

IRISH WILDWATER RACING 2020 SELECTION POLICY

A. INTRODUCTION

The Wildwater 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 2020 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 2020:

26/04/2020 to 30/04/2020	ICF WILDWATER CANOEING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS	CLASSIC/SPRINT + MASTER	NANTAHALA UNITED STATES
03/05/2020 to 04/05/2020	ICF WILDWATER CANOEING WORLD CUP 1&2	CLASSIC & SPRINT	ALBRIGHT UNITED STATES
07/05/2020 to 08/05/2020	ICF WILDWATER CANOEING WORLD CUP 3&4	CLASSIC & SPRINT	ALBRIGHT UNITED STATES
19/08/2020 to 22/08/2020	ECA JUNIOR AND U23 WILDWATER CANOEING EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP	SPRINT & CLASSIC	SOLKAN
13/12/2020	ICF WILDWATER CANOEING WORLD CUP 5	SPRINT	SEU D’URGELL

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 Wildwater 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 2020 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 Wildwater 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 January 3rd 2020 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 and send a copy to chairperson@irishwildwaterracing.com. The Wildwater Racing Committee will accept notification of a paddler's intention to be considered for selection from paddlers from December 13th 2020

(d) Compete in at least three national championship ranking races in the 2019-2020 season for the category/class(es) in which they intend to compete in internationally (See Note 6).

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 January 3rd 2020 of their intention to compete for a place on the National Under 23 team clearly stating which class(es) they intend to compete in. (Email secretary@irishwildwaterracing.com and send a copy to chairperson@irishwildwaterracing.com. The Wild-Water Racing Committee will accept notification of a paddler's intention to be considered for selection from paddlers from December 13th 2020.

(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.

(e) Compete in at least four national championship ranking races in the 2019-2020 season for the category/class (es) in which they intend to compete in internationally (see Note 6)

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) The parent /guardian must inform the committee via email before January 3rd 2020 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 and send a copy to chairperson@irishwildwaterracing.com). The Wildwater Racing Committee will accept notification of a paddler's intention to be considered for selection from paddlers from December 13th 2020.

(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) Compete in at least four national championship ranking races in the 2019-2020 season for the category/class(es) in which they intend to compete in internationally (see Note 6).

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

The parents /guardians of 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 January 3rd 2020. In the event a paddler does not notify the Committee of the events in which they intend participating the Wildwater Racing Committee will take it that the paddler does not wish to be part of the National Team for 2020 and will not be entered by the Wildwater 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 Sprint 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 Sprint Championships
Nominated selection events:

Sprint Race – Thomastown Race Sunday 19th January 2020

Classic race – Aughtim race Sunday 5th January 2020 (applies to world cup races).

For the selection race in 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 this event 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 the selection event.

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 January 3rd 2020.

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 World 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 World Championship.

Nominated selection events:

Sprint Race – Thomastown Race Sunday 19th January 2020

Classic Race – Aughrim race Sunday 5th January 2020

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 January 3rd 2020.

4. Junior Team: Junior World 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 World Championship.

Nominated selection events:

Sprint Race – Thomastown Race Sunday 19th January 2020

Classic Race – Aughrim race Sunday 5th January 2020

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 January 3rd 2020

5. Masters competitions

Since the entry is not restricted in master's competitions, master's paddlers are responsible for securing their own entries, but must inform the Wildwater 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 Wildwater Racing Committee and in confirming the final selection of Senior, Under 23 and Junior teams. The Wildwater Racing Committee may consider any factor, or combination of factors that in the opinion of the Wildwater 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 were unable to meet the selection criteria. A paddler must inform the Wildwater 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:

The funding will be distributed equally amongst all the paddlers (i.e. Seniors, Under 23 and Juniors) taking part in the above events.

E.G. 4 seniors, 4 under 23 and 4 juniors the funding will be divided by 12,

Seniors and Under 23 Paddlers:

The committee will pay the funding directly to each paddler upon receipt of expenses.

Junior Paddlers:

The junior funding will not be paid to the paddler, but will be given to the Junior Team Manager upon receipt of expenses.

F. NOTES RELEVANT TO POLICY

1. The Wildwater Racing Committee reserves the right to vary selection dates and the racecourse 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 World 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. A Junior paddler wishing to compete at Senior World Cup or World Championship events must inform the secretary by letter / email. A junior who races in junior, U23 and senior will only receive funding for one event.
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 Wildwater 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 Wildwater Racing Committee will make the final selection of the teams, subject to the right of appeal. If deemed necessary, the Wildwater Racing Committee may appoint a selection sub-committee to adjudicate over the selection of senior and/or junior national teams.