



British Canoeing - Canoe Sprint & Paracanoe International Panel Statement – January 2024

Publication of 2024 Canoe Sprint U23 and Junior selection policies:

Following the public consultation process in December/January, the Interim IP is pleased to publish the final junior & U23 selection policies for the 2024 International season. The interim IP in particular wishes to thank the members of the Junior Sprint Policy Advisory Group (JSPAG) for their role in supporting the development process and feeding into the process. The interim IP encourages all athletes, coaches and members of the community to familiarise themselves with the policies ahead of the 2024 season getting underway and direct any questions to enquiries.internationalpanel@britishcanoeing.org.uk

A reminder about the need to register:

All athletes wishing to be considered for Team selection during 2024 should complete the online registration by 6th March 2024:

Junior https://britishcanoeing.formstack.com/forms/sprint_junior_selection_registration

Senior & U23 https://britishcanoeing.formstack.com/forms/pre_registration_form

Paracanoe https://britishcanoeing.formstack.com/forms/para_registration_form

Summary of main topics from Junior & U23 consultation:

The Interim IP would like to thank the individuals who took the time to review the policy and provide feedback. Below is a summary of the themes raised during consultation which were all discussed at an IP meeting on the 11th January. The Interim IP has provided some background to the final policy position in the responses below:

1- It was highlighted that pre-selecting to Olympic Hopes from selection to the World or European Championships could reduce the opportunities at the July regatta for U17 athletes who have not already been pre-selected:

Whilst the IP recognises the challenge of this, the following points were considered

- Due to the need for selection points at both April and June regatta, pre selecting allows athletes to consider their priorities around exams and potentially reduces the domestic races athletes need to complete.
- In the case there are more than 4 U17 kayak athletes in a gender gaining automatic entry via selection for the Junior Europeans and/or Junior Worlds team, the total team size can increase to allow more U17's to attend whilst maintaining the number of U16 & U15 places.

2- A question was raised on why the Olympic Hopes policy had changed from the selection of K2's and the priority of crew boats:

- The IP/British Canoeing would still like to encourage the prioritisation of crew boats, however due to overwhelming feedback during last season, it was decided that, to allow athletes multiple opportunities for selection, the entry from K1's should also be considered. Therefore whilst selection will still prioritise the selection of K2's, the policy also outlines how athletes may be selected via K1 performances during the July regatta.

3- A question was raised on the use of the April regatta for selection to the European Championships and a concern this was too early in the season:

- The IP recognises the challenge of athletes preparing for selection at the April regatta, however due to the timelines of both domestic and international competitions, the June regatta does not allow for enough time to select, organise and prepare a team appropriately for an international competition. We also received positive feedback about the opportunity that two selection points allow and that it could allow more opportunities to be selected.