

American Canoe Association
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2025 Junior World Championships Team
Last Modified April 3, 2025

1 Selection System

1.1 Eligibility Requirements

- 1.1.1** Each athlete must meet ICF eligibility rules outlined in the ICF Canoe Sprint Competition Rules, Section 1.3 - Athlete Eligibility for ICF Competition (Level 1 to 3).
- 1.1.2** Athletes must have signed and submitted the athlete eligibility conditions forms.
- 1.1.3** Each athlete must be at least 15-years old by December 31st 2025.
- 1.1.4** Athletes must be in good standing with ACA at the Team Trials and all National and International competitions.
- 1.1.5** Any athlete age 18 or older is required to undergo a background screening in accordance with the current ACA Background Check Policy.
- 1.1.6** Any athlete age 18 or older will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport's education and training requirements.

1.2 Selection Events

1.2.1 Event Name

The selection process will take place during the 2025 USA CSP National Team Trials in Chula Vista, CA. The selection races will be held on April 14th and 15th.

1.2.2 Qualification for Event listed in Section 1.2.1

The 2025 USA CSP National Team Trials are open to all ACA members meeting the requirements stated in Section 1.1.

The selection system is described in Sections 1.6 and 1.7.

1.3 Selection Rationale

The selection of the Junior National Team for the 2025 racing season is based on the following concepts:

- The goal is to field the largest possible competitive team for the 2025 Junior World Championships, while evolving the high-performance standards of the ACA/SCC looking forward to future competitions.
- We hope to identify and develop a competitive pool of Junior National Team athletes where we expect performance expectations will change over time.

1.4 Selection Scope

The following selection criteria is intended for the selection of teams representing the US/ACA at the following events:

- Junior World Championships (July 23-27, 2025)

1.4.1 Maximum Team Size

The maximum team size for the Junior World Championships is shown in the table below.

Category	Number
Men's Kayak	8
Women's Kayak	8
Men's Canoe	8
Women's Canoe	8
Total	32

Representation of the US/ACA outside of these events at international events will be at the discretion of the Sprint Competition Committee.

1.5 Structure of the Trials

K1/C1 and K2/C2 Racing

- Mens Kayak - K1 1000m, K1 500m, K2 500m
- Mens Canoe - C1 1000m, C1 500m, C2 500m
- Womens Kayak - K1 500m, K2 500m
- Womens Canoe - C1 200m, C1 500m, C2 500m

1.6 Kayak Team Selection Process

1.6.1 K1 Selection Procedure

Mens K1 Selection Procedure

K1 1000m: The winner of the Mens K1 1000m will be given the opportunity to race the event.

K1 500m: The winner of the Mens K1 500m will be given the opportunity to race the event.

K1 200m: The winner of the Mens K1 500m will be given the opportunity to race the event.

Womens K1 Selection Procedure

K1 1000m: The winner of the Womens K1 500m will be given the opportunity to race the event.

K1 500m: The winner of the Womens K1 500m will be given the opportunity to race the event.

K1 200m: The winner of the Womens K1 500m will be given the opportunity to race the event.

1.6.2 Team Boat Selection Procedure

The same process will be followed for men's kayak and women's kayak.

K2 500m Selection Procedure

The winner of the K2 500m will be selected to the Junior Team if each athlete in the winning K2 500m meters event races K1 500m and their individual times in the K1 500m are within 7% of the winner of the Junior K1 500m. They will also be nominated to the Team Boat Pool.

See Section 1.6.4 for the procedure if an athlete(s) declines the opportunity to race the event.

Team Boat Pool

This Team Boat Pool will be used to select the entry for the K4 500m, K2 1000m, and K2 200m.

Athletes will be selected for the above-mentioned events based on their rankings within the Team Boat Pool.

Rank	Selection Criteria
1-2	K2 500m winners (if both athletes are within 7% of the K1 500m winner)
3	K1 500m winner
4-8	Next ranked athletes in the K1 500m, provided their time is within 7% of the winning time, up to a maximum of 8 athletes in the boat pool.

In the event that there are fewer than 4 athletes (willing to compete in K4) who are within 7% of the winner of the K1 500m, it will be within the discretion of the Coaches and Selection Committee to increase the threshold to 10%, only to allow for an entry into the K4. E.g. there are 5 athletes within 7% of the winner who are nominated to the Junior National Team, but only 3 of them are willing to compete in the K4. The next ranked athlete within 10% could be nominated to complete the K4, however the remaining spots on the Junior National Team would not be filled.

See Section 1.6.4 for the procedure for replacing an athlete if they decline.

1.6.3 Kayak Mixed/Long Distance Event Selection

The entries to non-Olympic events will be filled with athletes from the Junior National Team and the Team Boat Pool. Priority will be given the athletes with the highest ranking.

Mixed K2: Will be offered to the fastest athlete in the Mens K1 500m and the Womens K1 500m. If either athlete declines, the next ranked athlete in the K1 500m will be offered the spot. **Mixed Relay Team:** Will be selected from the Team Boat Pool with preference given to the highest ranked athletes in the most relevant event.

See Section 1.6.4 for the procedure if someone were to decline a nomination.

1.6.4 Replacement of Kayak Athletes

The replacement procedure will be the same for Mens and Womens kayak.

Replacement of Athletes to the K1 Events

- If the athlete selected to race the K1 200m, K1 500m, or K1 1000m declines the opportunity to race an event, the next ranked athlete in the qualification event will be given the Junior National Team nomination and the opportunity to race as long as they are within 7% of the winner of the corresponding event at the trials.
- If the next ranked athlete is greater than 7%, no one will compete in that event.

Replacement of Athletes to the K2 500m

- If one or both of the athletes in the selected K2 500m declines the opportunity to race the event, the next ranked boat in the K2 500m will be given the Junior National Team nomination and the opportunity to race the K2 500m as long as both athletes, in K1, were within 7% of the winner of the K1 500m.

Replacement of Athletes to the Team Boat Pool

- If an athlete declines their position in the Team Boat Pool, the next ranked athlete may be selected to the Team Boat Pool, following the constraints outlined in Section 1.6.2.

1.7 Canoe Team Selection Process

1.7.1 C1 Selection Procedure

Mens C1 Selection Procedure

C1 1000m: The winner of the Mens C1 1000m will be given the opportunity to race the event.

C1 500m: The winner of the Mens C1 500m will be given the opportunity to race the event.

C1 200m: The winner of the Mens C1 500m will be given the opportunity to race the event.

Womens C1 Selection Procedure

C1 1000m: The winner of the Womens C1 500m will be given the opportunity to race the event.

C1 500m: The winner of the Womens C1 500m will be given the opportunity to race the event.

C1 200m: The winner of the Womens C1 200m will be given the opportunity to race the event.

1.7.2 Team Boat Pool Selection Procedure

The same process will be followed for men's canoe and women's canoe.

C2 500m Selection Procedure

The winner of the C2 500m will be selected to the Junior Team if each athlete in the winning C2 500m meters event races C1 500m and their individual times in the C1 500m are within 7% of the winner of the Junior C1 500m. They will also be nominated to the Team Boat Pool.

See Section 1.7.4 for the procedure if an athlete(s) declines the opportunity to race the event.

Team Boat Pool

This Team Boat Pool will be used to select team boats for the non-Olympic events.

Athletes will be selected for non-Olympic events based on their rankings within the Team Boat Pool.

Rank	Selection Criteria
1-2	C2 500m winners (if both athletes are within 7% of the C1 500m winner)
3	C1 500m winner
4-8	Next ranked athletes in the C1 500m, provided their time is within 7% of the winning time, up to a maximum of 8 athletes in the boat pool.

In the event that there are fewer than 4 athletes (willing to compete in C4) who are within 7% of the winner of the C1 500m, it will be within the discretion of the Coaches and Selection Committee to increase the threshold to 10%, only to allow for an entry into the C4. E.g. there are 5 athletes within 7% of the winner who are nominated to the Junior National Team, but only 3 of them are willing to compete in the C4. The next ranked athlete within 10% could be nominated to complete the C4, however the remaining spots on the Junior National Team would not be filled.

See Section 1.7.4 for the procedure for replacing an athlete if they decline.

1.7.3 Canoe Mixed/Long Distance Event Selection

The entries to non-Olympic events will be filled with athletes from the Junior National Team and Team Boat Pool. Priority will be given to the athletes with the highest ranking.

Mixed C2: Will be offered to the fastest athlete in the Mens C1 500m and the Womens C1 500m. If either athlete declines, the next ranked athlete in the C1 500m will be offered the spot.

Mixed Relay Team: Will be selected from the Team Boat Pool with preference given to the highest ranked athletes in the most relevant event.

See Section 1.7.4 for the procedure if someone were to decline a nomination.

1.7.4 Replacement of Canoe Athletes

The replacement procedure will be the same for Mens and Womens canoe.

Replacement of Athletes to the C1 Events

- If the athlete selected to race the C1 200m, C1 500m, or C1 1000m, declines the opportunity to race at any of the regattas, the next ranked athlete in the qualification event will be given the

opportunity to race as long as they are within 7% of the winner of the corresponding event at the trials.

- If the next ranked athlete is greater than 7%, no one will compete in that event.

Replacement of Athletes to the C2 500m

- If one or both of the athletes in the selected C2 for the C2 500m declines the opportunity to race the event, the next ranked boat in the C2 500m will be given the Junior National Team nomination and the opportunity to race the C2 500m as long as both athletes, in C1, were within 7% of the winner of the C1 500m.

Replacement of Athletes to the Team Boat Pool

- If an athlete declines their position in the Team Boat Pool, the next ranked athlete may be selected to the Team Boat Pool, following the constraints outlined in Section 1.7.2.

1.8 The Selection Committee

The Selection Committee will be comprised of the following people:

- The High Performance Manager of the ACA
- The Sprint Competition Committee

If the Selection Committee is making a decision regarding a team boat in an SCC Athlete Representative's discipline, the athlete rep will remove themselves from the decision.

If the Selection Committee needs another voting member for any reason, the High Performance Director will nominate someone to join the committee.

2 Removal of Athletes

An athlete who is nominated to the Team by the ACA may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by the ACA:

- 2.1 Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the ACA CEO/Executive Director and the ACA High Performance Director.
- 2.2 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 debilitating and he/she may be removed.
- 2.3 Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 1.6 of these procedures.
- 2.4 Violation of the ACA Athlete Code of Conduct.
- 2.5 Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in Section 1.1. of these selection procedures.
- 2.6 An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of Panam Sports, APC, WADA, ICF, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code and the ACA's SafeSport policies, as applicable.

3 Replacement of Athletes

Should a replacement be necessary, the procedures outlined in Section 1.6.4 will be used to nominate a replacement athlete in a kayak event, and Section 1.7.4 will be used to nominate a replacement athlete in a canoe event.

4 Required Documents

The following document is required to be signed by each athlete as a condition of nomination to the Junior National Team:

[Athlete Code of Conduct](#)

5 Publicity/Distribution of Procedures

The approved selection procedures will be available before January 1st, 2025 at the following public location:

[ACA Website - Sprint Competition Page](#)

6 Date of Nomination

The final international team selections will be announced within 14 days of the conclusion of trials.

7 Anti-Doping Requirements

Athletes must adhere to all Panam Sports, APC, 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 Panam Sports, APC, WADA, IF, USADA and USOPC rules, as applicable.

8 Development of Selection Procedures

The following committees were responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

Sprint Competition Committee

Alyson Mrozinski - Chair
Elena Wolgamot - Athlete Representative and Secretary
Colbert Manson - Athlete Representative
Payton Chiou
Sepideh Homami

Development Team Subcommittee

Payton Chiou
Gavin Ross
Sadie Hanks
Andreea Ghizila
Scott Surles

Steve Kelly - High Performance Manager
Joe Harper - Senior Canoe Coach

9 Grievance Procedures

The ACA's grievance procedures can be found in Article VIII, Section 3(D):

[ACA Grievance Policy](#)

10 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 NGB.

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000
EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org
WEBSITE: www.usathlete.org

11 ACA Signatures

Position	Printed Name	Signature	Date
Executive Director of the ACA			
High Performance Manager of the ACA			
AAC Athlete Representative			