

NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION POLICY

Introduction

1. Under its Constitution and By-Laws, Rowing Canada Aviron (RCA) has as one of its objects the responsibility "to organize, develop and select national rowing teams to represent Canada internationally". In accordance with this object, RCA has established programs for the development of national rowing teams at the Junior, Under 23 and Senior levels, including adaptive teams. This policy statement, approved by the Board of Directors of RCA, sets out the policy governing the selection of athletes to those teams.

National Team Objective

2. The objective of the National Team is to win gold medals at the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Attendance at other international competitions is part of the development of the National Team towards achieving that objective. Winning any medal at any of these events is recognized as a considerable achievement but the objective is to win gold at the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

International Competition

3. Prior to the start of the year the National Team coaches, in consultation with and subject to the approval of the Director of High Performance in consultation with the VP of High Performance, will create the high performance program for the year. This includes the international competitions to be attended and the anticipated size of the teams for those competitions having regard to the need for teams to gain international racing experience and the financial budget projected to be allocated to High Performance programs for the year.
4. The National Team Objective at the senior level is to develop a team that can be competitive in as many events as possible at the Olympic and Paralympic Games and, in intervening years, at the senior World Rowing Championships with emphasis on the Olympic events. It is the policy of RCA that, at any level, only crews judged to be competitive shall be selected to the National Team to compete at any international regatta.

Selection

5. Each year nomination and selection will be based on National Team Selection Criteria specific to the Competitions that occur in that specific year. The Selection Criteria shall be approved by the Vice President High Performance published prior to March 1 of each year.

6. The published Selection Criteria may provide for exceptions if an athlete is unable to meet any of the selection procedure requirements because of injury, illness, or other extenuating circumstances. The published Selection Criteria document will set out the conditions under which such exceptions may be granted.

Funding

7. Because RCA is dependent on outside sources for the money with which to finance High Performance programs, it may not be possible to fund the cost of attendance at all international competition. The Selection Criteria document will indicate those regattas for which it is anticipated that funding will or will not be available, with priority being given to funding the senior team's attendance at international regattas. Whatever the funding basis for a team, all members of that team will be on the same funding basis. Self-funding in no way varies the standard of competitiveness that every crew attending an international regatta must meet.
8. Any money required to be contributed by athletes and coaches must be paid to RCA before the date specified in the funding announcement or the Selection Criteria document.

Appeals

9. Once the Director of High Performance and the VP of High Performance have announced the composition of the National Team, any appeals against selection decisions must be made in accordance with RCA's appeals policy as it applies to National Team nomination and selection.