



ACA Canoe Slalom (CSL) and Extreme Slalom (CSLX) National Team Athlete Selection Procedures

To compete at:
 The 2021/22 ICF CSL & CSLX Ranking Races
 The 2021 ICF Junior & U23 CSL & CSLX World Championships,
 The 2021 ICF CSL & CSLX World Cups, and
 The 2021 ICF CSL & CSLX World Championships

1 GLOSSARY & ABBREVIATIONS

Discipline	A discipline is a branch of a sport comprising one (1) or several events (e.g., Canoe Slalom, Canoe Sprint).
Boat	A boat is a watercraft used to practice canoeing (e.g., canoe, kayak): <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) position for an athlete (e.g., mixed canoe double).
Age group	e.g., Junior (Jr), Under 23 (U23), Seniors, Masters
Category	A category is defined by a boat and a gender (e.g., Men Kayak, Mixed Canoe).
Class	A class is defined by a category and the number of places in a boat (e.g., men kayak single; mixed canoe double).
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: an age group (e.g., Junior men’s kayak, under 23 women’s kayak single).
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., heats, semi-final, final).
Run or race	The basic unit of an event phase (e.g., heats 1 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.
ICF	International Canoe Federation
ACA	American Canoe Association (The USA National Governance Body for the sports of Canoe & Kayak)
CSL	Canoe Slalom
CSLX	Extreme Canoe Slalom
WCH	World Championships
WCS	World Cup Series
Team Trials	USA National Team Trials
USA CSL Team	USA Canoe Slalom National Team
USA CSLX Team	USA Extreme Canoe Slalom National Team
ICF Jr & U23 CSL WCH	ICF Junior & U23 Canoe Slalom World Championships
DSQ-R	Disqualification for the run
DNS	Did not start
DNF	Did not finish

2 ELIGIBILITY

To be considered for eligibility for USA Canoe Slalom National Team or USA Extreme Canoe Slalom National Team, athletes must meet the minimum eligibility requirements defined in this section.

2.1 Citizenship

- 2.1.1 Citizenship is not a requirement of eligibility to compete on behalf of the United States at the 2021 ICF CSL & CSLX World Cups and World Championships, the 2021 ICF Junior and U23 CSL & CSLX World Championships, and 2021/22 ICF CSL & CSLX Ranking Races. However, athletes must meet ICF eligibility rules for these competitions. These rules are outlined in [the ICF Slalom Competition Rules](#), Section 1.3 - Athlete Eligibility for ICF Competition (Level 1 to 3).
- 2.1.2 Athletes must be a citizen of the United States at the time of nomination (Section 15) and hold a valid USA passport to compete on behalf of the United States during Olympic and Pan American Games.

2.2 Minimum International Federation (IF) and Continental Federation (C.F.) standards for participation (if any)

The 2021 USA CSL & CSLX Team Trials are governed by the current International Canoe Federation (ICF) Canoe Slalom Competition Rules and the ACA Canoe Slalom Competition Rules:

- ICF Canoe Slalom Competition Rules: <https://www.canoeicf.com/rules>
- ACA Canoe Slalom Competition Rules: https://cdn.ymaws.com/aca.site-ym.com/resource/resmgr/competition-documents/2018_ACA_Slalom_Rules.pdf

2.3 Other requirements (if any)

- Athletes must be members in good standing with ACA at the start of the Team Trials and all national and international competitions.
- Only athletes born from 2003 to 2006 can qualify for the 2021 USA Junior CSL and CSLX National Teams.
- Only athletes born from 1998 to 2002 can qualify for the 2021 USA U23 CSL and CSLX National Teams.

3 THE TEAM(S) SELECTION COMPETITIONS

3.1 USA Junior CSL and Junior, U23, and Senior CSLX National Team Trials

- The Team Trials are scheduled at the U.S. National Whitewater Center, 5000 Whitewater Center Parkway, Charlotte, NC 28214, from April 12-13, 2021.

3.2 USA U23 and Senior CSL National Team Trials

- The Team Trials are scheduled at the U.S. National Whitewater Center, 5000 Whitewater Center Parkway, Charlotte, NC 28214, from April 12-14, 2021.

3.3 Featured Events

A total of six events are offered at the 2021 Team Trials, and results are computed independently for each event and the age group. The events are:

1. Men's Kayak (MK1)
2. Woman's Kayak (WK1)
3. Men's Canoe (MC1)
4. Women's Canoe (WC1)
5. Men's Extreme Canoe Slalom (MCSLX)
6. Woman's Extreme Canoe Slalom (WCSLX)

4 METHOD OF CONDUCTING THE TEAM TRIALS – THE COMPETITION FORMAT

This section describes the format of the Team Trials events.

4.1 Junior CSL Team Trials

The Junior CSL Team Trials competition is a two-day competition to nominate athletes to the USA Junior CSL National Team positions. Each day consists of one race on a unique course, with

two runs each day. The competition, therefore, consists of four separate runs on two different courses.

- The race runs 1 and 2 are completed on the first day on course 1.
- The race runs 3 and 4 are completed on the second day on course 2.

* Force Majeure may cause runs to be canceled, and an alternate selection method, as outlined in Section 6 may be implemented.

4.2 The U23 and Senior CSL Team Trials

The U23 and Senior CSL Team Trials competition is a three-day competition to nominate athletes to the USA U23 and Senior CSL National Team positions. Each day consists of one race on a unique course, with two runs each day. The competition, therefore, consists of six separate runs on three different courses.

- The race runs 1 and 2 are completed on the first day on course 1.
- The race runs 3 and 4 are completed on the second day on course 2.
- The race runs 5 and 6 are completed on the third day on course 3.

* Force Majeure may cause runs to be canceled, and an alternate selection method, as outlined in Section 6 may be implemented.

4.3 Jr, U23, and Senior CSLX Team Trials

The Jr, U23, and Senior CSLX, Team Trials competition is a two-day competition to nominate athletes to USA Jr, U23, and Senior CSLX National Team positions.

The competition is structured in two phases. The first phase of the competition is the Time Trials race, followed by up applicable rounds of the Head-to-Head races.

4.3.1 Time Trials Race

- The Time Trials race is held to rank athletes for the second phase of the CSLX competition.
- The fastest sixteen (16) athletes in each CSLX event progress to the quarterfinals phase of the competition, and the results of the Time Trial race are used to seed the heats for the Head-to-Head phase of the CSLX competition.

4.3.2 The Head-to-Head Phase

- Four athletes race Head-to-Head in each quarterfinal, semi-final, and final heat of the CSLX events; see Table 1.
- Insufficient number of athletes
 - Suppose an insufficient number of athletes completes the Time Trials race to run four quarterfinal heats of at least three (3) racers each, i.e., a minimum of 12 racers in each of the CSLX events. In that case, the field is cut to the fastest eight (8) boats in that CSLX event following the Time Trial race, and the Head-to-Head competition begins with the semi-final heats. In this case, athletes are seated according to the semi-final bracket in Table 2.
 - Suppose an insufficient number of athletes complete the Time Trials race to run two semi-final heats of at least three (3) racers each, i.e., a minimum of 6 racers total in each CSLX event. In that case, the field is cut to the fastest four (4) boats following the time

trial, and the Head-to-Head competition begins with the final heat. In this case, athletes are seated according to the final bracket in Table 3.

- There is no “Loser’s Bracket” for athletes that do not advance.
- Starting position in the quarterfinal, semi-final, and final phase of the competition shall be governed according to the ICF rules.
- Race start during the Head-to-Head phase of the CSLX competition:
 - Athletes may start with one (1) hand on the ramp and one (1) hand on the paddle in a vertical position. They may use their paddle to push off.
 - The start command is: “READY - GO.” Between the order of READY and the starting signal, the athletes must remain stationary.
 - If an athlete starts before the starting signal, s/he must stop as soon as possible and receives NO SCORE. The Start Judge determines a false start.
 - Athletes from a new bracket may move to the start position once the previous race commences.

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Table 1: Bracket table for the fastest 16 athletes that have progressed to the quarterfinals after the time trials.

Semi-finals		Semi-finals		Finals
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Quarterfinal 1	(QF1)
1st in time trial	
8th in time trial	
12th in time trial	
16th in time trial	

Semi-final 1	(SF1)
1st	in QF1
2nd	in QF1
1st	in QF2
2nd	in QF2

Quarterfinal 2	(QF2)
4th in time trial	
5th in time trial	
9th in time trial	
13th in time trial	

Final	(F)
1st	in SF1
2nd	in SF1
1st	in SF2
2nd	in SF2

Quarterfinal 3	(QF3)
3rd in time trial	
6th in time trial	
10th in time trial	
14th in time trial	

Semi-final 2	(SF2)
1st	in QF3
2nd	in QF3
1st	in QF4
2nd	in QF4

Quarterfinal 4	(QF4)
2nd in time trial	
7th in time trial	
11th in time trial	
15th in time trial	

Table 2: Bracket table for the fastest eight athletes who have progressed directly to the semi-finals after the trials.

Semi-finals		Finals	
Semi-final 1	(SF1)	Final	(F)
1st in time trial		1st	in SF1
4th in time trial		2nd	in SF1
5th in time trial		1st	in SF2
8th in time trial		2nd	in SF2
Semi-final 2	(SF2)		
2nd in time trial			
3rd in time trial			
6th in time trial			
7th in time trial			

Table 3: Bracket table for the fastest four athletes that have progressed directly to the final after the time trials.

Final	
Final	(F)
1st in time trial	
3rd in time trial	
2nd in time trial	
4th in time trial	

5 METHOD OF SCORING CSL TEAM TRIALS

This section describes the methodology and the process for scoring the USA CSL Team Trials.

5.1 Calculation of Athlete Percentage of Each Run

At the Team Trials competition, athletes earn a total score based on the ICF Canoe Slalom rules. After completing each race, the athlete's percentage for each race run is computed off the race event's best score. The best score is the lowest score from two runs in the race in an event.

Equation 1: Calculation of Athlete Percentage of Each Run

$$\text{Athlete Percentage} = \frac{\text{Athlete Score} * 100}{\text{Best Score}} - 100$$

Example:

Athlete A has the best score of the day with a 95.70 sec in her first run. Athlete B's best score of the day is 97.21 in her second run. Therefore, Athlete B's percentage for the second run is computed as follows:

Equation 2: Example Calculation of Athlete Percentage of Each Run

$$\text{Athlete B Percentage} = \frac{97.21 * 100}{95.7} - 100 = 1.58\%$$

Note: Since Athlete A has the best score of the day in her first run, her Athlete Percentage = 0% for the first run.

5.2 Scoring of Race Runs

The CSL National Team selection is based on the average of the athlete percentages of the race runs counted, also called the athlete's Average Trials Percentage (ATP).

5.2.1 Runs Counted

- Junior CSL Team Trials
 - The athlete's best run of each day is used towards calculating that athlete's overall ranking. The runs used to calculate the overall ranking are defined as the "counted runs."
 - A minimum of two (2) runs must be conducted to constitute the 2021 USA Junior CSL Team Trials.
 - A Force Majeure may cause runs to be canceled, and an alternate selection method, as outlined in Section 6 may be implemented.
- U23 and Senior CSL Team Trials
 - The athlete's best run of each day, plus the athlete's best score of the three remaining runs, is used towards calculating that athlete's overall ranking. The runs used to calculate the overall ranking are defined as the "counted runs."
 - A minimum of four (4) runs must be conducted to constitute the 2021 USA U23 and Senior CSL Team Trials.
 - A Force Majeure may cause runs to be canceled, and an alternate selection method, as outlined in Section 6 may be implemented.

5.2.2 Ranking using the Average Trials Percentage (ATP)

An athlete's counted runs are scored to give each athlete a result for the team trials event. The athlete's Average Trials Percentage is calculated by summing the athlete percentage from runs counted and dividing the result by counted runs. The ranking of results is completed by placing the athlete with the lowest ATP result in the highest-ranked position. The athlete with the second-

lowest ATP is placed in the following position. This process is continued until all the eligible athletes have been ranked in each of the team trials' events.

Example:

A junior athlete finishes the two days of team trials, completing four runs on two differing courses. Using Equation 1 algorithm for determining the athlete percentage on each run, the athlete receives the following scores for each of the four runs:

Table 4: Example Athlete Percentage

Day	Run	Athlete Percentage (%)	Ranked Athlete's Percentages
1	1	1.85	2
1	2	0.00	1
2	1	1.43	1
2	2	5.43	2

This athlete's best athlete percentages from each day are then selected as the runs counted and averaged to give a Team Trials result. In this instance, day 1: run two and day 2: run one are summed and divided by two (the number of runs counted):

Equation 3: Example Junior athlete ATP

$$\frac{0.00 + 1.43}{2} = 0.71\% = \text{Junior ATP}$$

Example:

A U23/Senior athlete finishes the three days of team trials, completing six runs on three different courses. According to Equation 1, the athlete has been given the following scores for each of the six runs:

Table 5: Example Athlete Percentage

Day	Run	Athlete Percentage (%)	Ranked Athlete's Percentages
1	1	1.57	4
1	2	0.97	3
2	1	1.85	5
2	2	0.00	1
3	1	5.43	6
3	2	0.45	2

This athlete's four lowest athlete percentages are then selected as the runs counted and averaged to give a Team Trials result. In this instance, runs day 1: run one, day 1: run two, day 2: run two, and day 3: run two are summed and divided by four (the number of runs counted):

Equation 4: Example U23/Senior athlete's Average Trials Percentage (ATP)

$$\frac{1.57 + 0.97 + 0.00 + 0.45}{4} = 0.75\% = \text{ATP}$$

Example:

Three athletes in the same event during the team trials earn the following Average Trials Percentage:

Table 6: Example ranking of the athletes based on the athlete's ATP

Athlete	Average Trials Percentage (ATP)	Ranking
A	1.35%	2 nd
B	0.75%	1 st
C	1.97%	3 rd

Then the ranking of the Team Trials results for these three athletes is determined to be: first place for Athlete B, second place for Athlete A, and third place for Athlete C.

6 CANCELED RUNS

6.1 Runs Canceled and Replaced

ACA's GM High-Performance Programs, Chief Judge, and the representative of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) shall designate additional runs or races to replace the canceled run(s) or race(s) if one or more races are canceled for any reason. Any replacement run(s) or race(s) shall be held as soon as possible after completing the final scheduled race. ACA's GM HPP decides whether the replacement run or race shall be organized on the same course or an alternate course.

6.2 Runs Used to Determine CSL Results if Runs are Canceled

Suppose ACA's GM High-Performance Programs and the Chief Judge and the LOC representative determine that no alternative race dates are reasonably available. In that case, the National Team selection process shall be modified as follows:

6.2.1 Junior CSL Team Trials

- If the second run on the first race day is canceled, the best two (2) of the remaining three (3) runs determine the Junior National Team selection.
- If the second run on the second race day is canceled, the best run, of the remaining three (3) runs, determines the Junior National Team selection.
- If one race day (both runs) is canceled, the best of the remaining two (2) runs determines Junior National Team selection.

- If fewer than two (2) runs are conducted, an alternate race to complete the remaining runs is proposed to be held within three weeks. At least two (2) runs must be completed to constitute Junior CSL Team Trials.

6.2.2 U23 and Senior CSL Team Trials

- If one race run is canceled, the racer's best three (3) out of the remaining five (5) race runs are used to determine U23 and Senior CSL Team selection.
- If two race runs are canceled, the racer's best three (3) out of the remaining four (4) race runs are used to determine U23 and Senior CSL Team selection.
- If one race day (both runs) is canceled, the best two (2) of the remaining four (4) runs determine U23 and Senior CSL National Team selection.
- If fewer than four (4) runs are conducted, an alternate race to complete the remaining runs is proposed to be held within three weeks. At least four (4) runs must be completed to constitute U23 and Senior CSL Team Trials.

6.2.3 Jr, U23, and Senior CSLX Team Trials

- Suppose a CSLX event cannot be completed for whatever reason. In that case, the Chief Judge can establish the competition results based on the last completed phase of the event (e.g., Time Trials, Quarterfinal Heats, or Semifinal Heats) per the ICF Slalom Rules 16.9. – FORCE MAJEURE.

7 EVENT ORDER

7.1 CSL Events

All CSL events are run back-to-back in the following order: WC1, MC1, WK1, and MK1. Breaks between the events are at the Local Organizing Committee's discretion (LOC). The LOC communicates the competition schedule to athletes and officials no later than 6 pm local time a day before the first day of the competition.

7.2 CSLX Events

- Two CSLX events are held in the following order: WCSLX and MCSLX.
- The pause between completing the CSL events and the start of the CSLX events shall be a minimum of sixty (60) minutes.

8 START INTERVAL

8.1 Interval between athletes

The LOC establishes and communicates start intervals before the beginning of the Team Trials. The start interval is consistent for the entire event.

8.2 Minimum time between each run provided to athletes competing in two events

A minimum time of 30 minutes between each run must be provided to athletes competing in two events. The LOC should achieve this requirement by adjusting the interval between events and not changing the affected athletes' start order.

8.3 Additional Time Between Athletes

As per ICF Competition Rules, any boat may petition the Chief Judge to allow additional time between themselves and another boat beyond the scheduled time. The Chief Judge grants the petition in cases where the boat has been interfered with by a slower boat or has overtaken a slower boat during a previous race run or otherwise demonstrates concrete evidence of disadvantage.

9 ATHLETES SEEDING

Athletes with the highest-ranking shall start last within their respective events. The Team Trials start order for each event shall be determined first by ranking the top 100 from the final 2019 ICF CSL World Ranking. If the athlete is not ranked in the top 100 from the 2019 ICF CSL World Ranking, they are ranked after the top 100 by the 2019 USA Team Trials results. Those athletes still unranked are ranked by random draw after all participating boats from the 2019 Team Trials have been ranked.

10 TIED RESULTS

Results shall be calculated for the athlete percentage to an accuracy of a hundredth of a percentage point. The athlete's percentage for each run shall then be averaged to determine a final ranking, which is also computed to the hundredth percentage point. In the event of a tie, the athlete with the lowest average of their three (3) best runs shall be the winner. In the event of a continuing tie, the athlete with the lowest average of their two (2) best results shall be the winner. In the event of a continuing tie, the athlete with the best result shall be the winner. In the event of a continuing tie, the athlete with the best percentage result on the competition's final day shall be the winner.

11 THE COURSE

11.1 Course Design

- The course for each race (CLS & CSLX) is designed by a three-member committee appointed by ACA's GM High-Performance Programs.
- CSL Course
 - A demonstration run must be made by at least one non-competitor.
 - Demonstration runs should be conducted, if possible, to include all boat types: WC1, MC1, WK1, and MK1.
- CSLX Course

- The time for the athletes to complete the CSLX course should be 45 - 60 seconds.
- The LOC can conduct the Time Trial race without gates.
- No demonstration runs are needed for the CSLX events.

11.2 Course Approval

- The race shall not commence until the Chief Judge approves the course.

12 APPLICABILITY OF RESULTS

The 2021 USA CSL & CSLX Team Trials results determine athlete eligibility to compete in international competitions. Furthermore, the Trials results decide which athletes are eligible for nomination to the 2021 USA Junior, U23, and Senior CSL & CSLX National Teams, receive the National Team Coaching, potential USOPC/ACA funding, and other benefits provided by the ACA and USOPC. All types of eligibility and services apply to qualified athletes from completing the 2021 Team Trials until ACA organizes subsequent scheduled Team Trials. Athletes give up their rights to these benefits by not accepting National Team(s) nominations.

13 ACA QUALITY STANDARDS AND SELECTION OF ATHLETES TO THE CSL NATIONAL TEAM

This section describes how athletes are selected to be 2021 USA Junior, U23, and Senior CSL National Team members.

13.1 Purpose

The purpose of naming the National Teams 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. A member of the National Team has benefits beyond those allocated to other athletes, including those selected to represent the United States in the international competition who do not meet the ACA quality standards necessary to become a National Team member. The 2021 USA National Teams athletes may receive invitations to National Team(s) camps, performance evaluations, gain subsidized access to OKC and USNWC courses, coaching at specific locations, and other privileges.

13.2 Available Places

Up to three boats in each CSL event can qualify to become members of the National Team. The National Team selection procedures are the same for all CSL events.

13.3 Event Adjusted Percentage (EAP)

The ACA choose 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 them.

Computation of the Event Adjusted Percentage:

Step 1: The best result in each event is divided by the 2021 Event Adjustment Percentages (EAP), Table 7.

Table 7: 2021 Event Adjustment Percentages (EAP)

Event	Event Adjustment Percentage (%)
MK1	100.00
WK1	112.25
MC1	106.60
WC1	122.50

Note: The 2021 Event Adjustment Percentages are calculated based on the 2018 and 2019 ICF Canoe Slalom World Cup Series results and from the 2018 and 2019 ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships (for more information, see ACA's website).

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 **Error! Reference source not found.**).

Step 4: Finally, each event's result from Step 3 is multiplied by 120% for the Juniors events and 115% for the U23 and Senior events to establish the overall event EAP criteria limits. These limits are +20% for the Junior CSL events and +15% for the U23 and Senior CSL events.

Example:

Table 8: Example computation of the EAP limit for Junior events.

	<u>EAP Table</u>		<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Step 4</u>
Event	Best run of the day	Event Adjustment Factor (2021)	Calculation Per Event	The Standard	Event Adjusted Baseline	Event Adjusted Score @20% limit
MK1	92.11	100%	92.11	92.09	92.09	110.51
WK1	103.37	112%	92.09	92.09	103.37	124.04

MC1	99.02	107%	92.89	92.09	98.18	117.81
WC1	114.05	123%	93.10	92.09	112.82	135.38

Note: Only results achieved by Junior athletes during the Trials are used to compute the overall event EAP limit for the 2021 USA CSL Junior National Team selection.

Example:

Table 9: Example computation of the EAP limit for U23 and Senior events

	<u>EAP Table</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Step 4</u>	
Event	Best run of the day	Event Adjustment Factor (2021)	Calculation Per Event	The Standard	Event Adjusted Baseline	Event Adjusted Score @15% limit
MK1	90.22	100%	90.22	88.14	88.14	101.36
WK1	103.37	112%	92.29	88.14	98.72	113.52
MC1	94.31	107%	88.14	88.14	94.31	108.46
WC1	126.94	123%	103.20	88.14	108.41	124.67

Note:

- Only results achieved by the U23 athletes are used to compute the overall event EAP criteria limit for the 2021 USA CSL U23 National Team selection.
- All results are used to compute the event EAP criteria limit for the 2021 USA CSL National Team selection.

13.4 Allocation of CSL National Team Places

- A Junior National Team athlete must complete the Trials within 20% of the Event Adjusted Percentage (EAP).
- A U23 and Senior National Team athlete must complete the Trials within 15% of the Event Adjusted Percentage (EAP).

14 SELECTION OF ATHLETES FOR THE 2021 ICF CSL/CSLX WCS and WCH

The procedures in this section describe how an athlete is selected to compete at the 2021 ICF CSL & CSLX World Cup Series and the 2021 ICF CSL & CSLX World Championships.

14.1 Available Places & allocation of the Team Places

14.1.1 2021 ICF CSL WCS Events

The maximum number of event entries that have been allocated to the USA National Team by the ICF for the 2021 ICF CSL WCS and WCH competitions are:

- MK1 - 3 Places
- WK1 - 3 Places
- MC1 - 3 Places
- WC1 - 3 Places

14.1.2 2021 ICF CSLX WCS Events

The maximum number of event entries that have been allocated to the USA National Team by the ICF for the 2021 ICF CSLX WCS and WCH competitions are:

- MCSLX - 4 Places
- WCSLX - 4 Places

14.1.3 Allocation of CSL Team Places

Available places are allocated to the top-performing eligible athletes in each event from the 2021 CSL National Team Trials.

14.1.4 Allocation of CSLX Team Places

At the 2021 CSLX National Team Trials, athletes of all age groups compete and are ranked together. The National Teams (e.g., Junior, U23, and Senior) are selected based on athletes' final overall ranking:

- The top four (4) athletes in the final phase are selected to the 2021 USA CSLX National Team.
- The top four (4) ranked U23 athletes are selected to the 2021 USA CSLX U23 National Team.
- The top four (4) ranked Junior athletes are selected to the 2021 USA CSLX Junior National Team.

14.2 Replacement of Ineligible Athletes

If, after the conclusion of the 2021 Team Trials, any boat fails to prove ICF eligibility for World Cup or World Championships participation, that boat is ineligible to compete internationally. It is replaced on the Team by the next highest eligible ranked boat from the 2021 USA National Team Trials.

14.3 Deadline to Declare Intention to Compete

Athletes must confirm their intention to participate in the ICF CSL and CSLX World Cups in Prague, CZE, and Markkleeberg, GER, during the 2021 USA CSL National Team processing on April 14, 2021.

Table 10: The 2021 ICF Ranking Competitions

Event	Competition Date	Must Declare Intent
2021 ICF Canoe Slalom World Cup – Prague, CZE USA Olympic Qualification Competition 2	Jun 11-13, 2021	Apr 14, 2021
2021 ICF Canoe Slalom World Cup – Markkleeberg, GER; back-up to the USA Olympic Qualification Competition 2		Apr 14, 2021
2021 ICF Canoe Slalom World Cup – La Seu, ESP	Sep 3-5, 2021	Aug 1, 2021
2021 ICF Canoe Slalom World Cup – Pau, FRA	Sep 10-12, 2021	Aug 1, 2021
2021 ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships, Bratislava, SVK	Sep 21-26, 2021	Sep 1, 2021

The deadline for accepting a nomination to compete in the ICF CSL and CSLX World Cups in Prague and Markkleeberg is April 14, 2021. The deadline for accepting a nomination for the remaining ICF CSL and CSLX WCS, and WCH is August 1, 2021.

All race schedules are subject to change. Updates to this list are provided at <https://www.canoeicf.com/event-calendar>.

Athletes must make a deposit of \$1,000 to cover registration, coaching, and accommodations fees to the ACA no later than two weeks after each acceptance period to secure a spot on the Team. Anyone who fails to pay the deposit or the remaining competition-related fees is replaced according to the rules outlined in Section 21 – Replacement of Athletes.

14.4 Failure to Confirm

If an athlete fails to confirm participation during the USA National Team processing on April 14, 2021, a replacement athlete is nominated according to the rules outlined in Section 21 – Replacement of Athletes.

15 SELECTION FOR THE 2021 ICF CSL AND CSLX RANKING RACES AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS BEFORE THE NEXT SCHEDULED TEAM TRIALS

The procedures in this section describe how an athlete is selected to compete in an ICF CSL and CSLX Ranking Race and the CSL and CSLX Pan American Championships. The selection at the 2021 Team Trials qualifies an eligible athlete to compete in the ICF/COPAC CSL and CSLX Ranking Race before the next USA CSL and CSLX Team Trials.

15.1 Available Places

The ICF does not limit the number of entries at the ICF CSL and CSLX Ranking Races and CSL Pan-American Championships. The Competition Organizer may impose limitations at the Organizer’s discretion.

15.2 Allocation of Available Places

- If the Competition Organizer limits places, the positions available are allocated to the top-performing athletes from the 2021 USA Team Trials. If, for example, six slots are available in the MK1 event, then the top six eligible finishers are given priority to compete.
- Competition calendar reference: <https://www.canoeicf.com/event-calendar>
- Deadline to Declare Intention to Compete: Athletes must confirm participation at the 2021 CSL Pan-American Championships and the 2021 ICF CSL Ranking Races via email to ACA GM High-Performance by the deadlines listed below.

2021 ICF & European Canoe Association (ECA) Competitions

Table 11: The 2021 ICF Ranking Competitions

Event	Competition Date	Must Declare Intent
2021 ICF Canoe Slalom World Ranking, Tacen, SLO	Apr 17-18, 2021	Apr 14, 2021
2021 ICF Canoe Slalom 73rd Tatra International, Liptovsky Mikulas, SVK	May 22-23, 2021	May 3, 2021
2021 ICF Canoe Slalom World Ranking, Merano, ITA	May 28-30, 2021	May 3, 2021
2021 ICF Canoe Slalom Junior & U23 World Championships, Tacen, SLO	Jul 6-11, 2021	Jun 1, 2021
2021 ECA Canoe Slalom Junior Cup, Roudnice Nad Labem, CZE	Jul 17-18, 2021	Jun 1, 2021
2021 ICF Canoe Slalom World Ranking, Ceske Budejovice, CZE	Jul 24-25, 2021	Jul 1, 2021
2021 ICF Canoe Slalom World Ranking, Prague, CZE	Jul 31-Aug 1, 2021	Jul 1, 2021
2021 ICF Canoe Slalom World Ranking, Oklahoma City, OK (USA National Championships)	Aug 20-22, 2021	Aug 1, 2021
2021 Canoe Slalom Alpe Adria	Oct 3, 2021	Oct 1, 2021

15.3 Failure to Confirm

If an athlete fails to confirm by the dates designated above, the next ranked athlete from the 2021 Team Trials is eligible to enter.

15.4 Nomination to Compete for Athletes Who Did Not Compete in the US Team Trials

Suppose an athlete cannot compete at the 2021 USA Team Trials due to a documented medical or family emergency. In that case, the athlete is ranked after the final athlete from the 2021 USA Team Trials. The athlete must send an email and documentation to GM High-Performance Programs for verification.

16 SELECTION OF ATHLETES FOR THE 2021 ICF JR & U23 CSL & CSLX WCH

This section describes how athletes are selected to compete at the 2021 ICF CSL & CSLX Jr & U23 World Championships in Tacen, Slovenia, July 6 – 11, 2021.

16.1 Allocation of Team Places

16.1.1 The 2021 ICF Jr & U23 CSL WCH

Three boats in each event can qualify to participate at the 2021 ICF Jr & U23 Canoe Slalom World Championships. The top three boats in each event at the 2021 Team Trials that meet the ACA quality standards are named members of the 2021 USA Jr & U23 CSL National Team. If a Team's position remains unfilled by the athletes that meet the ACA quality standard, the remaining position(s) are filled by the next highest-ranked athlete(s) from the Trials.

16.1.2 The 2021 ICF Jr & U23 CSLX WCH

Four boats in each event can qualify to participate at the 2021 ICF Jr & U23 CSLX World Championships.

At the 2021 CSLX National Team Trials, athletes of all age groups compete and are ranked together. The National Teams (e.g., Junior and U23) are selected based on athletes' final overall ranking:

- The top four (4) ranked U23 athletes are selected to the 2021 USA CSLX U23 National Team.
- The top four (4) ranked Junior athletes are selected to the 2021 USA CSLX Junior National Team.

16.2 Replacement of Ineligible Athletes

16.2.1 If, after the conclusion of the 2021 Team Trials, any Junior boat fails to prove ICF eligibility for the ICF Jr CSL or CSLX WCH participation, that boat is ineligible to compete. It is replaced on the Jr WCH Team by the next highest eligible ranked boat from the 2021 Team Trials.

16.2.2 If, after the conclusion of the 2021 Team Trials, any U23 boat fails to prove ICF eligibility for the ICF U23 CSL or CSLX WCH participation, that boat is ineligible to compete. It is replaced on the U23 WCH Team by the next highest eligible ranked boat from the 2021 Team Trials.

16.3 Deadline to Declare Intention to Compete

16.3.1 The deadline for confirming participation at the 2021 ICF Jr & U23 CSL WCH and the 2021 ICF Jr & U23 CSLX WCH is **April 14, 2021**. Athletes must communicate the intention to compete at the WCH via email to ACA's GM High-Performance Programs.

16.3.2 Deadline to Declare Intention to Travel and Lodge with 2021 USA Jr & U23 CSL and CSLX Team
Eligible boats must declare their intention to travel and lodge with the USA Team at the 2021 ICF Jr & U23 CSL and CSLX WCH in Tacen, Slovenia, during the 2021 National Team processing on **April 14, 2021**. All athletes must make a \$1,000 deposit to cover estimated expenses by **May 1, 2021**. These expenses include lodging, ground transportation, coaching fees, accreditation, and other competition-related fees.

17 Missed Competitions

Suppose an athlete confirms his/her participation at any 2021 ICF or COPAC sanctioned CSL or CSLX competition and later pulls out **without** a documented medical or family emergency, thus preventing another athlete from participating. In that case, that athlete's name is dropped to the bottom of all eligible athletes' priority list until the completion of the next scheduled CSL & CSLX National Team Trials and may face additional disciplinary actions.

17.1 Deadline for Confirmation

Athletes must confirm their intention to participate in any ICF or COPAC sanctioned competition at least 30 days before the competition unless posted otherwise.

18 OVERSIGHT OF SELECTION PROCESS – SELECTION PROCESS COMMITTEE

The selection process is overseen by the committee consisting of the ACA GM High-Performance Programs, ACA Slalom National Team coach, ACA Slalom Athlete Representative to the ACA Board of Directors, the Chair of the Slalom Committee, and ACA AAC Representative. The oversight of selection is to ensure that the selection process has been followed by using the above selection method. Additionally, any question about the selection process's interpretation is determined by the selection process oversight individuals as described herein. Suppose it appears that the selection method has not been followed. In that case, the committee brings forward a recommendation to the ACA Board of Directors to determine a reasonable solution for correcting any wrongdoings.

19 DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

19.1 No athletes are selected to the National Team through a discretionary selection

All athletes earn nominations to the ICF and other sanctioned international competitions during the 2021 USA CSL & CSLX Team Trials or through the replacement process outlined in Section 21.

20 REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

20.1 Causes of Removal

An athlete who is nominated to the USA CSL or CSLX National Team by ACA may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by the ACA Selection Process Oversight Committee (see section 18):

- Voluntary withdrawal: Athletes must submit a voluntary withdrawal via email to GM, High-Performance Programs.
- Injury or illness as certified by ACA or USOC approved physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by an authorized ACA physician (or medical staff), his/her injury is assumed to be disabling, and he/she may be removed.
- Violation of the ACA Code of Conduct or violation of the Athlete Agreement.
- Violation of the ACA SafeSport Policy.
- Violation of IOC, WADA, ICF, USADA, and USOC anti-doping protocol, policies, and procedures, as applicable. In such instances, the adjudication process is managed through USADA.

According to this provision, an athlete who is removed from the USA CSL or CSLX National Team has the right to a hearing, as per the ACA's grievance process (see Section 27 for reference).

21 REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

This section describes the replacement of athletes from the 2021 USA CSL and CSLX National Team(s) or athletes who are/have been eligible to compete and selected to represent the United States at the ICF CSL or CSLX WCS, WCH, or other international competitions.

21.1 Selection

The replacement athlete is selected through the 2021 USA Team Trials, taking the next ranked athlete by rank order. These athletes are considered the USA National Team Members if they meet all criteria outlined in Section 2 and Section 13.

21.2 Special consideration for CSLX events

The replacement athlete is selected through the 2021 CSLX Team Trials, taking the next ranked athlete by rank order.

22 PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

22.1 Reference Selection Procedures

The approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) are published on the ACA website: www.americancanoe.org/Slalom

22.2 Publication Timing

These procedures shall be posted on the ACA website by **April 2, 2021**, but not more than five business days following the ACA Executive Director's notice of approval.

23 DATE OF ATHLETE NOMINATION

Nominations of the USA National Team Athletes are completed on **April 14, 2021**.

24 NATIONAL TEAM TRAINING AND COMPETITION

Athletes are notified of all National Team training and competitions on **April 14, 2021**, or at least 60 days before starting the training/competitions.

25 ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, WADA, ICF, USADA, and USOC 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 USOC Rules, as appropriate.

26 SAFESPORT REQUIREMENTS

26.1 All National Team members must adhere to the ACA SafeSport Policy

26.1.1 All athletes older than eighteen (18) must maintain a valid certification of successful completion of all SafeSport requirements before attending the 2021 USA Canoe Slalom Team Trials and the 2021 USA Extreme Canoe Slalom Team Trials and before participating in any of the international competitions.

27 ACA PROCEDURES

- ACA Bylaws: www.americancanoe.org/Governance
- Slalom Information: www.americancanoe.org/Slalom
- Grievance Procedures: www.americancanoe.org/Grievance

28 INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on the IOC, ICF, and ACA rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, as applicable, and ICF rules and regulations are distributed to affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to ACA as of March 31, 2021. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

28.1 Force Majeure

Suppose any force of nature or force majeure should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document. In that case, these selection procedures are revised by the Selection Process Committee (section 18).

29 ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

The Athlete Ombudsman 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 Ombudsman Office:

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

30 SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understood the ACA CSL and CSLX Team Selection Procedures. I further warrant that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by ACA.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
ACA Executive Director (NGB)	Beth Spilman		
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council (AAC) Representative*	Kenny Kasperbauer		
GM High-Performance Programs	Rok Sribar		

* If the ACA 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, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

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