



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 **Aims:** CRNZ’s aims in selecting Athletes to compete in the ICF Canoe Sprint and Paracanoe World Championship are as follows:

- (a) to perform on the world stage and achieve outstanding results for New Zealand;
- (b) to provide development opportunities for Athletes;
- (c) to prepare athletes to qualify for Events at the LA 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games;

1.2 **CRNZ Selection Regulations ([link](#)):** You should read this Policy in conjunction with the CRNZ Selection Regulations (“**Regulations**”). You should be aware of:

- (a) the process you need to follow if you feel you have been affected by Exceptional Circumstances (see clause 10 of the Regulations); and
- (b) the process you must follow if you wish to make an Appeal in respect of any aspect of the Selection process (see clause 11 of the Regulations).

1.3 **Definitions:** Where a word is capitalised, it will have a definition. Definitions can be found in Appendix 1 of the Regulations.

1.4 **Selection Process:** To be selected, you need to:

- (a) meet all of the Eligibility Criteria – see Part 2 of the Regulations; and
- (b) earn Nomination – see clause 2 below and Part 3 of the Regulations
- (c) satisfy clause 3 of this Policy - see Part 4 of the Regulations (subject to any Exceptional Circumstances).

1.5 **Regatta and Events:** This document sets what you need to do to be selected to compete in the ICF Sprint World Championship in the following Events:

(a) **K1 and C1 Specified Events (Olympic and Paralympic Qualification Distances)**

Event	Maximum number of boats per event
WK1 200	1
WK1 500	1
WK1 1000	1
WK1 5000	1
MK1 200	1
MK1 500	1
MK1 1000	1
MK1 5000	1
WC1 200	1
MC1 1000	1
KL2 200m	2
KL3 200m	2

(b) **Crew Specified Events (Olympic Distance)**

Event	Maximum number of boats per event
WK2 500	1
MK2 500	1
WK4 500	1
MK4 500	1
WC2 500	1
MC2 500	1

(c) **Additional Events:** CRNZ may select Athletes or Crews to compete in events other than those listed in the table above – see clause 7 of the Regulations.

1.6 Athletes who wish to be considered for Selection must complete an Athlete Application form by the Application Date set out in the table at clause 1.7 below (see clause 4.1 of the Regulations). This form is available on the CRNZ website.

1.7 **Important Dates:** The following are the key dates for this Policy:

Application Date	10 June 2026
Crew Boat Selection Date	By 24 June 2026
K1 Selection Date	By 24 June 2026
Paracanoe Selection Date	By 13 July 2026

1.8 **Funding and Support:** If you are selected, you will be eligible for the following funding and support from CRNZ:

Elite Squad	Full funding and support
HP Squad	Possible Contribution from CRNZ
Development Squad	User Pays
Invitation Squad/Non-Squad Athletes	User Pays

1.9 **Cost:** CRNZ will provide coaching, training programs and logistics support. Athletes who are not members of the Elite Squad will be required to contribute to camp and campaign costs. Specific amounts will be communicated once budgets have been finalised.

2. **NOMINATION PROCESS**

2.1 **K1 Specified Events – Best 2 of 3 Selection System:** All K1 nominations (Olympic and non-Olympic) will be determined using the the following three designated races:

- (a) Race 1: “A” Final of NZ National Championships (10-12 April 2026)
- (b) Race 2: World Cup 1 – Szeged, HUN (8-10 May 2026)
- (c) Race 3 (if necessary): Brandenburg, GER (14-17 May 2026)
 - (i) The first athlete to obtain two wins, will earn the nomination for the 2026 World Championships.
 - (ii) If the designated races cannot determine a nominee, Selectors may require further evidence (time trials, head-to-head assessments, etc.).

- (iii) If any athlete declines to compete in subsequent trials, CRNZ selectors may invite an additional athlete for Race 1 or Race 2. Any additional athlete must meet the performance standards outlined in Clause 3.1 to be considered for nomination.
- (iv) Please see the 2026 World Cup Selection policy regarding performance standards for World Cup nomination. Athletes wishing to be nominated for the 2026 World Championships in **all Specified K1 Events** must display “A” Final capability.

2.2 **Paracanoe Specified Events (KL2 and KL3 200m events)** All Paracanoe nominations will be determined using performances at following three designated races:

- (a) Race 1: “A” Final of NZ National Championships (10-12 April 2026)
- (b) Race 2: World Cup 2 –Brandenburg, GER (14-17 May 2026)
- (c) Race 3: World Cup 3 - Montreal, CAN (9-12 July 2026)
 - (i) Two athletes may be nominated in each category.
 - (ii) The above races will be used to determine the ranking of athletes who have applied in each category.
 - (iii) The performance standards outlined in Clause 3.1 will determine the final nominations.

2.3 **Olympic Distance K2, K4 – Pre-Conditions:** Athletes seeking nomination for Olympic Distance K2 & K4 events must meet the following pre-conditions:

- (a) Clause 1.4 (a)
- (b) Be a part of a CRNZ Squad or Invited to Trial by the Lead Coach. See Squad policy for more information.
- (c) If invited, take part in CRNZ Crew boat assessments.

2.4 **Olympic Distance K2, K4 and C2 - Nomination Factors:** The relevant CRNZ Head Coach, in consultation with the Selectors, will consider the following Factors:

- (a) any one or more of the Nomination Factors set out in clause 6.3 of the Regulations.

2.5 **Information for Athletes:** The relevant CRNZ Lead Coach will provide Athletes with an outline of the Nomination Process by 05 June 2026. The outline will contain the following information:

- (a) the approximate format of crew assessment trials; and
- (b) the Nomination Factors which the Lead Coach proposes especially to consider.

3. PERFORMANCE CRITERIA AND SELECTION

3.1 **Performance Criteria:** Selectors must be satisfied that an Athlete or Crew must achieve at least the following standard at the 2026 ICF World Cups:

- (a) K1 Events – Top 8 Final placing
- (b) K2 and K4 Events – Top 16 Final placing
- (c) Paracanoe Events – Top 16 Final placing
- (d) Canoe Events – B Final placing

3.2 **Multiple Events:** Where an Athlete is being considered for Selection in multiple Events, the Selectors may, in their discretion, decide not to Nominate an Athlete in one or more Events if they believe that participation in multiple Events may negatively affect that Athlete's performance in another Event. In exercising this discretion, Selectors shall consider:

- (a) the recommendations of the Lead Coach;
- (b) the schedule (including any draft schedule) for the Regatta, and the effect on the Athlete's performance of the workload of competing in multiple Events;
- (c) the aim of this Policy as set out in clause 1.1;
- (d) the views of Athlete(s) affected; and
- (e) any other factors that the Selectors consider relevant.

3.3 **Learning & Development Opportunities**

- (a) In accordance with Section 1.1 (b) & (c) where appropriate, athlete(s) selected to Olympic Distance K4 & K2 may be entered in non-Olympic events for learning & development opportunities.
- (b) The Lead Coach will exercise discretion when executing this clause 3.3(a), in accordance with the principles and boundaries outlined in the Selection Regulations.
- (c) The principle of providing development opportunities may also be afforded for Canoe athletes who are demonstrating performance potential to achieve Olympic nomination in 2028.

3.4 **Selection:** If Selected, you must:

- (a) have a signed and updated CRNZ Athlete Agreement within 10 working days of the Selection Date; and
- (b) indicate to CRNZ within 10 working days of the Selection Date that you are willing to pay any cost associated with attending the Regatta(s) for which you have been Selected.

4. **QUERIES, FEEDBACK AND COMPLAINTS**

4.1 **Queries:** Queries and feedback regarding this Policy should be addressed to the CRNZ High Performance Director in the first instance.

4.2 **Complaints:** Complaints regarding the implementation of this Policy should be addressed to the CEO in the first instance.