



NKOA High Performance Development Committee

Selection Process for World Sprints 2008

This panui outlines the Selection Process for the World Sprints 2008. If there are any questions, please contact the HPD Convenor, Peter Reaburn (peterr@catobolam.co.nz) or Maggie Greening, President NKOA (maggiegreening@extra.co.nz)

Critical Components of the Process

1. All teams (for “teams” also read W1 paddlers) attending the 2008 IVF World Championships (“the Worlds”) will be NZ (for “NZ also read Aotearoa) representatives.
2. All team selections must be ratified by NKOA.
3. There will be minimum qualification criteria, focussing on sprint times that must be achieved. Teams that are not up to standard will not compete, irrespective of the allowable quota.
4. The selection process will strive to get the best paddlers together.
5. The process will be used to raise the general level and consistency of coaching resources.

Explanation of the Process

1. The process that has been agreed by the NKOA High Performance Development Committee is one that:-
 - (a) will be nationally coordinated, with final decision making at national level,
 - (b) and otherwise focussed on Region-run Worlds Programmes.
 - (c) while the Worlds Programmes will be run by Regions, they are National Programmes run within Regions, and will ultimately result in the selection of “National Representative Teams”. It is very important to understand that there will be no “Regional Teams” as part of this process. Crew, club or regional team names will not be permitted to be used. NKOA will allocate team names to the finally selected teams, possibly using consistent names across each division based on team seeding (as per the Tahiti model).

The rationale behind this is that, given limited resources, it is wise to tailor programmes having regard to where the coaches and paddlers are located. This will reduce the cost of travelling to training camps, etc. However, the main objective of having national teams and getting the best paddlers into those teams' remains, as was the successful approach used for the 2006 Worlds.

2. The first step will be a requirement that paddlers who are interested in attending the Worlds will submit an expression of interest. Details of how to submit an expression of interest will be available on the website by 1 September 2007. Expressions of interest need to simply state the paddler's name NKOA ID number, email address (preferred) or phone contact. Paddlers will also be invited to give an indication regarding the region you would prefer to train/be coached in. This should all be submitted by 30 September.
3. The Expressions of Interest information will be provided to all Regions. Regions will then prepare nominations for the Worlds Programme they wish to run. Regions may wish to run one or more programmes in the various age divisions. For instance, one region may wish to run only Junior programmes, others may wish to run only Women's or Men's programmes, another may decide to run all programmes and another may decide to run a very limited programme. That is for the Regions to decide, given their coaching resources and paddlers who have indicated they would prefer to train and be coached in that Region.

The Nominations to run Worlds Programmes must be submitted to the NKOA HPD Committee by 15 October 2007, along with a signed commitment to abide by the NKOA Standards for the running of that Programme (see NKOA Standards later in this panui). Because of the tight timeframe, and the information required, Regions are advised to start thinking about the Programmes they may wish to run now.

4. Accepted Programmes will be notified on the website with full details of coaches, etc.
5. Paddlers will be required to participate in W1 time trials during December 2007. This is the first qualifying step for the Worlds and is compulsory for those paddlers wishing to attend the Worlds. Regions will be invited to conduct these time trials, the only requirement being the trials must be conducted where there is no current or tide influence (this will usually mean a lake). Any paddler may attend any trial. The trials will be in a ruddered and weighed (16kg) Surfrigger, to be arranged by the paddler, and will be over 300m and 500m distances.

Requests to be excused from the trials will only be approved if the paddler has a medical certificate or is overseas (this applies to all required trials/ events).

6. At the time of entering for the December trials, each paddler will be required to lodge a \$150 fee. The fees will be used to assist the funding of Worlds Programmes and will be separate to any Worlds entry fee (the entry fee is as yet unknown).
7. Also during December there will be a Coaches Seminar that must be attended by any person nominated as a Worlds Programme Coach. This seminar will be run by senior coaches and is expected to result in agreed approaches to coaching for the Worlds.

Another expectation of this Seminar is that coaching levels will become more consistent, and improve across the sport – not just for Worlds paddlers.

8. All information from time trials etc, will be recorded and distributed for information to all other Regions running or intending to run a Programme in the same age division. This information will also be used to identify opportunities for forming or strengthening teams within any one Programme.

All paddlers attending the Worlds must participate in a Region-run Worlds Programme, and must be part of that Programme by April 1 2008. It is strongly advised that paddlers enter a Worlds Programme as soon as it is set up. Paddlers may move between Programmes at any time up to the beginning of April 2008. Paddlers may move as a result of their own request (which, if the paddler qualifies, shall not be refused by those running a Programme without good reason), or by way of invitation to join a Programme. Regions running Programmes have to accept that, while this opportunity may be seen as disruptive, it is in the best interests of ensuring the best possible National Representative Teams.

9. There will be no opportunity after April 1 2008 for a team of paddlers to be separate from a Worlds Programme. This is essential to avoid the possibility of “club” teams. W1 paddlers are likely to be part of a Worlds Programme anyway (through being in a W6 team), but may be permitted, if only paddling W1, to train separately, provided they attend the required time trials and the May qualifying event.
10. Each Worlds Programme will be open to all paddlers who qualify to participate in those programmes, whether or not the paddler resides in the Region. All Programmes will be open to all paddlers.

This is essential if there is to be a chance for the best paddlers to be in the best teams, and will be one part of the process monitored at the national level.

11. A W6 Worlds Programme Sprint event will be held at Lake Karapiro on the weekend 29/30 March 2008. This event will replace the previously scheduled Regional Nationals. The event will be compulsory for W6 paddlers wanting to attend the Worlds. Teams will be formed by the various Worlds Programmes. Paddlers who are not yet in a Worlds Programme will need to form their own teams. Consideration will also be given to allowing the attendance of non-Worlds teams, but by invitation only.

This event will be used to trial combinations and generally provide the opportunity to prepare teams for the Worlds Qualifying Event.

12. A Worlds Qualifying Event for W1, W6 and W12 teams will be held during May 2008 (exact date and venue to be advised). This event will be compulsory, and will be used as the primary event to determine those who qualify for the Worlds, and with what seeding.
13. Final nominations for selection will be considered by the NKOA HPD Committee immediately after the Worlds Qualifying Event, and will have regard to the set qualifying

times and Worlds quotas. The NKOA HPD Committee will also seed teams and will allocate names to teams.

12. The selected teams will then train within a Worlds Programme up to leaving for the Worlds.

NKOA Standards – Worlds Programmes

These standards must be met by those running a Worlds Programme.

1. The Worlds Programme Nomination is to be submitted by the Region.
2. There may be (is likely to be) more than one Region running a Worlds Programme in a particular age division. However, within each Region there can only be one Worlds Programme in any one age division (although may be separate for males and females).
3. The Worlds Programme Nomination must be accompanied by details of how the Programme is to be run. This is to include coaching and management personnel, venues, a draft timeline for how the Programme is to be conducted and how programme fees are to be expended for the Programme.
4. Responsibility for the payment of paddler entry fees for the world sprint event must be submitted to NKOA by the regions
5. The Worlds Programme is to include the following commitments:-
 - (a) That the Programme will be advertised as a “National Programme”.
 - (b) That all nominated coaches are to attend a NKOA Coaching Seminar at their own cost (December 2007).
 - (c) That no paddler shall be excluded or disqualified from the Programme unless authorised by the NKOA HPD Committee. (Note: this may include paddlers who are not considered of Worlds standard after the May 2008 W1 trials).
 - (d) That it will run a W1 time trial that may be attended by any paddler who falls within the age grouping of that Programme. The time trial is to be held on still water (i.e. a lake) during December 2007, the exact time and venue to be specified in the Nomination. The W1 time trial is to be conducted over both a 300m and a 500m course in a ruddered and weighed (minimum 16kg) Surfrigger canoe. All times are to be recorded and provided to the Selections Coordinator.
 - (e) That teams comprising all paddlers from that Programme are to attend the NKOA Worlds Programme Sprint event to be held at Lake Karapiro on the weekend of 29-30 March 2008 and the May qualifying event.
 - (f) That it will nominate final team selections after the May 2008 qualifying event.
 - (g) That it will coach selected teams through to their departure for the World Sprints

Summary of Requirements for Paddlers

Paddlers must:-

1. Attend a December 2007 W1 time trial.

2. A "Commitment to Attend the Worlds if selected" form must be completed by each trialist and a non-refundable \$150 deposit is to be paid. Following the closing date of 30 September 2007 a list of all paddlers will be forwarded to regions. The commitment fee will be collected by the region indentified in the paddler expression of interest. Paddlers are to acknowledge that they will probably have to pay the full cost of attending Worlds Programmes and the World Sprints.
 3. Attend the March 2008 Worlds Programme Sprint designated event. Note: this event may be attended by teams comprising paddlers who competed in the December W1 trial, but who are not yet part of a Worlds Programme.
 4. Enter a Worlds Programme no later than April 1 2008.
 5. Attend the May 2008 qualifying event.
 6. Attend all required training sessions from May 2008, unless exempted or excused by the relevant Worlds Programme.
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Summary of the Timeline

1. Expressions of interest will be sought from paddlers and for participation in the Worlds 2007 Programme. Target Date: 30 September 2007.
 2. This information will be made available to Regions by 2 October 2007.
 3. Regions will submit their Worlds Programme Nominations (refer to National Standards) no later than October 15 2007.
 4. The December W1 time trial dates and paddler entry/ commitment forms will be available no later than October 20 2007 (tentative dates may be advertised beforehand).
 5. Coaching Seminar (December 2007)
 6. January 2008 National Sprints
 7. March 2008 Worlds Programme Sprints
 8. April 1 2008 Last date for entering Worlds Programmes.
 9. May 2008 qualifying event W1 / W6 and final team nominations.
 10. May 2008 team selections, seeding and naming.
 11. May – August 2008 – team training programmes
 12. August 2008 World Sprints
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