



CANOE RACING NEW ZEALAND

U23 SPRINT SELECTION POLICY

(2017/18 SEASON)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 **Scope:** This Policy sets out how CRNZ will consider Athletes and Crews for selection to New Zealand Teams to compete in U23 Events at International Regattas in the 2017/18 Season.
- 1.2 **Application:** This Policy applies to all Athletes wishing to be considered for selection by CRNZ to a New Zealand Team to compete in U23 Events at International Regattas in the 2017/18 Season. The 2017/18 Season is the period from 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 **Eligibility:** To be eligible to be considered for selection to a New Zealand U23 Team by CRNZ under this Policy, an Athlete must:
- a. be Under 23 (as defined in clause 12.1);
 - b. be a New Zealand citizen with a New Zealand passport;
 - c. be a current financial member of a member club of CRNZ;
 - d. complete the online CRNZ Athlete Application Form for New Zealand U23 Teams at the following URL address <http://www.canoeracing.org.nz/high-performance/selection/2018-u23-team-application-form>. The Events listed by each Athlete will be regarded as preferences only, and the Selectors may consider them for other Events;
 - e. not have any outstanding liabilities to CRNZ;
 - f. not be under investigation for any breach of, nor to have breached and serving a period of ineligibility under, any rule under the CRNZ Constitution, the CRNZ Regulations, CRNZ Canoe Sprint Discipline Competition Rules or any rules, regulations or statutes of the ICF, the IOC or the NZOC;

- g. not be under investigation for any breach of, or anti-doping rule violation under, any part of the CRNZ Anti-Doping Regulation (which includes the Sports Anti-Doping Rules), the ICF Anti-Doping Regulations, or the WADA Code and serving a period of ineligibility for such breach or violation;
- h. not have used or administered any substance which, if it had been detected as being present in the Athlete's body tissue or fluids, would have constituted doping, or used any prohibited method or committed any other doping offence as defined in the CRNZ Anti-Doping Regulation (which includes the Sports Anti-Doping Rules), the ICF Anti-Doping Regulations, or the WADA Code;
- i. not be under investigation for, charged with, or convicted of any criminal offence, unless any sentence imposed has been served by the Athlete; and,
- j. have provided CRNZ with key contact details for communication purposes (including a current physical address, email address, and telephone number).

2.2 **High Performance/Paddle to Podium Squads:** An Athlete who is seeking selection to a New Zealand Team in a Crew is required to be a member of a CRNZ High Performance Squad or the Paddle to Podium Squad. An Athlete who is seeking selection to a New Zealand Team in a K1 Event is encouraged to, but not required to, be a member of the High Performance Squad or the Paddle to Podium Squad. The process and criteria for selection to the High Performance Squad is set out in the CRNZ High Performance Squad Selection Policy (2017/18 Season). The process and criteria for selection to the Paddle to Podium Squad is available from CRNZ.

2.3 **No Consideration:** The Selectors may not consider an Athlete for selection under this Policy if the Athlete does not meet all of the eligibility requirements specified in clause 2.1

3. INTERNATIONAL REGATTAS AND EVENTS

3.1 **International Regattas:** The International Regattas applicable to this Policy include:

Regatta	Date	Location
2018 ICF Canoe Sprint U23 World Championships	26-29 July 2018	Plovdiv, Bulgaria
Any other International Regattas in the 2017/18 Season as may be decided by CRNZ Board.		

3.2 **Changes:** The CRNZ Board (after consultation with the Selectors), or the Selectors, may decide in their discretion:

- a. not to send a New Zealand Team, or any Athletes and Crews at all, to any one or more of the International Regattas during the 2017/18 Season;

- b. not to enter a boat, or boat(s), in any of the Events (listed in the Table at clause 3.3) to any one or more International Regattas during the 2017/18 Season;
- c. not to select Athletes or Crews to any of the Events (listed in the Table at clause 3.3).

3.3 **Events:** The events at the 2018 ICF Under 23 World Championships for which Athletes and Crews may be selected are as follows:

Men's Events	Women's Events
Men's U23 K1 200m	Women's U23 K1 200m
Men's U23 K1 1000m	Women's U23 K1 500m
Men's U23 K2 1000m	Women's U23 K2 500m
Men's U23 K4 500m	Women's U23 K4 500m

3.4 The Selectors may, on the recommendation of the CRNZ Coaches, select Athlete and Crews to additional U23 Events to those set out in the Table in clause 3.3.

4. SELECTORS

- 4.1 The CRNZ Board will appoint Selectors (on such terms and conditions as it considers appropriate), to consider and select Athletes and Crews in accordance with this Policy. The names of the Selectors will be published on the CRNZ website.
- 4.2 If there is any circumstances or situation which arises, which is not expressly provided for under this Policy, or which is not addressed by amendment to this Policy by the Board, it shall be decided by the Selectors in their discretion in accordance with the objectives of CRNZ as set out in clause 1.1 of this Policy.

5. SELECTION DATES

5.1 **Selection Dates:** Subject to this Policy, the Selectors will select a U23 New Zealand Team for the ICF 2018 U23 World Championships by the Selection Dates specified below. These Selection Dates may be changed by CRNZ and such changes will be notified on the CRNZ website.

Selection Date	Boats	Regatta	Regatta Date	Comments
30 March 2018	K1/Crew	2018 ICF Canoe Sprint U23 World Championships	26-29 July	Selection
15 June 2018	K1 /Crew	2018 ICF Canoe Sprint U23 World Championships	26-29 July	Late Selection (if required)*

* If any Athlete is selected under this Policy for the ICF 2018 U23 World Championships but subsequently is selected for the New Zealand Open Team for the 2018 World Championships, the Athlete must compete in the New Zealand Open Team, and the

Selectors may select a replacement Athlete for the U23 ICF 2018 U23 World Championships.

6. PRE-CONDITIONS TO SELECTION

- 6.1 In addition to meeting the eligibility requirements in clause 2 of this Policy, and subject to clauses 6.2 to 6.7, each Athlete seeking selection under this Policy must complete the applicable pre-conditions set out below:

Pre-Conditions for K1 Athletes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Must have competed in the 2018 CRNZ National Championships, in a K1 Open Event, (23-25 February 2018);- Must have attended a Selection Trial (if one is held) if required by CRNZ and if invited. The Selection Trial will be at Lake Karapiro on Monday 5 March 2018.

Pre-Conditions for Crew Athletes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Must be a member of the High Performance or Paddle to Podium Squad including having participated in any camps;- Must have competed in the 2018 CRNZ National Championships, in a K1 Open Event, (23-25 February 2018).

- 6.2 Subject to clauses 6.3 to 6.5 an Athlete who is seeking selection for K1 Events and Crew Events must meet the pre-conditions for both K1 Athletes and Crew Athletes.
- 6.3 If an Athlete considers there are Exceptional Circumstances which means they are not able to fulfil a pre-condition, the Athlete must seek, and be granted, dispensation for that pre-condition. An application for dispensation must be made, to the CEO (or his nominee), at least 12 Hours prior to the start of the regatta or trial for which dispensation is sought.
- 6.4 The CEO (or his nominee) shall decide, in his or her discretion, acting reasonably, whether or not to grant such dispensation for a pre-condition and their decision shall be final and cannot be appealed. The CEO (or his nominee)'s decision will be communicated to the Athlete concerned by email as soon as practicable after their decision.
- 6.5 Unless a dispensation has been granted for a pre-condition under clause 6.3 and 6.4, an Athlete who has not satisfied all of the pre-conditions for the Event/s in which they seek to be selected shall not be considered for selection under this Policy by the Selectors.

7. SELECTION CRITERIA

- 7.1 In considering any K1 Athlete or Crew Athlete for selection to a New Zealand U23 Team to each International Regatta under this Policy, the Selectors shall:
- a. only consider K1 Athletes and Crew Athletes who are eligible under clause 2 and have met the pre-conditions under clause 6 (unless granted a dispensation under clauses 6.3 to 6.5);
 - b. consider K1 Athletes and Crews who they consider satisfy the applicable performance criteria for the specific International Regatta (as specified in clause 7.3);
 - c. have regard to the Factors as specified in clauses 7.4 to 7.8; and,
 - d. take into account any Exceptional Circumstances, Injury or Illness as specified in clause 7.9.
- 7.2 **Crew Selection:** The Selectors shall select U23 Crew Athletes for the 2018 ICF U23 World Championships in accordance with this Policy. The CRNZ Coaches shall, in consultation with the Selectors, then decide the Crews from amongst the selected U23 Crew Athletes for each Crew Event in the U23 World Championships.
- 7.3 **Performance Criteria: 2018 ICF U23 World Championships:** In deciding whether or not to select a K1 Athlete or Crew Athlete for the 2018 ICF U23 World Championships, the Selectors must be satisfied that the K1 Athlete or the Crew Athlete has the capability to achieve an A final in an Olympic Event at the 2018 ICF U23 World Championships.
- 7.4 **Factors:** In considering whether a K1 Athlete or Crew Athlete will satisfy the performance criteria (in clause 7.3) for each International Regatta for which they are seeking selection, the Selectors:
- a. **shall** assess the Results and Performances specified in clause 7.5(a) (for K1) and clause 7.5(b) (for Crew); and,
 - b. **may** take into account any one or more of the Other Factors specified in clause 7.6 to 7.8.

7.5 Results and Performances:

a. K1 Athletes:

- i. **CRNZ National Championships:** The Selectors shall assess the results and performances of the first and second placed U23 K1 Athletes in the Open final of each of the men's and women's Olympic Events at the 2018 CRNZ National Championships, and in their discretion, decide whether or not they are satisfied that each¹ U23 Athlete in each Event satisfies the performance criteria in clause 7.3 i.e. they each have the capability to achieve an A Final or better in that Event at the 2018 ICF U23 World Championships. This assessment may also include an assessment of any Other Factors relevant to each of these Athletes (in clauses 7.6 to 7/8).
- ii. **Assessment of Performance Criteria:** If the Selectors are not satisfied that any of the first and second placed U23 K1 Athletes in the relevant Event at the 2018 CRNZ National Championships satisfy the performance criteria in clause 7.3 (including any Other Factors), there will be no U23 K1 Athletes selected to the 2018 ICF U23 World Championships for that Event, and the selection process for that Event shall end.
- iii. **Invitation to Trial:** If the Selectors are satisfied that both the first and second placed U23 K1 Athletes² in the relevant Event at the 2018 CRNZ National Championships satisfy the performance criteria in clause 7.3, then those U23 K1 Athletes shall be invited to participate in a U23 K1 Selection Trial for the relevant Event (men's and women's Olympic Events) for which they seek selection.
- iv. **Only One Athlete:** If the Selectors consider that only one of the U23 K1 Athletes in the relevant Event at the 2018 CRNZ National Championships satisfies the performance criteria in clause 7.3, that Athlete will be selected to the 2018 ICF U23 World Championships for that Event, and there will be no U23 K1 Selection Trial for that Event.
- v. **Dispensated Athlete:** Any K1 U23 Athlete who is granted dispensation from competing in the 2018 CRNZ National Championships (in accordance with clauses 6.3 and 6.4), may also be invited to participate in a K1 U23 Selection Trial (if any) for the relevant Event, if the Selectors consider, based on that Athlete's previous results and performances and Other Factors, that the Athlete has the capability to satisfy the performance criteria in clause 7.3.
- vi. **U23 K1 Selection Trials:** The U23 K1 Selection Trials will be held on the date/s, times and venues as decided by the Selectors to be held on or by no later than 5 March 2018.

¹ If there is a tie with either of the two fastest U23 K1 Athletes in either of the K1 200 and K1000 Events at the 2018 CRNZ National Championships, the Selectors shall assess the results and performances of each of the U23 K1 Athletes who tied.

² Which for avoidance of doubt would include any U23 K1 Athletes who tied for first and second place.

- vii. **No Exceptional Circumstances:** Exceptional Circumstances cannot be claimed by any U23 K1 Athlete who is unable to compete in a U23 K1 Selection Trial.
- viii. **Selected Athlete:** The first U23 K1 Athlete in each Selection Trial (for each Event) to be the first placed U23 K1 Athlete in two races will be selected to the U23 World Championships in that Event.
- ix. **Trial Format:** The format of each U23 K1 Selection Trial for each of the Olympic Events will be such number of races as are necessary to find the first U23 K1 Athlete in that Event to be first placed U23 K1 Athlete in two races. The results obtained in the Open final at the 2018 CRNZ National Championships by the U23 K1 Athletes competing in a K1 Selection Trial will count as the first of the races.

For example, if an U23 MK1 Athlete in the MK1 200 Selection Trial is the first placed U23 MK1 Athlete at the 2018 CRNZ National Championships in the MK1 200 Open final Event, and then places first in the first selection trial race, this will count as two first places,, and as such he would be the first to obtain first placed in two races and no further race in the Selection Trial for U23 MK1 200 would be required. If however that same athlete instead placed second in the first race of the U23 MK1 200 Selection Trial, a second selection trial race would be required to determine which of the two athletes would be the first to obtain two first places in two races.

- x. If there are more than two U23 K1 Athletes in each race in a U23 K1 Selection Trial for an K1 Event, the number of races will continue until such time as an U23 K1 Athlete is the first placed U23 1K Athlete in two races in their Event.
- b. **Crews:** The Selectors shall take into account any one or more of the results and performances of Crew Athletes (and Crews) at the following Regattas and training sessions:
- i. 2018 ICF Open World Cups;
 - ii. 2017 U23 World Championships; and
 - iii. crew boat testing and other assessments during camps and training sessions.

7.6 Other Factors

The Selectors may also take into account any one or more of the following other factors:

- a. *Assessments:* any of the performance data, test results and any other assessments of the Athlete undertaken by, or on behalf of, CRNZ at any time including but not limited to those obtained in the High Performance Pathway Squad (if applicable) and Paddle to Podium Squad and analysis of percentage of World best times and the trajectory of results and performances over time;
- b. *Relationships:* the Athlete's attendance record, attitude, their relationships with other Athletes and New Zealand Team support personnel, and their conduct at

regattas (including international regattas), training sessions, training camps, trials and other activities held by CRNZ at any time;

- c. *Crew Boat Compatibility*: for Crew Athletes, the ability for the Athlete to train and compete with other Crew Athletes in a Crew, taking into account their technical abilities and other personal attributes and relationships with other Athletes being considered for selection in the Crew. Compatibility may be determined as the Selectors see fit including through testing and observations at training, training camps, tours and in competition.

7.7 **Relevance and Weight:** The Selectors may determine the relevance (if any) and weight that they wish to place on any Factor(s) and any Exceptional Circumstance(s) as they consider appropriate. No particular Factor shall be weighed more or less significantly based on the order in which it appears in this Policy, unless expressly specified otherwise.

7.8 **Conditions:** In considering any of the Factors in clause 7.5 and 7.6, the Selectors may, but do not have to, take into account the conditions in which any assessments, results and performances were obtained, such as, but not limited to, on water conditions such as the quality of the course (eg presence of weed), the weather conditions, and the field of competition.

7.9 **Exceptional Circumstances, Injury and illness**

- a. **Claim:** If an Athlete considers there is any Exceptional Circumstance applicable to any of their results and performances or the other Factors, he or she must notify the CEO (or his nominee) of this claim in writing as soon as possible and within 12 Hours of the specific Exceptional Circumstances arising. The Athlete must provide full details of the Exceptional Circumstances and the effect or potential effect on the Athlete and their potential selection.
- b. **Taking Exceptional Circumstances into Account:** The CEO (or his nominee) shall refer any claim for Exceptional Circumstances that is made in accordance with clause 7.9(a), to the Selectors. The Selectors may, in their discretion, take those circumstances into account in considering its decisions. If a claim is not made in accordance with clause 7.9(a), the Selectors cannot take those Exceptional Circumstances into account (other than if clause 7.9(c) applies).
- c. **Injury, Illness or Other Factors:** In addition, and whether or not a claim for Exceptional Circumstances has been made under clauses 7.9(a) or (b), if the Selectors are aware of any injury, illness or other factor affecting the fitness of an Athlete to perform to the best of their ability, the Selectors may take such injury, illness or other factor affecting fitness into account in considering its decisions. However before taking them into account, the Selectors must first make enquiry of the Athlete as to the status and prognosis of the injury, illness or other factor affecting their fitness. If the Selectors wish to do so, may also request a medical examination under clause 7.9(d), and if they do so, the Selectors must also take into account the report from such examination.

- d. **Medical Examination:** If a claim for Exceptional Circumstances is made under clause 7.9(a), or the Selectors wish to do so under clause 7.9(c), the Selectors may request, with the Athlete's agreement, a medical examination be undertaken of the Athlete by a medical practitioner nominated by CRNZ (and at CRNZ's cost) and to provide the Selectors with an opinion on the Exceptional Circumstances or other illness, injury or other factor affecting the fitness of an Athlete. If an Athlete does not agree to such medical examination the selectors can draw their own conclusions on the Exceptional Circumstances or other illness, injury or other factor affecting the fitness of an Athlete, and/or may decide not to accept a claim (under clause 7.9(a)) for Exceptional Circumstances.

8. CONSEQUENCES OF SELECTION DECISION

- 8.1 **Athlete Agreement:** A decision by the Selectors to select an Athlete to a New Zealand Team is conditional on the Athlete signing and returning to CRNZ, the CRNZ Athlete Agreement, within 10 Days of the date the Athlete is informed in writing by CRNZ of their selection to the Team.
- 8.2 **High Performance Squad:** Athletes who signed a CRNZ Athlete Agreement as a member of a High Performance Squad or Paddle to Podium Squad, and who remain current members of that Squad, do not need to sign the Athlete Agreement referred to in clause 8.1.
- 8.3 **Date Extension:** CRNZ may only extend the date by which the Athlete Agreement must be signed and returned to CRNZ, in exceptional circumstances, as decided by the CEO.
- 8.4 If the CRNZ Athlete Agreement is not signed and returned by the date specified in clause 8.1 or 8.2, the Athlete shall not be a member of the Team.
- 8.5 Athletes who are selected to a New Zealand Team must continue to be eligible (in accordance with clause 2) and in all respects comply with this Policy and the CRNZ Athlete Agreement.
- 8.6 **Suspension/Removal:** Any Athlete who is selected under this Policy may, in the sole direction of CRNZ, be suspended or removed from the New Zealand Team at any time if he or she:
 - a. fails to consistently maintain the level of performance and/or results specified by CRNZ, including but not limited to Individual Performance Plans;
 - b. breaches or fails to comply with the CRNZ Athlete Agreement;
 - c. breaches or fails to comply with this Policy or any CRNZ High Performance Open Squad Selection Policy, if applicable, (including the terms in the Athlete Application form);
 - d. breaches or fails to comply with any of the following, or appears to have done so:
 - i. any of the ICF Statutes, ICF Canoe Sprint Competition Rules, or any other requirements of the ICF; or

- ii. any of the CRNZ Constitution, Regulations, CRNZ Canoe Sprint Discipline Competition Rules or any other requirements or directions of CRNZ;
- iii. any of the CRNZ Anti-Doping Regulation, the NZOC Anti-Doping Bylaw or the World Anti-Doping Code;
- e. brings him/herself, another athlete, CRNZ, or the sport of canoe racing generally into disrepute; or
- f. has a significant illness or injury which the Selectors consider may prevent the Athlete from competing to the best of their ability in the International Regatta.

8.7 **Replacement Athlete:** If an Athlete is suspended or removed under clause 9.5 (Suspension/Removal) from CRNZ or is no longer eligible under clause 2 (Eligibility), the Selectors may, in their absolute discretion, select another Athlete (which may include a reserve) to the New Zealand Team in accordance with this Policy.

8.8 **Events and Crew Composition:** Once selected to a New Zealand U23 Team for an International Regatta by the Selectors, the CRNZ Coaches, in consultation with the Selectors, will decide on the Events in which the Athletes will compete at the International Regatta, including the composition of the Crews (including the seats of each Crew Athlete). Crew Athletes may also be selected to compete in K1 Events, if any selected K1 Athlete is not competing for any reason or there are additional K1 places available.

8.9 For Crew Athletes, the composition of Crews (including the seats of each Crew Athlete) for any regatta referred to in this Policy (including those which are pre-conditions to selection) will be decided by the CRNZ Coaches. The only exception is the 2018 CRNZ National Championships or for other regattas as agreed by the CRNZ Coaches.

9. STATUS OF POLICY AND AMENDMENTS

9.1 **Status:** This Policy overrides any correspondence, discussions and representations (whether written or oral) by CRNZ regarding selection for the International Regattas.

9.2 **Amendment:** This Policy may be amended at any time by the CRNZ Board. Amendments or a revised Policy (including the amendments) will be published on the CRNZ website.

10. APPEALS

10.1 An Athlete who is aggrieved by a decision of the Selectors not to select him or her to a New Zealand Team ("Grievance") may bring an appeal in accordance with this Policy.

10.2 **Pre-Appeal Process:** Before an appeal can be brought under clauses 10.3 and 10.4, the following process must be followed:

- a. **Notification of Grievance:** The Athlete must notify the CEO in writing of their Grievance within 48 Hours from the date and time the decision not to select them to a New Zealand Team was notified in writing to the Athlete by CRNZ;

- b. **Grievance Meeting:** The CEO shall arrange and attend a meeting with the CRNZ High Performance Manager and the Athlete as soon as practicable to discuss the Athletes' Grievance and to explain the reasons for the decision;
 - c. **Request for Mediation:** If following the process in clause 10.2(b) the Athlete wishes to pursue their Grievance (and any Appeal under clauses 10.3 to 10.4), the Athlete must attend mediation with CRNZ. If an Athlete wishes to pursue their Grievance (and any Appeal), the Athlete must notify the CEO in writing, within 48 Hours from the end of the meeting in clause 10.2(b), or such other time period as agreed with CRNZ, that he or she wishes to continue their Grievance and to proceed to mediation ("Request for Mediation"). If no Request for Mediation is made by the Athlete in this time period, the Grievance is deemed to have ended and there is no right to bring an Appeal under clauses 10.3 to 10.4;
 - d. **Mediation:** If the CEO receives a Request for Mediation in accordance with clause 10.2(c), the CEO shall appoint an independent qualified mediator to convene a mediation to see whether an agreement can be reached between CRNZ and the Athlete regarding their Grievance. The mediation will be held as soon as possible and if practicable within 10 Days of the CEO receiving the Request for Mediation. The costs of the mediation (including the mediator) shall be met by CRNZ, but the Athlete shall meet any costs associated with their, and any of their support person's, attendance at the mediation.
 - e. **No Agreed Resolution:** If there is no agreement reached at the mediation, and the Athlete wishes to pursue their appeal, the Athlete may only do so in accordance with clauses 10.3 and 10.4 of this Policy.
- 10.3 **Appeal Process:** An Athlete may bring an appeal against a decision of the Selectors not to select them ("Appellant") to a New Zealand Team on one or more of the following grounds (but no other grounds):
- a. this Policy has not been properly followed and/or implemented;
 - b. the Appellant was not afforded a reasonable opportunity to satisfy the requirements in this Policy;
 - c. the decision not to select the Appellant was affected by actual bias; and/or
 - d. there is no material on which the selection decision could reasonably be based.
- 10.4 Any appeal under clause 10.3, must be made by an Appellant as follows:
- a. the Appellant must notify the CEO in writing of their wish to appeal the Selectors decision not to select the Appellant, within 48 Hours from the end of the mediation held in clause 10.2(c), or such other period as agreed between CRNZ and the Appellant; and,
 - b. the Appellant must file and serve on CRNZ and the Sports Tribunal, a notice of the appeal in the form and manner specified in the rules of the Sports Tribunal, within 48 Hours of informing the CEO as described in clause 10.4(a) above;

For avoidance of doubt, both sub-clauses (a) and (b) of this clause 10.4, must be met in order for the Sports Tribunal to have jurisdiction to hear and decide the appeal.

10.5 The appeal shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the Sports Tribunal.

10.6 There is a further right of appeal from a decision of the Sports Tribunal to CAS, in accordance with the rules of the Sports Tribunal.

11. DEFINITIONS

11.1 In this Policy, the following definitions apply:

“Athlete” and “U23 Athlete” means an individual who is U23 who wishes to be considered for selection to a New Zealand Team and includes a K1 Athlete and a Crew Athlete, unless specified otherwise.

“Athlete Application Form” means the application form referred to in clause 2.1d which must be complete by every Athlete wishing to be considered for selection to a New Zealand Team.

“Board” means the board of CRNZ.

“CAS” means the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

“CEO” means the Chief Executive of CRNZ, and their “nominee” means the CRNZ High Performance Director or any other person delegated the specific responsibility referred to by the CEO.

“Crew” means a group of either two or four Athletes who race, or wish to race, together in a K2 or K4 Event.

“Crew Athlete” means an Athlete who is seeking selection to a Crew or Crews. A Crew Athlete may also be a K1 Athlete.

“CRNZ Athlete Agreement” means a written agreement entered into between CRNZ and a selected Athlete which sets out the rights and obligations of the selected Athlete and CRNZ while the Athlete is a member of a High Performance Squad (if applicable) or Paddle to Podium Squad and /or as a member of a New Zealand Team.

“CRNZ” means Canoe Racing New Zealand Incorporated.

“CRNZ Coaches” means the coaches appointed by CRNZ to coach Athletes and Crews in the CRNZ high performance programme.

“CRNZ Canoe Sprint Discipline Competition Rules” means the rules of CRNZ that govern Canoe Sprint events that are sanctioned by CRNZ. These rules are based on the ICF Canoe Sprint Competition Rules 2015 (as amended by ICF).

“CRNZ Constitution” means the constitution of CRNZ.

“CRNZ Regulations” means the rules and regulations of CRNZ.

“Day” means any day of the week including a day which falls on a weekend or a public holiday.

“Events” means the race categories specified in the Table in clause 3.3, unless specified otherwise.

“Exceptional Circumstances” means any one or more of the following:

- a. injury or illness;
- b. equipment failure;
- c. travel delay;
- d. bereavement or personal misfortune; and/or
- e. any other factors reasonably considered to cause, or be likely to cause, an Athlete not to perform at their optimal level.

“Factors” means the factors the Selectors shall or may take into account, as specified in clauses 7.5 to 7.8 of this Policy, and includes results and performances (as described in clause 7.5) and the other factors (as described in clause 7.6).

“High Performance Squad” means either the CRNZ Open Men’s High Performance Squad or the CRNZ Open Women’s High Performance Squad selected in accordance with the CRNZ High Performance Squad Selection Policy (2017/18 Season).

“Hours” means all the hours of the day including hours in a weekend or on a public holiday.

“ICF” means International Canoe Federation.

“International Regatta” means the Canoe Sprint competitions listed in clause 3.1, and any replacement or other international competitions as decided by the CRNZ Board during the 2017/8 Season.

“IOC” means the International Olympic Committee.

“K1 Athlete” means an Athlete who is seeking selection for a K1 Event. A K1 Athlete may also be a Crew Athlete.

“K1 Selection Trials” means the selection trials referred to in clause 7.5(a).

“New Zealand Team” for the purpose of this Policy, means the team of U23 Athletes and Crews selected to compete in an International Regatta.

“NZOC” means the New Zealand Olympic Committee.

“Open” means the age as defined in the ICF Rules.

“Olympic Event” means those events as determined by ICF that will be conducted at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

“Paddle to Podium Squad” means the athletes who have identified by CRNZ as Paddle to Podium athletes as described in the CRNZ High Performance Athlete Pathway (as amended from time to time) (<http://www.canoeracing.org.nz/high-performance/athlete-pathway>).

“Selection Dates” means the selection dates specified in clause 5.1.

“Selectors” means those persons who have been appointed by CRNZ to select Athletes and Crew Athletes for Crews for New Zealand Teams.

“Sports Tribunal” means the Sports Tribunal of New Zealand as described in the Sports Anti-Doping Act 2006.

“Under 23” or **“U23”** means the age as defined in the ICF Rules.

“WADA Code” means the World Anti-Doping Code (as amended from time to time).

“2017/18 Season” means the period from 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018.

“2018 CRNZ National Championships” means the CRNZ National Championships held on 23-25 February 2018 in Cambridge.