

IRISH WILDWATER RACING 2011 SELECTION POLICY

INTRODUCTION

The 2011 Selection Policy (the Policy) provides the guidelines and criteria by which the national team(s) will be selected for the following events taking place in the year 2011;

- Senior Sprint World Championship – 11 to 13 June 2011 - Ausburg, Germany
- Senior European Championship – 13 to 15 May 2011 - Kraljevo, Serbia
- World Cup – Race 1 & 2: 16 to 17 April 2011 - Sort, Spain
Race 3 & 4: 18 to 19 June 2011 - Bovec, Soca, Slovenia
- Junior World Championship – 25 to 31 July 2011 - Opava, Czech Republic

Please note the above events are subject to confirmation by the ICF.

The Policy also sets out eligibility conditions for athletes seeking selection.

The Policy may be amended at any time by the Committee if the Committee is of the opinion that such an amendment is necessary to give effect to the Policy following discovery of a drafting error or oversight or for any other reason determined to be in the best interests of Team Selection.

The Policy applies to the year 2011 only. Previous selection policies or criteria will have no bearing on this Policy.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. In order to be eligible for selection for the National Wild Water Senior Racing Team each athlete must;
 - a) Be a fully paid up member of Canoeing Ireland (formerly the Irish Canoe Union)
 - b) Be eligible to represent Ireland in accordance with ICF Wildwater Racing Rules, Section 3.
 - c) Inform the committee in writing (an email will suffice) before 31st December 2010 of their intention to compete for a place on the senior national team. Please contact: secretary@irishwildwaterracing.com and send a copy to chairperson@wildwaterracing.com.

2. In order to be eligible for selection for the National Wildwater Junior Racing Team each athlete must;
 - a) Be a fully paid up member of Canoeing Ireland (formerly the Irish Canoe Union).
 - b) Be eligible to represent Ireland in accordance with ICF Wildwater Racing rules Section 3
 - c) Inform the committee in writing (an email will suffice) before 31st December 2010 of their intention to compete for a place on the junior national team. Please contact: secretary@irishwildwaterracing.com and send a copy to chairperson@wildwaterracing.com .
 - d) The first year a junior competitor can compete is the year that his/her 15th birthday falls in and the last year he/she may compete as a junior is the year that his/her 18th birthday falls in.

Those athletes who achieve selection must indicate the international events in which they intend to participate, in writing or by email, to the secretary of the Wildwater Racing Committee (WWR Committee) on or before the 28th February 2011. In the event an athlete does not notify the Committee of the events in which they intend participating the Committee will take it that the athlete does not wish to be part of the National Team for 2011 and will not be entered by the Committee in any of the events.

TEAM SELECTION

The criteria for selection for the National Teams is as follows;

1. Senior Team

Senior Sprint World Championship

A team of up to four competitors in Men's K1, three in Women's K1 and three in C1 may be selected to represent Ireland in the Sprint World Championship. If a C2 crew attains national champion status, they may be considered for selection.

Nominated selection events:

Sprint Race – Aghade (22nd January 2011)

Classic Race – Avonmore (23rd January 2011)

For the selection races in each class, selection will be based on the following points system:

1st place – 9 points

2nd place – 7 points

3rd place – 6 points

- 4th place – 5 points
- 5th place – 4 points
- 6th place – 3 points
- 7th place – 2 points
- 8th place – 1 point
- 9th place and below - 0

Selection points will be added for both events and a selection ranking list will be drawn up for all competitors seeking selection from which the positions on the national team may be filled. The above points will be awarded to all athletes participating in both selection events irrespective of whether the athlete is seeking selection or not.

Senior European Championship

A team of up to four competitors in Men's K1, three in Women's K1 and three in C1 may be selected to represent Ireland in the Senior European Championship. If a C2 crew attains national champion status, they may be considered for selection.

The same selection criteria will be used as for the Sprint World Championship team. The same nominated selection events will be used as above.

World Cup Races

A team of up to six competitors in Men's K1, four in Women's K1 and four in C1 may be selected to represent Ireland in the World Cup Races. If a C2 crew attains national champion status, they may be considered for selection.

The same selection criteria will be used as for the Sprint World and European Championships team, except that more people may be selected for each category, based on the selection points accumulated. The same nominated selection events will be used as above.

2. Junior Team

Junior World Championship

A team of up to four competitors in Men's K1, three in Women's K1 and three in C1 may be selected to represent Ireland in the Junior World Championship.

Nominated selection events:

- Sprint Race – Aghade (22nd January 2011)
- Classic Race – Avonmore (23rd January 2011)

For the selection races in each class, selection will be based on the following points system:

- 1st place - 9 points
- 2nd place – 7 points
- 3rd place – 6 points
- 4th place – 5 points
- 5th place – 4 points
- 6th place – 3 points
- 7th place – 2 points
- 8th place – 1 point
- 9th place and below - 0

Selection points will be added for both events and a selection ranking list will be drawn up for all competitors seeking selection for the national team. The above points will be awarded to all athletes participating in both selection events irrespective of whether the athlete is seeking selection or not..

DISCRETIONARY PROVISIONS APPLYING TO BOTH SENIOR AND JUNIOR TEAM SELECTION

Discretion may be exercised by the Selection Panel and in exercising its discretion, the Selection Panel may consider any factor, or combination of factors that in the opinion of the Selection Panel is relevant for consideration when selecting an athlete.

An athlete may be selected where there is a clear case that an athlete should be selected but for exceptional circumstances was unable to meet the selection criteria or the Selection Panel considers the outcome of the Selection Events do not reflect the true potential of a particular athlete.

Any decision regarding discretionary selection will be made by the selection Panel with due regard to the athlete's abilities, skill level, speed and training efforts.

The Selection Panel will make the final selection of the teams.

FUNDING

It should be noted that given the current economic climate it is highly unlikely that there will be any funding available from either the Sports Council and/or Canoeing Ireland in 2011. In the event funding does become available it shall be put into a performance fund to be allocated by the WWR committee as follows:

1. Senior Team

The fund for senior team members is for outstanding performance at International events. This incentive program is based on the performance of athletes at the events referred to above. No one athlete will receive more than half of the fund. Each finish by an athlete within the performance range buys an athlete a share of the fund. A finish within 7% of the winner of a world cup race buys 3 shares (6 shares for European/Sprint World Championships). A finish within 10% of the winner of a World Cup race buys 2 shares (4 shares for European/Sprint World Championship). A finish within 13% of the winner of a World Cup race buys 1 share (2 shares for European/Sprint World Championships).

2. Junior Team

The fund for team members will be shared equally between all athletes on the junior team.

50% of the fund will be allocated to the Senior Team and 50% will be allocated to the Junior Team.

NOTES (applicable to both Senior and Junior Teams)

- The Selection Panel reserves the right to vary selection dates and the race course if unforeseen circumstances and/or weather conditions disrupt the selection timetable. If this becomes necessary, every effort will be made to inform athletes as soon as possible.
- A junior athlete wishing to compete for a place on both the junior and senior national team must ensure his/her letter/email to the Secretary specifically states this.
- Should a junior athlete wish to compete for a position on the senior team they may do strictly subject to providing at his/her own expense both an on the water and off the water chaperone (who must be over 21 years of age). The junior athlete's parent/guardian must provide the WWR committee with the name and contact details, in writing, of on the water and of the water chaperone who will be accompanying the junior athlete to the events. This information must be received by the WWR committee by the 28th February 2011. In the event this information cannot be supplied to the WWR Committee, the junior athlete will not be allowed to take his/her place on the Senior Team. No exceptions will be made to this rule.
- Wavehopper percentages will not be allowed for selection purposes.
- In the event of a tie, the aggregate percentage off the class winner's time will be the deciding factor.
- All athletes seeking team places are expected to participate fully in organised training sessions and in the national ranking WWR races.

- Competitors, who achieve the above requirements, will be required to sign a code of conduct before being deemed to be selected to represent Ireland at international events.
- The WWR Racing Selection Panel is under no obligation to fill all places on either the Junior or Senior National Team
- The WWR racing selection Panel will make the final selection of the teams.