
Great Britain Wild Water Racing

Selection for Great Britain Teams

VERSION:

1.9

STATUS:

Live

Revision History

Date	Version	Comments
08/11/2006	0.1	Initial Version
12/11/2006	1.0	Issued
25/10/2007	1.1	Clarified Points Model
04/12/2007	1.2	1.5.1, 3 – maximum points available are the maximum allowed in each event
19/08/2008	1.3	1.4.3 - Notification of selection decision
30/07/2009	1.4	1.5.2 paragraphs 10 & 11 – team management selection responsibilities at the target competition 1.5.3 – re-written to clarify athletes missing selection General - Make terms consistent e.g. using athlete, competition
16/12/2011	1.5	1.4.5 (new) – Selected Athletes paragraph 1 – selected athletes expected to compete in all events for which they are selected 1.5.1 paragraph 5 – criteria from detailed selection policy should be satisfied 1.5.1 paragraph 6 – under combined points model, athletes are expected to compete in all selection races 1.5.1 paragraph 8 – removed reference to World Championship rule
10/11/2013	1.6	Revised for the 2014 Season
1/8/2014	1.7	Revised for the 2014 Season
23/11/2014	1.8	Selection registration updated, Selection committee updated, Addition of policy definition, Discretionary selection updated
23/10/16	1.9	Updated by JC

Review/Approval Register

Name	Position/Role	Version Reviewed	Date Reviewed	Review Sheet Used?	Comments

1 SELECTION FOR GREAT BRITAIN TEAMS

1.1 Introduction

Selection is concerned with appointing the GBR Team for international championship events to compete at that event at an appropriate level. In so doing it should inspire aspiration and improved performance of all.

1.2 Purpose of the GBR Team

1. The primary purpose of the GBR Team attending a competition is to compete at that event. Competing takes place at many levels not just in determining the winner. Clearly winning is the ultimate goal but due to the mutually exclusive nature of winning it is something that only a few can achieve concurrently. Thus in the definition of the competition winning can not be an option for the majority of people however competing at an appropriate level is; it is this that is required of athletes.

2. A range of performance is what makes a championships. Without losers there can be no winner, without less good people there can be no better people. However it goes slightly deeper than that. A competition becomes valid when there is a structure for interaction that impacts other peoples' competition and results. In so doing it should inspire aspiration and improved performance of all, not just the GBR Team.

3. The primary purpose of the GBR Team is not for the purpose of training or personal enhancement although it is sincerely hoped that it is also possible to gain these things whilst competing.

1.3 Definitions

1.3.1 Target Race

The race for which selections are being made.

1.3.2 Selection Races

Races which are used to rank the paddlers who have applied for Selection. All other races are used to provide supporting evidence of Eligibility and are not to rank paddlers for selection.

1.3.3 The GBR Team

The GBR Team is the collection of paddlers assembled to attend and compete in the Target Race representing Great Britain. The GBR Team as such is disbanded at the end of the race tour and is not to be confused with a group of people working through the year towards gaining selection or with the Team Management. All members of the GBR Team will have the same status and support. Preparation outside the GBR Team is covered by the Development and Training Policy.

1.3.4 The Team Management

Those people who manage the GBR Team, selection, tours and their/its preparation. The Team Management is made of individuals that may come and go through the year but as an entity the Team Management exists continually throughout the year. The Team Management is made up of administrators, helpers and technical coaching staff as designated by the Executive Committee

1.3.5 National Coaches

There are National Coaches who are responsible for liaison with the prospective GBR Team paddlers and the Team Management for the purposes of selection and to provide the GBR Team with technical support. It is expected that National Coaches will also have a role within development and coaching throughout the year but that is not a selection issue.

1.3.6 The Team Manager

The Team Manager heads the Team Management. In order to remain in neutral position with respect to all it is recommended the Team Manager has no direct performance role. The extent of performance duties is to manage the coaching staff.

1.3.7 Registrants for Selection

A collection of people who have registered for selection. This list is created and maintained by the Team Management and will be publicised. The list is expected to include more people than will gain selection to the GBR Team. No support for this group is implied by the selection policy beyond the guidance for the selection standard detailed in the selection policy. All athletes are encouraged to register as early as possible prior to the selection event in order to help the team managements planning requirements.

1.3.8 Eligibility Assessors

People assigned the role of assessing those that register for selection (see 1.4.3 Eligibility and the accompanying Assessment Guidance document). The eligibility assessors will be coordinated by the assessment controller who will ensure that assessments are consistent.

1.3.9 The Selection Committee

The selection process shall be conducted by a Selection Committee. The Committee will consist of people nominated by the WWR Executive following a request to the wildwater racing community to submit names of people who would like to sit on the committee, none of whom have a direct personal involvement with the people being considered for selection. The duty of the selection committee is to implement this selection policy and not to express opinions or to make policy.

The Team Manager and National Coaches should not be on the selection committee, but they should be there to give evidence in support of athletes' selection. The Selection Committee should be completely independent. In the event of the team manager or national coaches having a vested interest in selection either for them self or for a paddler that they coach, they should declare this at the start of the meeting and should leave the room when that class is discussed.

1.3.10 Maximum Team

The maximum number of places available per class for any target event will be either the maximum per class according to the rules (selection policy, event, national or international rules) or a stated logistical limit on the number of boats that can be supported at an event. Whilst it is hoped there are people of the standard to fill the maximum number of places the reality is both the expected team and the actual team might be smaller than the maximum.

1.3.11 Policy

A course or principle of action adopted or proposed by an organization or individual, the policy provides guidance to the selection committee it should not be confused with a procedure which would be a specific set of instructions that offer no room for interpretation. Therefore there is room within the policy for the selection committee to make decisions following the guidance and principles set out in this policy.

1.4 Selection Policy

1.4.1 Selection Policy for Target Competitions

Accompanying this selection policy will be a detailed policy for each target competition. It provides specific criteria and information about the target competition and selection for it. The detailed selection policy for the target competition should be read in conjunction with this selection policy.

1.4.2 Registering for Selection

Each athlete seeking selection must complete documentation supplied by the team management identifying availability and selection eligibility for each target race. This information must be made available to the team management and selection committee by the date stated on the detailed selection documents for the target race and will be used by the selection committee to assist in the selection process.

Athletes are responsible for ensuring that all documentation is complete and in the possession of the team manager by the date stated on the detailed selection documents for the target race.

1.4.3 Eligibility

To be selected all paddlers must prove their ability to compete on the type of course and in the environment of the Target Race. This might take the form of a record of international competition, ability and conduct at training camps, results in domestic competition, endorsement by a National coach, but is not restricted to these means of proof.

In addition to capability there must exist a desire to compete and not merely attend.

Paddlers registered for selection will have an Eligibility Assessment made by an Eligibility Assessor. Those who are assessed prior to the selection event and do not meet the criteria MUST be informed of the Eligibility Assessment during the year and prior to selection. Such communication may take the form of advising that the paddler's eligibility is "not proven" and that a final decision will only be made following an assessment of their performance in Selection or other events.

It is possible for athletes that have not been assessed prior to selection to be assessed during the selection race. National coaches and Team management to not recommend this route as it does not give any opportunity for the improvements to be made should an athlete not meet the eligibility requirements.

Paddlers cannot infer they have met the criteria and should consult with the Eligibility Assessors, National Coaches and Team Management for guidance it is the athletes responsibility to ensure they have been assessed and must be prepared to accept the decisions of the Selection Committee.

Whilst there is a requirement on the National Coaches and or Team Management to inform paddlers of their progress there is also a requirement on paddlers to make sure they have provided satisfactory evidence of their ability.

Athletes must also:

- be comprehensive members of the BCU
- comply with BCU doping regulations
- be prepared to dress and conduct themselves in a manner befitting a British Team member, including the wearing of team tracksuits
- be prepared to travel and accommodated in the best interests of the team
- be prepared to give support to the Sports Council and other sponsors in promotional aspects.

1.4.4 Communication of Selection Committee Decisions

It is the responsibility of the Chairman of the Selection Committee to ensure that all decisions and reasons for selection or non-selection are recorded concisely.

Within 1 week of the selection meeting all athletes registered for selection will be informed by email whether they have been selected. A list of selected athletes will be published on the WWR website shortly after, but no sooner than 48 hours, after the email notifications have been sent,

1.5 Selection Procedures

1.5.1 General

1. Selection is available to anyone meeting the eligibility requirements above.
2. Each class will be considered, and ranked, separately.
3. Paddlers will be ranked using one or more selection races. This will be done by awarding points. The maximum points available for each selection race will be equal to the maximum number of places available in each event.

	Example 1	Example 2
Maximum available places	6	4
Paddlers seeking selection	8	5
Number of people at race	7	5
Points for 1st	6	4
Points for 2nd	5	3
Points for 5 th	2	0
Points for 7 th	0	-

4. Only those seeking selection will be included in the ranking points system. Unless it has been stated that the same selection rankings will be used to select for multiple target races ie World championships and European championships, selection for each target race will be considered separately and the ranking will be for that target race only.

5. Ranking points will be awarded based on the results from a single race or the total points from a series of races. The higher the points score the higher the ranking. If this results in a tie, the final selection race result will be used as a decider. If this still results in a tie the current national ranking will be used as a decider. The selection committee will select athletes in ranking order according to the points gained from the selection race or races, up to the maximum available places per class or allowed by the selection policy for the target event.

6. For target Championship / Series / International competitions, where athletes are expected to compete in both the Classic and Sprint events, a **combined points model** will be used, where the points from the series of Classic and Sprint selection races will be combined.

7. For target Championship / Series / International competitions, where athletes are not necessarily expected to compete in both the Classic and Sprint events, a **separate points model** will be used, where the points from the series of Classic selection races only will determine the ranking for the Classic selection and the points from the series of Sprint selection races only will determine the ranking for the Sprint selection.

8. In the event of selected paddlers being unavailable for certain races, selection opportunities may exist for non selected or developing paddlers, in order to support Wild Water Racing at an international level. Selections of this manner will only take place if authorised by the WWR Committee. Selection will be made using the selection race(s) ranking position or next fastest finishers until available places per class are filled. Available places may only be filled by selecting remaining paddlers that meet the competence selection eligibility criteria.

10. Selections for team races will be made at the target competition(s) by Team Management. Selection for team races can be made irrespective of the individual event selection i.e. a sprint individual athlete may be selected for the classic team race or a classic individual athlete may be selected for a sprint team race.

1.5.2 Discretionary Selection

1. Discretionary selections will be made where there is clear case that a boat should be selected but for exceptional circumstances is unable to meet the Selection criteria.
2. Failure to gain automatic selection can be for any reason however the Selection Committee must be assured of a paddler's ability to compete at the Target Championships, i.e. the causes of inability to compete at selection shall be temporary.
3. Discretionary selection will only be applied in clear cases. The selections will not cause any grievance with any prospective member of the GB Team. The reasons must be communicated to all in clear way such that all those involved can understand the decision.
4. Discretionary selection will not be used to include or exclude anyone who is marginal.
5. Discretionary selection is to be used only in unusual circumstances, either of misfortune and/or outstanding expected performance.
6. Discretionary selections will take precedence over any Automatic Selection place.
7. All applications for discretionary selection must be received by midnight on the Sunday of the final selection race weekend and will be made public for comment prior to the selection committee meeting. Anyone may submit a comment. All comments will be made available to the selection committee in order to assist with their selection decisions.

1.5.3 Opportunities for Paddlers Missing Selection

In order to help paddlers improve, the Team Manager may make available any spare resources to take additional paddlers as a development opportunity. This opportunity will exist for promising paddlers who are not selected, either because their performance is considered marginal or through misfortune at selection but where there is not a case for Discretionary Selection. Examples of this are offering trailer space for boat transport, transport to and from the event where spare seats are available, organisational support for all aspects of the tour. This offer will be considered a way of "mopping up" otherwise wasted resources at minimal cost to the Team.

Although the primary purpose is to allow the GBR Team to compete, they will train and coexist with the GBR Team. They will not be entered for the official race but may be given "forerunner" entries where available.

Any direct costs involved in the paddlers travelling and racing will not be given by the GBR Team competition fund. Funding might be made available from the development budget, or come from personal contribution.