



British Canoeing – Canoe Sprint & Paracanoe International Panel Statement – December 2020

The International Panel is pleased today to publish the 2021 Canoe Sprint & Paracanoe selection policies. Clearly 2020 has seen unprecedented disruption to everyday lives and the training and competition programme has been no exception. The IP remains optimistic for activity to resume in 2021 but as would be expected, each policy more than ever requires the ability to react to prevailing conditions in order to complete any given selection process fairly.

IMPORTANT - All athletes wishing to be considered for selection in Paracanoe & Sprint Senior Teams in 2021 should complete the online registration document [here](https://britishcanoeing.formstack.com/forms/senior_event_registration_form) or link: https://britishcanoeing.formstack.com/forms/senior_event_registration_form by 28th February 2021.

Why do we need registration?

The IP has identified two key reasons for introducing registration for selection:

1. Subject to eligibility, selection is an open event but as selection is run alongside national regattas there is no clear way of knowing who wishes to put themselves forward for the selection process. Registration is intended to provide clarity to the IP on those seeking selection to enable the IP to know how many and who are seeking selection and to enable communication on any important related selection matters.
2. With selection running alongside national regattas, particularly highlighted by Covid-19 restrictions, the possibility of restrictions continuing into spring 2021 requiring contingency measures to be implemented, it is essential for the IP who is wishing to be considered for selection to ensure that any contingencies can retain a transparent process.

How do I register?

IMPORTANT – All athletes wishing to be considered for selection to a 2021 Great Britain Canoe Sprint & Paracanoe SENIOR team should register for selection in order to confirm eligibility. The registration process is available [here](#) and needs to be completed by 28th February 2021. Paddlers remain responsible for entering the appropriate regatta(s) before entry deadlines. Entering the race is not registration.

IP Communications leading into and during selection regattas

The IP are introducing an additional one way WhatsApp link to provide updates at any time but particularly in the lead in and during selection regattas. This WhatsApp group can be found at <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FJFF2D6VQ4D9cjDMeXzoQO>.



Paris 2024 Olympic Events

Following the recent change to the Olympic programme for Paris 2024 by ICF and IOC it remains unconfirmed which events will be staged by race organisers for Junior & U23 championships in 2021. At the time of publication of the policy this information is unavailable but as soon as it becomes available the IP will seek to clarify any changes required within which events are being selected for in these age range championship regattas.

Consultation

The International Panel would like to thank those people who took the time to provide feedback into the draft selection policies during October. The panel has considered each suggestion carefully and in many cases has looked to reflect the feedback in the final policy. Some key themes from consultation are captured below:

Theme	IP Comment
Cost of camps & competitions	The IP recognise the challenge presented by the high costs of competition. These costs reflect the real costs charged by race organisers to attend competitions as entry to racing is conditional upon opting into the daily accreditation fee that includes transport around the host city, accommodation and food. The IP is not directly responsible for how teams are paid for so further discussion is underway to provide greater clarity on funding ahead of the start of any 2021 selection process.
Named reserves	There were comments requesting us to include named reserves as we introduced in the last 2 years. This has been built into the policy with Senior, U23 & Junior policies now providing the opportunity for any athlete(s) inside 102% of the winning time in their event being named as a reserve.
Olympic Hopes – crew boats	With the sprint strategy identifying the need to encourage crew and individual boats, the opportunity to qualify through K2 has been added.
Some observations on typos, clarity etc.	Thanks for those that pointed out some anomalies in the draft document which really helps in removing any errors or confusion from the final policy.