

American Canoe Association (ACA)
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES and CRITERIA
General Information
for
2023 ICF Canoe Sprint World Cup Series 1 & 2
2023 ICF U23 & Junior Canoe Sprint World Championships
2023 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships & World Cup 3

DRAFTED BY: Sprint Competition Committee
RESPONSIBILITY: SPRINT COMPETITION COMMITTEE
DATE APPROVED: 2/14/23

Please see individual selection procedures for each team

A. OBJECTIVES

The primary objective is to select our fastest athletes with the focus on success in Olympic events at the World Championships as this is a qualification regatta for Paris Olympic Quotas.

A second objective is to continue to develop our athlete pool for the best representation and results in international and future Olympic Competition through use of the non-Olympic events for race and competition experience.

The final objective is to select our best aged paddlers for the ICF Juniors and U23 CSP WCH. This will help build our team's talent and experience towards the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games.

B. SELECTION SYSTEM

Minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the National Teams are covered by this selection system.

- i. Nationality/Passport requirements:
 1. Citizenship is not an eligibility requirement to compete on behalf of the United States at the 2023 ICF CSP WCS 1 & 2, or the ICF Junior and U23 CSP WCH.
 2. Citizenship is not an eligibility requirement to compete on behalf of the United States at the 2023 ICF CSP WCH in non-Olympic events.
 3. An athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of nomination for all Olympic Qualification Events at the 2023 ICF CSP WCH.
- ii. An athlete must meet ICF eligibility rules outlined in the [ICF Canoe Sprint Competition Rules](#).
- iii. Team Boat Selection: The ACA Canoe Sprint coach(es) nominates athletes for the positions in the Team Boats based on demonstrated performance during the National Team Trials Day 3. The coach(es) must provide nominations, supporting

results, and written rationale to the ACA Sprint Competition Committee (SCC) for review. No member of the voting committee will be permitted to cast a vote in which they themselves or a relative are competing. If the conflict of interest is from an athlete, then the AAC Athlete Representative will fill the interim voting role. If the conflict of interest is from a relative, then the National Team Coach of the opposite discipline will fill the interim vote.

Disclosure: Qualification to the team boat pool does not guarantee an athlete be selected to the National Team.

iv. Other requirements (if any):

1. Athletes must be turning 15 years of age in 2023 to compete at the USA National Team Trials.
2. Athletes must be in good standing with ACA at the Team Trials and all National and International competitions.
3. **Athletes must complete all competition registration requirements by the stated deadline: Deadline for final confirmation is March 7, 2023.**
4. **At the conclusion of the USA Team Trials a meeting will take place with all National Team Athletes and a \$500 deposit for each of the National Team Tours the athlete has accepted nomination for, will be collected.**
5. The travel policy with National Team Agreement, Athlete Code of Conduct and Pre- Acceptance will be required to be signed by an athlete prior to the first day of USA National Team Trials.
6. Athletes will only be eligible for the competitions and teams for which they have registered and paid the deposit by the above deadline.
7. All eligibility and services apply to the qualified team members from the 2023 USA CSP National Team Trials until subsequent USA CSP National Team Trials are held.
8. Any athlete age 18 or older is required to undergo background screening in accordance with the current ACA Background Check Policy.
9. Any athlete age 18 or older as of the last day of the competition covered by these procedures is required to remain current with the US Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements in accordance with the [ACA/USOPC Athlete Safety Policies](#).
10. Athletes must complete up to date ICF Anti-Doping education prior to the start of trials. It is expected to have Drug Testing at the trials

C. SELECTION EVENT

i. THE 2023 USA JUNIOR, U23, AND SENIOR CSP NATIONAL TEAM TRIALS

VENUE: LAKE NATOMA, FOLSOM, CALIFORNIA

DATES: April 13th - 15th, 2023.

COMPETITION SCOPE: The National Teams will be nominated for the following competitions based on the results from this competition.

1. SELECTION FOR THE ICF CSP WCS 1 & 2 CANOE & KAYAK TEAM
2. SELECTION FOR THE ICF CSP JUNIOR and U23 WCH NATIONAL CANOE & KAYAK TEAM
3. SELECTION FOR THE CSP USA SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS & WORLD CUP 3 NATIONAL CANOE & KAYAK TEAM

- ii. The following thirteen events will be raced at the 2023 USA CSP National Team Trials, and results are computed independently for each age group

SR. MEN'S KAYAK	SR. WOMEN'S KAYAK	SR. MEN'S CANOE	SR. WOMEN'S CANOE
K1 1000 / 500 / 200	K1 500 / 200	C1 1000 / 500	C1 500 / 200
K2 500	K2 500	C2 500	C2 500

JR. MEN'S KAYAK	JR. WOMEN'S KAYAK	JR. MEN'S CANOE	JR. WOMEN'S CANOE
K1 1000 / 500 / 200	K1 500 / 200	C1 1000	C1 events raced in Senior
K2 500	K2 500	C2 raced in Senior	C2 raced in Senior

- iii. The 2023 USA CSP National Team Trials is a three day event. Kayak events will be raced in Junior and Senior race categories and Canoe events will all be raced in the Senior category, except in the C1 1000m event where the juniors will race separate from U23/Seniors. An athlete will be ranked in every category they compete in - i.e. A Junior Kayak athlete could race in both Junior and Senior age categories and be eligible to race in any of the events they qualify for.

iv. CANCELED RACES AND EVENTS

In consultation with the Sprint Competition Committee, the Chief Official shall designate additional races to replace the canceled race or races(s) if one or more are canceled for any reason. Any replacement race shall be held as soon as possible either during or after the scheduled races as determined by the Chief Official and SCC.

v. EVENT ORDER AND START INTERVALS

The Chief Official establishes the final event order, start interval, and the overall schedule as soon as possible after the close of the registration period for the 2023 USA CSP National Team Trials. This will be at least one week prior to the event start. The HOC will communicate the competition schedule to athletes, coaches and officials via email no later than 6 pm local time 7-days before the first day of the competition.

A minimum of 45 minutes between each race must be provided to athletes competing in any two events. ICF Progressions will be used which allow for as many finals as needed for selection and rankings. The K1/C1 and K2/C2 events will be on Day One and Two, and team boat selections as needed on Day Three conducted by the Head Coaches in accordance with the selection procedure set out in these documents.

vi. BOAT SEEDING

Seeding for trials is based on random selection.

The proposed Teams will be announced at the end of trials and will be finalized once accepted by the ACA and USOPC.

D. EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

If an athlete is ill, injured, or unable following the Trials and is unable to train, travel, or compete, the Sprint Competition Committee may, but is not required, name a replacement where appropriate. The replacement would come from the next highest ranking athlete/boat in the respective discipline.

Note: All athletes are strongly encouraged to purchase travel insurance.

The Sprint Competition Committee reserves the right to review "unforeseen circumstances" from the Trials in its deliberations on final team selections.

E. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by the ACA may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by the Sprint Competition Committee.

- i.** Voluntary withdrawal: Athletes must submit a written letter to the ACA Sprint High Performance Manager; Non-payment of any required deposits or fees will be seen as a voluntary withdrawal from the team and any payments already made are non-refundable.
- ii.** Injury or illness may result in removal as certified by an approved ACA or USOPC physician (or medical staff).
- iii.** If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by an approved ACA physician (or medical staff), his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- iv.** Violation of the ACA's Athlete Code of Conduct will result in removal from the National Team.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the ACA's Bylaws.

An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team at any time for violation of IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, ICF, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable. In such instances, the adjudication process will be managed through the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

F. INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

TRAINING CAMPS OR COMPETITIONS

Athletes will be notified of all training and/or competitions at least 30 days prior to the start of the mandatory training or competitions.

ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, WADA, ICF, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-

of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, WADA, ICF, USADA and USOPC Rules, as applicable.

ACA GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

The ACA Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at the [ACA Website](#).

INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC, as applicable, and/or ICF rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, as applicable, and/or ICF rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to the ACA. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency. If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the Sprint Selection Committee.

ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by the ACA may contact the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman. The Athlete Ombuds Office provides cost-free, independent and confidential advice regarding athlete rights, grievance procedures and any other related guidance pertaining to selection procedures and can assist in mediating disputes between athletes and their NGB/HPMO.

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: www.usathlete.org

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GLOSSARY

Sport	The sport is canoeing, kayaking, and all paddling activities.
National Federation	Member National Federation of the International Canoe Federation.
Discipline	A discipline is a branch of a sport comprising one (1) or several events (e.g., Canoe Sprint, Canoe Slalom, ...).
Competition	The competition runs from the start of the first event to the completion of the last event of a discipline, excluding the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.
Athlete or player	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Male or female athlete• Canoe Polo discipline refers to a player

Gender	Men or Women
Boat	A boat is a watercraft used to practice canoeing (e.g., canoe, kayak, SUP): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A single boat: a boat with only one (1) place for an athlete (e.g., kayak single) • A crew boat: a boat with more than one (1) place for an athlete (e.g., canoe four).
Age group	e.g., Junior, under 21, under 23, masters depending on each discipline
Category	A category is defined by a boat and a gender (e.g., Men's Kayak, Mixed Canoe).
Class	A class is defined by a category and the number of people in a boat (e.g., men's kayak double; women's canoe four).
Event	An event is a contest in one (1) discipline resulting in the award of medals. An event is defined by at least a class and depending on the competition and the discipline with the additional optional information: a distance and/or an age group (e.g., Junior men's K2 500m, under 23 women's C1).
Type of event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual events: A boat composed of one (1) athlete competing against other athletes in single boats. • Team events: two (2) or more athletes are competing together against other teams.
Event Phase	A stage of the competition (e.g.heats, semi-final, final).
Run or race or match	The basic unit of an event phase (e.g., heats 1st run, semi-final, final).
Competition program	The list of events included in a competition.
Competition schedule	The complete list of events and their different phases with the time at which they will be held.
International Technical Official (ITO)	Oversee the operation of the competition.
Host Organizing Committee (HOC)	The host organizing committee can be a National Federation, a subsidiary, or a third-party organization specializing in competition management.
Definition of meaning	<p>may: optional</p> <p>should: recommendation</p> <p>must: mandatory/compulsory</p>
Junior National Team	USA Junior Canoe Sprint National Team USA Junior CSP National Team
National Team	USA (Senior) Canoe Sprint National Team USA CSP National Team
U23 National Team	USA U23 Canoe Sprint National Team USA U23 CSP National Team
Team Trials	USA Canoe Sprint National Team Trials USA CSP National Team Trials

K. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACA	American Canoe Association (The USA National Governing Body for the sports of Canoe & Kayak)
AAC	Athletes Advisory Council
COPAC	<u>Confederación Panamericana de Canoas, or in English, Pan American Canoe Confederation</u>
CSP	Canoe Sprint Program
CSPC	Canoe Sprint Technical Committee
C1, C2, C4	Single Person Canoe, Double Person Canoe, Four Person Canoe
DQB	Disqualification for unsportsmanlike behavior
DSQ	Disqualification for the run
DNS	Did not start
DNF	Did not finish
HOC	Host Organizing Committee
ICF	<u>International Canoe Federation</u>
ICF Jr & U23 CSP WCH	ICF Junior & U23 Canoe Sprint World Championship
ICF JCSP	ICF International Judge Canoe Sprint
IJCSP	International Judge Canoe Sprint
K1, K2, K4	Single Person Kayak, Double Person Kayak, Four Person Kayak
USOPC	United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee
WCH	World Championships
WCS 1 & 2	World Cup Series 1 & 2
WCS 3	World Cup Series 3
PAG	Pan American Games