



American Canoe Association (ACA)
P.O. Box 7996 | Fredericksburg, Virginia 22404
Phone: +1.540.907.4460 | www.americancanoe.org

American Canoe Association (ACA)
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
for
2022 ICF Paracanoe World Championships
2022 ICF Canoe Paracanoe World Cup
2022 Pan-American Championships

March 13, 2022

CONTENT

1	GLOSSARY	2
2	LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	3
3	OBJECTIVE	3
4	SELECTION SYSTEM	3
5	DISCRETIONARY SELECTION	8
6	REMOVAL OF ATHLETES	8
7	REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES	9
8	SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	9
9	REQUIRED DOCUMENTS	9
10	PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES	9
11	DATE OF NOMINATION	9
12	MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION	9
13	ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS	10
14	SAFESPORT REQUIREMENT	10
15	DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES	10
16	ACA BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES	10
17	INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER	10
18	ATHLETE OMBUDS OFFICE	10
19	ACA SIGNATURES	11

1 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	<p>A boat is a watercraft used to practice canoeing (e.g., canoe, kayak, SUP):</p> <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 places in a boat (e.g., men's kayak double; women canoe four).
Event	<p>An event is a contest in one (1) discipline resulting in the award of medals.</p> <p>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 kayak double 500m, under 23 women's kayak single, men's canoe double classic).</p>
Type of event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual events: A boat comprised of one (1) or more athletes competing against other boats. • Team events: two (2) or more boats are competing together against other teams.
Event Phase	A stage of the competition (e.g., preliminaries, 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • may: optional • should: recommendation • must: mandatory/compulsory
National Team	USA Paracanoe National Team
Team Trials	USA Paracanoe National Team Trials

2 LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACA	American Canoe Association (The USA National Governance Body for the sports of Canoe & Kayak)
AAC	Athletes Advisory Council
COPAC	Confederación Panamericana de Canoas, or in English, Pan American Canoe Confederation
CSPC	Canoe Sprint Committee
DQB	Disqualification for unsportsmanlike behavior
DSQ	Disqualification for the run
DNS	Did not start
DNF	Did not finish
HOC	Host Organizing Committee
ICF	International Canoe Federation
IPC	International Paralympic Committee
ITO	International Technical Official
PC	Paracanoe Committee
USOPC	United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee
WADA	World Anti-Doping Agency
WCH	World Championships
WCS	World Cup Series

3 OBJECTIVE

The purpose of naming the National Team is to identify top-performing athletes who can be internationally successful and raise the level of competition in the USA. Being a member of the National Team is an honor and privilege earned by an athlete's hard work and effort towards being the best in the World.

4 SELECTION SYSTEM

4.1 Minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the National Team

4.1.1 Nationality/Passport requirements

- Citizenship is not an eligibility requirement to compete on behalf of the United States at the 2022 ICF Paracanoe WC, the 2022 ICF Paracanoe WCH, and the 2022 Pan-American Championships.

4.1.2 Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC), and/or Panam Sports Organization (Panam Sports) (PAG and PPAG only) standards for participation

Any competitor in the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, or Parapan American Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) or National Paralympic Committee (NPC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the Olympic Charter (Rule 41), the IPC Handbook (section 2, chapter 3.1), or the Panam Sports Constitution (article 30.5-6).

4.1.3 Minimum International Federation (IF) and/or Continental Federation (CF) (PAG and PPAG only) standards for participation (if any)

An athlete must meet ICF eligibility rules outlined in the [ICF Paracanoe Competition Rules](#), Section 1.3 - Athlete Eligibility for ICF Competition (Level 1 to 3).

4.1.4 Other requirements (if any)

- Athletes must be in good standing with ACA at the Team Trials and all National and International competitions.
- Athletes must complete all competition registration requirements by the stated deadline.
- Any athlete age 18 or older is required to undergo a background screening in accordance with the current ACA Background Check Policy.
- 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.
- Athletes listed on the ICF Master Classification List with other than NE (not eligible) Sport Class can compete in these trials. Athletes not previously classified in the United States or at an ICF/COPAC event will be contacted by a Classifier to ensure their eligibility through medical record review and perhaps with a virtual or in-person examination. International classifiers make the final determination of the Sport Class at an ICF or COPAC event.
- Athletes must ensure they meet the current COVID vaccination, testing, or quarantine requirements to travel (including intermediate stops) to Poland and Canada. Attention must be paid to the different requirements for entering Canada by air, sea, or land.
- Athletes competing at the ICF Paracanoe World Cup must have a passport with an expiration date six months after departure from Poland. Athletes competing at the World Championships/Pan American Championships must have either a Nexus card or passport with an expiration date six months after departure from Canada.

4.2 Tryout Events

4.2.1 The 2022 USA Paracanoe National Team Trials are scheduled on Lake Natoma, Folsom, California, April 15-16, 2022 (concurrently with the 2022 USA Canoe Sprint National Team Trials).

4.2.2 The following twelve events are featured at the 2022 USA Paracanoe National Team Trials, and results are computed independently for each event

Table 1: Paris 2024 Paralympic Events

2024 Paralympic Events		
#	Event Name	Gender
1/2	KL1 200m	Women's / Men's
3/4	KL2 200m	Women's / Men's
5/6	KL3 200m	Women's / Men's
7/8	VL2 200m	Women's / Men's
9/10	VL3 200m	Women's / Men's

Table 2: 2022 World Championships Events

2022 World Cup and WCH Events		
#	Event Name	Gender
11/12	VL1 200m	Women's / Men's

4.3 Method of conducting the national team trials

4.3.1 The 2022 USA Paracanoe National Team Trials are a two-day competition to nominate athletes to the 2022 National Team positions. Suppose only a few athletes register to compete at the Team Trials. In that case, the Team Trials are a one-day competition, and the remaining day is the National Team Training Camp.

4.3.2 Canceled races or events

In consultation with the ACA's GM High-Performance Programs, the Chief Official shall designate additional races to replace the canceled race or event(s) if one or more races or events are canceled for any reason. Any replacement race or event shall be held as soon as possible after completing the final scheduled race. ACA's GM HPP decides whether the replacement race or events shall be organized on the same or an alternate venue.

4.3.3 Event order and start interval

The Chief Official establishes the event order, start interval, and the overall schedule after the close of the registration period for the 2022 USA Paracanoe National Team Trials. The HOC communicates the competition schedule to athletes and officials no later than 6 pm local time a day before the first day of the competition. A minimum of 45 minutes between each race must be provided to athletes competing in two events.

4.3.4 Boat seeding in heats

4.3.4.i Suppose fewer than nine (9) Paracanoe athletes register to compete in the Team Trials. In that case, all Paracanoe athletes compete in one Final. The coaching staff determines competition seeding in consultation with the ACA GM HPP.

4.3.4.ii Suppose more than nine (9) Paracanoe athletes register to compete in the Team Trials and fewer than five (5) register for an event. In that case, the athletes in that event may be seeded with athletes of a different classification in the same manner as outlined in section 4.3.4.i.

4.3.5 Applicability of the results of the 2022 USA Paracanoe Team Trials

- The results of the Team Trials determine which boat is eligible for nomination to the 2022 USA Paracanoe National Team, i.e., boat eligibility to compete in the 2022 ICF World Cup, the 2022 ICF World Championships, and the 2022 Panam Championships.

- Determine eligibility to receive the National Team coaching, potential funding from USOPC/ACA, and other benefits that the USOPC/ACA may provide from time to time.
- All eligibility and services apply to the qualified boats from the 2022 Team Trials until ACA organizes subsequent Team Trials.
- A boat that does not accept the National Team nomination has no rights to these benefits.

4.3.6 Selection of boats for the 2022 ICF World Cup, 2022 ICF World Championships, and the 2022 Pan-American Championships

4.3.6.i The 2022 USA Paracanoe National Team Size

Table 3: The 2022 USA Paracanoe National Team Size

	Women's	Men's
Kayak	6	6
Va'a	6	6
Sub-Total	12	12
Total	24	

4.3.6.ii The ICF allocates two (2) boats per event per National Federation

4.3.6.iii The top two ranked boats in each event at the 2022 USA Paracanoe National Team Trials are selected and have the right of first refusal to be nominated to the 2022 USA Paracanoe National Team.

4.3.6.iv The National Team training camp(s) dates are announced before the beginning of the 2022 USA Paracanoe National Team Trials.

4.3.7 Selection of athletes for available Direct Athletes Support (DAS) stipend provided by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC) for the Paralympic events

4.3.7.i The ACA chose the Event Adjusted Percentage (EAP) methodology to determine performance standards for each event. The EAP sets a baseline standard by which each event's performance is evaluated regarding the expected standard at a highly competitive international competition. The EAP is computed based on the assumption that one of the athletes achieves a run at an International Standard at any given race day in one of the events. This run is identified by adjusting each of the event's results by the expected difference between the events. When the international athletes compete in the USA Paracanoe National Team Trials, their results are included in calculating the "Best run of the day."

4.3.7.ii Computation of ACA Quality Standard

Step 1: The best result in each event is divided by the 2022 Event Adjustment Percentages (EAP), Table 4.

Table 4: 2022 Event Adjustment Percentages (EAP)¹

Event	Event Adjustment Percentage (%)
MKL1	119.16
MKL2	105.54
MKL3	100.00
MVL2	135.13
MVL3	123.46
WKL1	139.82
WKL2	128.60
WKL3	124.79
WVL2	150.82
WVL3	164.85

Step 2: The lowest result after Step 1 is selected (this might be in any event).

Step 3: The event adjusted baseline for each event is determined by multiplying the result selected in Step 2 by the expected difference between the events (see EAP in Table 4).

Step 4: Finally, each event’s result from Step 3 is multiplied by 125% in 2022 to establish the ACA Quality Standards for events.

4.3.7.ii.1 Example computation of the ACA Quality Standard

Table 5: Computation of the EAP limit for Junior events.

EAP Table 4		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	
Event	Best run of the day	Event Adjustment Factor (2022)	Calculation Per Event	The Standard	Event Adjusted Baseline	2022 ACA Quality Standard @25% limit
MKL1	0:48.298	119.16%	0:40.531	0:40.521	0:48.287	1:00.358
MKL2	0:42.788	105.54%	0:40.542	0:40.521	0:42.766	0:53.457
MKL3	0:40.540	100.00%	0:40.540	0:40.521	0:40.521	0:50.651
MVL2	0:54.776	135.13%	0:40.536	0:40.521	0:54.756	1:08.445
MVL3	0:50.060	123.46%	0:40.549	0:40.521	0:50.026	1:02.532
WKL1	0:56.679	139.82%	0:40.538	0:40.521	0:56.655	1:10.819
WKL2	0:52.138	128.60%	0:40.543	0:40.521	0:52.109	1:05.137
WKL3	0:50.570	124.79%	0:40.524	0:40.521	0:50.567	1:03.209
WVL2	1:01.165	150.82%	0:40.555	0:40.521	1:01.114	1:16.392
WVL3	1:06.799	164.85%	0:40.521	0:40.521	1:06.799	1:23.499

¹ The 2022 Event Adjustment Percentages are calculated based on the results from the 2018 ICF WC, 2018 ICF WCH, 2019 ICF WWCH, 2021 ICF WC, and 2020 Tokyo Games (in 2021) – for more information, see [ACA’s website](#).

5 DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

- 5.1 Provide a rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any)
- 5.1.1 Suppose two or fewer athletes register for the competition in an event after the close of the 2022 USA Paracanoe Team Trials registration period. In that case, the ACA Paracanoe Athlete Selection Committee can nominate the registered athletes to the National Team without competition in the event.
- 5.1.2 Suppose an athlete cannot attend the 2022 Team Trials because of the ongoing COVID pandemic or an injury. In that case, the ACA Paracanoe Athlete Selection Committee can nominate an athlete to the National Team after reviewing the documentation of illness or injury communicated in an email to the [ACA Executive Director](#), and a copy to [GM High-Performance Programs](#).
- 5.2 List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used (if any)
- 5.2.1 Any athlete nominated to the National Team through the discretionary selection process is not eligible for the DAS.
- 5.3 Provide the name of the ACA Paracanoe Athlete Selection Committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles currently serving on the committee.
1. ACA Paracanoe National Team Coach
 2. USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative²
 3. ACA GM High-Performance Programs
- 5.3.1 The process used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee
Any member of the selection committee that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict exists, the selection committee member must recuse him/herself from committee discussions and voting. Further, the committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the selection process. However, a committee member who recused him/herself, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example, a national team coach or high-performance director, may, if requested by the selection committee, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the committee member who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.

6 REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 6.1 An athlete who is nominated to any 2022 USA Paracanoe National Team may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by the ACA
- Voluntary withdrawal. The athlete must submit a notice via an email to the [ACA Executive Director](#), and a copy to [GM High-Performance Programs](#) and the USA Paracanoe National Team Coach(es).
 - Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the ACA. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the ACA, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling, and he/she may be removed. The athlete must submit an email with

² If the USOPC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority. Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the ACA, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

- appropriate documentation to the [ACA Executive Director](#) and a copy to [GM High-Performance Programs](#) and the USA Paracanoe National Team Coach.
- Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in section 12 of these procedures.
 - Violation of the ACA Athletes' Code of Conduct or any ACA Athlete Agreement violation.
- An athlete removed from the National Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the [ACA's Grievance Policy Gov-013](#) and the [USOPC Bylaws, section 9](#).
- 6.2 An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the National Team or from the National Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, Panam Sports, IPC, WADA, ICF, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and ACA's SafeSport policies, as applicable.
- 7 REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES
- The replacement athlete is selected through the 2022 USA Paracanoe National Team Trials taking the next ranked athlete by rank order.
- 8 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS
- ACA will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the last International Competition covered by these Selection Procedures.
- 9 REQUIRED DOCUMENTS
- In addition to the ACA Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of participation in the 2022 USA Paracanoe National Team Trials and nomination to the National Team
- The ACA Participation in Training and Competitions: Agreement and Waiver
 - The ACA National Team Trials COVID Mitigation Plan
 - ACA Trials COVID Response and Review
 - Authorization for Release of Medical Information (COVID-19)
- These documents are available to the athletes on the ACA website: <https://americancanoe.org> at least fourteen days before the Trials.
- 10 PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES
- The ACA-approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) are posted/published in the following location(s): <https://americancanoe.org>. These procedures shall be posted on the ACA website by **March 15, 2022**, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the ACA Executive Director.
- 11 DATE OF NOMINATION
- Nominations of the 2022 USA Paracanoe National Team Athletes are completed on **April 17, 2022**.
- 12 MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION
- Athletes are notified of all planned USA Paracanoe National Team training camps and competitions on or before **April 17, 2022**.

13 ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, WADA, IF, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, WADA, IF, USADA and USOPC rules, as applicable.

14 SAFESPORT REQUIREMENT

All athletes, officials, ACA Staff, Contractors, and volunteers must understand and adhere to [ACA SafeSport](#) and [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention \(MAAP\) Policy](#). This includes SafeSport training and background check requirements for applicable adults that can be found on the [ACA Athlete Resources Page](#).

15 DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures

- Rok Sribar, ACA GM High-Performance Programs
- Deborah Page, Team Leader & Coach
- Douglas Ellery, Coach
- Steve (Blake) Haxton, 10-y Athlete
- Stanton Collins, ACA Athlete Safety and Compliance Manager, 10-y Athlete

16 ACA BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The ACA Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at

- [ACA Bylaws](#)
- [Grievance Policy](#)

17 INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, as applicable, and/or your IF rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, Panam Sports, as applicable, and/or your IF rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to 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 USOPC.

18 ATHLETE OMBUDS OFFICE

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 ACA.

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000

EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org

WEBSITE: www.usathlete.org

19 ACA SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by ICF and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by ACA.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
ACA Executive Director	Beth Spilman		
ACA General Manager High-Performance Programs	Rok Sribar		
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Kenny Kasperbauer		

* If the USOPC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the ACA, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOPC AAC Representative, the ACA must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.