



## Canoe Slalom & Extreme Slalom Senior, U23 & Junior Selection Policy 2022

The International Panel are pleased to be able to publish the 2022 selection policy for Canoe Slalom & Extreme Slalom. The IP wish to apologise for the delay to the publication of the policy which was caused by the publication by the ICF of significant relevant information which has required adjustment of the 2022 policy and subsequent approval by the governance processes of BC. The IP wish to thank all those who took the time to provide feedback as part of the consultation process in November.

The final policy incorporates some changes from the consultation and in addition, the IP have prepared the information below which summarises the key themes that have emerged from the consultation process.

**Response to Consultation** - To be read in conjunction with the Final 2022 selection policy.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021, the IP published a draft 2022 policy with the intention of seeking public consultation.

The feedback was thematically coded and presented to the IP on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 enabling the panel to make final recommendations to the 2022 selection policy. In order to be transparent through this process, the emerging themes will be listed and the rationale for the IP's decisions will be outlined in this accompanying document to the policy.

Emerging Theme	Rationale For Decision
<b>Extreme Slalom</b>	<p>The IP welcomes the inclusion of extreme canoe slalom at the Paris Olympics and looks forward to seeing this exciting new discipline develop.</p> <p>In 2021, the ICF rules constrained how teams progress through to the finals and even the overall development of this discipline. For example, the extreme canoe slalom rules dictate the top 32 national federations (not athletes) qualify from the time trial to the head to head rounds. This caused challenges in GBR (and other nations) putting in a consistent campaign together across multiple races and securing world ranking.</p> <p>The information received from the ICF in December 2021 shared a rule change for the 2022 season that required a review of the proposed policy prior to publication. The main rule change for Extreme slalom in 2022 is that all of the top 20 paddlers in the time trial will proceed to the head to head rounds <u>regardless of nationality</u> which is a big change from 2021.</p> <p>As a result of this, the IP has now changed the policy shared in the consultation to now send a full team of up to 4 boats in each event at senior, U23 and Junior level.</p> <p>3 Boats will be selected through canoe slalom selection and the 4<sup>th</sup> boat in each event will be selected at a stand alone open selection event on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2022.</p> <p>As the IP now consider the Olympic selection policy strategy for 2023 &amp; 2024, the IP urge any aspiring extreme slalom paddlers from outside of canoe slalom as well those in canoe slalom to come forward and compete in the 2022 Extreme slalom selection process.</p>

	<p>As the selection policy for 2023 &amp; 2024 is developed, there is no doubt of the importance of being individually fast before one enters into a head to head race particularly as the time trial seeding is used throughout the head to head for start position. The 2021 season demonstrated that the existing canoe slalom population demonstrated their ability to transfer physical and technical skills to this emerging discipline and the top (senior) athletes in canoe slalom out performed athletes selected as extreme canoe slalom specialists. The IP wish to ensure that any aspiring extreme slalom athlete from outside of canoe slalom, comes forward in 2022 to help to understand how best to select the teams from 2023 onwards.</p> <p>Therefore, as described in <b>2.4.1</b>, the extreme canoe slalom athletes will be selected from the existing teams as follows:</p> <p><b>Track 1 – Through Canoe Slalom Selection (three places in each gender):</b> For the senior, U23 &amp; Junior teams, three (3) extreme slalom places are available in both MCSLX and WCSLX. Places will be offered in descending order to the named kayak teams and reserves will be named from the named C1 team members.</p> <p><b>Track 2 – Through Extreme Slalom Selection (one place in each gender):</b> A stand-alone selection event is proposed for Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2022 to determine a selection order for the remaining extreme slalom place in Senior, U23 &amp; Junior teams where a 4<sup>th</sup> entry is permitted. The 4<sup>th</sup> boat in each team will be offered in order of the Extreme Slalom selection process.</p>
<p><b>China 2023</b></p>	<p>There was an equal split in the feedback when it came to the two options the IP presented for consultation (select the team late in 2022 or select the team in early 2023 before the season began.) The IP have reserved the right to give further information about selection for this event by 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022. <b>(Section 5.4 of the policy).</b></p>
<p><b>Venue</b></p>	<p>The IP carefully considered feedback received about the venue choice for selection including ideas which utilised multiple venues across multiple weekends.</p> <p>The IP concluded that the selection series needed to be representative of the races it was selecting athletes for. For example, championship races are held at a single venue over a single weekend requiring athletes to race over multiple runs. This is reflected in the Senior, U23 and Junior racing format.</p> <p>Furthermore, the IP were steadfast when it came to committing to a suitable venue that could offer a high level of reliability when it came to water consistency and quality.</p> <p><b>Through these discussions the IP committed to the original proposal to hold Senior, U23 and Junior selection at Lee Valley. (Section 3.3 of the policy)</b></p>
<p><b>Pre-Selection 2023</b></p>	<p>The IP has reserved the right to publish further information about pre-selection once the Olympic Qualification System has been published, which in turn will inform the selection policy ahead of Paris 2024. The IP will clarify its position on pre-selection to the 2023 season by 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022. <b>(Section 5.3 of the policy)</b></p>