



WORLD MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Introduction

Canoe Kayak Canada and the Marathon Canoe Racing Council are committed to ensuring that a long term strategy is in place for the selection and preparation of paddlers who will represent Canada at the World Marathon Championships each year. The approval of all nominations is the responsibility of the MCRC. MCRC will also select the Team Manager/Coach. The MCRC will continue to co-ordinate the World Team Selection and required documentation, with the High Performance Director from Canoe Kayak Canada (CKC).

The MCRC will ensure that paddlers selected for the World Marathon Championship Team will adhere to the procedures and criteria in the following document. Team members must have demonstrated an appropriate level of health, fitness and technical expertise to compete at the World Marathon Championships.

Definitions

- 1.1. Canoe Marathon - In Canoe Marathon the competitor races over a designated long distance course on water not subject to prescribed standards. The competitor must take the water as it is found and be prepared, if it is necessary, to carry his or her canoe around an impassable obstacle, or between two waterways (ICF Rules of Competition, Jan 2013).
- 1.2. Minimum Marathon World Championship Performance Standard
This is a performance requirement of those paddlers being considered for a Nomination to the Marathon World Championship Team.

A Minimum Marathon World Championship Performance Standard indicates the potential to achieve a required position of finish at the Marathon World Championships. The assessment of this potential is accomplished by reviewing the performance of the paddler or crew during the season of application and may also involve the review of a training log submitted to the MCRC.

- 1.3. Junior – The first year a junior competitor can compete is the year in which his/her 15th birthday falls, and the last year he/she may compete as a junior is the year in which his/her 18th birthday falls (ICF Rules of Competition, Jan 2015).
- 1.4. Under 23 - The first year an Under 23 competitor can compete is the year in which his/her 15th birthday falls, and the last year he/she may compete as an Under 23 is the year in which his/her 23rd birthday falls (ICF Rules of Competition, Jan 2015).
- 1.5. A competitor can compete in a Masters event in the year he or she reaches the lower limit of the age category, i.e. in the 35-39 age group in the year of his or her 35th birthday. In K2, C2 or K4 events the age of the youngest competitor will control the category in which a crew can compete. Age group categories will commence from age 35-39 and increase upwards in 5-year age brackets (ICF Rules of Competition, Jan 2015).

The procedures and criteria that a paddler must satisfy in order to be nominated are outlined below.

2. Overview

The World Marathon Championships is a lap format race with the start, finish and portage in the same area. The ICF recommended number of laps is 8 for senior men, 7 for senior women, U23 men and canoe senior men, 6 for canoe senior women, U23 women, canoe U23 men and junior kayak men and 5 laps for kayak and canoe junior women and canoe junior men. The exact number of laps and the number of portages may vary if required because of specific circumstance at the event. The recommended distance should be such that the winner of each class shall record a time of approximately two hours fifteen minutes for seniors. The junior distance will be controlled by the number of laps described above (ICF Rules of Competition, Jan 2015).

3. Expression of Interest

Paddlers **interested in attending** the ICF World Marathon Canoe Championships are to submit their application to their provincial association by May 15th of the year in which they are competing. Provincial bodies are to forward their submissions to MCRC by May 30th. Names will be published on the CKC-Marathon web site as interested paddlers.

The application form for **expression of interest** can be found on the CKC-Marathon web site along with a list of provincial marathon association contacts. (Application form found on the CKC web site)

4. General Selection Criteria

- 4.1. To be eligible for selection to the Marathon World Championship Team paddlers must be registered with a provincial marathon association. If there is no active marathon association in the province, a paddler can request to join a province of their choice in good standing with the MCRC.
- 4.2. The Marathon World Championship Team will consist of paddlers in the following age classes – Junior, Under 23, and Senior.
- 4.3. Canada can nominate two (2) boats per class. The following Marathon Canoe classes are run:
 - Men: K-1, K-2, C-1, C-2
 - Women: K-1, K-2, C-1
 - Under 23 Men: K-1, C-1
 - Under 23 Women: K-1
 - Junior Men: K-1, K-2, C-1, C-2
 - Junior Women: K-1, K-2, C-1

Note: there are no restrictions on the number of Master boats in the Masters competitions, nor is there a qualification process or a performance standard. Paddlers must be registered with a provincial marathon association.

- 4.4. To be eligible for selection to the Marathon World Championship Team paddlers must participate in a **provincially sanctioned qualifier race**.

5. Provincial Sanctioned Qualifier Race

- 5.1. Any province in good standing with the MCRC can request to hold a "Qualifier". The request must be submitted to the MCRC by Feb 15 in the year of the upcoming Worlds. The MCRC will respond to the request by March 15. (Application form found on the CKC web site).
- 5.2. There will be no more than one qualifier per province.
- 5.3. Each Qualifier must offer all ICF Classes offered at the World Marathon Canoe Championships.

- 5.4. All sanctioned "qualifier" races will be posted on the CKC web site by April 1st.
- 5.5. After the completion of the "Qualifier", provincial associations must submit their paddler's name, along with a paddling resume to the Marathon Canoe Racing Council by June 30.
- 5.6. It is the responsibility of the race committee organizing a sanctioned Qualifier to ensure that any paddler expressing an interest in representing Canada at the World Marathon Championship be a member in good standing with an active provincial marathon association.

6. Exceptional Circumstances

- 6.1. If the number of selected and accepted paddlers is less than the participation limits of the World Marathon Canoe Championships (2 boats per K1; K2, C1; C2 for senior and juniors, K1 and C1 for U23), other interested paddlers may apply for inclusion in the team without having submitted an application of interest.
- 6.2. If more paddlers than the allocated 2 boats per event express an interest in attending the World Marathon Canoe Championships, the paddler will be required to attend a final selection race. Race location to be determined by the MCRC board no later than April 30 and published on the CKC web site.
- 6.3. Paddlers applying under the exceptional circumstances clause are not able to displace any paddler already named to the Marathon World Championship Team.
- 6.4. The Selection Committee reserves the right to add paddlers to the team based on previous experience or recognized ranking. These additions would not displace any paddler already named to the Marathon World Championship Team.
- 6.5. Paddlers who are not able to attend any of the Qualifiers may submit their names, paddling resumes, all pertinent results and a letter of support from their club or association, to the Selection Committee by May 1st.

7. Selection Committee

- 7.1. A selection committee will be identified by the Marathon Canoe Racing Council. The members of this committee will be posted on the CKC website.

- 7.2. Names submitted by each provincial paddling association will be reviewed by the selection committee. If there are more paddlers than the allotted 2 boats per event, the paddlers will be required to attend a final selection race. Race location to be determined by the MCRC board no later than April 30th and published on the CKC web site.
- 7.3. The Selection Committee reserves the right not to send paddlers that they feel are not qualified to compete at the Worlds.

8. Paddler requirements

- 8.1. Paddlers are required to demonstrate that they carry appropriate health, accident and property insurance covering their persons, equipment and property as identified by the ICF-Marathon (ICF Rules of Competition, Jan 2015).
- 8.2. All competition costs borne by the paddler including airfare, accommodation, food, transport, entries and any personal miscellaneous expenses are the sole responsibility of the individual paddler.

Policy to be reviewed annually at the MCRC AGM

Approved Jan 2010

Reviewed Feb 2016

Reviewed Nov 2016

Published Jan 2017