olympic singles event. (See Appendix 1)
- U17 and younger athletes, who are within 7% of the U17/U16 MWT pathway time, may be considered in preference to older faster athletes (See Appendix 1).
- Crew boats will be formed based on an assessment of athletes' crew boat skill and ability demonstrated at the May 6-7 2016 National Regatta and the Junior crew boat camp 22-23 April 2017.

In the event that exceptionally adverse environmental conditions or other unexpected circumstances significantly affect the results in any race at the May 6-7 2016 National Regatta, the IP will consider performances from the April 8-9 2017 National Regatta.

The junior crew boat combinations to be entered by British Canoeing to race at the May Regatta will be confirmed following the April 22-23 Junior crew boat camp. These will be formed based on an assessment of athletes' crew boat skills and ability, demonstrated in competitions and training camps/week-ends from Jan 1st 2017.

2) 2017 Junior European Championships: Belgrade, Serbia June 22-25 2017

The purpose of the 2017 Junior European Championships is to provide an international championships experience to athletes just below the level to be selected for the World Junior Championships, and to support the preparation of the best GBR athletes to challenge for medals at the 2017 World Junior Championships.

Selection for the 2017 GBR Junior European Championships Team will be made from single and crew boat performances at the May National Regatta and the Piestany International Regatta to athletes who demonstrate the ability to finish in the top 18 (B final) at the Championships.

- a) The minimum performance standard for consideration in a single or crew boat selection is U18 MWT + 7% in Olympic* events (See Appendix 1).
- b) Athletes or crews who achieve the minimum performance standard in an Olympic event can be nominated for non-Olympic events.

* Includes MK1 500m & WC1 500m

3) 2017 Junior World Championships: Pitesti, Romania July 27-30

The overall goals for the Junior World Championships are to win medals for GBR, and to maximise the number of GBR boats reaching A finals.

Performances from the 2017 European Junior Championships and the July National Regatta which demonstrate the potential to finish in the Junior Worlds A final will be considered as detailed below:

- Subject to any Mitigating Circumstances Athletes who win a medal in a single or crew boat event at the European Junior Championships will automatically be selected for the World Junior Championships*
- Subject to any Mitigating Circumstances Athletes who finish in the top six in a singles event at the 2017 European Junior Championships will be selected following the European Junior Championships, if the IP considers that their performance was of a standard within 4% U18 MWT (see Appendix 1), taking account of the specific event conditions
- Subject to any Mitigating Circumstances Further athletes may be added to the Team following the July National Regatta based on performances in singles or crew boats at the European Junior Championships or July National Regatta whose performance standard is within 4% U18 MWT (see Appendix 1) taking account of the specific event conditions

Note*: if an athlete is selected for the European Junior Team in a singles event based on their performances at either the May National Regatta or Piestany international regatta but is unable to accept their place due to exceptional circumstances (e.g. school or University exam clash) they may ask the IP to consider this as a qualifying performance for the World Championships. If this performance is considered to be within 4% U18 MWT, and at least an equivalent performance to the performance of the GBR athlete in that event at the European Junior Championships, the IP may in its absolute discretion agree to a race off between the two athletes to decide the World Championship place. This race off may occur at the July Regatta but an alternative date may be agreed.

The junior crew boat combinations to be entered by British Canoeing to race at the July National Regatta will be done on the Wednesday 28th June taking account of 2017 competitions and crew boat trials up to and including the European Junior Championships.

4) 2017 Olympic Hopes Regatta, 22-24 September 2017 (Minor International)

The goal of this competition is to provide an international racing opportunity for U17 athletes in a GBR Team environment.

Following the July National regatta, athletes ranked within 7% of their age group (U17/U16/U15) MWT (See Appendix 1) will be invited to the Olympic Hopes Preparation Camp which will take place 4-6 August 2017 in Nottingham. The camp will be used to develop skills and competencies to race internationally as well as developing crew boats. Following the camp crew boat combinations for the September Regatta will be confirmed.

A squad of up to 20 athletes will be selected from the pool of athletes invited to the Olympic Hopes Preparation Camp based on their K1/C1 and crew boat performances at the September National Regatta.

In the event that exceptionally adverse environmental conditions or other unexpected circumstances significantly affect the results in any race at the September Regatta the final team will be selected based on athletes' July Regatta K1/C1 performances and their performance in crew boats at the Olympic Hopes Preparation Camps.

Except for exceptional circumstances, all athletes invited to the Olympic Hopes Preparation Camp will be expected to attend, and this is mandatory if they wish to be considered for any crew boats.

5) 2017 European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF), 23-30 July 2017 (Minor International)

The 2017 European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) takes place in Győr, Hungary from July 23rd – 30th. Great Britain is able to nominate up to six athletes born in 2001 or 2002 (two kayak girls, two kayak boys, one canoe girl, one canoe boy).

This event falls under the auspices of the British Olympic Association (BOA) and therefore there will be a separate selection policy for this event. Please refer to the British Canoeing website for more details.

Note that as this event takes place at the same time as the 2017 World Junior Championships, it will not be possible to compete in both events.

6) NOTE (for all Junior Team selections)

If an athlete is unable to compete in the primary selection regatta for any reason, and wishes their K1/C1 performances from the previous National Regatta to be considered, they must apply in writing to the Chair of the IP by the Friday before the earlier Regatta providing the reasons why they are unable to compete at the primary Regatta. **This only applies to K1/C1 performances.**

Section 7. General information

De-selection

The International Panel reserve the right to de-select athletes from identified race(s) on the basis of injury/illness, lack of commitment to training and/or lack of form. Such decisions will only be taken following consultation with appropriate coaches and/or medical reports. In the case of possible loss of form due to illness or injury the Head Coach may arrange a water based test. The test will be appropriate for the conditions, periodization of training and the class. Following the fitness test, the Head Coach will supply the IP with the results assessments against % GMT and any other supporting evidence to assess the level of performance. The Head Coach may also request that the BC Chief Medical Officer (CMO) or another appointee should provide a further medical report to the IP. The IP will then determine whether the athlete will remain on the team for this identified race(s). If the athlete is not fit to compete the IP will nominate the next placed athlete as a suitable replacement based on that athlete achieving the required performance standard.

Mitigating Circumstances

Should an athlete fall ill or suffer injury during, or prior to, elements of the 2017 selection process; or have any other mitigating circumstances, the IP reserve the right to in its absolute discretion provide an opportunity for such a crew to compete and challenge for selection. In the case of illness or injury, certified details must be provided in writing to the chair of the IP prior to the scheduled IP selection meeting. Where there are other mitigating circumstances, certified details must be provided to the IP no later than 24 hours prior to a scheduled selection event.

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.

In the case of any medical issue affecting trials, the BC Chief Medical Officer will determine if there were mitigating circumstances and will notify the IP. After examination of the relevant details, the IP may identify a single race opportunity where the identified boat/crew would compete for a place at the specific international competition. The IP has the sole discretion to invoke this clause where required.

All cases presented to the IP under this Section 7 will be taken on their own merits and no case shall create a precedent.

Contingency

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

Should conditions threaten the scheduled racing, the National Performance Manager and Head Coach reserve the right to amend the race schedule to ensure fair racing. Possible amendments to race format / schedules include, but are not limited to:

- Early morning or evening racing;
- Taking results from semi-finals;
- Reducing start intervals;
- Changing the location of racing.

Section 8: Notification of Selection

Following IP meetings an International Panel Statement will be posted on the BC web site by the following working day after the meeting

- **CONFIDENTIAL** - The Chairman of the IP will assign members of the panel to inform the relevant Section Coaches of selected athletes.
- **CONFIDENTIAL** – Upon IP notification, the relevant Section Coaches should inform selected and non-selected athletes of their selection status with relevant criteria. Section Coaches and informed athletes are not to publicise selection decisions in the press or via social media until publication by British Canoeing.
- **CONFIDENTIAL** - An email from British Canoeing will be sent to athletes confirming their selection to the SIS or relevant BC Squads Teams or their invitation to further selection trials on the first working day following an IP meeting.
- **PUBLICATION:** GBR Teams will be published on the British Canoeing web pages, via media release and social media according to the timeline in Appendix 2 below.

Section 9 Appeals

The B.C Selections Appeals Policy is shown as Appendix 3. There is no appeal process for athletes deselected under section 10.

Section 10 Anti-doping

Athletes must be compliant with the BC anti-doping policy at all times. The IP reserve the right not to nominate or to de-select any, athlete(s) from any identified race(s) or competitions on the basis of failure to comply with the BC anti-doping policy. The BC anti-doping policy can be viewed at: <http://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk/olympic-paralympic/how-we-work/anti-doping>

Section 11 BC General Policies

Conflicts of Interest:

British Canoeing is committed to upholding high standards of integrity and as such any person who sits on the selection committee/panel shall declare any conflicts or potential conflicts and shall refrain from participation in the discussion of and any vote in respect of any selection matter in which they have a conflict of interest. If a person is unsure whether they have a conflict or potential conflict they should consult the Head of Governance and Compliance.

Data Protection:

British Canoeing is a privacy conscious organisation and is strongly committed to your 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 1998 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 your consent.

Other Policies:

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

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 Selection Panel/Committee the Chair of the Selection Panel/Committee will be available to speak informally to athletes and in the case of minors, parents.

Appendix 1: Age related % Medal Winning Times (%MWT)

		Men						Women			
		MWT	4% MWT	7% MWT	10% MWT			MWT	4% MWT	7% MWT	10% MWT
MK1 1000	U18	03:36.8	03:45.5	03:52.0	03:58.5	WK1 500	U18	01:56.9	02:01.6	02:05.1	02:08.6
	U17	03:42.5		03:58.1			U17	01:57.7		02:06.0	
	U16	03:45.1		04:00.8			U16	01:59.3		02:07.6	
	U15	03:48.7		04:04.7			U15	02:00.3		02:08.7	
MK1 200	U18	00:36.2	00:37.7	00:38.8	00:39.8	WK1 200	U18	00:42.2	00:43.8	00:45.1	00:46.4
	U17	00:37.6		00:40.2			U17	00:43.8		00:46.8	
	U16	00:38.2		00:40.9			U16	00:44.7		00:47.9	
	U15	00:39.5		00:42.3			U15	00:44.8		00:47.9	
MC1 1000	U18	04:00.4	04:10.1	04:17.3	04:24.5	WC1 200	U18	00:50.3	00:52.3	00:53.8	00:55.3
	U17	04:11.7		04:29.3			U17	00:54.4		00:58.2	
	U16	04:13.1		04:30.8			U16	00:55.5		00:59.4	
	U15	04:22.8		04:41.2			U15	00:57.7		01:01.7	
MC1 500	U17	01:56.7		02:04.9		WC1 500	U17	02:17.5		02:27.1	
	U16	01:57.3		02:05.5			U16	02:20.1		02:29.9	
	U15	02:02.4		02:11.0			U15	02:20.3		02:30.2	
MK2 1000	U18	03:18.9	03:26.8	03:32.8		WK2 500	U18	01:49.0	01:53.3	01:56.6	
MK4 1000	U18	03:02.8	03:10.1	03:15.6		WK4 500	U18	01:38.3	01:42.2	01:45.2	
MC2 1000	U18	03:43.0	03:51.9	03:58.6		WC2 500	U18	02:09.8	02:14.9	02:18.8	

Appendix 2. U18 Competitions: Assessment and Selections 2017

International competition/assessment	Age Group	Events or Criteria for Assessment	Proposed dates for I.P. selection meeting.
Piestany International May 26 - May 28, Piestany, SK	U16/U18	May National Regatta	May 9 th 2017
Junior European Championships, Belgrade, Serbia 22-25 June	U18	Primary May National Regatta with consideration of performances in the Piestany international regatta	May 9 th 2017, confirmed May 30 th
Junior World Championships Minsk, Belarus, July 28-31	U18	Primary July National Regatta with consideration of significant performances in the European Championships, SRB.	July 4 th 2017
Olympic Hopes 22-24 September, Racice, CZE	U15/U16/U17	September National Regatta	September 5 th 2017

Appendix 3 Appeals Process

If there is dissatisfaction with a decision of the Selection Panel/Selection Committee (this process applies to all British Canoeing selections) this two stage process will apply:

1. REVIEW:

- 1.1 A written request for a formal review is submitted in the first instance to the Chair of the Selection Panel who will carry out a review with the Selection Panel.
- 1.2 This must be done within 48 hours of the selection being announced or communicated to the athlete whichever is later.
- 1.3 Within 24 hours the Chair of the Selection Panel will advise in writing the outcome of the review and the Selection Panel decision.

2. APPEAL

- 2.1 Where required the time limits set out below for appeal and decision can be accelerated by the Head of Governance and if this is required it will be communicated with the outcome of the formal review and the Selection Panel decision under 1.3 above.
- 2.2 If following the review the athlete wishes to formally appeal the decision then a written notice of appeal must be submitted to British Canoeing Head of Governance within 48 hours of receiving the outcome of the review.

3. NOTICE OF APPEAL

- 3.1 The Notice of Appeal will set out the grounds of the appeal and will include full details of the basis of the appeal including the precise manner in which the appellant alleges the selection criteria have not been followed. The Notice of Appeal should be as full as possible as it will form the basis of the remainder of this procedure.

4. GROUNDS OF APPEAL

- 4.1 The sole grounds of appeal against the decision of any selection panel will be that there has been a failure to follow the applicable selection criteria or that the selection panel reached a decision on the basis of an error of fact. This Appeals process is provided on these limited grounds only and must not be seen as an opportunity to dispute the opinion of the selection panel where they have followed the proper procedure.
- 4.2 There are no appeals allowed against the content of the published selection criteria and therefore against the actions of the selection panel, provided they follow the selection criteria.

5. APPEAL PANEL

- 5.1 The Head of Governance and Compliance will convene a three person Panel to determine the appeal.
- 5.2 The Appeal Panel shall contact the Chairman of the Selection Panel to inform him of the Appeal, provide him with a copy of the Notice of Appeal and request that the Chairman provides any response which he wishes to make on behalf of the Selection Panel within 24 hours of receiving the notification.
- 5.3 The Appeal Panel will determine based on the written submissions of the athlete and the Selection Panel/Committee without a hearing or the calling of witnesses or the giving of oral

evidence. It will seek to reach its conclusion within 5 working days of receipt of the Notice, and will inform all interested parties in writing.

- 5.4 The Appeal Panel will be entitled to rescind the decision of the selection Panel and confirm the selection of the Athlete only in clear cases where the Selection Policy has not been followed and it is plain that had it been followed the Athlete would have been selected.
- 5.5 The Appeal Panel shall be entitled to confirm the decision of the Selection panel and reject the Appeal.
- 5.6 The Appeal Panel may also quash the selection decision and remit the matter back to the Selection Panel identifying the errors they have identified in the conduct of the Selection process and requesting that a new decision is made within one week.
- 5.7 At its discretion the Appeal Panel may also make an award for appeal costs up to a maximum of £200

6. FINAL AND BINDING

- 6.1 This is intended to be an accelerated process to enable any challenge to be resolved as quickly as is reasonably possible. Due to the nature of selection for events, decisions often need to be taken shortly before the events to which the selection relates. Furthermore, there is a considerable potential for 'knock on' to athlete preparation related to the outcome of the appeal.
- 6.2 The aim of this process is to return a decision on appeal in a timely manner. If the athlete fails to adhere to the time limits set out in this process he or she will have lost their right of appeal under this procedure, save in wholly exceptional circumstances which will be judged by the CEO of British Canoeing in their absolute discretion.
- 6.3 Further this process is intended to be conclusive and therefore any athlete who enters into this appeal process accepts that the decision will be final and binding.