



It's Who *We* Are.

C'est *Notre* Nature.

**CANOE FREESTYLE
SELECTION PROCEDURES
2020**

1. Performance Objectives

The Canoe Freestyle high performance program is focused on selecting the best Canadian Canoe Freestyle paddlers to represent Canada at international competitions, including World Cup and World Championship events. This process will be accomplished in a transparent and equitable manner.

2. Selection Procedures

The processes laid out in this document, and the supporting Selection Criteria Supplement, govern the selection of Athletes to the Canoe Freestyle National Teams.

The results of the Canoe Freestyle National Team Trials will be used to determine paddler eligibility, in available classes where applicable, for the 2020-2022 National Team, paddler funding (if available) and other benefits provided by Canoe Kayak Canada (CKC) and Sport Canada. All types of the eligibility and benefits apply to paddlers from the completion of the 2020 National Team Trials through to the 2022 National Team Trials. In the event of any dispute between the English and French versions of this document or any of the selection procedures, the English version(s) will prevail.

3. Acronyms and Definitions

“Paddler”	An athlete with exceptional skill, knowledge and ability in the sport of Canoe Freestyle and wishes to compete for Canada as a member of CKC’s team. The paddler has notified CKC, in accordance with this document, that they wish to be considered for selection in a pool and/or has been selected in a CKC pool or team
“HPD”	High Performance Director, as appointed from within the Freestyle Committee
“FC”	Freestyle Committee (Committee that approves the selection criteria supplements for each event.
“FHJ”	Freestyle Head Judge at the Selection event
“ICF”	International Canoe Federation
“NTT”	National Team Trials
“Quota”	The number of Athlete entries per event that are allocated to a National Federation at ICF events. Quotas are subject to confirmation from the ICF.
“Selection Criteria Supplements”	The separate documents that each contain the specific selection criteria for the relevant team selection process
“SMSHPCD”	Senior Manager of Slalom High Performance and Coach Development

4. Changes to this Document

- 4.1.1 The HPD, with FC approval, may change the Selection Procedures document or the Selection Criteria Supplement with just cause. An example is an action by an outside agency such as the ICF (e.g. changing or adding an event). The HPD shall provide as much notice of such change as is possible to all affected paddlers and stakeholders as determined by the FC.
- 4.1.2 The CKC will take reasonable steps to give written notice to paddlers affected by any amendments and/or supplements to this document. It is the responsibility of each paddler to keep his/her contact details up to date, and to keep CKC notified of any change to that information. CKC will be deemed to have complied with this clause if via email notice to the paddler’s most recent contact details and posts written notice on the CKC website.

5. Decision Making Authority

- 5.1.1 The selection panel for all Freestyle national teams will consist of the Chair of the FC, the HPD and when possible, one additional member of the FC, if that member is not also competing as a paddler. At a minimum, the panel will consist of the HPD and Chair of the FC.
- 5.1.2 The selection panel will nominate the National Team based on the selection criteria

published in this document.

- 5.1.3 The selection panel will confirm the final team composition for ICF Freestyle World Championships, using the criteria published in this document.
- 5.1.4 Once nominated to an international team, the final approval of all international competition entries is the responsibility of the SMSHPCD.
- 5.1.5 All appeals and/or protests related to Team Selection competition results must be managed by the FHJ at the Selection event. If the FHJ and HPD are the same individual, then the Chair of the FC will also be involved in the review and resolution of any appeals and/or protests. If either the Chair of the FC or the HPD has a conflict of interest due to a relationship with the paddler placing the appeal, then the SMSHPCD will be engaged in the process in their place.
- 5.1.6 The selection panel will not interfere with the management or make any decisions with respect to appeals and/or protests concerning competition results.

6. Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for selection under these regulations, the Selection Panel must be satisfied that, at the time of selection to a team or teams, the paddler must:

- 6.1.1 Be a member in good standing with CKC;
- 6.1.2 Meets or will meet the ICF's eligibility requirements (if any);
- 6.1.3 Is a Canadian citizen or holds a Canadian permanent residency visa;
- 6.1.4 For ICF events, satisfactorily demonstrate per ICF rules that he/she will be eligible to compete for Canada at the ICF World Championships;
- 6.1.5 Does not have any outstanding accounts with CKC that are more than 30 - days in arrears or are without an approved payment plan;
- 6.1.6 Not be serving a period of ineligibility pursuant to the Canadian Anti-Doping Program and/or pursuant to the ICF's Anti-Doping Rules;
- 6.1.7 Sign and submit the CKC Athlete Agreement in accordance with the date outlined in the Timelines Summary;
- 6.1.8 Completes and signs the applicable application form, including the acknowledgement that he/she will abide by the CKC Code of Conduct.

If a paddler is selected to the national team under these selection procedures and criteria supplements, the paddler acknowledges and agrees that:

- 6.1.9 They must comply with CKC's policies as posted on the CKC website;
- 6.1.10 They are subject to drug testing by the Canadian Sports Anti-Doping Agency (CCES), ICF, or other applicable bodies and must comply with CKC's CCES's and ICF's Anti-Doping

bylaws or policies;

- 6.1.11 They will comply with all requests from CKC and with his/her obligations set out in the CKC Anti-Doping bylaw to provide accurate whereabouts information to CCES and ICF using an Athlete Contact Information Form.

7. Selection Criteria

- 7.1.1 The selection criteria are developed by the FC and the HPD. Following feedback from coaches, paddlers, and the CKC community, the final Selection Criteria is then forwarded to the FC for review and approval.
- 7.1.2 The criteria to be applied by the Selection Panel for the applicable team that is set out in the relevant Selection Criteria Supplement.

8. Injury Unforeseen Absence Clause

A paddler who is unable to participate in the selection procedure due to illness, injury or extraordinary scheduling conflict may nevertheless be considered for selection if an unfilled quota remains vacant following the selection procedure. All Athletes intending to apply for an injury or illness clause exemption must notify the HPD in writing, with appropriate documentation in advance of the element of selection in which the Athlete is unable to participate.

The FC must approve all exemptions from the selection procedure. Where the exemption is related to illness or injury, the HPD may consult with medical professionals to start a process whereby the nature and severity of the illness can be evaluated.

A paddler's last performance at an ICF sanctioned, Canadian Freestyle Team Trials or Nationals event in the previous 2 years may be considered if the paddler meets the eligibility requirements and benchmarks relative to the event.

9. Unforeseen Circumstances

These criteria are intended to apply where fair competitive conditions exist, and specifically, where no paddlers are prevented from competing because of an unforeseen injury or other unanticipated circumstances. Situations may arise where unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond CKC's control do not allow competing or team selection to take place in a fair manner or in the best interests of the priorities and general principles for selection as indicated in these criteria; or do not allow the procedure for nomination as described in the Selection Procedures and Criteria Supplements to be applied.

In the event of such unforeseen circumstances the HPD will, where possible, consult with the FC to determine if the circumstances justify competing or if selection should take place in an alternative manner.

10. Maintaining Selection Status

A paddler who is selected under these procedures and the applicable criteria supplement must:

- 10.1.1 Comply with applicable CKC policies including these procedures and applicable criteria

supplements;

10.1.2 Comply with any requirement of the CKC Anti-Doping Bylaw;

10.1.3 Any selected paddler may have their selection status reviewed by the HPD if any of the requirements in clause 10 are not met. The HPD will notify the paddler in writing as to why their selection status is under review. The paddler will be given a reasonable opportunity (no more than seven days) to provide reasons why she/he should not be removed from the selection process.

A selected paddler may withdraw their selection by giving notice in writing to the HPD. If a selected paddler is withdrawn from selection, the Selection Panel may consider selecting another paddler to replace the withdrawn paddler.

11. Replacement Procedures

Where a paddler has been selected to a National Team and subsequently is unable to take part in a competition due to injury, illness, pregnancy, violation of National Team or ICF rules or willingly withdraws from team, the selection panel may select a replacement.

Replacement paddlers will be given three days from the time of notification to commit to their participation in the competition schedule associated with the team for which they qualified.

All replacement paddlers must satisfy the appropriate Eligibility Requirements and Performance Benchmarks.

Any unfilled quota positions may be filled by the next highest ranked eligible paddler based on the Selection Criteria outlined in the appropriate National Team Selection Criteria Supplement.

12. Freestyle Quota Allocations

The table below outlines the number of Quota CKC is awarded for the ICF Freestyle World Championships. The number of available Quotas Spots for each category will determine the maximum number of nominations to the National Team.

Event	ICF World Cup and World Championships Quotas
K1 Men Surface	5 Paddlers
K1 Women Surface	5 Paddlers
C1 Unisex Surface	3 Paddlers
OC1 Unisex Surface	2 Paddlers
Squirt Men	3 Paddlers
Squirt Women	3 Paddlers
K1 Junior Men Surface	3 Paddlers

As per ICF Canoe Freestyle Rule 12.4.1, Gold Medalists in each event are automatically invited to return to the next World Championships in the same event in additions to their National Federations' quota.

13. Appeals

Appeals of Canoe Kayak Canada decisions may be pursued through the Canoe Kayak Canada [Appeals Policy](#).

Athletes shall only be permitted to appeal when they are directly affected by a decision. As such, any paddler who was not being considered for a team shall not have the right to appeal a selection decision.