



## **2008 Senior U23 Team**

### **Introduction**

Athletes will only be considered for a *Senior U23 Team* nomination in the four years following their last year of eligibility as an International Canoe Federation (ICF) junior category athlete.

The *Senior U23 Team* is intended to identify and foster the development of athletes who are making the transition from Junior to Senior. Particular emphasis is placed on establishing a proper training and competition regimen to enhance the potential for achieving a future nomination to the Senior World Team or Olympic Team.

Training camps will be offered to *Senior U23 Team* members in a given year in the fall at the Olympic Training Center – Chula Vista, as well as, in late June, early July at the Olympic Training Center – Lake Placid.

International U23 competitions will be offered as part of *Senior U23 Team* development program.

National Team uniforms will also be issued to nominated team members.

### **Selection Criteria**

Members of a Senior World Championship Team or Olympic Team are not eligible for *Senior U23 Team* in the year that they are a member of the Senior World Championship Team or the Olympic Team.

An athlete's performance at the National Team Trials and the National Championships &/or National Championship Trials event in a given year will be used to form a singles discipline ranking list to assist the Sprint Selection Committee in identifying *Senior U23 Team* athletes.

Athletes must meet the following criteria in order to be nominated to the 2008 *Senior U23 Team*:

***To be ranked in the top four of their discipline using their best three singles results from the 500 & 1000m final events at the National Team Trials, Oklahoma City, April 18 - 20, 2008.***

The *Senior U23 Team* Discipline Ranking List is calculated by assigning points to the eligible athletes based on their order of finish at the National Team Trials, Oklahoma City, April, 2008 — see Points for Order of Finish Chart. Athletes who do not satisfy the eligibility requirements in the Selection Criteria above will not score position points and will not appear on the final Discipline Ranking List. It may be that athletes will be eliminated during the selection process (i.e. nominated to the 2008 Olympic Team). The final Discipline Ranking list will exclude all points scored by eliminated athletes. The points will be re-assigned to eligible athletes. Points for each position of finish will be awarded according to the formula below:

Event	Position of Finish of Eligible Athletes and Points Awarded											
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Men's K-1	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Men's C-1	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Women's K-1	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

### ***Tie Breaking Mechanism***

In the event of a tie in the combined ranking within the Top 12 that would determine the final overall *Senior U23* Singles Ranking List at the 2008 National and Olympic Team Trials, for nomination purposes, the tie will be broken by nominating the athlete with the highest position of finish in a singles event in either the 500 m or 1000m. **However, if the athletes are still tied after that tie breaking mechanism, a tie breaking race over 500m or 1000m shall be used to determine the final ranking. The two athletes and their coaches will determine the distance. If there is no agreement on the distance, 750m will be used to determine the tie-breaking race, which will occur within 24 hours of the final Trials singles race.**

In the event that there is a tie between two boats in either the A or B Finals, the combined points garnered by the two athletes will be added and split between them. For example, if Athlete A and Athlete B are tied for first place in the MK1 1000m, then each athlete would receive 17.5 points (18 + 17 divided by 2).

### ***Size of Senior U23 Team***

Age alone is not the criteria for selection to this new program. An athlete's performance demonstrated at the National Team Trials and National Championships each year will demonstrate to the Sprint Selection Committee that the nominated athlete is committed to making the next step to the Senior National Team. The Senior U23 program is to assist the athlete take that step.

The size of the Senior U23 program is based on performance at the named events above by all eligible athletes.

### ***Senior U23 Discipline Camps***

All *Senior U23 Team* Members will be offered the opportunity to attend discipline camps in 2008. See calendar of events on the USACK website for dates and locations.

### ***Bochum U23 Regatta — June 20-22, 2008***

An opportunity will be available for *Senior U23 Team* athletes to compete in Europe at Bochum U23 International, June 20 – 22, 2008.

Selection for this event will be based on their performance at the National Team Trials April 18 to 20, 2008 in Oklahoma City.

In this non Senior World Championship year, athletes named to the COQ Team in Olympic events are eligible for the Bochum U23 Regatta.

Maximum team size will be four kayak men and four kayak women plus one canoe male. This is an athlete self funded project.



### ***Olympic Year European Tour — June 8 – 23, 2008***

This Olympic Year European Tour will include our “qualified” Continental Olympic Qualifiers (COQ) and Olympic Team athletes.

All athletes that qualify for Olympic events at the COQ following the Olympic Team Trials will be considered for a nomination to the European Tour Team provided that athletes and crews must also place in the top three at the COQ in an Olympic event.

Athletes and crews that meet these stated requirements will be offered a nomination to the European Tour Team and will compete at the Duisburg World Cup event June 13 – 15, 2008.

Should an athlete or crew decline their nomination the SSC will not offer additional nominations.

The Olympic Year European Tour is an athlete self funded project. All athletes will be required to pay the full estimated amount of the Tour BEFORE the date of departure.

Olympic Team athletes will not be required to pay these costs.

USACK reserves the right to alter the dates of this Tour depending on flight, accommodation and entry availability.

### ***2008 U23 Lake Placid Training Camp and Grand Prix Tour***

This is a *Senior U23 Team* project.

Two KM and two KW plus one CM and one CW based on the *Senior U23 Singles Ranking List* from the National Team Trials, April 2008 in Oklahoma City will be named to attend a training camp in Lake Placid June 29 to July 7, 2008.

An additional two athletes will be named by the SSC to this Camp and Tour based on the singles ranking list as well as the depth of the field in their discipline and quality of performance by athletes in their discipline. Benchmark standards set by U23 athletes named to the COQ at the National Team Trials will be used to assist the SSC in making the additional nominations.

This is a partial athlete funded project — athletes will be asked to pay \$200.00 camp fee to offset the cost of boat transportation, coach boat rental, gas costs for bus transportation, entry fees for the two regattas and accommodation fees for the first two nights prior to staying at the OTC LP July 1 – 7, 2008. Athletes will be responsible for their flights to Albany New York on June 29<sup>th</sup> and home from Albany on July 7<sup>th</sup>.

All athletes are to ensure that their boat/s for training and racing purposes are part of a club trailer coming to the Lake Placid Training Camp and Grand Prix Tour from their region – NW region trailer and SE trailer.