

British Canoeing – Canoe Sprint & Paracanoe International Panel 2020 Selection Policy Publication

The 2020 Junior, U23 & Senior Sprint Team and the 2020 Paracanoe selection policies are published today and can be found at the links here – [Sprint](#) [Paracanoe](#) . The International Panel want to thank those who contributed through the public consultation processes in October & November.

Sprint & Paracanoe Consultation – Emerging Themes - We have summarised the main themes emerging from the consultation processes in the tables below and are grateful for those (21 respondents Sprint and 7 in Paracanoe) who have provided their thoughts and ideas.

Theme	Description	Outcome
Sprint & Paracanoe Emerging Themes		
Appeals Process	Feedback was received on the appeals process which was passed to the Head of Governance for full consideration as any change will apply to all BC selection policies	The appeals policy has been reviewed and updated to reflect feedback and can be found here . There is further clarification on possible costs, clarity on timelines and confidentiality.
Weather Conditions / contingency	Consultees asked for greater clarity on the process for assessing if a selection race can take place in unfavourable weather conditions.	The IP has committed in the policy to publishing a weather protocol ahead of the first regatta of the 2020 season. A contingency day is also published for key events at the March and April regattas.
Paracanoe Specific Emerging Themes		
Event Spacing	Concern was raised over the number of races across the 2 days of Paracanoe competition and requests made for sufficient gaps between events	The regatta timetable has spaced out events with sufficient gap to enable recovery between events and categories.
Sprint Specific Emerging Themes		
World Cup & Euros pool	There was general support for the World Cup and Euros Pool but requests for more clarification on the process of decision making.	More detail has been added on process and that the final sign off sits back with the IP.
Performance Standards	Concern was raised that performance standards were inconsistent as they do not reflect the standard of the leading boat.	The 102% standard for second boats has been removed with a 105% minimum achievement for selection introduced as a more generic but inclusive minimum standard.
Costs of Racing	Concern was raised about the amount of the athlete contributions for some competitions	These have been reviewed and reflect the costs of participating in the event without any wider costs such as contributing to support staff travel. An example would be the actual costs for attending the Jun/U23 Euros is £1600pp of which £750 (less than 50%) is passed onto the athlete with British Canoeing subsidising by at least £850.
How can UK Sport funding be used	Suggestions made highlighted a lack of awareness of the conditions and restrictions linked to UK Sport funding and how it can be used.	As public money, UK Sport funding is granted to British Canoeing with specific parameters on how the money can be spent and that it can only be used on programme athletes.
Simplification	Consultees asked for a clearer format that brings the detail of the actual racing further forward in the document.	The IP have re-formatted the document to help the flow and put the important parts earlier in the document.
How Important is it to keep May & June clear of selection?	There has been significant feedback that junior selection is too early and that we should move it to May or June. This was why we asked the specific question to check as this is the only reason why selection is so early.	Of 14 respondents in total, 10 said that it was important or higher to avoid the exam periods (with 6 of the 10 saying it was very important). Only 4 said that it was unimportant. It was also flagged that the U23's have similar challenges.
Performance Standards	Observations were made that the WC1 performance standards in particular were too soft compared to other events.	The analysis of 2019 data has actually shown that WC1 data is correct and a number of other changes have been made in both directions in the published policy.