



## IRISH WILDWATER RACING 2016 SELECTION POLICY

### A. INTRODUCTION

The Wild-Water Racing Committee aims to promote and improve the standard of Irish paddlers through International competition and improve our image on the International stage by sending teams of a high standard abroad. We also aspire to develop participation in all categories at Senior, Under 23 and Junior International events. The aim of the selection policy is therefore, to select the best paddlers to represent Ireland abroad.

The 2016 Selection Policy (the “Policy”) provides the guidelines and criteria by which the national teams will be selected for the following events taking place in the year 2016:

<b>WILDWATER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>	<b>BANJA LUKA, BOSNIA</b>	<b>01 JUNE - 05 JUNE 2016</b>
<b>U23 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>	<b>MURAU, AUSTRIA</b>	<b>29 JUNE - 02 JULY 2016</b>
<b>JUNIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>	<b>MURAU, AUSTRIA</b>	<b>29 JUNE - 02 JULY 2016</b>
<b>WORLD CUP SERIES</b>	<b>CELJE, SLOVENIA</b> <b>PAU, FRANCE</b>	<b>9 JUNE - 11 JUNE 2016</b> <b>18 JUNE - 19 JUNE 2016</b>

#### **All events subject to confirmation by the ICF**

The Policy sets out eligibility conditions for paddlers seeking selection, the selection event process, discretionary provisions, funding policy and notes relevant to the implementation of the Policy. The Policy may be amended at any time by the Wild-Water Racing Committee if it 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 2016 only. Previous selection policies or criteria will have no bearing on this Policy.

## **B. 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.

(b) Be eligible to represent Ireland in accordance with ICF Wildwater Racing Rules (Section 3).

(c) Inform the committee via email before February 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 of their intention to compete for a place on the senior national team clearly stating which class(es) they intend to compete in. (Email [secretary@irishwildwaterracing.com](mailto:secretary@irishwildwaterracing.com) and send a copy to [chairperson@irishwildwaterracing.com](mailto:chairperson@irishwildwaterracing.com). The Wild-Water Racing Committee will accept notification of a paddler's intention to be considered for selection from paddlers from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2015.

2. In order to be eligible for selection for the National Under 23 Wildwater Racing Team each paddler must;

(a) Be a fully paid up member of Canoeing Ireland.

(b) Be eligible to represent Ireland in accordance with ICF Wildwater Racing rules Section 3

(c) Inform the committee via email before February 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 of their intention to compete for a place on the junior national team clearly stating which class(es) they intend to compete in. (Email [secretary@irishwildwaterracing.com](mailto:secretary@irishwildwaterracing.com) and send a copy to [chairperson@irishwildwaterracing.com](mailto:chairperson@irishwildwaterracing.com). The Wild-Water Racing Committee will accept notification of a paddler's intention to be considered for selection from paddlers from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2016.

(d) The first year a competitor can compete is the year that his/her 15th birthday falls in and the last year he/she may compete is the year that his/her 23rd birthday falls in.

3. In order to be eligible for selection for the National Wildwater Junior Racing Team each paddler must;

(a) Be a fully paid up member of Canoeing Ireland.

(b) Be eligible to represent Ireland in accordance with ICF Wildwater Racing rules Section 3

(c) Inform the committee via email before February 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 of their intention to compete for a place on the junior national team clearly stating which class(es) they intend to compete in. (Email [secretary@irishwildwaterracing.com](mailto:secretary@irishwildwaterracing.com) and send a copy to [chairperson@irishwildwaterracing.com](mailto:chairperson@irishwildwaterracing.com)). The Wild-Water Racing Committee will accept notification of a paddler's intention to be considered for selection from paddlers from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2016.

(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.

(e) Have an ability to roll and self-rescue on whitewater.

Those paddlers 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 on or before the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016. In the event a paddler does not notify the Committee of the events in which they intend participating the Wild-Water Racing Committee will take it that the paddler does not wish to be part of the National Team for 2016 and will not be entered by the Wild-Water Racing Committee in any of the events.

## C. SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection criteria for the National Teams are as follows;

### 1. Senior Team Senior World Championship

A team of up to four competitors in all individual classes (Men's K1, Women's K1, C1 and C2) may be selected to represent Ireland in the World Championships

Nominated selection events:

**Sprint Race – Sluice Sprint Race, Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

**Classic Race – Inny Classic (first race of the day) Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2016**

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 paddlers seeking selection from which the positions on the national team may be filled. The above points will be awarded only to paddlers participating in selection events.

Note – If a C2 crew competes in four national ranking races they may be considered for selection by the selection committee or alternatively if a selected individual competitor wants to compete in C2 with another selected competitor they may do so with the discretion of the selection committee. In both cases crew must apply for selection in the same format as other paddlers, i.e. to the secretary and chairperson via email by February 1<sup>st</sup> 2016

### 2. World Cup Races

A team of up to six paddlers in all classes may be selected to represent Ireland in the World Cup Races. The same selection criteria will be used as for the World 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.

### 3. Under 23 European Championship

A team of up to four paddlers in all individual classes (Men's K1, Women's K1, C1 and C2) may be selected to represent Ireland in the Under 23 European Championship.

Nominated selection events:

**Sprint Race – Sluice Sprint Race, Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

**Classic Race – Inny Classic (first race of the day) Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2016**

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 paddlers seeking selection from which the positions on the national team may be filled. The above points will be awarded only to paddlers participating in selection events.

Note – If a C2 crew competes in four national ranking races they may be considered for selection by the selection committee or alternatively if a selected individual competitor wants to compete in C2 with another selected competitor they may do so with the discretion of the selection committee. In both cases crew must apply for selection in the same format as other paddlers, i.e. to the secretary and chairperson via email by February 1<sup>st</sup> 2016

### 4. Junior Team: Junior European Championship

A team of up to four paddlers in all individual classes (Men's K1, Women's K1, C1 and C2) may be selected to represent Ireland in the Junior European Championship.

Nominated selection events:

**Sprint Race – Sluice Sprint Race, Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

**Classic Race – Inny Classic (first race of the day) Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2016**

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 paddlers seeking selection from which the positions on the national team may be filled. The above points will be awarded only to paddlers participating in selection events.

Note – If a C2 crew competes in four national ranking races they may be considered for selection by the selection committee or alternatively if a junior selected individual competitor wants to compete in C2 with another junior selected competitor they may do so with the discretion of the selection committee. In both cases crew must apply for selection in the same format as other paddlers, i.e. to the secretary and chairperson via email by February 1<sup>st</sup> 2016

### 5. Masters competitions

Since the entry is not restricted in master's competitions, masters paddlers are responsible for securing their own entries, but must inform the Wild Water Racing Committee in writing prior to travelling. Masters competitors must also be individual members of Canoeing Ireland.

## D. DISCRETIONARY PROVISIONS

Discretion may be exercised by the Wild-Water Racing Committee and in confirming the final selection of Senior, Under 23 and Junior teams. The Wild-Water Racing Committee may consider any factor, or combination of factors that in the opinion of the Wild-Water Racing Committee, is relevant for consideration when selecting a paddler. A paddler may be selected where there is a clear case that a paddler should be selected but for exceptional circumstances was unable to meet the selection criteria. A paddler must inform the Wild-Water Racing Committee if they intend to avail of discretionary provisions, citing the reasons by the evening of the last selection race, and preferably sooner, if possible.

## **E. FUNDING POLICY**

Subject to funding being available for travel to international competition, the division of funding will be as follows:

### **1. Senior Team & Under 23 Team (50% of the total fund will be divided among the Senior and Under 23 Team, up to a maximum of 75% of the total trip cost)**

The fund for senior and under 23 team members is for outstanding performance at International events. This incentive program is based on the performance of paddlers at the events referred to above. No one paddler will receive more than half of the fund. Each finish by a paddler within the performance range buys a paddler a share of the fund. A finish within 7% of the winner of a world cup race buys 3 shares (6 shares for World championships, European Championships or Under 23 Championships). A finish within 10% of the winner of a World Cup race buys 2 shares (4 shares for World, European Championships or Under 23 European Championships). A finish within 13% of the winner of a World Cup race buys 1 share (2 shares for World, European Championships or Under 23 European Championships).

### **2. Junior Team (50% of the total fund will go to the Junior Team, up to a maximum of 75% of the total trip cost)**

Each of the paddlers on the team will receive an equal share of the fund.

## F. NOTES RELEVANT TO POLICY

1. The Wild-Water Racing Committee 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 paddlers as soon as possible.
2. A junior paddler wishing to compete for a place on both the junior and under 23 national team must ensure his/her letter/email to the Secretary specifically states this. Juniors are deemed eligible to race in the under 23 European Championships, but priority for the under 23 team will be given to paddlers who are eligible to race under 23, but are too old to race as a junior. A junior who races in both the Junior World Championships and the Under 23 World Championships (which are hosted at the same venue) will only be eligible for funding for the junior event. Juniors preferring to compete solely in the junior event, may be required to also compete in the Under 23 event, should the team need them to facilitate a team event, or should the organisers specifically request their participation in the Under 23 event
3. Juniors (those whose 18<sup>th</sup> birthday falls in 2016 or later) are not eligible to race at Senior World Cup or World Championship events, other than the under 23 World Championships.
4. In the event of a tie in selection points, the aggregate percentage off the class winner's time will be the deciding factor.
5. All paddlers, who achieve the above criteria, will be required to sign a code of conduct before being deemed to be selected to represent Ireland at international events.
6. The Irish Wild Water Racing committee Constitution Section 5.2: "The best 60% of ranking race results (to the closest integer) out of the total number of races held in each season will be taken into account for the individual championship points."
7. The Wild-Water Racing Committee will make the final selection of the teams, subject to the right of appeal. If deemed necessary, the Wild-Water Racing Committee may appoint a selection sub-committee to adjudicate over the selection of senior and/or junior national teams.