

Paddle UK Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross International Panel Statement

Important Clarification ahead of the 2026 Selection Series - 20th March 2026

The IP Provided an update on 4th March which has prompted some helpful questions seeking clarification so the following information provides further clarification in a number of areas:

General Information ahead of selection: Paddle UK Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross - 2026 Start Order

In line with section 11.3 of the published policy, the start list will be adjusted to run in reverse order of the top 10 selection finishers in 2025. In addition two athletes in WC1 have been moved to an effective 11th and 12th places to provide a fairer start position for all participants:

Male			Female		
MC1	MK1	MX1	WC1	WK1	WX1
Adam Burgess	Ben Haylett	Joe Clarke	Ellis Miller	Kimberley Woods	Kimberley Woods
Ryan Westley	Jonny Dickson	Sam Leaver	Kimberley Woods	Lois Leaver	Lois Leaver
Luc Royle	Joe Clarke	Jonny Dickson	Bethan Forrow	Nikita Setchell	Nikita Setchell
Peter Linksted	Jake Brown	Ben Haylett	Sophie Ogilvie	Sophie Ogilvie	Katie Shattock
James Kettle	David Paterson	Jake Brown	Phoebe Spicer	Phoebe Spicer	Sophie Ogilvie
Philip Smith	Jonah Hanrahan	Thomas Mayer	Sadie Sterry	Bethan Forrow	Macy Kang
Edward McDonald	Sam Leaver	Edward McDonald	Joanna Blythe-Shields	Ellis Miller	Ellis Miller
William Coney	Thomas Mayer	Luke Kevane	Rachel Ellis	Macy Kang	Joely Walling
William Mayer	Edward McDonald	David Paterson	Katie Shattock	Katie Shattock	Hannah Rhodes
Vittorio Pezzaioli	Gwion Williams	Jonah Hanrahan	Darcey McMullins	Zoe Blythe-Shields	Joanna Blythe-Shields
			<i>Extras to add in</i>		
			<i>Mallory Edwards</i>		
			<i>Zoe Blythe-Shields</i>		

Clarification of the wording in section 17 - Kayak Cross Team Selection & Reserves.

To provide greater clarity on the interpretation of section 17 of the policy, the IP has made the following changes to the text to ensure transparency ahead of the application of the policy:

17.1. Subject to Pre-Selection (14.1.1) and Section E, the top three athletes will be selected in descending order of the respective Kayak Cross Final Selection Ranking Table.

17.2. The panel will nominate ~~up to 2~~ reserves from this selection policy in each Kayak Cross event. Where a team place becomes available, reserves will be filled in the following order:

17.3. From within the already selected team - In the event where there is a vacancy, the highest ranked reserve from the 2026 final selection ranking table in that event who is already selected in another canoe slalom event for that competition(s) will be selected to the team for the competition(s). [See also section 13.2.](#)

17.4. Where no athletes meet the criteria outlined in ~~17.2~~ [17.3](#) above, reserves will be selected in descending order of the respective Kayak Cross Final Selection Ranking Table providing they have achieved the minimum Performance Standard.

17.5. Subject to Section E and/or pre-selection through section 14.1.1., the maximum permitted boats in each event will be selected.

Clarification on the application of Section E in identified female selection events:

In order to provide clarity to all female competitors entering the selection process, the International Panel provided the information below regarding the application of clause 20. The text in Blue has been added to provide further clarification:

In Women's Canoe (WC1):

Either - If Mallory Franklin races in the selection competition in WC1, achieves a top 3 position in the final selection ranking table and meets the WC1 senior performance standard as stated in appendix A.3, then clause 20 will NOT be invoked. Mallory Franklin would be selected in line with the selection policy for all races specified in section 7.1.

Or - If Mallory Franklin starts in any of the six races in the selection competition in WC1 **AND** meets the WC1 senior performance standard as stated in appendix A.3. **but does not achieve a top 3 position in the final selection ranking table**, then clause 20.5.1. of the 2026 selection policy will be invoked as set out below:

- *'Allow the athlete(s) to race in the selection series to assess performance level in a specific event(s) and substitute the lowest placed selected athlete under this policy with the selection of the athlete making the request in all or specific competition(s).*
- Therefore, if the senior performance standard is met by Mallory Franklin in WC1, the IP will select:
 - a. The top two athletes from the final selection ranking table for the whole 2026 season.
 - b. Mallory Franklin into the remaining team place regardless of her position in the final selection ranking table for all senior team races except the European Championships.
 - c. For the senior European Championships only, the third boat in the final selection ranking table.
- **For absolute clarity, in this scenario, Mallory Franklin will score selection points in all races that she starts, which is the same as for any other athlete in any other category.**

Or - If Mallory Franklin does not start in any of the six races in the selection competition in WC1 then the International Panel will invoke clause 20.5.2. of the selection policy, specifically:

- *'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 at all or a specific competition(s)'*
- Therefore, in the event of invoking section 20.5.2 in WC1, be aware of the following detail:
 - a. World Cup 1 will be used to facilitate a race off between Mallory Franklin & the third boat from the final selection ranking table in WC1.
 - b. In WC1 only, for World Cup 1, the selected team if 20.5.2 is invoked will consist of:
 - i. Boat 1 from the 2026 selection final ranking table (not involved in race off)
 - ii. Boat 3 from the 2026 selection final ranking table
 - iii. Mallory Franklin (Note - the 2nd boat will be required to release this race)
 - c. The highest placed of the two athletes in the final race results at World Cup 1 in WC1 will be selected to the 2026 Senior Team in all remaining events for the 2026 season except the European Championships which will be retained for boat 3 in the final selection ranking table regardless of the outcome of the race off.

In Women's Kayak (WK1)

Either - If Mallory Franklin starts in any race in the selection competition in WK1 then clause 20 of the 2026 selection policy will not be invoked in that event and the result from the final selection ranking order in WK1 will determine the GBR team for the whole season.

Or - If Mallory Franklin does not start in any races in the selection competition in WK1 then the International Panel will invoke clause 20.5.4. of the selection policy, specifically:

- *'Substitute the lowest placed selected athlete under this policy with the selection of the athlete making the request to all or specific competition(s)'*
- Therefore, subject to a satisfactory demonstration of senior performance standard by 28th August 2026, the IP will require the third boat in the selection ranking table (including any pre-selected boats) to release the Senior European Championships (23-27 September) to enable Mallory Franklin to compete. The IP will confirm if the performance standard has been achieved to invoke the clause by 28th August 2026.

In Women's Kayak Cross (WX1)

Either - If Mallory Franklin starts in any race in the selection competition in WX1 then clause 20 of the 2026 selection policy will not be invoked in that event and the result from the final selection ranking order in WX1 will determine the GBR team for the whole season.

Or - If Mallory Franklin does not start in any races in the selection competition in WX1 then the International Panel will invoke clause 20.5.4. of the selection policy, specifically:

- *'Substitute the lowest placed selected athlete under this policy with the selection of the athlete making the request to all or specific competition(s)'*
- Therefore, subject to a satisfactory demonstration of senior performance standard by 28th August 2026, the IP will require the third boat in the selection ranking table to release the Senior European Championships (23-27 September) to enable Mallory Franklin to compete. The IP will confirm if the performance standard has been achieved to invoke the clause by 28th August 2026.

Note for all WC1, WK1 & WX1:

- In the event that Mallory Franklin chooses to use one or more premier races in the 2026 selection competition in an event(s) as part of her return to competition, then this is permitted if she withdraws formally from selection in that specific event(s) without affecting the invoking of section 20 In that event(s)