

Worlds 2006 Selection Process – Update February 2005

This panui contains important information on the 2006 Worlds selection process.

Contacts

Coaching and selection committees for each division have now been finalised (apart from one or two positions to be confirmed). Details and contacts appear at the end of this panui. We have an excellent team who are all committed to achieving the best for our paddlers and Aotearoa.

Coaching and Communication Processes

Head Coaches will be managing the coaching and communication processes in each of their divisions between now and the World Sprint Trials in October. It is likely that there will be variations between divisions depending on how the particular Coach wishes their process to work. Head Coaches will be arranging separate contact with paddlers. Please direct any enquiries about coaching and selection processes to the relevant Head Coach, or one of their teams. General enquiries can be addressed to Peter Reaburn.

For the men, the arrangement is that communication would be through the closest coach to your address.

W2 Time Trials

Thanks to those who did the W2 time trial at the nationals. This has provided valuable information. Head Coaches will be arranging feedback shortly on your time, and the average time in your age/ gender division. Some coaches will also be asking for further information.

Importance of the Paddler Database

A paddler database is being compiled which will include information on W1 performance, W2 time trials, and those paddlers who were part of a team that made a 2005 nationals final.

The more information the Head Coaches have, the better able they will be to ensure the best teams ultimately compete at the Worlds.

For those who did not compete in the W1s at the nationals, and did not do the W2 trial, your database performance information will not be as complete as those that did.

For those paddlers who did not compete in the W1s at the nationals, did not do the W2 trial, and weren't in a team that made a final, there will be no

performance information. You will need to discuss with the Head Coach or their delegate how you can get a record established.

Arrangements are being made for W2 trials for those who weren't at the nationals, or who otherwise had indicated they couldn't do the W2 trials at the nationals. For women, this will be on 3 April, the day after the Tauranga Harbour Challenge race, in Rotorua. Check out the website from 16 February for further updates on this.

In any event, please note that it will not be sufficient for paddlers just to be in a good team, and then expect to get through the selection process. Good teams can have relatively weak paddlers. The Head Coaches will be wanting to have as much individual paddler information as possible when the final selections are made.

October Trials

The October trials will be held on Labour Weekend 22-24 October, at Lake Karapiro. Full details will follow in a later panui.

Team Trials

For the October trials there will be a maximum of 16 teams in each age/ gender category (8 for W12s). Teams will be limited as follows:-

- Teams which filled the first 4 places at the 2005 nationals, provided that there are no more than two paddler changes (4 for W12)
- Teams nominated by the Head Coach
- Teams recommended by a Region

In relation to the third category, Regions will need to provide evidence that the team recommended has the definite potential to meet the relevant time standard (see below). This will require times recorded over a measured, current-free race course, as authorised by a NKOA representative.

The October trials will be raced over the standard Karapiro course.

There will be two races over each race distance. Please note that Head Coaches and their team may wish to alter team paddler compositions for the second race. If this is the case, it is hoped that all paddlers/ teams/ coaches/ managers will be prepared to accept the trialling of these changes in the interests of getting the best possible teams for the Worlds.

W1 Trials

It was originally planned to have W1 selections confirmed at the 2006 Nationals. Feedback from the coaches has been concern over paddlers having to peak three times – for the October trials, the January Nationals and then the March

Worlds. This could affect performance at the Worlds (see more on this under "2006 Nationals" below.).

It has therefore been decided that W1 trials will be held at the October event. W1 triallists in each category will be limited to 16, and will qualify for entry as follows:-

- All finalists at the 2005 nationals
- Paddlers nominated by the Head Coach

It is the intention to have the W1 trials in Surfriggers only. That is to ensure consistency, and Surfriggers are to be the canoe used for the Worlds.

Time Standards

The time standards have been revised after the 2005 nationals and are as follows.

Time Standards

	J16	J19	Open	Masters	Snr Mstrs
W1 500 Men	2.37	2.24	2.22	2.30	2.32
W1 500 Women	2.57	2.37	2.37	2.50	2.56
W6 500 Men	2.02	1.57	1.53	2.00	2.03
W6 500 Women	2.18	2.16	2.16	2.19	2.25
W6 1000/ 1500 Men	5.35	5.15	7.28	5.03	5.09
W6 1000/ 1500 Women	6.10	5.52	8.35	5.42	6.01
W12 Men	1.59	1.58	1.53	1.57	2.01
W12 Women	2.15	2.12	2.09	2.12	2.30

In the case of W1 times, W1 paddlers should aim for those times, but ultimately selection for W1s will be based on individual paddler's records and/or performances at the October trials.

For W6 and W12 times it is generally expected that it will only be those teams that can meet the times which will be eligible for Worlds selection.

It is important to point out that meeting these times will mean a likely creditable performance at the Worlds, but they are unlikely to give medals. Our aim is medals, and ultimately we will want our top paddlers and teams that will be able to produce much better times than in this table.

2006 Nationals

Coaches are concerned that performances at the Worlds should not be affected by paddlers and teams peaking for the Nationals. It is the Worlds we need to peak for, not the Nationals. Coaching programmes between selections in October and the Worlds in March will therefore not include as a priority the

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