

**Canoe Slalom**

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**2009 Selection Policy**

**Irish Canoe Union**  
Sport HQ  
Park West  
Dublin 12

**1st March, 2009**

## 2009 Selection Policy

1. The 2009 Selection Policy for Canoe Slalom (hereinafter referred to as the "2009 Selection Policy") outlines guidelines, criteria, and eligibility conditions relevant to the selection of athletes to be members of the Senior, Under 23, and Junior Teams to compete in the following International Canoe Federation Canoe Slalom Events during 2009:

### Senior Events

- European Championships, Nottingham, 28/31st May
- World Cup 1, Pau, 27/28th June
- World Cup 2, Bratislava, 4/5th July
- World Cup 3, Augsburg, 11/12th July
- Pre World Championships, Tacen, 22/23rd August
- World Championships, La Seu d'Urgel, 8/13th September

### Under 23 & Junior Events

- Under 23 & Junior European Championships, Liptovsky Mikulas, 24/26th July

2. The 2009 Selection Policy applies to 2009 only. Previous selection policies will have no bearing on the 2009 Selection Policy and cannot be used as a basis upon which an appeal or otherwise can be made in relation to athlete selection for 2009.

The implementation of the 2009 Selection Policy will be the responsibility of the 2009 Selection Panel (hereinafter referred to as the "Selection Panel"). Any issues arising from the 2009 Selection Policy must in the first instance be referred in writing to the Selection Panel at [office@canoe.ie](mailto:office@canoe.ie) before the deadline for the circulation of the final draft of the 2009 Selection Policy on March 1st, 2009 after which time the 2009 Selection Policy will be considered final and binding on all athletes seeking selection.

The Selection Panel will consist of the ICU Chief Executive, members of the ICU Executive Committee, and such persons as the ICU Executive Committee considers appropriate from time to time to assist the Selection Panel.

3. The 2009 Selection Policy may be amended at any time by the Selection Panel if the Selection Panel is of the opinion that such an amendment is necessary to give effect to the 2009 Selection Policy following discovery of a drafting error or oversight or for any other reason determined to be in the best interests of the selection of athletes. Neither the Selection Panel nor the Irish Canoe Union will be responsible or liable in any way as a consequence arising from the introduction of any such amendment or amendments; and such amendments will be considered final and binding on all athletes.

## Following Confirmation of Selection

1. Following confirmation of selection, an athlete will be required to sign an Athlete Contract. An athlete will only be considered finally selected when the Athlete Contract has been signed between an athlete and the Irish Canoe Union.
2. The achievement of 2009 selection will only confer on an athlete eligibility to compete in the ICF Events outlined in Item 1 above. Financial and support services will only be provided in accordance with the conditions and criteria as detailed in the document "2009 High Performance Programme Support for Canoe Slalom".
3. The general approach to the provision of support through the various Performance Support Programmes detailed in the document "2009 High Performance Programme Support for Canoe Slalom" will not form part of the 2009 Selection Process and cannot be used as a basis upon which an appeal or otherwise can be made in relation to the selection of athletes.

## Athlete Eligibility Criteria & Pre-Selection Athlete Contract

In order to be eligible for selection, an athlete must;

1. sign and return the Pre-Selection Athlete Contract before March 8th, 2009;
2. maintain the conditions and terms detailed in the 2009 Selection Policy;
3. be a currently registered ICU member who is eligible to represent Ireland at ICF Canoe Slalom Events in accordance with ICF Rules.

## Athlete Contract

Following confirmation of selection by the Irish Canoe Union an athlete must;

1. complete, sign and maintain the conditions detailed in the Athlete Contract.

### **Athlete Selection**

Athletes may be selected as follows:

1. Pre-Selection
2. Performance Selection
3. Discretionary Selection

Regardless of how an athlete achieves selection, continued selection will always be conditional upon an athlete meeting and maintaining Athlete Eligibility Criteria; and by the signing and maintenance of the terms and conditions contained in the Athlete Contract.

### **Pre-Selection**

1. In recognition of outstanding performances an athlete will be deemed pre-selected in the year following the achievement of a final placing in an Olympic Games, World Championships, or European Championships. Consequently, any athlete achieving a final placing in either the Olympic Games or European Championships in 2008 will be deemed pre-selected for the 2009 Senior Team.
2. In exceptional cases, such as injury/illness preventing participation in the 2009 Selection Process, the Selection Panel may adopt, in advance of the designated Selection Events, the pre-selection of an athlete based on that athlete's track record, nature of their injury/illness, and such issues which in the opinion of the Selection Panel are considered reasonable in the circumstances of the particular athlete.
3. Exceptional Pre-Selection will only take place under extraordinary circumstances. A request for consideration for Exceptional Pre-Selection must be submitted in writing along with supporting documentation before March 1st, 2009.

The Selection Panel's decision with regard to Exceptional Pre-Selection will be considered final. It will be a condition of consideration for Exceptional Pre-Selection that an athlete seeking Exceptional Pre-Selection accepts the decision of the Selection Panel as final and binding.

### **Performance Selection**

#### **Senior & Under 23 Selection**

1. Following a decision and announcement on Pre-Selection, selection for the remaining places on the 2009 Senior Team and on the Under 23 Team will be initially determined by way of Performance at the following designated Athlete Selection Events (hereinafter referred to as "Selection Events"):
  - GB Senior & U23 Team Selection Race 1, Nottingham - May 2nd
  - GB Senior & U23 Team Selection Race 2, Nottingham - May 3rd
  - GB Senior & U23 Team Selection Race 3, Nottingham - May 3rd

#### **Junior Selection**

2. Selection for places on the Junior Team will be initially determined by way of Performance at one of the following designated Selection Events:
  - Division 1 Race, Grandtully - April 11th
  - GB Junior Team Selection, Grandtully - April 18th
  - GB Under 18 Team Selection, Canolfan Tryweryn - 25th April
  - GB Junior Team Selection, Race 3, Nottingham - May 2nd

## **Selection Criteria**

### **Senior Selection Criteria**

1. The Selection Criteria required to achieve selection for a place on the 2009 Senior Team at the designated Selection Events will be:
  - MK1 - 110% of winning MK1
  - WK1 - 132% of winning MK1
  - C1 - 118% of winning MK1
  - C2 - 128% of winning MK1

The above percentages are to be achieved at 2 of 3 events or alternatively as an aggregate of 2 races should for any reason there be less than 3 races.

### **Under 23 Selection Criteria**

2. The Selection Criteria required to achieve selection for a place on the 2009 Under 23 Team at the designated Selection Events will be:
  - MK1 - 112% of winning MK1
  - WK1 - 134% of winning MK1
  - C1 - 121% of winning MK1
  - C2 - 134% of winning MK1

The above percentages are to be achieved at 2 of 3 events or alternatively as an aggregate of 2 races should for any reason there be less than 3 races.

### **Junior Selection Criteria**

3. The Selection Criteria required to achieve selection for a place on the 2009 Junior Team at the designated Selection Events will be:
  - MK1 - 117% of winning MK1
  - WK1 - 137% of winning MK1
  - C1 - 128% of winning MK1
  - C2 - 142% of winning MK1

The above percentage to be achieved at one of the listed junior team selection events.

### **Support to attend designated Selection Events**

1. In order to offset some of the costs involved in travelling to the UK to take part in the designated selection events a limited reimbursement to cover travel costs (the level and details of which will be determined when the overall high performance grant received from the Irish Sports Council is known) will be made available to athletes travelling from Ireland to the UK who make selection for either a senior, under 23 or junior team.
2. Entries fees for the listed selection events will be covered for all athletes competing in the designated selection events. All entries must be processed through the Canoe Union Office. A deadline for the submission of entries will be circulated and also posted on the ICU website. Anyone failing to submit the Pre Selection Athlete Contract by the closing date of March 8th will not be entered in the selection events and will consequently not be eligible for consideration for selection.

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### **Discretionary Selection**

1. In the event that places on the Senior, Under 23 or Junior Teams remain unfilled following the designated Selection Events; or places subsequently become available on a team; or the Selection Panel in its absolute discretion considers the outcome of the Selection Events do not reflect the true potential of a particular athlete; the Selection Panel may then proceed to select athletes by Discretionary Selection.
2. Discretionary Selection may be exercised at any time by the Selection Panel, however, Discretionary Selection will only take occur after places on the Senior, Under 23, and Junior Teams have been decided or not, by Performance Selection.
4. In exercising its discretion the Selection Panel may consider any factor, or combination of factors that in the opinion of Selection Panel is relevant for consideration when selecting athletes by Discretionary Selection.
5. The Selection Panel may make a Discretionary Selection of any particular athlete and at any time subject to that athlete meeting further conditions which in the opinion of the Selection Panel are considered reasonable in the circumstances of the particular athlete.
6. If a particular athlete's Discretionary Selection is made subject to that athlete meeting further conditions, such conditions will be communicated as soon as possible to the athlete in question.
7. The Selection Panel may, following the completion of the Selection Events, consider written submissions from athletes who did not achieve selection at the designated Selection Events or who were unable to attend the designated Athlete Selection Events as a result of extenuating circumstances such as illness, injury, etc.

### **Confirmation of the Team Selection**

1. Athletes selected by Pre-Selection will be announced immediately.
2. Athletes achieving selection at the designated Selection Events will be confirmed as soon as practical following the Selection Events.
3. Any athlete selected at the discretion of the Selection Panel will only be confirmed following the outcome of the designated Selection Events.
4. Selection will be open to any eligible athlete that submits a Pre-Selection Athlete Contract by the March 8th, 2009 deadline.

### **Availability to Compete**

1. When confirmed as selected, an athlete must confirm their availability or otherwise to attend the ICF Events outlined in Item 1 above for their respective team within two weeks of being notified of their selection. If an athlete fails to notify the Selection Panel within the required two weeks of being notified of their selection, the Selection Panel will assume that the athlete in question is not available to compete in any of the ICF Events outline in Item 1 above; and the Selection Panel will proceed to select the next ranking athlete by Discretionary Selection.

### **2010 Senior & Under 23 Team Selection**

1. The results of the 2009 Senior & Under 23 Teams' Selection Events and the results of the 2009 Senior & Under 23 Teams' International Events will be used to determine 2010 Senior & Under 23 Teams' Selection Criteria.

**Pre Selection  
Athlete Contract**

Name	_____	
Address	_____ _____	
ICU Membership No.	_____	
Expiry Date	_____	
Date of Birth	_____	
Telephone No.	_____	Mobile
	_____	Home
	_____	Work
Email address	_____	
Passport Number	_____	
Expiry Date	_____	
Emergency Contact	_____	Name
	_____	Mobile
	_____	Work

At the time of signing this Pre Selection Athlete Contract, I hereby acknowledge that;

1. I have read, understand and agree to abide by the Terms of Selection as detailed in the 2009 Athlete Selection Policy for Canoe Slalom;
2. I will be responsible for some personal expenses as part of the selection process and I accept full responsibility for such expenses;
3. I will be specifically bound in the case of a dispute, complaint or appeal to abide by the ICU Selection Appeals Procedures and/or the ICU Complaints & Appeals Procedures. In the event for any technical reason that a dispute, complaint, or appeal cannot be dealt with by the ICU Selection Appeals Procedures and/or the ICU Complaints & Appeals Procedures, I hereby also agree that any such dispute, complaint or appeal may be referred to Just Sport Ireland for final and binding mediation and/or arbitration.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**The deadline for receipt of Pre Selection Athlete Contract is March 8th, 2009**

## **Selection Appeals Procedures**

### **1. Right of Appeal**

1. An athlete who fails to be selected as set out in the 2009 Athlete Selection Policy may appeal against their non selection.
2. The sole grounds of any appeal against non selection are that:
  1. an athlete's non selection was as a result of a failure to properly apply the Selection Criteria set out in the 2009 Athlete Selection Policy; or
  2. there were no grounds on which a selection decision could reasonably be based.
3. Any appeal based on the above will proceed in accordance with the procedures set out below.

### **2. Appeal Procedures**

1. Any eligible athlete wishing to appeal against non selection must forward a written Notice of Appeal to the ICU Office, addressed to the Secretary of the Irish Canoe Union, to be received within 3 days of the final announcement of the final outcome of the Athlete Selection Process.
2. The Notice of Appeal must briefly set out the grounds upon which the appeal is made.
3. After lodging the Notice of Appeal as set out in 2(a) above, the Appellant (the athlete making the appeal) must submit a written Appeals Document to the ICU Office, addressed to the Secretary of the Irish Canoe Union, to be received within 7 days of lodging the Notice of Appeal.
4. The Appeal Document must set out all of the arguments and/or submissions that the athlete wishes to be considered in support of their appeal together with an outline of all the evidence that will be relied upon in support of those arguments and/or submissions.
5. Within 2 days of receipt of an Appeals Document by the ICU Office, the ICU Office will, having previously notified the Selection Panel that a Notice of Appeal had been lodged, forward copies of the Appeals Document to each member of the Selection Panel. Within 7 days of receipt of the Appeals Document, the Selection Panel may lodge a document with the ICU Office, addressed to the Secretary of the Irish Canoe Union, setting out the grounds on which the disputed decision was made.
6. The Appellant can withdraw an appeal at any time.
7. The time limits for lodging the Notice of Appeal and the Appeals Document are mandatory. Failure to comply with these time limits will result in an appeal being dismissed without consideration.
8. Following the lodgement of the relevant documents with the Secretary of the Irish Canoe Union an appeal hearing will be held in accordance with the ICU Complaints & Appeals Procedures.

Copies of the ICU Complaints & Appeals Procedures and JSI Mediation & Arbitration Procedures are available from the ICU Office.