

Draft Paddle UK 2025 Senior, U23 & Junior Great Britain Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross Team Selection Policy

DRAFT FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Please read the executive summary below to understand some of the background to the policy proposals:

Pre-selections - The following athletes are pre-selected to the 2025 GBR Senior Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross Team pursuant to section 15 of the [2024 Senior Team policy](#)):

MK1	MC1	WK1	WC1	MX1	WX1
-	Adam Burgess	Kimberley Woods	-	Joe Clarke MBE	Kimberley Woods

The IP shares this draft policy for consultation and welcomes all feedback to help the development of the 2024 policies. **Please feedback on the policy [HERE](#) by Midnight on Sunday 17th November 2024** or at: https://forms.paddleuk.org.uk/live/form/SlalomSelectionConsultation/formperma/v5tV9B71iltsxdP3val-ff37RNRw22KI2MpNZFy_qH8

Please take time to tell us what you like about the policy as well as dislikes, errors or omissions as if you don't tell us that you like it, we may change aspects in response to feedback. The policies have been derived from feedback on previous policies and a further evolution of how best to integrate kayak cross into the selection process and respond to changes to the ICF rules and likely process for Olympic qualification. Thank you in advance for reading and providing feedback.

There are a number of specific changes proposed which in particular include:

1. The ICF have made a number of rule changes for the 2025 season, in particular relating to the need for countries to qualify places for World Cup competition and changes to the format of Canoe Slalom races and Kayak Cross races [Full information can be found here](#) and the full 2025 rules are [here](#) with a summary below:
 - Simplification of the competition format and standardised numbers into semis and finals
 - Establishing ICF Pan-continental Rankings derived from World Rankings
 - Kayak Cross maximum entries per federation are reduced from 4 to 3 and the implementation of a qualification pathway to access to the World Cups (including Kayak Cross) means different allocations as set out in section 8.2.
 - The kayak Cross time trial to become a medal event called Kayak Cross Individual
 - Removal of the 12 universal quotas in Elimination phase for qualification to head to head rounds
So with world ranking being more important to secure world cup places and Olympic quotas, the selection policy reflects these changes.
2. The Olympic Qualification System (OQS) for Los Angeles 2028 is likely to be based on World Rankings and will likely require a similar process to Paris 2024. Once the final OQS becomes available, this may influence the senior policy but until then the policy seeks to select objectively through defined canoe slalom and kayak cross selection ranking tables.
3. The race format - has been chosen to reflect that canoe slalom and kayak cross are increasingly integrated at international level and the choice of 3 competition days (plus a reserve day) over 2 venues reflects an intention to run alongside premier events to reduce costs and demands on paddlers and volunteers. The slalom format of 4 single run races (one day on each venue) reflects the new international race format (every run counts) at international level and the Kayak Cross format reflects the changes to ICF rules as well as responding to feedback from 2024 selection by allocating points for both the time trial (kayak cross individual) as well as the head to head in the process. The format used considers that some athletes 'triple up' and also has some space for contingency.
4. Kayak Cross is proposed to take place on one venue on the first day at Lee Valley as it will form part of the canoe slalom tie break so by completing this prior to the slalom process, results will be fully neutral and already defined for the Canoe slalom process to start.
5. Due to the ICF rule changes regarding World Cup quotas, we shall seek to achieve the maximum World Cup quotas in each event and where the World Cup quota has not been achieved then achieving 5 strong results at level 3 ICF races (over 2 years) in our continent becomes a priority after championship racing but this is still being understood and is covered in section 8.2.
6. Section 21.2 has been adjusted in response to feedback as the nature of the number of senior races and possible changes in performance plans or even event cancellations that lead to a change of priorities has led to this revised wording.

Athletes wishing to contact the IP in relation to the relevant provisions in this policy should do so via email to enquiries.internationalpanel@paddleuk.org.uk

SECTION A: PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross selection policy is to establish the selection process for the 2025 GBR Senior, U23 & Junior Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross Teams for all international events named within this policy.

2. Principles (in no priority order)

- 2.1. The focus of the senior team selection policy will be to pursue the maximum number of quotas achievable for the Los Angeles Olympic Games through the Olympic Qualification System (OQS).
- 2.2. The focus of Selection to the Great Britain team will be to optimise performance and delivery at international championship competitions at Senior, U23 and Junior age categories
- 2.3. The canoe slalom and kayak cross team selection policy enables athletes to optimise their ranking in the World Cup and pan continental ranking system.
- 2.4. All Olympic medal events are equal
- 2.5. The Selection Policy and timing of selection seeks to select the best athletes in a way that prioritises optimal preparation time for achievement of international success
- 2.6. The Senior, U23 and Junior canoe slalom and kayak cross teams will be selected in alignment to these principles and performance across the Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross selection series, subject to an assessment of performance standards
- 2.7. All eligible athletes will be considered equally for selection against the stated selection principles and criteria regardless of club, training location, age, Home Nation and programme status

The IP recognises its role within the community to inspire those in pursuit of team selection as well as to recognise and reward performances that merit team selection. It is the ambition of the panel to pursue and deliver these principles within the boundaries and capabilities of the sport. The IP is committed to working with volunteers, committees and event organisers to realise its international ambition.

SECTION B. ELIGIBILITY, ENTRY/REGISTRATION & PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

3. General Eligibility: To be eligible for Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross selection, athletes must meet the following:

- 3.1. Comply with eligibility criteria in accordance with competition rules laid down by the International Canoe Federation (ICF) and the European Canoe Association (ECA) and the Paddle UK Eligibility Policy;
- 3.2. Meet the age criteria for competition (the first year a junior can compete at World and European Senior/U23/Junior Championships and Olympic Games is the year of their 15th birthday and the last year a junior or U23 can compete is the year of their 18th or 23rd birthday respectively);
- 3.3. Be a full member of Paddle UK or Home Nation Association that enables participation in competition; and
- 3.4. Hold a valid passport with a minimum of 6 months unexpired validity and hold a valid European Health Insurance Card or a valid Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC). Details to apply for a free GHIC card can be found [here](#).
- 3.5. For Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross, Qualified to race in the selection series in accordance with the table below as published on 16.4.2024:
 - 3.5.1. Senior & U23 Selection:

	2024 Team Members	2024 National Ranking
Senior	2024 Senior Team members (top 3 Canoe Slalom & top 3 Kayak Cross from 2024 series)	Ranked in Premier on 1.2.2025
U23	2024 U23 Team members (top 3 in Canoe Slalom & top 3 Kayak Cross) from 2024 series if still eligible	Ranked in Premier on 1.2.2025

- 3.5.2. Junior Selection: All eligible junior athletes ranked in Premier for the 2025 season PLUS eligible juniors stated below from the final end of season 2024 Division 1 National ranking are eligible to compete by 'paddling up':

MK1	MC1	WK1	WC1
Top 16 div 1	Top 6 div 1	Top 8 div 1	Top 3 div 1

Note - A list of names of those qualifying will be published in the final policy

3.6. For those wishing to enter Kayak Cross only, there will be an opportunity to enter directly which will be published at www.paddleuk.org.uk by 1st February 2025. This provides anyone who is able to demonstrate an appropriate competency to participate from other disciplines.

4. Entry & Registration

4.1. All athletes meeting the eligibility criteria stated in section 3 above wishing to be considered for selection to a 2025 Great Britain team should register for selection in order to confirm eligibility. The registration process can be completed here (*to be added in final policy*) and should be finalised by 12pm on Wednesday 5th March 2025. Following the general selection registration process detailed above, athletes remain responsible for entering the appropriate race(s) before entry limits are reached. Entering the race is not registration.

5. Performance Standards

5.1. Subject to contingency, all athletes will be required to meet a performance standard to be selected under this Policy ('Performance Standard'), as detailed in **Appendix A**. This ensures athletes are of the appropriate level for the competition they are being considered for.

SECTION C: GREAT BRITAIN 2025 SENIOR, U23 & JUNIOR CANOE SLALOM & KAYAK CROSS TEAM SELECTION

6. 2025 Great Britain Junior & U23 Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross Team Selection Trials:

- 6.1. Subject to sections 19 & 20 there will be 4 days of competition over two separate weekends for 2025 Senior, U23 & Junior Canoe Slalom and Kayak Cross team selection,
 6.2. Subject to entering the races, all registered athletes to the selection process will be eligible to compete in Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross selection:

Competition Days 1 & 2	Sat 29th & Sun 30th March 2025	Lee Valley
Competition Days 3 & 4	Sat 12th & Sun 13th April 2025	Holme Pierrepont

- 6.3. The Back-up for this series would be accommodated within the dates above through the contingency outlined in section 19.
 6.4. For all the selection races, the course designers will be drawn in accordance with the provisions detailed in **Appendix C**.
 6.5. Canoe Slalom Equipment rules will be in accordance with the 2025 UK Canoe Slalom rules. For Kayak Cross Equipment, the IP has provided further guidance in this area in Appendix F.

7. International Competitions 2025

7.1. Subject to exceptional circumstances (Section E) and the released race policy, the Great Britain 2025 Senior Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross Team will compete in the following races:

Senior European Championships	Paris, FRA	12-18 May 2025
World Cup 1	La Seu D'Urgell, ESP	5-8 June 2025
World Cup 2	Pau, FRA	12-15 June 2025
World Cup 3	Prague, CZE	26-29 June 2025
World Cup 4	Tacen, SLO	28-31 August 2025
World Cup 5	Augsburg, GER	4-7 September 2025
Senior World Championships	Penrith, AUS	1-6 October 2025

The 2025 Great Britain Senior team will remain selected until the following season's selection has been completed and confirmed by the IP (subject to achieving the minimum performance criteria).

7.2. Subject to exceptional circumstances (Section E), the Great Britain 2025 Junior & U23 Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross Team will compete in the following races:

Junior & U23 World Championships	Foix, FRA	8-13 July 2025
Junior & U23 European Championships	Solkan, SLO	13-17 August 2025
European Youth Olympic Festival*	Skopje, MKD	20-26 July 2025

* Note that the European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) has specific eligibility requirements so selection will be in order from the points tables from 2025 Canoe slalom selection but in line with specific eligibility requirements.

8. Competition quotas:

- 8.1. At ICF & ECA championship events, Subject to section 5, GBR is able to enter up to 3 boats per event.
 8.2. For the ICF World Cup, every nation must qualify quota places through the end of season ICF World Ranking. For the 2025 season, GBR has qualified the following quotas for the 2025 ICF World Cup (Maximum allocation is 3):

For the purpose of consultation, GBR understands that the following quotas will be awarded for the 2025 season:

MK1	MC1	WK1	WC1	MX1	WX1
2	3	3	3	2	3

In response to the [ICF qualification process](#) for World Cups and World Ranking being important to Olympic Qualification, Paddle UK reserves the right to target ICF Level 3 races in a specific event(s) and for the purposes of this policy has priority to select specific athletes to level 3 events in order to target specific world ranking and/or pan continental ranking objectives. Whilst the final selection ranking in a given event for the prevailing season will be considered, the final selection will be based on reference to the existing world ranking positions and the best placed athlete(s) to achieve the objective.

9. Selection meeting and announcement of 2025 Great Britain Senior, U23 & Junior Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross Team:

Following a meeting of the International Panel, 2025 Senior, U23 & Junior Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross team selections will be announced on www.paddleuk.org.uk by 5pm on Tuesday 15th April 2025.

CANOE SLALOM TEAM SELECTION

10. 2025 Senior, U23 & Junior Canoe Slalom Team Selection will take place in the following events:

	Male		Female	
Senior	Canoe Single (MC1)	Kayak Single (MK1)	Canoe Single (WC1)	Kayak Single (WK1)
U23				
Junior				

Subject to eligibility, athletes may compete in multiple age categories as indicated through the registration process.

10.1. Selection for all events will be based on:

10.1.1. **Stage 1 – Pre-Selection** – The following athletes are pre-selected to the 2025 GBR Senior Canoe Slalom Team pursuant to section 15 of the [2024 Senior Team policy](#)):

MK1	MC1	WK1	WC1
-	Adam Burgess	Kimberley Woods	-

11.1.2. **Stage 2 – Selection** – In line with the selection process in clauses 10 to 13.

11. 2025 Great Britain Senior, U23 & Junior CANOE SLALOM Team Selection Format:

Canoe Slalom Races 1 & 2	Sun 30 th March 2025	Lee Valley
Canoe Slalom Races 3 & 4	Sat 12 th April 2025	Holme Pierrepont
Canoe Slalom Contingency day	Sun 13 th April 2025	Holme Pierrepont

11.1. Canoe Slalom Selection will be conducted from the results of up to four single run races.

11.2. The start order for all 2025 Canoe Slalom selection races will be the reverse order of 2024 National Divisional Ranking with the top three athletes from the 2024 senior team going last in reverse order of the final selection ranking.

12. Calculating the overall 2025 Senior, U23 & Junior Canoe Slalom Selection rankings:

12.1. For each event, results for each of the Canoe Slalom races in section 6.2 will be combined into a table (Final Selection Ranking Table) which will be ranked in descending order of total points achieved. There will be one table for Senior & U23 athletes and a separate table for Juniors. Where applicable, Pre-selected athletes will be placed in the table in first place.

12.2. Where an athlete who has been pre-selected to the 2025 team in accordance with clause 10.1.1 chooses to race in any of the selection races, their results will be omitted from any event in which they are pre-selected and they will not be allocated any points in those event(s).

12.3. Points will be based on the finishing order of each race.

12.4. The points system used for each of the races is:

30pts 1st place, 27pts 2nd place, 25pts 3rd place, 23pts 4th place, 22pts 5th place, 21pts 6th place with point allocation reducing by one point for each subsequent placing down to zero points for any athlete placing in position 27 or lower.

12.5. The individual boat's best points scores from the four races (as specified in **Appendix B**) are combined to give their overall selection ranking points score as below:

12.5.1. 2025 GBR Senior Team – The best 3 points scores from up to 4 races are used for overall rank.

12.5.2. 2025 GBR U23 Team – The best 3 points scores from up to 4 races are used for overall rank.

12.5.3. 2025 GBR Junior Team – The best 2 points scores from up to 4 races are used for overall rank.

- 12.6. Athletes are not required to compete in all four races of selection but should be aware of the detail of the tie break below.
- 12.7. For kayak and canoe events, where two or more athletes have the same overall selection ranking points score, their final position in the ranking table will be resolved by comparing individual race results in the following order:
 - 12.7.1. The Higher Kayak Cross overall finishing position (for appropriate age) Only if an athlete finishes in the top 6 for their age group. Not entering the kayak cross selection is counted as 999th place.
 - 12.7.2. Best single canoe slalom result from the series (points)
 - 12.7.3. Second best single canoe slalom result from the series (points)
 - 12.7.4. Third best single canoe slalom result from the series (points)
 - 12.7.5. The lowest average percentage of counting results as calculated in accordance with section A.3 and A.4 of Appendix A.
 - 12.7.6. Best result in the final (last) canoe slalom race of the series (points)
- 12.8. Any juniors also registering for U23 team Canoe Slalom selection will appear in both (U23 and Junior) final selection ranking tables and their result each day will determine the points received in each table (which most likely will be different)

13. 2025 Senior, U23 & Junior Canoe Slalom Team Selection & Reserves

- 13.1. Athletes & reserves will be selected in descending order of the respective Canoe Slalom Final Selection Ranking Table providing they have achieved the minimum Performance Standard. Those athletes who have not achieved the minimum performance standard (even when finishing higher in the Final Selection Ranking Table) will not be eligible. See Appendix B for an example final selection ranking table.
- 13.2. Subject to Exceptional Circumstances or pre-selection (senior only) through section 10.1.1., the maximum permitted boats in each event will be selected.
- 13.3. Named reserve boats outside the top three are non-travelling reserves that will travel only in case of withdrawal of an entry

KAYAK CROSS TEAM SELECTION

14. 2025 Senior, U23 & Junior Kayak Cross Team Selection will take place in the following events:

	Female	Male
U23 & Senior	WX1	MX1
Junior	WX1	MX1

Subject to eligibility, athletes may compete in just one age category with the allocation of age category determined by racing age on 1st January 2025. (e.g. Junior athletes may only enter in the junior category).

14.1. Selection for all events will be based on:

- 14.1.1. **Stage 1 – Pre-Selection** – The following athletes are pre-selected to the 2025 GBR Senior Kayak Cross Team pursuant to section 15 of the [2024 Senior Team policy](#)):

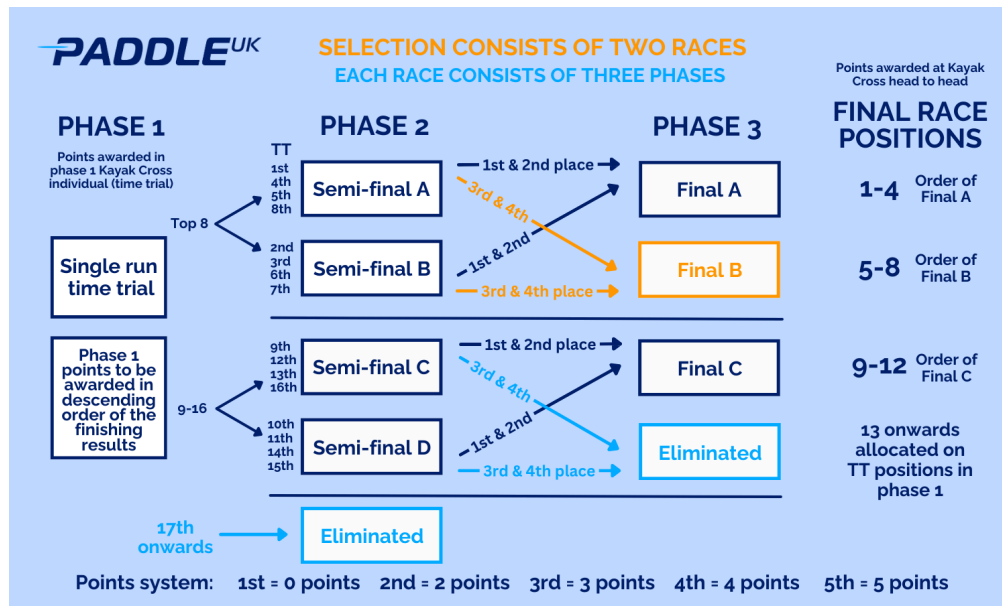
MX1	WX1
Joe Clarke MBE	Kimberley Woods

- 14.1.2. **Stage 2 – Selection** – In line with the selection process in clauses 14 to 17.

15. 2025 Great Britain Senior, U23 & Junior KAYAK CROSS Team Selection Format:

Kayak Cross Races 1 & 2 Sat 29th March 2025 Lee Valley

- 15.1. Kayak Cross Selection will be conducted from the results of two kayak cross races:
 - 15.1.1. Phase 1 – Kayak Cross Individual (Time Trial) Phase (open to all entered athletes) (identifies the top 16 for Head to Head competition and sets the seeding) 17th place onwards are eliminated. The start order for all 2025 Kayak Cross Individual (time trial) will be the reverse order of 2024 National Divisional Canoe Slalom Ranking with the top 3 athletes from the 2024 Kayak senior team going last in reverse order of the final selection ranking .
 - 15.1.2. Phase 2 – Head-to-Head Semi Final (Determines the top 12 and who progresses to each of the 3 finals) 13th place onwards are eliminated.
 - 15.1.3. Phase 3 – Head-to-Head Final A determines positions 1-4, Final B determines positions 5-8 and Final C determines positions 9-12. Places 13 – 16 are determined by the Position in the Time Trial.
 - 15.1.4. Those athletes outside the top 16 in the Time Trial will be eliminated and score points based on the position in the Time Trial.
- 15.2. Diagram A: The progression process for each of the 2 races as described in 15.1 above.



16. Calculating the overall 2025 Senior & U23 Kayak Cross final Selection Ranking Table:

- 16.1. For each category set out in section 14.0 above a points table will determine the overall selection ranking:
 - 16.1.1. Points for Kayak Cross Selection will be allocated from the results of up to four phases:
 - 16.1.2. Race 1 – Individual Kayak Cross (Phase 1)
 - 16.1.3. Race 1 – Kayak Cross Head to Head (Phases 2 & 3)
 - 16.1.4. Race 2 – Individual Kayak Cross (Phase 1)
 - 16.1.5. Race 2 – Kayak Cross Head to Head (Phases 2 & 3)
- 16.2. For each race, points will be awarded as follows:
 - 16.2.1. Phase 1 – Individual Kayak Cross (Time Trial) – points will be awarded in order of the finishing order of the single run Individual Kayak Cross (time trial).
 - 16.2.2. Final Race Positions (after phase 3) – Kayak Cross Head to Head - points will be awarded in order of the finishing order in Final A, Final B, Final C, Any athletes finishing outside the top 12 will be awarded points based on the order of the time trial position.
- 16.3. The points system used for each of the races is:
 - 16.3.1. Opts 1st place, 2pts 2nd place, 3pts 3rd place, 4pts 4th place, 5pts 5th place, 6pts 6th place and continues in 1-point increments until all competitors are awarded points.
 - 16.3.2. The individual boat’s best (lowest) 3 points scores from the four races (as specified in **Appendix E**) are combined to give their overall selection ranking points score.
 - 16.3.3. The results for every race of the selection series will be combined into a table (Final Selection Ranking Table) which will be ranked in ascending order of total points achieved (lowest total ranked highest).
 - 16.3.4. Athletes are not required to compete in all of the 2 races of selection.
 - 16.3.5. Where two or more athletes have the same overall selection ranking points score, their final position in the final selection ranking table will be resolved by comparing individual race results in the following order:
 - 16.3.5.1. Their best (lowest) points score from up to 4 phases.
 - 16.3.5.2. Their second best (lowest) points score from up to 4 phases.
 - 16.3.5.3. The higher finisher in the final race (race 2 Head to head) of the competition (lowest points)

17. 2025 Kayak Cross Team Selection & Reserves

- 17.1. Places in the 2025 Senior, U23 & Junior kayak cross team will be selected in the following order:
 - 17.1.1. Kayak Cross athletes pre-selected under clause 14.1.1. (senior team only)
 - 17.1.2. Subject to available entries, any athlete who finishes in the top two of the respective 2025 Canoe Slalom WK1/MK1 final selection ranking table (including any pre-selected athletes where applicable) will also be selected to the kayak cross team only if they also finish within the top three of the same respective 2025 Kayak Cross final selection ranking table (including any pre-selected athletes).
 - 17.1.3. Any unfilled team places will be selected to the kayak cross team in order of the respective 2025 Kayak Cross final selection ranking table providing they have achieved the minimum Performance

Standard (See Appendix D). Those athletes who have not achieved the minimum performance standard (even when finishing higher in the Final Selection Ranking Table) will not be eligible.

17.1.4. Subject to Exceptional Circumstances or pre-selection through section 14.1.1., the maximum permitted boats in each event will be selected.

17.1.5. The panel will nominate up to 2 reserves from this selection policy in each Kayak Cross event.

SECTION D: 2026 PRE-SELECTION

18. 2026 Senior Team Pre-selection. Any athlete winning an individual medal in Kayak Cross and/or Canoe Slalom at the 2025 Senior World Championships (excluding the Kayak Cross Individual) is eligible to apply for pre-selection to the 2026 senior team in the event(s) in which they medalled. The deadline for applications under this clause is 31st October 2025: There will not be any opportunities for pre-selection at U23 and Junior competitions.

SECTION E: CONTINGENCY AND EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

19. Contingency

19.1. The IP retains the right to implement contingency measures where circumstances arise that prevent full, fair and competitive racing and adapt racing to ensure as fair a selection process as possible. This may typically include weather conditions.

19.2. The Chief Judge will have the responsibility to assess all circumstances and make necessary decisions relating to the timetabling of the event. The Chief Judge and IP will also have the responsibility to make any adjustments to the timetable following any delays.

19.3. Should weather conditions or other significant issues arise making it inappropriate or impossible to conduct a selection race, then the Chief Judge and IP reserves the right to invoke any of the following non-exclusive alternatives in any way necessary to complete fair racing:

19.3.1. Adjustments to race format/schedule/start or finish lines

19.3.2. Early morning/evening racing under floodlights.

19.3.3. Counting results from runs where a whole event/phase has been completed fairly.

19.3.4. Reducing start intervals.

19.3.5. Not changing the course between races.

19.3.6. Changing order of events.

19.4. The minimum number of races that the Canoe Slalom GBR Team Selection series will include is two with kayak cross being from a minimum of two points scoring opportunities.

19.5. Where possible, decisions made under 19.3 above will be made in advance of the start of a race(s) or event(s) that may be impacted.

19.6. All IP announcements relevant to contingencies will be posted on www.paddleuk.org.uk. During competitions, important information will be posted at race control on the live results messaging, on the Paddle UK Social Media or messaging App.

20. Exceptional circumstances

20.1. Should an athlete miss a Selection event due to illness or injury during, or prior to, elements of the 2025 selection process; or have any other exceptional circumstances, the IP reserves the right to provide an opportunity for such a boat to be eligible for selection. For the purposes of this clause, exceptional circumstances are unplanned, unexpected, unavoidable and unforeseen.

20.2. Where an athlete wishes to invoke this clause, exceptional circumstances requests should be directed to the IP prior to the commencement of the selection competition via email at enquiries.internationalpanel@paddleuk.org.uk and should provide:

20.2.1. Certificated evidence of illness or injury, or other significant exceptional circumstance.

20.2.2. Any evidence the athlete wishes the IP to consider which demonstrates in both training and racing, a superior performance level than other selected athletes.

20.3. To be considered for exceptional circumstances, an athlete must be able to demonstrate the following performance level in the event(s) they are applying for exceptional circumstances to be considered:

20.3.1. For Senior Team events, the athlete must have made a canoe slalom final or Kayak Cross final at the Senior World, Olympic Games and/or Senior European Championships in the previous 12 months.

20.3.2. For U23 European and/or U23 World Championship events, the athlete must have made a minimum of a canoe slalom final or Kayak Cross final result at the U23 World and/or U23 European Championships or Senior World and/or Senior European Championships in the previous 12 months.

- 20.3.3. For Junior European and/or Junior World Championship events, the athlete must have made a minimum of a canoe slalom final or Kayak Cross final result at the Junior World and/or Junior European Championship in the previous 12 months.
- 20.4. When considering whether an athlete meets the criteria outlined above, the IP will consider the following:
- 20.4.1. The athlete's training and racing profile (from GBR performance analysis data) in the event(s) requested;
- 20.4.2. ICF World Ranking, Performance at Olympic, Senior, U23 & Junior World Championship, Senior, U23 & Junior European Championship/Games and/or World Cup races within the previous 24 months.
- 20.5. Where the IP accepts an exceptional circumstance request following the process detailed above, the IP reserves the right to:
- 20.5.1. Identify a single race opportunity whereby the lowest ranked boat that has been selected and the identified athlete(s) would compete for a GBR Team place;
- 20.5.2. Where no athlete has been selected for the relevant event under this policy or a team place remains unfilled, accept the exceptional circumstances and select the athlete;
- 20.5.3. Substitute the lowest placed selected athlete under this policy with the selection of the athlete making the exceptional circumstances request.
- 20.6. If this situation arises more detail would be provided following the IP meeting immediately after the appropriate Selection race series.
- 20.7. All decisions under this Clause that relate to injury, illness (including Covid-19) or medical conditions will be determined by the IP members. When assessing if an athlete is fit to race, the decision of the IP is final.
- 20.8. **The IP has the sole discretion to invoke the provisions in this clause and any decision is final and not subject to appeal.**

SECTION F: GENERAL INFORMATION

21. Acceptance of Team Places:

- 21.1. To ensure the most cost effective and efficient planning and to enable the appropriate logistics, selected athletes are required to confirm participation in each International competition as outlined in the team announcement.
- 21.2. For senior team races only, any released places will be offered to reserve boat(s) on the understanding that the original selected athlete may apply to the Performance Director requesting reinstatement of their original place(s). The athlete has to satisfactorily demonstrate that circumstances justify the return of the released place from a performance perspective. The Performance Director will evaluate the justification and make the final decision which is not subject to appeal from any interested party.
- 21.3. In the event of a team place becoming available either within 2 days of the team travelling to a camp or competition or after the team have arrived at a camp or competition, then the Performance Director at their absolute discretion may nominate a replacement but the decision will be final and not subject to appeal.
- 21.4. Selection is conditional upon selected athletes on a funded programme having signed their Programme Athlete Agreement and completed a full medical disclosure and the fit to travel process. Athletes outside Programme funding will also be expected to sign up to the Paddle UK Great Britain Team participation agreement on accepting selection at least two weeks before travelling to the first competition, completing the full medical disclosure and fitness to travel process and settle any outstanding payments prior to travel.
- 21.5. Once a GBR Team is selected, the Team Manager or Head Coach may optimise team event medal opportunities by filling unallocated team places with athletes selected in other events. This can also occur where injury/illness to a competing athlete happens. This clause is not applicable to individual canoe slalom events.

22. Deselection

- 22.1. The IP reserves the right not to nominate, or to deselect an athlete for any international event on the following grounds:
- 22.1.1. Medical grounds – i.e., when an injury/illness may, in the reasonable opinion of the IP and a suitable medical professional, inhibit the achievement of appropriate performance and/or mean the athlete cannot reasonably be considered fit to travel; or
- 22.1.2. Disciplinary grounds – where any athlete has been found guilty of a disciplinary offence under Paddle UK/BOA/ICF rules. This includes doping offences.

22.1.3. Poor form – i.e., when an athlete’s form in events and/or training has decreased to such a level that, in the opinion of the IP, they would no longer be able to achieve the required level of performance to be competitive at the applicable competition(s).

22.2. Any decisions taken in accordance with 15.1.1, will only be made following consultation with the athlete, appropriate BC coaches and/or medical reports and in the case of 15.1.3. include reference to applicable performance standards.

23. Responsibility

The Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross IP (IP), which is appointed by and reports to the Board of Paddle UK, is responsible for all aspects of developing, approving and managing the implementation of the Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross selection policies. The Terms of Reference can be found [here](#) and the IP from 1st November 2024 comprises the following members: Andy Maddock (Chair), Sally Atkinson, Jim McConnachie, Mark Ratcliffe, Gareth Wilson.

24. Conflicts of Interest

Any member of the IP shall declare any conflicts or potential conflicts of interest and shall refrain from participation in the discussion of and any vote in respect of any selection matter in which they have a material conflict of interest. If a person has any queries in this area, they should consult the Paddle UK Director of Governance.

25. Policy Changes

25.1. The selection policy may be amended at any time by Paddle UK for one or more of the following circumstances:

25.1.1. Any changes in rules governing a particular event;

25.1.2. Any change in ICF eligibility, rules or programme of events;

25.1.3. To give effect to the selection process in case of a drafting error or oversight

25.1.4. To clarify any ambiguity to the intended meaning of the selection policy

25.1.5. Any other reason determined by Paddle UK at its total discretion that is in the best interest of Paddle UK and in line with the principles outlined for selection

25.2. Any changes will be communicated and publicised on www.paddleuk.org.uk

26. Appeals Procedure

26.1. Certain decisions made throughout this Policy are not subject to appeal and where this is the case, specific reference will be made to the decision being final. For other selection decisions made under this Policy, the Paddle UK Appeals process applies and this procedure can be found [here](#).

26.2. UK Sport funded World Class Programme athletes who require support and advice can contact the BEAA at support@britishathletes.org. Any athletes who have questions regarding the selection decision may contact the International Panel enquiries.internationalpanel@paddleuk.org.uk. Any athletes who have questions regarding the appeals process may contact appeals@paddleuk.org.uk

27. Force Majeure

“Force Majeure” means any act, event, omission, cause or circumstance not within the reasonable control of Paddle UK or the race organisers, including but not limited to any strike, lockout or other industrial action, any civil commotion or disorder, riot, invasion, war or terrorist activity or threat of war or terrorist activity, any action taken by a governmental or public authority of any kind (including, without limitation, not granting a consent, exemption, approval or clearance), any fire, explosion, storm, flood, earthquake, subsidence, epidemic or other natural physical disaster. In the event of such Force Majeure affecting the application of the policy, the IP shall have the sole discretion, in consultation with the Paddle UK Head of Governance, to make a decision in line with the principles, strategy and mission of this selection policy.

Data Protection

21.1. Paddle UK is a privacy conscious organisation and is strongly committed to an individual’s right to privacy. All data gathered during the selection process will only be utilised for the purposes of an athlete’s participation in a GBR Team. This may include administering their event/race entry and certain information may be published as part of the results and rankings of the event/race.

21.2. Any personal data will be processed and stored in compliance with the Paddle UK Data Protection Policy and in accordance with all applicable Data Protection laws in effect at the time of publication of this Selection Policy, including but not limited to, the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR.

21.3. Further information on Paddle UK’s approach to privacy and data protection, including Paddle UK’s privacy notices, policies and contact details, can be located in their [Privacy Centre](#). Should an athlete wish any data Paddle UK hold relating to them to be deleted at any point; they should contact Paddle UK at GDPR@paddleuk.org.uk.

22. Policies

This Selection Policy operates in conjunction with all relevant Paddle UK policies including but not limited to, Equality, Anti-Doping, Pregnancy, Safeguarding, Anti-Bullying Anti-Bribery Policy and relevance disciplinary policies.

23. Communications

Paddle UK 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 IP, the Chair of the IP will be available to speak informally to athletes and in the case of minors, parents/carers.

Appendix A: 2025 Canoe Slalom Performance Standards:

Calculation of Canoe Slalom Race Performance Standard

A.1. The Race Performance Standard is based upon the Best Single Run Score (BSRS) achieved by the event **winner** in a given race. For the purpose of this selection process, the event winner is defined as the BSRS achieved by anyone racing in the Senior, U23 & Junior selection event including any pre-selected athletes. The athlete posting the BSRS must have entered the race (e.g. demos do not count but a pre-selected boat who has entered the race would count). Performance Standards in all events are worked on scores (accuracy 0.01 seconds) as a % of the BSRS achieved on each race.

Example percentage calculation on single run

Class BSRS - K1W = 94.44 secs total; 5th place K1W: score = 105.93 secs total, thus 5th place K1W percentage: 112.20%. As this result is less than 117.0% the Performance Standard has been achieved.

Calculation of Canoe Slalom Average Performance Standard

A.2. Performance Standards can be achieved on any race in the up to 4 race series.

A.3. The table below details the number of race runs that will be used to calculate an athlete's Performance Standard.

Team	Number of race runs to calculate performance standard (rounded up to nearest whole number if fewer races completed)
Senior Team	Average of the Best 3 percentages from up to 4 races
U23 Team	Average of the Best 2 percentages from up to 4 races
Junior Team	Best percentage from up to 4 races

A.4. The tiered system accounts for development at junior level to performance at senior level.

Example average performance standard calculation

Senior - $(102.74\% + 101.11\% + 102.04\%) / 3 = 101.96\%$

Performance Standards for 2025 Great Britain Canoe Slalom Teams:

A.5. Subject to contingency, Performance Standards will be strictly applied as outlined below. If an athlete achieves the minimum Performance Standard from up to 4 opportunities calculated as specified in section A.3, they are deemed to have met the Performance Standard. Performance Standards can be achieved on any run in the race series.

	MK1	WK1	MC1	WC1
Senior Team	<107%	<113%	<110%	<114%
U23 Team	<109%	<117%	<112%	<119%
JUNIOR Team	<114%	<126%	<126%	<140%

Note: Data from the 2024 season is currently being assessed and any updates will be published in the final policy.

Canoe Slalom Performance Standard Methodology and Ongoing Review

A.6. The percentage performance criteria have been adjusted based upon data from the period 2009-2019 and 2021-2024 and have been re-assessed for 2025. The Performance Standards do not reference the 2020 season due to International data not being fully representative. These standards are based on a three year rolling average with the exception of the C1W class which is based on a 2 year rolling average to reflect the continued development of the class. The U23 and Junior percentages are based upon the performance standards required to achieve a World/ European championship semi-final calculated from the winning U23 boat.

Appendix B: 2025 Canoe Slalom Final Ranking Table & Application of Performance Standards (Example based on Senior selection)

To be included in the final policy

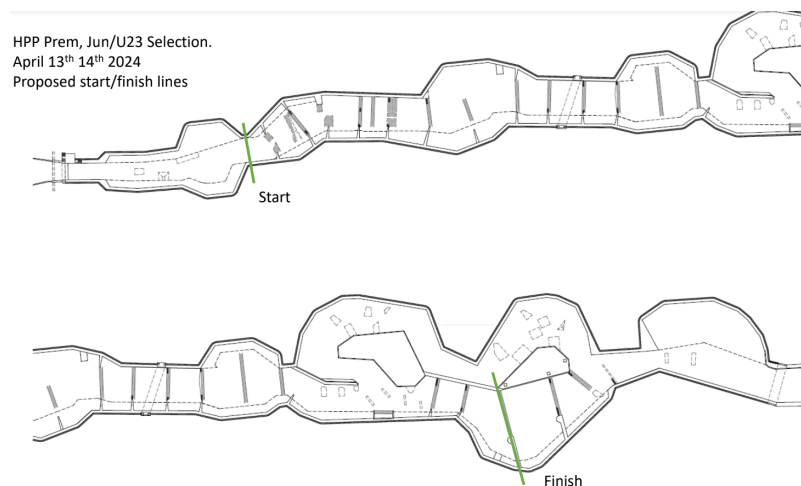
Appendix C: 2025 Senior, U23 & Junior Selection Course Design

Course Design Senior, U23 & Junior Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross Team Selection Races

C.1. For the canoe slalom and kayak cross races outlined in section 6.2, the course designers for all selection races detailed in this Policy will be drawn as follows:

C.1.1. Canoe Slalom Races 1 & 2 - on Friday 28th March 2025.

- C.1.2. Kayak Cross Races - on Friday 28th March 2025 (There will be one course design for both races. For Time Trial phases, only 2 upstream gates of the 4 in the head-to-head will be set for race 1 and the remaining 2 upstreams will be set for race 2).
- C.1.3. Canoe Slalom Races 3,4 – on Friday 11th April 2025
- C.2. Two coaches are responsible for the course design for each phase of selection racing: Races 1 & 2, Kayak Cross & Races 3 & 4 and they will be drawn as follows:
 - C.2.1. Draw 1 contains technical coaches from the UK Academy Programme or substitute approved in advance by the IP.
 - C.2.2. Draw 2 contains employed coaches from Scotland (1), Wales (1) England Talent (2)
- C.3. The appointed Chief Judge will be involved directly in the course design proposals. Following the course design draw, course designs are to be submitted to the Chief Judge. Course approval takes place immediately following demonstration runs. Final pole adjustments are made by the course designers (or delegated to the Performance Director) in consultation with the Chief Judge.
- C.4. Subject to contingency and changes for safety reasons, course configurations will be set and will remain in place from **21 January 2025** for Lee Valley and **20th December 2024** for Holme Pierrepont. Course design will reflect 2025 ICF rules and 2024 start and finish lines in Lee Valley.
- C.5. Subject to contingency the start and finish lines for the canoe slalom races will be as follows:
 - C.5.1. Lee Valley – Same as the 2023 Canoe Slalom World Championships
 - C.5.2. Holme Pierrepont – As illustrated in the diagram below:



Appendix D: Performance Standards for 2025 Great Britain Kayak Cross Teams:

- D.1. Any athlete seeking selection as a full team member or reserve must have achieved a place in the head to head rounds at least once out of the two selection opportunities.

Appendix E: Example Final Kayak Cross Final Selection Ranking Table

To be included in the final policy

Appendix F: Kayak Cross Race rules & details

- F.1. The start order for both races will be the same at the time trial stage and determined by the International Panel.
- F.2. There will be one course design for all kayak Cross races. For Time Trial phases, only 2 upstream gates of the 4 in the head-to-head will be set for race 1, 2 and race 3.
- F.3. There will be the opportunity for at least one official full-length practice run prior to the start of race 1.
- F.4. Equipment rules will be in accordance with the 2024 ICF Kayak Cross rules. The IP has provided further guidance in this area on its statement of August 2023.
- F.5. The Back-up for this series would be dealt with within the dates above through the contingency outlined in section 13.

—End of Policy Draft—