

**American Canoe Association**

**ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES**  
**2019 ICF Paracanoe World Cup**  
**Poznan, Poland**  
**and**  
**2019 Pan American Championships**  
**Sao Paulo, Brazil**  
**2019 Paracanoe World Championships**  
**Szeged, Hungary**  
TSWG REVIEW DATE

**1. SELECTION SYSTEM**

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team:

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Sample Language – please modify language in red:

Note: Please indicate the point at which an athlete in your sport must be a US National. “Time of selection” (the first event of the trials or trials process) and “time of nomination” (when the athlete is nominated to the USOC) are only two commonly used options.

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of selection.

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of each event.

1.1.2. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and/or Pan American Sport Organization (PASO) (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 PASO Statutes (Article XXII, Sections 4 and 5).

1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IF) and/or Continental Federation (CF) standards for participation (if any):

*Note: Please incorporate IF and/or CF standards/criteria into the Selection Procedures, such as minimum age requirements, etc.*

- Competitors must turn 15 years old or older during 2019.
- Competitors must have a disability eligible for assignment to a Paracanoe Sport Class Status other than Sport Class Not eligible.

1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):

*Sample Language: Athlete must be a member in good standing of the NGB/HPMO.*

- Have a valid Competition individual membership ([https://www.americancanoe.org/general/register\\_member\\_type.asp](https://www.americancanoe.org/general/register_member_type.asp)) AND be in good financial standing with the American Canoe Association (ACA).
- Register, enter, and compete at the 2019 Paracanoe Team Trials by published deadlines, except as covered by para 2. Discretionary Selection.
- <https://www.riversportokc.org/ev.../sprint-slalom-team-trials/>
- Deadline April 1, 2019.
- Pay all unfunded expenses for each international event by published deadlines. Withdrawal may result in forfeiture of all or part of funds so as to not increase cost to other team members, and according to host organizers' deadlines.
- Adhere to all International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC), Pan American Sports Organization (PASO), International Canoe Federation (ICF), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) and USOC antidoping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable
- Complete the ICF online drug education: <http://www.canoeicf.com/pure-paddling-performance>.
- Complete SafeSport training: <http://www.americancanoe.org/page/SafeSport>.

1.2. Tryout Events:

*Note: Selection procedures shall not be based solely on retroactive criteria, results or events.*

*Note: Dates for any events, trials or camps must be announced at least 30 days prior to the commencement of the event, trials or camps.*

1.2.1. Provide the event names, dates and locations of all trials, events and camps to be used as part of the selection process.

- The 2019 USA Paracanoe Team Trials will be held in conjunction with the USA Sprint National Team Trials April 12-14, 2019 at the Oklahoma City Boathouse District, 608 Riversport Dr, Oklahoma City, OK 73129

1.2.2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for the trials, events and camps listed above in 1.2.1. (if any).

- No prerequisite events for trials.

1.3. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process (include maximum Team size).

- These trials and discretionary selection do NOT select athletes for the 2020 Paralympic Games Team. If an athlete qualifies a quota at the 2019 Paracanoe World Championships, the quota applies to the event, not the athlete.
- The maximum team size is 24 athletes. Two male and two female entries are available for each class and discipline (KL3, KL2, KL1 and VL3, VL2, VL1). Selection by any of the listed methods or meeting time standards does not guarantee funding by the ACA.
- Suggested time standards for each event are listed below and were developed to prevent coming in last at the international event and do not predict qualification for a quota or any high degree of success.
- Up to two athletes in each event who are equal to or faster than the time standard at the Trials may accept nomination to the 2019 Paracanoe National Team if they accept and compete in one international event during 2019.

1.3.1. Poznan World Cup and Paracanoe Pan American Championships

- Deadlines for making arrangements will have passed by the time of these trials for the Paracanoe World Cup and the Paracanoe Pan

American Championships. The Paracanoe Committee has invited athletes to compete in these events based on previous performances, recommendation of coaches, and the need for international classification.

- Athletes not pre-selected for the World Cup and Pan American Championships may send Shannon Moore ([paracanoe@americancanoe.org](mailto:paracanoe@americancanoe.org)) a request to compete in any unfilled event but may not displace a previously named athlete. Participation is dependent upon the ability to complete arrangements for the World Cup and/or Pan American Championships. Self-nominating athletes will be required to make a non-refundable (to the extent the funds cannot be refunded by the international event organizer) deposit before any arrangements are made.
- Self-nominating athletes must provide evidence of competence, such as previous race results, coach's recommendation, videotape, or demonstrate ability at trials.
- Self-nominating athletes will be allowed to compete in the World Cup, and/or Pan American Championships with the team, but status as an official team member will be awarded according to their time at trials or previous results at USA or ICF sanctioned events.

#### 1.3.2. 2019 Paracanoe World Championships

- The top two athletes meeting the time standard at Trials and accepting the nomination, in order of finish, will be selected.
- If less than two athletes meet the time standard, or if a qualified athlete declines the team berth, each athlete (in order of finish) desiring to compete at the World Championships must discuss the pros and cons with member(s) of the selection committee before deciding to compete as a participant, but not as an official National Team member, **unless discretionary selection is in play.**
- Athletes who cannot compete at trials for a compelling reason may apply before Trials entry deadline to be considered **under discretionary selection** for the World Championships by sending a request to Shannon Moore, accompanied by pre-payment of the expected expenses for the World Championships.
- If only one athlete in a class meets the time standard the athlete will be nominated to the World Championship team. A second athlete not meeting the time standard or not competing at Trials but desiring to go to the World Championships will not be immediately nominated to the team, but may pre-pay the expected expenses for the World Championships and participate **in the discretionary selection process.**

- If athletes withdraw or are removed for any reason after July 3 and before July 19, only 50% of the deposit expense may be refunded. After July 19, 100% of the entire expense is forfeited. If boat rental or other fees cannot be recovered, they will be forfeited.
- The estimated maximum cost in Hungary, inclusive, is \$1500.

## 2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

*Note: There may be instances where discretionary/subjective criteria are useful in selecting athletes for the Team. If discretionary/subjective criteria are used, the evaluation process must be supported by objective measures. In team sports, for example, it is difficult to make selection decisions based solely upon objective criteria. As a result, discretionary /subjective criteria may be used to select athletes who will form the best team composition. All discretionary/subjective criteria that will be utilized in the evaluation process must be listed in their entirety. Please include any evaluation/scouting forms as attachments when used for selection to the team.*

### 2.1. Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

- The intent is NOT to fill the full team size unless athletes are truly qualified, show potential, and/or need to be internationally classified before the 2020 Paracanoe World Championships.
- Trials are early in the competition year and high potential athletes, such as elite level athletes from other sports, may not be available to compete in the Trials due to conflicting schedules or may improve rapidly before the deadline for entry to the World Championships.
- The selection committee may fill uncontested vacancies in any of the international events after the trials by invitation.

### 2.2. List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used (if any):

- Athletes (Challengers) who did not compete at trials for a compelling reason but paid a \$100 fee to the ACA and applied for consideration by April 1 may challenge the second highest ranking athlete (Defender) from trials who did not meet the time standard but is desiring to go to the World Championships.
  - Both Defender and Challenger must have the full estimated cost of racing at the World Championships on deposit with the ACA.
  - The Challenger bears the financial burden for a head to head race, which will be coordinated with Shannon Moore.
  - The Challenger must beat the Defending athlete in a head to head competition to be invited to compete at the World Championships.

- All activities related to the challenge must be completed and submitted to the ACA Paracanoe Program Director by June 24 and reviewed by the Selection Committee, with the decision announced by June 27.

2.3. Provide the name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles currently serving on the committee:

*Note: A committee of more than one person must be involved in making final discretionary selections and the committee must have at least 20% athlete representation as defined by USOC Bylaws (Athlete Representative does not have to be the USOC AAC, but does have to meet the USOC definition of Athlete Representative).*

*Note: It is recommended that names of individuals not be included in this list due to potential changes. However, the titles of individual members must be included. If names are included, please include a caveat in the space provided below that explains that any individual who is unable to serve on the committee for whatever reason will be replaced accordingly*

- Deborah Page, Paracanoe Committee Chairman
- Shannon Moore, ACA Paracanoe Manager
- Marsh Jones, Chairman, ACA Competition Committee
- Emily Wright Wolfram, USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative

2.3.1. Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee.  
*Note: NGB/HPMO to develop conflict of interest statement applicable to its sport and provide the language here. The following is standard language that illustrates one approved example of language that may be used; however, if the NGB/HPMO develops its own conflict of interest language, the following paragraph may be removed. Additional examples of this language may be obtained through your Sport Performance Team.*

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.

### 3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to entry by name to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOC, the NGB/HPMO has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

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

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the ACA CEO/Executive Director.
- 3.1.2. 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 disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 9 of these procedures.
- 3.1.4. Violation of the ACA's Code of Conduct  
<https://www.americancanoe.org/page/AthleteCodeofConduct>.
- 3.1.5. Change by International Paracanoe Classifiers to Sport Class Not Eligible, or to a Sport Class where two USA entries are competing. All three athletes will be allowed to compete at the event where the change occurred, and only the fastest two athletes may compete at events later in the year unless payments and entries have closed.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the NGB's/HPMO's Bylaws Appendix X, Section 2 and the USOC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once athlete entries have been submitted to the Local Organizing Committee by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable NGB/HPMO Code of Conduct, the USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<http://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman/Resources/Code-of-Conduct>

<http://www.teamusa.org/Footer/Legal/Governance-Documents>

- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, PASO, IPC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable.

#### **4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES**

- 4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:
- 4.1.1. prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee: The next eligible athlete will be offered the nomination. If non-refundable expenses have not yet been paid, only high potential athletes will be encouraged to accept.
  - 4.1.2. after submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee: The next eligible athlete will be offered the nomination. If non-refundable expenses have already been paid, less emphasis will be placed on time standards and potential to avoid financial loss.

#### **5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

The American Canoe Association will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games.

#### **6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

*Note: Required Documents include the USOC Code of Conduct and may include an NGB/HPMO Code of Conduct or a National Team Agreement, etc.*

*Note: Participation must not be conditional on an athlete signing any commercial terms agreement.*

In addition to the USOC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Paralympic or Parapan American Games and are included as attachments:

- None. These procedures do not select athletes to any Games.

#### **7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES**

The USOC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by the American Canoe Association in the following locations:



- 7.1. American Canoe Association Web site:  
<https://www.americancanoe.org/page/Paracanoe>

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOC.

- 7.2. Other: ACA Paracanoe Team Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/ACAParacanoe/?ref=bookmarks>

## 8. DATE OF NOMINATION

*Note: The USOC requires each NGB/HPMO to submit its athlete nominations on the USOC Athlete Nomination Form by the date established by the USOC. The nomination date is based on the respective Local Organizing Committee's deadlines for each Games.*

*Note: Requests for an extension to the date of nomination must be submitted in writing to your USOC Sport Performance Team, and approved in advance. To be considered, a request must include the proposed nomination date and specific reason for the extension request. These requests will only be approved in extraordinary circumstances and must be performance impacting.*

*Note: Before an NGB/HPMO publicly announces its Team (i.e. to the media), the USOC must authorize the release of the information. Contact your Sport Performance Team to request authorization.*

The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOC on or before:

These selection criteria do not apply to the Paralympic or Para Pan American Games and the Nomination of Athletes form will not be submitted to the USOC. The date of nomination for athletes selected at the National Team Trials will be by 19 April 2019. Athletes selected by discretionary selection procedures will be announced by 27 June 2019.

## 9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

*Note: If exact dates of the mandatory training and/or competition are not known, NGB/HPMO must provide at least 30 days advance notice (but prefer notification as soon as possible) to all selected athletes regarding any mandatory training and/or competition. Please state how and where the information will be published/posted (e.g. NGB's/HPMO's Website).*

Specify the location, schedule and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

## 10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

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

## **11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES**

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

*Note: The development of the Athlete Selection Procedures must involve input from NGB/HPMO athletes who meet the definition of an “athlete representative” as defined by the USOC Bylaws, Section 8.8.2. NGB/HPMO Committees that are responsible for developing the Selection Procedures must include at least 20% athlete representation. Additional input is also encouraged by the NGB’s/HPMO’s USOC AAC Representative, if he/she is not already involved.*

*Note: If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOC AAC Representative, the NGB/HPMO must designate an athlete(s) from that sport to be involved in and provide input toward the development of the Selection Procedures, as well as review and sign the approved Selection Procedures. The designated athlete must meet the definition of “athlete representative” as defined by USOC Bylaws, Section 8.8.2.*

ACA Paracanoe Committee

Deborah Page, Chairman

Janet Whitaker, Vice Chairman

Larry Gioia, Secretary

Cathy Bohlman, Member

Kelly Allen, Athlete Representative

Emily Wright Wolfram, USOC AAC Representative

Shannon Moore, ACA Paracanoe High Performance Manager

## **12. NGB/HPMO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

The American Canoe Association Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:  
<https://www.americancanoe.org/page/Grievance>

## **13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER**

These procedures are based on IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or International Canoe Federation rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, IPC, PASO, as applicable, and/or International Canoe Federation rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately.

The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to the 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 USOC.




**14. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN**

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by the ACA may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, Kacie Wallace, by:

- Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- Email at [Kacie.wallace@usoc.org](mailto:Kacie.wallace@usoc.org)
- <http://www.teamusa.org/Athlete-Resources/Athlete-Ombudsman>

**15. NGB/HPMO SIGNATURES**

**I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and/or CF (PAG/PPAG only) 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
NGB/HPMO President or CEO/Executive Director	Wade Blackwood		3-22-2019
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Shannon Moore		3-25-2019
USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Emily Wright Wolfram		3/26/19

\* If the USOC 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 NGB/HPMO, 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 USOC AAC Representative, the NGB/HPMO must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.

2019 USA Paracanoe National Team Time Standards

KL3 M	0:50	KL3 W	1:01
KL2 M	0:54	KL2W	1:03
KL1 M	1:03	KL1 W	1:08
VL3 M	1:01	VL3 W	1:15
VL2 M	1:08	VL2 W	1:15
VL1 M	1:27	VL1 W	1:32