



**BRITISH CANOEING
GB FREESTYLE
SELECTION POLICY 2023**

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ABBREVIATIONS & DEFINITIONS	
BC	British Canoeing
ECA	European Canoe Association
ICF	International Canoe Federation
Athlete	GB Freestyle term for any individual competing at Freestyle events (synonymous with Competitor)
Category	Age group and gender classification
Championship	ICF or ECA competition at European or World level
Event	A single competition
Feature	A specific (usually named) stopper, wave, eddy line or flow.
Venue	A stretch or river or white water course.
Ride	45 second, judged competition run.

SECTION 1 - OVERVIEW

British Canoeing Selection Panel Detail & Structure

This Selection Policy aims to provide:

- A fair and transparent selection process by providing a structure for athletes to gain team selection to represent Great Britain at a Freestyle European or World Championship Event.
- A method to select the optimum GB team in the pursuit of medals at these international competitions (including selection feature recommendations).

The GB Freestyle Selection Panel (“the Selection Panel”) is responsible for selecting the Great Britain teams in accordance with this policy.

The members of the Selection Panel are chosen by the British Canoeing Freestyle Committee on the basis of experience and competency. The level of experience required relates to previous involvement with selection/GB team matters alongside current knowledge and first hand practical experience of the sport at a national and International level. The Selection Panel retains overall authority for selecting all those who represent Great Britain within the Freestyle discipline.

The Selection Panel for 2023 will consist of the following members (all with voting rights):

Chair:	Ben West
Vice Chair:	Bruce Jolliffe
Core members:	Rebecca Jones Craig Ayres Chris Brain Antony Mitchell
The Performance Director:	Dennis Newton
Pathway Manager:	
Team Manager:	Tanya Neilson

Meeting formalities: In the event of a member(s) of the Selection Panel being unable to attend a meeting, best efforts shall be made to reschedule within 3 days. If the meeting cannot be rescheduled, then the remaining panel members may proceed to meet provided at least three members can attend, one of which must be the Chair. In the event of the Chair falling seriously ill or becoming unavailable for a prolonged period, the Vice Chair will assume Chair responsibilities. In the event of a tied decision during a meeting, the Chair shall have the casting vote.

Selection Panel Vision

At the rearranged 2021 World Championships Great Britain came second overall; the Selection Panel strives to build on this success through the 2023 World Championships and 2024 European Championships.

This will be achieved by selecting teams that can represent Great Britain at the highest standard in international competitions and which also includes athletes whose development will lead to success in 2023 and further into the future.

Selection results will form part of a documented and balanced structure to place athletes into the development pathway, whereby resources can be distributed appropriately towards those with medal winning potential and aspirations.

2023 GB Freestyle Team Aims

1. To win medals at the 2023 World Championships.
2. To maintain a position as a top nation in international competition;
3. To ensure the long-term athlete development required for future international success.

Conflicts of Interest

GB Freestyle is committed to upholding high standards of integrity and as such any person who sits on the Selection Panel shall declare any conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest and shall refrain from participation in the discussion of and any vote in respect of any selection matter in which they have a material conflict of interest. If a person is unsure whether they have a conflict or potential conflict they should consult the British Canoeing Head of Governance and Compliance.

SECTION 2 - ELIGIBILITY FOR GB SELECTION 2023

To be eligible to compete in any 2023 GB Team Selection event, athletes must meet the following conditions:

1. Meet the requirements set out in the British Canoeing National Team Eligibility Policy, which includes British Canoeing membership. (see Appendix 1)
2. Meet the age category criteria for international competitions as set out by the International Canoe Federation (ICF)/European Canoe Association (ECA). The exception to this being juniors under the age of 15 who may enter selection events to provide depth of competition/experience. (Juniors under the age of 15 will not be eligible for a Team/Reserve position but may be considered for squad positions).
3. Enter the selection event, register and pay by the published deadlines.

International Eligibility

Selection will be subject to eligibility in accordance with competition rules laid down by the International Canoe Federation (ICF) and the European Canoe Association (ECA).

- The first year a competitor can compete in a junior competition is the year that their 15th birthday falls in.
- The last year they can compete in a junior category is the year that their 18th birthday falls in.
- All athletes should have a desire, and availability, to compete at the international event being selected for.
- All athletes must compete in the class corresponding to the category they are seeking international selection for.
- If selected, an Athletes' British Canoeing membership (or membership of SCA, CW or CANI) must be current throughout the training and competition period.

The Selection Panel is the final arbiter for any unforeseen circumstance regarding athlete eligibility. British Canoeing reserves the right to deselect an athlete who has been found guilty of a disciplinary offence under British Canoeing/ICF rules.

Pre-selection to Team 2023

Pre-Selection is based on previous competition success.

World and European Championship winners will automatically gain an extra team place as stipulated by the ICF/ECA. European Champions qualify automatically for the next European Championships and World Champions qualify automatically for the next World Championships.

A European/World Championship title winner will automatically be selected for the Team in the next International Event that takes place, e.g. the reigning European Champion is preselected to the team for the World Championships in the following year. This would not apply where a junior champion has become a senior. This would only take a maximum of one of the available team places.

In line with this selection policy, the following athletes have been preselected to the 2023 Great Britain Team on the basis of their gold medal winning performances at the rearranged 2021 World Championships in England.

K1M	K1W	C1M	C1W	OC1 Unisex	K1MJr	K1WJr	SQRT M	SQRT W
	Ottilie Robinson-Shaw as current K1W World Champion (extra place)		Ottilie Robinson-Shaw as current C1W World Champion (extra place)					Ottilie Robinson-Shaw as current SQRT World Champion (extra place)

For clarity, in the event of pre-selected athletes competing in the 2023 selection events, they will not be awarded selection points and so will not affect the selection results table.

SECTION 3 - GREAT BRITAIN TEAM SELECTION POLICY 2023

Team Selection Events – 2023

Event 1 Hurley - feature 1 Date: 11/02/23

Event 2 Hurley - feature 2 Date: 12/02/23

First Back Up

Event 1 Hurley - feature 1 Date: 25/02/23

Event 2 Hurley - feature 2 Date: 26/02/23

Second Back Up

Event 1 Hurley - feature 1 Date: 25/03/23

Event 2 Hurley - feature 2 Date: 26/03/23

Squirt

Event 1 Top Pool, Holme Pierrepont Date: 30/04/23

Event 2 Looping Pool, Holme Pierrepont Date: 30/04/23

Backup

Event 1 Top Pool, Holme Pierrepont Date: 13/05/23

Event 2 Looping Pool, Holme Pierrepont Date: 13/05/23

2023 Feature Selection

Features used for selection are agreed by the Selection Panel and approved in this policy by the GB Freestyle committee. Decisions are made from experience, and gauging the opinions of paddlers who regularly use features to ascertain which would be most appropriate for selection events, and considerations in this regard include, but are not limited to; stability, consistency, whether full rides are achievable, and similarity to the feature the championships being selected for will be held on.

The Ideal option is that the wave gate at Hurley will be used for both events. The squirt feature is the Top Pool and looping pool at Holme Pierrepont.

Rules and Procedures

1. Venues, competition and 'Back Up' dates will be published at least three months in advance and no more than 24 Months in advance. At least 4 weeks before the competition dates feature 1 and 2 will be made clear. The 'Back Up' will be used if either of the two events cannot run on the selection date. The Team Manager may, at their discretion, identify a suitable alternative venue, in agreement with the Selection Panel, for the selection 'Second Back Up' date as a contingency for the original venue not being available. This alternative venue, if appropriate, will be identified within the 4 week period.
2. If only a single feature is available on both the selection date and the 'Back Up' date, then both selection events will take place on the same feature. This will take place in one day; if it is known prior to the selection date that only one feature will be available then the original date can be used.
3. If for any reason only a single feature is available on one of either the selection or the 'Back Up' date for a limited amount of time, then that feature will be used as a single selection event.
4. Squirt boat selection may take place over a single event on one feature.
5. If for any reason both the selection and back up dates are cancelled, then the GB Freestyle committee and selection Panel will endeavour to rearrange a new selection date in 2023, at least 3 months prior to the 2023 World Championships. In this case, entry for both selection and mitigation will reopen prior to the new date. Current entries will be carried forward or full refunds offered if a competitor couldn't make the new date.
6. In the worst case scenario, if neither feature 1 nor feature 2 is available on both the selection date and the 'Back Up' dates or for a rearranged selection date, the Team Manager in agreement with the Selection Panel can elect to utilise a suitable alternative venue for the rearranged date. In instances where a suitable alternative venue is not available (as determined by the Team Manager and Selection Panel) or other unforeseen circumstances prevent the event taking place, the Selection Panel will assume full responsibility for selecting a team in accordance with this policy. In this case Athletes wishing to be considered will be required to enter selection, athletes' selection and international results gained in the specific events detailed in Appendix 3.5 over the previous 5 calendar Years will be considered during this process. The Selection Panel may also request supporting evidence from individual athletes. The Selection Panel will consider each application against a specific criterion (see appendix 3.5 MC/SP Selection Criteria).
7. Each selection event will comprise of three x 45 second rides with the best two counting, where the feature is deemed "attainable". Where the feature is deemed "non-attainable", the event will comprise of four x 45 second rides, with the best two counting.
8. Selection competition rides will be judged and scored according to the current ICF rules [ICF Canoe Freestyle 2020 Rules & Appendices](#). Scores will only be available after all competitors in that class have completed all their rides.
9. For each competitor all individual ride scores will be announced after each selection event, along with the final positions of the event based on the best two rides.
10. Selection points will be awarded for each athlete based on finishing order of the combined score of their two top scoring rides – 1st place 50pts, 2nd 47pts, 3rd 45pts, 4th 43pts then 42pts, 41pts, 40pts etc. Selection points will not be awarded when the combined score is zero. (See appendix 2.1 & 2.2 for Event Point Score table examples).
11. Selection Competition results will be decided by the total of the points from the two selection events. (See appendix 2.3 Selection Table).
12. Verifications - Counting verification demands can be submitted to the selection event organiser or GB Team Manager. Notification to the selection event organiser or GB Team Manager of the intention to protest must happen within 10 minutes of the results of the concerned class being displayed. Following this notification, a written submission must be presented within 30 minutes of the results of the concerned class being displayed. The protest must be accompanied by a £25 administration fee.

The selection event organiser or GB Team Manager will issue proof of the counting result to the complainant. If the complaint is upheld, the administration fee will be returned.

13. No protest can be made against a decision of the judging team concerning moves, bonuses and entry moves awarded.
14. An appeal to the selection event organiser or GB Team Manager can be made when it appears that there is a contradiction with the rules of the competition. Any appeal must be made in writing within 30 minutes immediately following the results of the concerned class being displayed. It must be accompanied by a £100 administration fee. The complainant must have notified the selection event organiser/GB Team Manager of their intention to protest within 10 minutes after the results of the concerned class were displayed or 10 minutes after the issue of the counting result in the event of a verification request. The selection event organiser/GB Team Manager will meet with the Selection Panel who will hear the appeal and make a final decision on this issue. The decision-making process will be documented and made available to the complainant. If the appeal is upheld, the administration fee will be returned.
15. In the event of two or more athletes finishing a selection event with equal points their overall positions (and selection points) will be determined using the following criteria. The criteria have been created with reference to the current ICF rules. They will be applied in the order they are written and once one competitor has achieved a winning position (based on the criteria) no further criteria will be used.
 - a. The highest 'dropped' score.
 - b. The highest scoring move performed in any of the 3 rides, scored by at least 1 judge.
 - c. The highest number of different moves scored in a single ride.
 - d. If this still does not break the tie then it is not broken. (For clarity both competitors will receive the same selection points. The athlete immediately below will be awarded a position two places lower.)
16. Following the conclusion of the selection events, and in the event the Selection Competition results are tied the following list will be applied in the order it is written with the first applicable criteria taking precedent:
 - a. The highest selection competition position from a single event.
 - b. The highest combined score from the 2 selection events, using scoring rides only.
 - c. The highest combined dropped scores from the selection event/s (All dropped rides will be combined).
 - d. If this still does not break the tie, and it is deemed by the Selection Panel that the tie needs to be broken (i.e. it would be the difference between a team place and reserve place) both athletes will compete in another selection competition on a date arranged after liaising with the athletes involved. This will be a single event on one of the selection features, with feature 1 being the first choice and feature 2 being used if feature 1 is deemed unavailable.
17. The Selection Panel is the final arbiter for any unforeseen circumstance not covered in this policy.

Team Announcement

On completion of the GB team selection process the BC Freestyle Committee will officially publish the Team selected for the applicable championships on the GB Freestyle Web Page and Facebook page. The announcement will include reserves and athletes being invited as members of squad for team training. Athletes will receive official notification of their team position to the e-mail they have provided on their entry form.

On publication of the final selected Team, reserve and squad athletes, all athletes who wish to accept their place must do so by returning completed Athlete Agreement and Medical Consent Forms to the GB Team Manager within two weeks of those published results. On receipt, the GB Team Manager will confirm the place in a British Canoeing headed letter. Subsequent to the expiry of the two week deadline, any unconfirmed places will be released and offered to designated reserve or squad places.

Correspondence with regards to place acceptance should be made by e-mail to the Team Manager at: chair@gbfreestylekayaking.co.uk

Team Structure

The following positions are potentially available for the 2023 World Championship's team structure:

- K-1 Surface Men x 5
- K-1 Surface Women x 5
- K-1 Surface Junior Men x 3
- K-1 Surface Junior Women x 3
- C1 Surface Men x 3
- C1 Surface Women x 3
- OC1 Surface Unisex x 2
- Squirt Men x 3
- Squirt Women x 3

For each category there will be 1 x Team Reserve athlete and 2 x additional Squad members who will be invited to attend squad training, and may be invited to attend team training. A competitor participating in several categories is considered as part of the team for each category.

For the 2023 World Championships, team places are contingent on athletes also achieving **GB Freestyle performance standards**¹ any released team places **can** be offered back through the selection table to reserve and squad athletes who have achieved performance standards.

Final announcement of the team will be made within 5 weeks of the selection events being completed. Athletes are cautioned to not assume Team or Squad position until final Team and Squad announcements have been made.

Summary of Key Dates

- 12th February 2023 - Selection Event
- 19th February 2023 – Selection Results & Mitigating Circumstances Applications Considered
- 26th February 2023 - Final Results Announcement
- 12th March 2023 - Completed Athlete Agreements
- 19th March 2023 - Final Team Announcement

Summary of Key Dates for Back up date

- 12th March 2023 - Selection Event
- 19th March 2023 – Selection Results & Mitigating Circumstances Applications Considered
- 26th March 2023 - Final Results Announcement
- 9th April 2023 - Completed Athlete Agreements
- 16th April 2023 - Final Team Announcement

¹ See "Application of Performance Standards in Selection Decisions" section of this Policy

Application of Performance Standards in Selection Decisions

The GB Freestyle Committee believes applying performance standards to selection of team places is important for a number of reasons:

- Coaching resource at major championships should be used to refine athletes' performance and maximise medal potential.
- Athletes attending Major Championships are expected to progress through the preliminary rounds of the competition.
- Performance standards provide evidence to help place athletes into the development pathway.
- Performance standards give athletes' a clear and consistent goal to aim towards.
- Performance standards will improve the overall standard of performance.

Upon completion of the 2023 selection events, the Selection Panel will consider the final results and any Mitigating Circumstance applications (see Section 4) to select teams. In selecting teams, the panel will reference the finishing order of the overall tables and apply performance standards.

Once Mitigating Circumstances have been considered, team places will be offered to athletes who place in a **team position** in the selection table **AND** who achieved **performance standards**. Failing this, an athletes' team selection is at the discretion of the Selection Panel.

The Selection Panel reserves the right to offer a team place to an athlete who fails to achieve performance standards who they consider to be a **'development athlete'**. However, a team place cannot be offered to an athlete out of sequence to their selection table standing (E.g. the second squad in the selection table cannot be offered a team place before first squad place.)

Application of Performance Standards

The performance standards are based on the Combined Events Score (CES) achieved by athletes in a given category during the selection events. Performance standards in each category are calculated using the CES as a percentage of the overall category winners' CES. Category winners are defined as 1st position in the selection table; this therefore eliminates pre-selected athletes from setting the winning CES (see appendix 2.4 Performance Standard table).

Athletes CES percentage will be rounded to the nearest whole number.

Category	K1M	K1W	C1	OC1	K1JM	K1JW	SQRTM	SQRTW
2023 GB Team Performance Standard	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%

Example: Selection table winner in K1M category; Event 1 combined total - 2,800
 Event 2 combined total - 1,600
 Combined Event Total = 4,400

To achieve Minimum Performance, K1 Mens' CES must be at least 55% of 4,400.

As Athletes CES percentage will be rounded to the nearest whole, the minimum CES that will achieve the Minimum Performance in K1M = 2,420

SECTION 4 - Mitigating Circumstances

Eligibility

Applications for mitigating circumstances will only be accepted from athletes who satisfy one of the following criteria:

- Have achieved a finishing position in the top 25% in their category, at a major international championship (ICF World or ECA European Championship) in the previous 3 calendar years.
- Have achieved a finishing position in the top 15% of their category, at an ECA Euro Cup or ICF World Cup series, either overall or individually, in the previous 3 calendar years.
- Have achieved a top 15% finish, in their category, at another major competition, which is on the same style feature as the championships being selected for (stopper or wave) and includes a field of at least 5 of the top 10 paddlers in their age and boat category at the previous ICF World and/or ECA European Championships, in the previous 3 calendar years.

Defining Mitigating Circumstances

Mitigating circumstances are defined as being unplanned, unexpected, unavoidable and unforeseen.

GB Freestyle applies the principle that an athlete who attends and participates in any form of selection shall be considered by GB Freestyle to be in a position to do so.

Application

1. Any application for a team position must be on the basis that the applicant is available for the championships the applicant is seeking selection for.
2. Applications under mitigating circumstances should be made to the Chair of the GB Freestyle Committee (GBFC) by way of a completed Mitigating Circumstances Form (MCF) and supporting evidence. Athletes submitting applications of a mitigating circumstances will be required to enter the selection events in the usual way stating their intention for apply mitigating circumstance (where known in advance), before the closing date to be considered. (See appendix; 3.1 guidance on supporting MC supporting evidence, 3.2 MCF, 3.3 MC certificate medical, 3.4 MC certificate educational.)
3. Where mitigation is submitted before selection and when all information has been submitted, the Selection Panel will always try to advise (given adequate time, at least 10 days before selection entry closes) if the case meets mitigation criteria and will be progressed. The fact the case is to be progressed should not be taken as a guarantee of a team place.
4. Any athletes experiencing a mitigating circumstance after the selection closing date should notify both the Secretary of GB Freestyle and the GB Team Manager at the earliest possible opportunity.
5. Team places will not be confirmed until after the selection process has concluded. No athletes (other than those pre-selected) will be selected for the team until all selection events have been completed and all mitigating circumstances have been reviewed.

Outcomes

1. First Review - The Selection Panel will contact the individual to confirm whether their application will progress to the second review. If inadequate evidence is provided then the athlete will proceed to the selection event or withdraw from national selection. Only one application will be accepted per athlete, no additional evidence will be accepted once the first review is complete.
2. Second Review - The Selection Panel will convene after the Selection Events, review the application and decide whether it is appropriate to award a team, reserve, squad or no place to the mitigating circumstances applicant.
3. In the case of mitigating circumstances the decision of the Selection Panel is **final and binding**, no appeal to a decision will be accepted.

SECTION 5 - GENERAL INFORMATION – 2023 GBR TEAMS

Athlete Agreement

Athletes need to have signed and returned their athlete agreement within two weeks of the announcement of the final selection results.

Injury/Illness

The Selection Panel reserves the right to withdraw athletes from a championship on the basis of injury/illness or lack of commitment to training. Such decisions will only be taken following consultation with appropriate coaches and/or medical practitioners.

Anti-Doping

All athletes will be required to attend a Clean Sport Workshop every two years and commit to the UK Anti-Doping rules and the ICF Anti-Doping which came into effect on 1st January 2021, based upon the 2021 revised WADA code.

<https://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk/news/2020/anti-doping-rules-update>

Appeals Procedure

Please see Appendix 4 for the British Canoeing appeals process.

Data Protection

GB Freestyle has adopted all British Canoeing policies.

British Canoeing is a privacy conscious organisation and is strongly committed to an individual's right to privacy. All data gathered during the selection process will only be utilised for the purposes of an athlete's participation in a Great Britain Freestyle Team and squad. This may include administering their event/race entry and certain information may be published as part of the results and rankings of the event/race.

Any personal data will be processed and stored in compliance with the British Canoeing Data Protection Policy and in accordance with all applicable Data Protection laws in effect at the time of publication of this National Selection Policy, including but not limited to, the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR.

Further information on British Canoeing's approach to privacy and data protection, including British Canoeing's privacy notices, policies and contact details, can be located in their Privacy Centre (<https://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk/about/privacy-centre>). Should an athlete wish any data British Canoeing hold relating to them to be deleted at any point; they should contact British Canoeing at GDPR@britishcanoeing.org.uk.

Policies

For the avoidance of doubt this selection policy operates in conjunction with all relevant British Canoeing policies including but not limited to, Equality Policy, Anti-Doping Policy, Anti Bullying Policy and Anti Bribery Policy.

Communications

British Canoeing is committed to providing open and informative communication in relation to selection. All athletes will receive formal confirmation of the selection and for those athletes who wish to discuss the outcome of decision made by the Selection Panel, the Chair of the Selection Panel will be available to speak informally to athletes and in the case of minors, parents.

- End of 2023 policy -

APPENDIX 1 – British Canoeing National Team Eligibility Policy

British Canoeing Eligibility Policy

A. Eligibility for National Team Selection

1. Must be a Member of British Canoeing (including, SCA, CW & CANI).
2. For International Competitions the ICF competition rules, as amended from time to time, will apply. At the date of approval of this policy the rules are as follows:
 - a. An athlete that has competed internationally at any level in the last 3 years requires authorisation from the ICF and the national federation of the original country in order to change sporting nationality.
 - b. For an athlete to be eligible for a change of sporting nationality they must have lived in that country for the last two years.
 - c. The request of the change of nationality must be made in writing to the ICF no later than 30th November the year before the competitor wants to compete (e.g. 30th November 2022 to be eligible to compete for British Canoeing from 1st January 2023).
 - d. For the Olympic Games the Olympic Charter rules will be applied for nationality issues. For athletes to be eligible for the Olympic and Paralympic Games they must hold citizenship/nationality of the country that they participate for at the time of the qualification event.
 - e. A competitor may not compete for more than one Federation in any calendar year (1st January to 31st December) in canoeing.
3. The same procedure and rules apply, should the Competitor decide he/she wants to change back to compete for his/her Federation of origin:
 - a. The Competitor will not be able to do so if they have already competed internationally at any level in that calendar year and will have to wait until the following year.
 - b. The Competitor will need to obtain a release/approval in writing from the Federation they have been competing for.
 - c. The release/approval will be submitted by British Canoeing to the ICF for its approval (submitted by 30th November) for the Competitor to compete for a new country in the following year.
4. In order to be eligible to be on a UK Sport funded programme an athlete must possess a valid British Passport or be in the process of applying for British Citizenship. (If an athlete is not a British Passport holder and their long-term ambition is to compete in the Olympic or Paralympic Games for GB they need to be aware that they will only be eligible for funding and able to compete if they hold a current British passport. Therefore they should be actively pursuing and, likely to achieve a successful, application for a British passport).

B. Eligibility for National Championship Titles.

1. 1. In order to be eligible to win a National Championship title a Competitor must either:
 - a. Satisfy all of the following:
 - i. Be a British Citizen.
 - ii. Be a current member of British Canoeing (including, SCA, CW & CANI - Juniors registered with family membership, do not need full British Canoeing membership).
 - iii. Not currently be representing or in the selection process to represent another country.

Or

- b. Satisfy all of the following:
 - i. Have been resident in the United Kingdom for at least 2 (two) years (the residency being calculated as being the 2 (two) years immediately preceding January 1st in the year of the relevant competition).
 - ii. Have been a member of British Canoeing, (including, SCA, CW & CANI - Juniors registered with family membership do not need full British Canoeing membership) for at least 2 (two) years.
 - iii. Not currently be representing or in the selection process to represent another country.
2. In entering a National Championship, competitors agree to abide by this Eligibility Policy and comply with the requirements and procedures of British Canoeing and/or the National Championships organisers.
3. If a Competitor is not a British Citizen and has not been Resident in the United Kingdom and a member of British Canoeing, (including, SCA, CW & CANI) for the necessary 2 (two) years (in accordance with B 1.b. above) and there are exceptional circumstances then they may apply to the Head of Governance and Compliance requesting discretion to be exercised. Any applications should be submitted at least 4 (four) weeks prior to any National Championships event in which they wish to compete.
4. Each case shall be considered on its own merits and any decision in an individual case does not create a precedent for any future cases.
5. Any decisions made by British Canoeing will be subject to the British Canoeing Disciplinary, Dispute, and Appeal Regulations

Appendix 2 – Selection Tables Examples and Explanation of Process

2.1 Event Points Score Table Comp 1

Name	Ride 1	Ride 2	Ride 3	Combined Total (Best 2 rides)	Position	Selection Points	Tie Break
Athlete – A	300	300	200	600	1	50	
Athlete – B	100	300	270	570	2	47	
Athlete – C	210	100	130	340	3	45	Highest scoring move performed in any of the three rides
Athlete – D	200	140	100	340	4	43	
Athlete – E	140	100	160	300	5	42	Dropped ride score
Athlete – F	160	0	140	300	6	41	
Athlete – G	100	60	100	200	7	40	

At this stage we do not need to separate positions.

Here is an example of selection Comp 2 Event Points Score Table which will allow us to create a Selection Table.

2.2 Event Points Score Table Comp 2

Name	Ride 1	Ride 2	Ride 3	Combined Total (Best 2 rides)	Position	Selection Points	Tie Break
Athlete – B	60	70	10	130	1	50	
Athlete – A	40	20	60	100	2	47	
Athlete – D	40	40	40	80	3	45	
Athlete – C	30	10	40	70	4	43	
Athlete – E	0	20	0	20	5	42	
Athlete – F	5	5	0	10	6	41	Scores are identical so no tie break criteria to separate
Athlete – G	5	5	0	10	7	41	

2.3 Selection Table – based on 2.1 & 2.2

Name	Comp 1	Comp 2	Total	Team Position	Tie Break
Athlete – A	50	47	97	1 – Team	Tie on Highest Place and on Combined Score (700 each). Combined dropped scores used 200+20 is greater than 100 + 10.
Athlete – B	47	50	97	2 – Team	

Athlete – D	45	43	88	3 – Team	Tie on selection points separated using combined scores. 340+80 is greater than 340+70
Athlete – C	43	45	88	4 - Reserve	
Athlete – H	-	-	-	5 - Squad	Selection based on mitigating circumstances.
Athlete – E	42	42	84	6 – Squad	
Athlete - F	41	41	82	7	
Athlete - G	40	41	81	8	

2.4 Performance Standard Table – based on 2.1, 2.2 & 2.3

Name	Combined Total Comp 1	Combined Total Comp 2	Combined Events Score (CES)	CES Percentage	Tie Break
Athlete – A	600	100	700	100%	Team – Winning CES
Athlete – B	570	130	700	100%	Team – Performance Standard achieved
Athlete – D	340	80	420	60%	Team – Performance Standard achieved
Athlete – C	340	70	410	58%	Reserve – Performance standard achieved (would be offered team place if released)
Athlete – H	-	-	-		1 st Squad - based on mitigating circumstances. (Can be offered team place if released & considered a 'development athlete' by the selection panel)
Athlete – E	300	20	320	46%	Squad – Performance Standard not achieved (would not be offered team place if released, unless considered 'development athlete')
Athlete - F	300	10	310	44%	Squad – Performance Standard not achieved (would not be offered team place if released, unless considered 'development athlete')
Athlete – G	200	10	210	30%	Team places cannot be offered past squad positions

Appendix 3 - Mitigating Circumstances ('MC')

3.1 Guidance on submitting MC supporting evidence

Circumstance	<p>What evidence is required?</p> <p>In all cases a MC form must be completed, below is guidance to evidence that should be submitted to support the MC form. This list is non exhaustive and is to give examples of supporting evidence that the selection panel will require.</p>
Illness/Injury	<p>Confirmation of the illness, the impact the illness would have/has had on the affected assessment(s) and the dates concerned. This should be provided on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An original copy of MCC1 completed by your GP • A letter from external support services who have been actively supporting you e.g. Physiotherapist
Deterioration or Fluctuation of a long-standing medical condition or disability	<p>Confirmation of the illness, the impact the illness would have/has had on the affected assessment(s) and the dates concerned. This should be provided on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An original copy of MCC1 completed by your GP • A letter from external support services who have been actively supporting you e.g. Physiotherapist
Hospitalisation	<p>Confirmation of the illness, the impact the illness would have/has had on the affected assessment(s) and the dates concerned. This should be provided on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An original copy of MCC1 completed by your GP/Treating Clinician or a medical certificate.
Bereavement	<p>A letter confirming the death from an independent person (usually not a family member) with their contact details provided and including a view on the closeness of the relationship to you. A death certificate or order of service are other forms of acceptable evidence, but these must also be accompanied by a letter from an independent person which includes a view on the closeness of the relationship.</p>

Circumstance	<p>What evidence is required?</p> <p>In all cases a MC form must be completed, below is guidance to evidence that should be submitted to support the MC form. This list is non exhaustive and is to give examples of supporting evidence that the selection panel will require.</p>
Acute Personal Difficulties	<p>Confirmation of the circumstances, the impact that these would have/have had on the affected assessment(s) and the dates concerned. This should be provided on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● An original copy of MCC1 completed by your GP ● A letter from external support services who have been actively supporting you.
Jury Service (UK)	A letter from the Court.
Court Attendance (UK)	<p>If you are required to attend a tribunal or court as a witness, defendant (not for 'Criminal Conviction') or claimant, please provide a solicitor's letter including the dates of the legal proceedings and the requirement for you to attend.</p>
Education	<p>If the selection event falls at a time of significant examination or coursework deadlines please request that your pastoral or personal educational tutor completes form MCC2.</p>

What is not a Mitigating Circumstance?

The following is a non-exhaustive list of circumstances which are unlikely to be accepted as mitigating circumstances:

- a. **Medical circumstances without supporting medical documentation or retrospective medical evidence** (i.e. a doctor's note stating that the athlete was seen after the illness occurred).
- b. **Medical circumstances which do not relate to the selection events in question.**
- c. **Minor illness or ailment, which in a work situation would be unlikely to lead to absence from work.**
- d. If there is a **reasonable case that the circumstances were foreseeable and/or preventable**
- e. **Financial issues.**
- f. **Religious Observance** (i.e. fasting, leaving before sundown etc.)
- g. **Holidays/family events.**
- h. **Transport difficulties** such as delayed flights, strikes or traffic jams, athletes are expected to plan accordingly.
- i. **Late disclosure of circumstances** on the basis that the athlete did not feel comfortable bringing the circumstances to the attention of the GB Freestyle prior to the relevant selection event.
- j. **Poor time management** (pressure of work).

k. Missing events due to **misreading of event timetable or oversleeping.**

l. **A long-term condition where treatment or additional support/arrangements are in place to mitigate.**

3. Your Circumstances

Please provide the full details of your circumstances, including key dates, and explain how these meet the definition of mitigating circumstances, explaining how they would impact or have impacted on your ability to attend selections.

In case of illness/injury please include certified medical documentation, effect on performance, recovery timeframe, likelihood of full recovery and any lasting effects (use additional sheets if necessary).

4. Supporting Evidence

Please list below each piece of documentary evidence (e.g. referees or medical note) you have submitted with this form. If you do not have your evidence, you should submit this form regardless; you will have 7 days from the date of selection(s) in which to submit your evidence (use additional sheets if necessary).

5. Declaration

I have read and understood the information accompanying this MCF.

All information and documentation provided in/with this form is complete and represents an accurate and true reflection of my mitigating circumstances.

I authorise the reviewer(s) of this application to consider this MCF and any relevant information held by the BCFC to the extent necessary for the consideration of my submission.

I give permission for the BCFC to seek verification of the authenticity of any statements or evidence provided with this claim.

I understand that my MCF and supporting documentation will remain confidential to the British Canoeing Freestyle Committee members and other staff members as appropriate.

Athlete signature:

Date:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES PANEL

1. Recommendation to the Committee

Please set out below the following actions to be taken in respect of this claim; if the claim is declined, please provide the reasons for this decision.

2. Verification by the GB Freestyle Committee

BCFC Chair/Nominee:

BCFC Chair/Nominee Signature:

Date:

3. Admin use

The Athlete has been notified by email of the outcome of the MC claim

Date:

Initials:

The Team Manager has been notified by

Date:

Initials:

Appendix 3.3 - Mitigating Circumstances Certificate Medical (MCC1)

Diagnosis/Condition and Brief description:

Is the impact of this on the patients athletic performance work likely to be:

Minimal

Moderate

Severe

Did you see the patient at the time of the injury/illness:

Yes

No

Name, Signature and Regulatory Number of Medical Practitioner Completing this form:

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Practice Stamp:

Appendix 3.4 - Mitigating Circumstances Certificate Educational (MCC2)

To be completed by member of staff with pastoral responsibility for Athlete e.g. Head of Year or Personal Tutor

Details of Examination/Coursework Timetable

Is the impact of this on the patients athletic performance work likely to be:

Minimal

Moderate

Severe

Name:

Professional Body:

Institute Address:

Signature:

Date:

Appendix 3.5 - MC/SP Selection Criteria

The Mitigating Circumstances/Selection Panel Selection Criteria considers areas of performance, progression and development of individual athletes.

Athletes' competition results from specific events will be considered during this process, these events include:

- British Team Selection – 2019, 2020, 2021
- ECA European Championships – 2018, 2021
- ICF World Championships – 2019, 2022
- ICF World Cups – 2022

The Selection Panel may request further or specific evidence from individual athletes when the above results don't provide a clear overview of their progression and development.

The specific criteria considered by the selection panel is detailed below:

- **Competition placing;** Based on athlete's placing in the ICF World Championships, ECA European Championships and GB National Team Selections.
- **Performance progression for athletes (where sufficient data is available);** Based on an athlete's performance progression tracking upwards, using scoring best, placings etc.
- **Consistency of Performances;** Based on the athlete's competition high scores reflecting consistent performances at or close to their scoring best.
- **Comparison with National Competitors;** Currently represented as the % of each individual Selection Event Winner's maximum score (CES).
- **Comparison with International Competitors;** Comparing the athlete's performance in each round against the highest score from that round (prelims, quarters, semis, final).

Appendix 4 - British Canoeing Non-Olympic Discipline Selection Appeals Procedure

Guidance Notes:

Whilst selection decisions are made in good faith, every athlete should be able to appeal a selection decision if there are grounds to do so (see paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 below). If you're unsure about why a decision has been made, your coach, parent/carer or another trusted person may be able to give you some advice. If you subsequently believe you have grounds to appeal the decision, this Appeals Procedure sets out how you can do this and what process will be followed. If you wish to appeal a decision and would like some guidance you are advised to seek support from your coach, parent/carer, discipline Welfare Officer or other trusted person to help you.

1. CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW

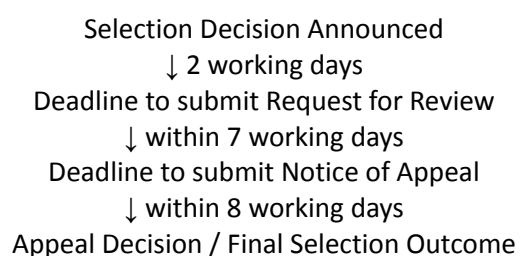
1.1 This Selection Appeals Procedure ("the Procedure") is referenced in all non-Olympic discipline selection policies published by the British Canoeing Discipline Committees and applies to international team selection decisions for major international competitions (such as World Championships) in non-Olympic disciplines.

1.2 For the avoidance of doubt, selection Appeals in the Olympic disciplines (Sprint, Paracanoe, and Slalom) will be managed in accordance with the British Canoeing Competition Selection Appeals Procedure as referenced in the applicable selection policies.

1.3 Selection will take place in accordance with the applicable selection policies as published from time to time by the relevant Discipline Committee. In this Procedure all policies are referred to as the "Selection Policy". Any athlete ("the Athlete") wishing to lodge an appeal under this Procedure must be fully familiar with the provisions of the Selection Policy.

1.4 This Procedure is intended to be accelerated in nature to enable any appeal to be resolved as quickly as is reasonably possible. Due to the nature of selection for major events, decisions often need to be taken close to the time of the event to which the selection relates. There is considerable potential for impact on athlete preparation related to the outcome of the appeal, both with regard to the Athlete, as well as any athlete who is at risk of being deselected or otherwise adversely affected by the appeal.

1.5 Accordingly, the aim of this Procedure is to return a decision on appeal as soon as possible after the original selection decision has been announced. The key stages of the appeal process are as follows:



1.6 The British Canoeing Director of Governance shall have the power to adjust the timescales within this Procedure. If timescales are adjusted, this will be communicated to all interested parties at each relevant stage of the appeals process. If the Athlete believes the timescales should be adjusted they should notify the Director of Governance at the earliest opportunity and/or communicate this within the Notice of Appeal.

2. BINDING AGREEMENT

Guidance Note: given the short timescales and the need for certainty for the benefit of all athletes and the selected team, this section explains that this Procedure is the only opportunity for you, as an athlete, to challenge a selection decision. Due to the time constraints, there is no further right of appeal to other bodies or courts. It is important if you are going to challenge the selection decision that you make all your arguments.

2.1 This Procedure is the only applicable appeals procedure and forms the entire agreement between each Athlete and British Canoeing (referred to as "the Parties") as to how selection decisions are to be challenged. The Parties agree to submit any dispute, concerning any matter connected with or arising out of selection issues, to binding arbitration in accordance with the provisions of this Procedure.

2.2 The Parties agree that they will not commence, continue or maintain any legal challenge to any matter falling under the jurisdiction of this Procedure, or any decision made under this Procedure, before any court of law or other dispute resolution body. The Parties will treat all decisions under this Procedure as final and binding upon them.

2.3 The Parties agree that this Procedure is to be treated as an arbitration procedure under Part 1 of the Arbitration Act 1996 ("the Act") and the provisions of clause 2.1 above amount to a binding arbitration agreement for the purposes of section 6 of the Act. The seat of the Arbitration shall be England.

If an Athlete wishes to challenge a selection decision then the following two stage process will apply:

3. STAGE 1 - FORMAL REVIEW

3.1 A written request for a formal review may be submitted, in the first instance, by the Appellant Athlete to the Discipline Committee Chair who will carry out a review in consultation with the relevant Selection Panel.

3.2 This request must be submitted within 2 working days (or an earlier date if that has been decided and communicated by the Director of Governance) of the selection being formally announced and must identify the grounds of appeal upon which they intend to rely, as set out in paragraph 5, provide an outline of the Athlete's argument and provide any evidence or information relied on to support this.

3.3 Within 5 working days (or an earlier date if that has been decided and communicated by the Director of Governance) of receiving the Appellant Athlete's request the Discipline Committee Chair will advise in writing the outcome of the review and the decision reached and will provide brief written reasons.

4. STAGE 2 - NOTICE OF APPEAL

4.1 If following the formal review an Athlete wishes to appeal a selection decision, they must submit a written Notice of Appeal, which shall be sent to the British Canoeing Director of Governance. The Notice of Appeal must be received within 2 working days of receipt of the outcome of the Stage 1 Review above.

4.2 Failure to submit the Notice of Appeal on time will result in no further action being taken and the Athlete shall lose the right of appeal. The Director of Governance may, at their absolute discretion, decide to admit a Notice of Appeal received after the deadline in exceptional circumstances. It shall be the responsibility of the Athlete to prove the exceptional circumstances.

4.3 The Notice of Appeal must set out the grounds of the appeal and include full details of which ground(s) in paragraph 5 the appeal is based upon and the precise manner in which the ground(s) have been met. The Notice of Appeal should be as comprehensive as possible and include any documents or written evidence upon which the Athlete relies, as it will form the basis of the remainder of this Procedure.

5. GROUNDS OF APPEAL

5.1 An Athlete shall only be entitled to appeal on one or more of the following grounds:

- 5.1.1 there has been a failure to follow the Selection Policy as published;
- 5.1.2 the Selection Panel has reached a decision on the basis of an error of fact;
- 5.1.3 the Selection Panel (or any member of the panel) has shown actual bias when making the decision; and/or
- 5.1.4 the decision is one that no reasonable decision maker could ever have reached.

5.2 In order to ensure a timely and efficient appeals process, only the grounds of appeal detailed in clause 5.1 will be permitted. The composition of the Selection Panel is not open to appeal unless 5.1.3 is being cited in the Notice of Appeal.

5.3 The right to appeal a selection decision is provided on these limited grounds only and must not be seen as an opportunity to dispute the opinion of the selection panel where they have followed the proper procedure and selection criteria as stated in the Selection Policy. In reaching their decision the Selection Panel are acting as experts and athletes agree that in so doing the Selection Panel exercises judgement and discretion which are not in themselves capable of challenge. Athletes should therefore consider carefully whether any of the grounds of appeal at clause 5.1 exists before submitting a Notice of Appeal.

5.4 There are no appeals allowed against the content of the published Selection Policy or, subject to grounds 5.1.3, against the actions of the Selection Panel, provided they follow the selection criteria published.

6. APPEAL PANEL

6.1 Upon receipt of the Notice of Appeal, the Director of Governance or their designee shall:

6.1.1 contact the Selection Panel to inform them of the Appeal, provide them with a copy of the Notice of Appeal and request that the Selection Panel provide any information used in the selection process which they wish the Appeal Panel to consider within 3 working days of receipt of the request; and

6.1.2 convene an Appeal Panel, which shall consist of 3 people, who shall be selected from British Canoeing's independent Disciplinary and Appeal Panel Register, the details of which are further set out in the Schedule. Confirmation of the Appeal Panel will be disclosed to the Athlete following the receipt of the Notice of Appeal. No person who has been involved in the selection process shall be a member of the Appeal Panel.

6.2 The Athlete shall have the opportunity to challenge the composition of the Appeal Panel by submitting written objections within one working day of being informed of the Appeal Panel. British Canoeing shall review the objection, consider the issues raised and decide in its absolute discretion whether it is appropriate to alter the composition of the Appeal Panel.

6.3 Once appointed, the Appeal Panel will ordinarily determine the appeal based on the written submissions of the Athlete, and the Selection Panel without a hearing or the calling of witnesses or the giving of oral evidence. However the Appeal Panel will have the power to set its own processes and give directions including requesting further information from the Athlete, Selection Panel or any other relevant party, setting up a video or telephone conference, determining if a hearing is required and if it is, establishing the date, time and place, and format to be followed in such a hearing.

6.4 The Appeal Panel will seek to reach its decision within 5 working days of its appointment in accordance with 6.1.2 and will inform all interested parties in writing.

7. REMEDIES

7.1 The Appeal Panel shall be entitled to:

7.1.1 reject the Appeal and confirm the selection decision.

7.1.2 only where the grounds set out in paragraphs 5.1.3 and 5.1.4 have been upheld, rescind the selection decision and confirm the selection of the Athlete.

7.1.3 where the grounds in 5.1.1 or 5.1.2 have been upheld, quash the selection decision and remit the matter back to the Selection Panel identifying the errors they have found in the conduct of the selection process and requesting that a new decision is made within one week (or such shorter time as the Appeal Panel deems reasonable in all the circumstances).

7.2 The cost and resource of administering the Appeal Panel will generally fall to British Canoeing unless the Appeal Panel directs otherwise.

8. MINOR AND NON-CONSEQUENTIAL BREACHES OF THIS PROCEDURE

A deviation from any requirement of this Procedure shall not invalidate the Procedure or the decision of the Appeal Panel unless there is a clear and significant risk that the deviation has affected the decision of the Appeal Panel. This shall not apply to the time limit for the Athlete to submit their formal appeal under paragraph 4 of this Procedure.

9. CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROCEEDINGS AND PUBLICATION OF DECISION

9.1 Unless the Parties mutually agree to waive the right, all Parties are under an obligation of confidentiality in respect of this Procedure except for reasonable disclosure to family members and/or a trusted advisor in the case of athletes. Save as permitted under this Procedure none of the Parties will make any public statement or disclosure of the contents of any correspondence concerning any of the Parties during the course of any appeal heard under this Procedure.

9.2 British Canoeing shall be entitled to publish the outcome of the Appeal in such manner and to such extent as is necessary to inform all properly interested and affected parties of the status of the selection decision previously published and the resulting implications upon selection.

10. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS TO THIS PROCEDURE

British Canoeing shall be entitled to amend this Procedure from time to time. Amendments shall take effect from the first date of publication of the updated Procedure on the British Canoeing website. British Canoeing welcomes comments about this Procedure or feedback on the process.

These should be sent to:

Director of Governance
British Canoeing
Adbolton Lane
Holme Pierrepont
Nottingham NG12

Email: nancy.squires@britishcanoeing.org.uk