

Paddle UK Canoe Slalom & Kayak Cross

International Panel Statement – 14th May 2026

As promised in the IP Statement of the 14th April, and in line with the commitment in section D (Clause 18) of the [2026 Selection Policy](#), this statement announces the process and opportunities for Pre-Selection to the 2027 Senior Team from International Performances during the 2026 season.

2027 Senior , U23 & Junior Team Selection:

The IP is working with the PUK Slalom Committee to hold some dates for 2027 GBR team selection in the spring of 2027 and will communicate more details when firm. The IP will also share proposals for 2027 GBR Team selections & the 2028 Olympic Selection process for consultation by the end of September 2026..

2027 Senior Team Pre-selection Overview:

In a significant change from the previous Olympic Qualification System (OQS) The [OQS](#) for Los Angeles 2028 sets out an Olympic Qualification Ranking process that spans the 2026 (3 races) and 2027 (6 races) international seasons. OQR Ranking points are attached to individual athletes so it is therefore vital that athletes scoring well in 2026 have the opportunity to optimally prepare for the 2027 season as qualification for Olympic Quota Places will be extremely tough. This Pre-Selection is for the 2027 Senior team only and the IP is clear that there will be a maximum of 2 athletes per category, pre-selected through this process to ensure that at least one athlete place in each category remains at 2027 domestic selection. It should also be noted that qualification of LA 2028 quota places for GBR and the actual nomination of athletes to be a member of Team GB are two distinct processes.

2027 Senior Team Pre-selection:

In line with the principles of the 2026 selection policy - specifically 2.2, as the [Olympic Qualification Ranking](#) spans the 2026 and 2027 season, The International Panel will make a principle led panel decision to pre-select up to 2 athletes in each Olympic medal event (excluding the Kayak Cross Individual) to ensure optimal preparation for the 2027 season for those athletes scoring strong points in the following 2026 OQR competitions:

- 2026 Senior World Championships (Oklahoma, USA),
- 2026 ICF World Cup 4 (Vaires sur Marne, FRA)
- 2026 ICF World Cup 5 (La Seu, ESP)

To be eligible to be considered for pre-selection in an event, an athlete must have achieved the following performance in that event:

- In Canoe Slalom: A final (Top 12) Finish in the final published results
- In Kayak Cross: A semi-final (Top 8) Finish in the final published results

Note- Meeting the criteria above only ensures consideration and is not a guarantee of pre-selection to the 2027 senior team in any event.

In making its decision on pre-selection, the International Panel will consider the following principles (in no priority order):

- Look at the OQR ranking and points scored after the 3 2026 OQR races listed above
- Assess the context event by event against the constraints and opportunities presented by the OQS criteria for each event.
- Look at Performances at the 3 2026 OQR races listed above
- Look at Performances across the 2026 World Cups 1-3 and 2026 European Championships
- All decisions will be made with reference to the relative OQR ranking of other GBR athletes.
- In making its decision for pre-selection, the IP will consider:
 - What was their single qualifying result (CSL top 12 or KX Top 8)?
 - Have they made multiple qualifying results in the same event?
 - Were they a medallist at one of the identified competitions?
 - Have they won multiple medals across the identified competitions?
 - Where do they sit in the OQR ranking after 3 competitions?

Any athlete selected to the 2027 senior team under this clause who remains eligible for an U23 or junior team in 2027 will also be pre-selected to the appropriate 2027 team(s). There will not be any opportunities for 2027 team pre-selection at 2026 U23 and Junior competitions.

Timeline & Process:

The IP will meet to consider the performance data from the 3 competitions specified above and will announce any pre-selections to the 2027 senior team on www.paddleuk.org.uk by Friday 2nd October 2026.

Questions?

In the situation that you have a question about the application of the policy or wish to simply discuss an aspect of the selection process then we would welcome the opportunity to assist. If you have any questions, please contact the chair of the IP at enquiries.internationalpanel@paddleuk.org.uk.

International Panel

14th May 2026