
NSW Institute of Sport

Selection Guidelines – Canoe Slalom



INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

The State Institutes and Academies of Sport (SIS/SAS) work in partnership with Paddle Australia (PA) to deliver programs that will develop and assist identified high performance athletes and coaches achieve excellence and success at an international level. The programs provide world class coaching, daily training environments (DTE) and support services to improve athlete development.

Prospective SIS/SAS scholarship athletes will be assessed against Paddle Australia's athlete categorisation tiering. This document should be read in conjunction with PA's 2018 Athlete Categorisation Selection Criteria.

As a guide, athlete's entering SIS/SAS programs should be at approximately the T3 phase of the FTEM and be progressing towards National Jnr, U23 and Senior teams.

The PA Athlete Categories ("Athlete Categories") have been developed following AIS athlete categorisation criteria. Athlete Categorisation provide a consistent basis to:

- a) identify the athletes with the greatest potential to contribute to PA's performance targets in Tokyo 2020 and beyond and at World Championships annually;
- b) track athlete performance over time; and
- c) inform prioritisation of resources to athletes

NSW INSTITUTE OF SPORT (NSWIS)

The NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS) will work in partnership with the sport to deliver programs that will develop and assist identified high performance NSW athletes and coaches to achieve excellence and success at an international level.

NSWIS will be a major player in the delivery of internationally recognised programs, coaching and services to achieve world-class performance as a part of an effective, nationally coordinated, high performance sport network.

The NSWIS Canoe Slalom Program is a National Centre of Excellence based at Penrith White-water Stadium, providing resources that support a world class talent pathway to podium with facilities, coaching and performance support. The program purpose is to support Paddle Australia athletes to reach benchmark even performance targets and develop an enhanced development pathway.

There is a maximum number of 10 scholarships annually across the Podium, Podium Ready, Podium Potential, Developing and Emerging categorisations with an additional 5 scholarships available for Talent Athletes.

TIME FRAME

NSWIS athlete scholarships will be aligned with Athlete Categorisation assessment dates. Scholarships will be offered from April 1 to March 31, with a formal review in November each year.

Additional reviews maybe conducted at any time by the selection panel and the NSWIS has the right to add or delete athletes to and from the scholarship squad at any time, in consultation with PA.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a NSWIS Scholarship:

- a) Athletes must be a citizen of Australia (or undertaking reasonable steps to become an Australian Citizen)
- b) Athletes must be a resident of NSW for 6 months prior to selection unless the athlete is a national squad or team member and the transition to NSW is supported by program partners.
- c) Athletes must be a registered athlete with the relevant club and state sporting organization. All memberships must be up to date and paid for by the end of the financial year.
- d) Athletes must comply with the relevant sports interstate transfer policies (typically, as a minimum, athletes must have been residing in a State for a minimum of 12 months prior to being eligible for a SIS/SAS).

Note: This eligibility requirement does not include athletes who will continue to be supported interstate or overseas if relocation to these areas is supported by the National Coach as part of their development pathway (e.g. National Squads, etc.)

SELECTION CRITERIA

Athletes will be eligible for inclusion into the NSWIS Canoe Sprint Squad based on their athlete categorisation level as listed below.

PA Podium Pathway Athlete Categorisation

Level	AIS Categorisation Description	CANOE SLALOM
Podium	Athlete who had a medal performance at a world championship (or equivalent) event in the previous 24 months and is considered capable of a medal at the next world championship (or equivalent) event.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Podium at Senior BME Event within the last 24 months, and, meets Senior Minimum Performance Standards; and, ▪ Capable of a medal at the next BME event
Podium Ready	Athlete who placed fourth to eighth at the most recent world championship (or equivalent) event and is considered capable of progressing to Podium in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Place 4th - 10th at the most recent Senior BME Event, and, meets Senior Minimum Performance Standards; and, ▪ Capable of a medal at a BME in the next 2 years.
Podium Potential	Athlete who is considered capable of progressing to at least Podium Ready in the next two years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Place 11th - 20th at the most recent Senior BME Event, and meets Senior Minimum Performance Standards; or, ▪ Place Top 10 at U23 BME Event, and, meets U23 Minimum Performance Standards; or, ▪ Quality performance at an alternate international event (e.g. world cup); ▪ and, capable of a medal at a Senior BME event in the next 4 years.
Developing	A/ Athlete who is considered capable of progressing to at least Podium Potential in the next two years (Tokyo Target)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identified National Senior Team member and, meets Senior Minimum Performance Standards; or, ▪ Identified National U23 Team member, and, meets U23 Minimum Performance Standards; or, ▪ Quality performance at an alternate international event (e.g. world cup);

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ and, capable of progressing to Podium Potential in the next 2 years. ▪ Athlete with recent Extenuating Circumstances (e.g. injury/illness) will be considered
	B/ Athlete who is considered capable of progressing to at least Podium Potential in the next two years (Paris Target)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identified National Junior Team member, and, who placed Top 15 at the most recent Junior BME event; or, ▪ and, capable of progressing to Podium Potential in the next 2 years.
Emerging	Athlete who is considered capable of progressing to at least Developing in the next two years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identified National Junior Team member, and meets Junior Minimum Performance Standards and/or; ▪ Capable of progressing to Developing in the next 2 years.
Associate (Talent)	Athlete who does not fulfil the PA categorisation criteria but demonstrates potential and/or contributes to the DTE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Junior, U23 or Senior athletes selected for a National Team to compete at the Junior, U23 or Senior BME event and do not fall in the above categories or are not medal potential ▪ Absolute Discretion of the NSWIS Head Coach and National Coaches ▪ Athletes who have demonstrated potential to reach NSWIS scholarship status within the next 12 months.
NB: Talent Athletes are <u>not</u> NSWIS scholarship holders and are entitled to identified services only.		

NB: 'Eligibility' does not necessarily guarantee a scholarship offer. This will be dependent on the number of scholarships available and athletes will be ranked by performance accordingly and will need to gain the necessary recommendation from the NSWIS Head Coach and subsequent approval by the Selection Panel.

The Selection Panel will consist of the relevant National Coach, NSWIS Performance Manager and National Performance Director and other relevant individuals as determined by PA and NSWIS. This panel will determine the nomination of athletes under these criteria within each State.

1. The Podium Pathway Athlete Categories apply to Olympic disciplines and events only.
2. For the purposes of the above Athlete Categories:
 - a) Only athletes competing in Olympic disciplines are eligible for the PA Athlete Categories.
 - b) Athletes with performances in Non-Olympic events may be included only where there is clear evidence that performance in a Non-Olympic event will contribute to the performance targets in Olympic events. Alternatively, these athletes may be included in a separate 'Associate' category which will be assessed on a case by case basis.
 - c) Athletes who do not satisfy any of the Podium Pathway category criteria but has earned selection for the national team or squad preparing for the NSOs benchmark event and/or can positively contribute to the DTE may also be included in a separate 'Associate' Category which will be assessed on a case by case basis at the discretion of the NSWIS Head Coach and National Coach.

- d) Should an exceptional circumstance prevent an athlete from achieving the benchmark event criteria for Podium potential or above, and there is compelling evidence that the athlete would otherwise meet the criteria for that level, PA may take into consideration extenuating circumstances. In particular, PA will consider the National Olympic Committee (NOC) ranking of an athlete and likelihood to qualify an Olympic quota for Tokyo 2020 and contribute to AWE performance targets in Tokyo 2020.
3. Athletes in an Athlete Category are expected to show a progression in performances and results. A detailed review will be undertaken of all categorised Athletes. Athletes should be able to demonstrate improvement each year, e.g. an improvement in their personal best, or maintenance of a medal winning position. It is acknowledged that athlete progression is not always linear and therefore performance plateaus and regression will be considered, but only when there is evidence of strong athlete commitment and compliance to continuous improvement. For instance, an athlete who fails to qualify for a BME event or a particular event, but still demonstrate strong signs of performance progression may be maintained at a certain category, despite not achieving the objective performance targets. Athletes who fail to progress or demonstrate the commitment will be removed or demoted from the Athlete Categories.
 4. Athlete Categorisation will ultimately be used to prioritise PA's, NSWIS and the high performance system's resources, including PA financial support and access to Performance Support servicing. The athletes in the higher categories can expect to receive a greater level of support than those in the lower categories. In all cases, the provision of services to athletes in the Athlete Categories is subject to available resources.
 5. Selection to a certain category does not automatically entitle an athlete to receive support, and athletes within the same category may not receive the same level of support. In particular, the AIS Direct Athlete Support (dAIS) criteria may not align directly with the Athlete Categories.

ATHLETE OBLIGATIONS

All athletes who have been selected in the NSWIS Squad Program must:

- Have the intention to compete and/or be involved in active training (including injury recovery and rehabilitation).
- Abide by the terms and conditions as outlined in the NSWIS Athlete Agreement and NSWIS Athlete Code of Conduct for the term of the scholarship. It is the responsibility of the athlete to ensure all conditions of the Agreement are met at all times, including maintenance of a healthy lifestyle and fitness.
- Talent athletes will be required to sign an agreement and code of conduct.
- Have met the sport specific selection criteria, or be selected as a developing potential elite athlete as determined by the appointed Selection Panel.
- If an athlete does not meet the agreed training commitment and program approved by the National Coach then the NSWIS reserve the right to remove that athlete from the NSWIS squad.

ATHLETE WITHDRAWAL FROM NSWIS SPORT SQUAD SCHOLARSHIP

An athlete wishing to withdraw from their NSWIS Scholarship may do so by informing the NSWIS Head Coach in writing at any time.

Any equipment loaned to an athlete through the NSWIS Program must be returned to the NSWIS Head Coach upon withdrawal of a scholarship. Athletes who do not return equipment will be liable for the cost of all outstanding equipment.

SCHOLARSHIP SUSPENSION/TERMINATION

An athlete's scholarship may be suspended or terminated where s/he breaches the NSWIS Athlete Agreement, Code of Conduct, Sport Code of Conduct (or equivalent) and/ or brings the Institute and / or the Sport into disrepute.

In this instance the NSWIS CEO, in consultation with the Program Partners will recommend to the NSWIS Board, the suspension or termination of the athlete's scholarship.

The NSWIS Board is the only body that has the power to terminate or suspend an athlete scholarship. The athlete, NSWIS Head Coach and Program Partners will be advised in writing of the outcome.

ATHLETE APPEALS PROCESS RELATING TO NSWIS NON SELECTION

Athletes may appeal non-selection to the NSWIS or withdrawal of a scholarship by contacting the Coordinator of the NSWIS Appeals Panel in writing within two weeks of withdrawal or non-selection. The NSWIS Appeals Panel will hear all appeals within two weeks of notification and will consist of the Coordinator and PPMG. The Coordinator may appoint an independent to the Appeals Panel where deemed necessary or at an athlete's request. A full report of the Appeals Panel's decision will be forwarded to the athlete and NSWIS CEO within one week of the Appeals hearing.

Athletes may be accompanied by a support person of their choice at all times during the Appeals process.