



20th September 2021

## Important Information regarding World Class Programme Qualification Policies.

### Introduction:

In March 2021 the programme qualification policies were published for Canoe Sprint, Paracanoe and Canoe Slalom & Extreme Slalom which can be found in the right hand tab on [this page](#). As we approach the end of the 2021 International and domestic season, the programme qualification policies will be applied to determine which athletes will receive nominations for a programme place beyond 31st December 2021.

The purpose of this statement is to provide clarity on 3 areas to ensure that there is transparency for the process of nominations and the policies will be applied as published with the following changes:

### [Area 1 - The panels for the final decision making process.](#)

With the departure of the Performance Director, Paul Ratcliffe and Flatwater Head Coach, Scott Simon, it is vital to provide clarity in advance on who will form the final decision making process as set out in step 5

#### **For Canoe Sprint** (*refer to Page 5, Step 5: Final decision*)

The panel will consist of the Senior Podium Coach Canoe Sprint (James Train), Head of Performance Support (Brian Cunniffe) and the Senior Podium Technical Coach Paracanoe (Colin Radmore).

#### **For Paracanoe** (*refer to Page 2 final part of section 2.3 - Final decision*)

The panel will consist of the Senior Podium Technical Coach Paracanoe (Colin Radmore), Head of Performance Support (Brian Cunniffe) and the Senior Podium Coach Canoe Sprint (James Train).

#### **For Canoe Slalom & Extreme Slalom** (*refer to page 5, Step 3 Final decision*)

The panel will consist of the Canoe Slalom Head Coach (Mark Ratcliffe), Lead Coach Academy Programme (Nathalie Siegrist) and Head of Performance Operations (Andy Maddock).

The rest of the process for all 3 disciplines remains unchanged with nominations being made to the Director of Paddlesport (Keir Worth) for sign off by the Board and nomination to UK Sport. The Director of Paddlesport will join as an observer through some elements of the process prior to final nominations.

## [Area 2 - Canoe Sprint Prospect Support \(Page 7 - Sec 3.3\)](#)

**3.3 Athletes falling outside of the athlete places available** - The wording below replaces that of 3.3 in the original document

Athletes who have a positive L.A. trajectory but fall outside the APA funded place structure will be considered for support within the developing Sprint Performance Academy Programme. Athletes are encouraged to engage with WCP staff, particularly the Head U23 Coach ([andrew.penhallurick@britishcanoeing.org.uk](mailto:andrew.penhallurick@britishcanoeing.org.uk)) to discuss this provision further.

A key action within the Sprint Performance Strategy is the development of the Sprint Performance Academy programme which will provide high quality support to athletes with the highest potential.

The available provision and eligibility criteria relating to the Sprint Performance Academy Programme is due to be clarified by the end of 2021 and will be developed in line with the Sprint Performance Strategy.

## [Area 3 - Canoe Sprint - Specific Policy Detail](#)

The use of World Leading Times - in the policy there is reference to both World Leading Times and the confidence bandings associated with them. There are two points to clarify in this area:

1. In certain events there is currently limited data to create confidence bands, due to either events being new to the Tokyo cycle or with events being reintroduced for the Paris Cycle. In these events the % difference from boat PB to the World Leading Time will be used as supporting evidence when considering athletes. These events are: **MK2 500m, MK4 500m, WC1 200m, WC2 500m.**
2. With the very limited racing opportunities during 2021 because of the ongoing pandemic there will be a greater reliance on the World Leading Time Confidence Bands metric in comparison to the ELO metric. As an addition to the contingency measures already published, at "Step 5: Final Decision" stage of the process, the panel may consider the % difference from boat PB to the World Leading time in addition to the confidence banding when considering all available information.

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