

2008 USA CANOE/KAYAK WHITEWATER SLALOM JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAM TRIALS RULES AND JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

The USA Canoe/Kayak Whitewater Slalom Junior National Team will be selected at the 2008 USA Canoe/Kayak Whitewater Slalom Junior National Team Trials ("Junior Team Trials") in Golden Colorado, May 30-June 1, 2008.

USA Whitewater Slalom ("USAWS") is the slalom sports division of USA Canoe/Kayak ("USACK").

USA Canoe/Kayak ("USACK") is the national governing body for canoe and kayak racing and a member of the United States Olympic Committee ("USOC").

I. ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE IN THE 2008 JUNIOR TEAM TRIALS

- a. Qualification:
 - i. Only registered USACK members 18 years of age or younger as of December 31, 2008 are eligible to compete at 2008 Junior Team Trials and qualify for the U.S. Junior National Team.
- b. Teams:
 - i. C2 teams shall qualify as a team and not as individuals.

II. RULES GOVERNING THE 2008 JUNIOR TEAM TRIALS

- a. Dates and Location:
 - i. The Junior Team Trials will occur in Golden CO, May 30-June 1, 2008.
 - ii. Complete details of this event can be found at <http://www.usack.org>
- b. Racing Rules and Procedures:
 - i. Junior Team Trials shall consist of four (4) single-run races ("runs") held over two days, with 2 runs scheduled on the first day and 2 scheduled on the second day.
 - ii. The course will change after the first day per ICF Racing Rules.
 - iii. Current International Canoe Federation ("ICF") Slalom Racing Rules will govern the judging and scoring of each run. The chief judge is the final arbiter and therefore must be a current ICF judge.
 - iv. Practice runs shall not be allowed.
 - v. The same class order will be used each day so that every racer has the same time period between events.
 - vi. All classes will be run back to back in the following order: C1, K1, K1W, C2.
 - vii. The start order for each class shall be determined based on Junior Team Trials results from the 2007 competitive season, with the highest ranked boats running last. Unranked boats will be seeded by the discretion of the race chairman.
 - viii. The same start (bib) order will be used for all four runs.
 - ix. Boats will run at 60-second intervals unless extended by the chief judge.
 - x. Any boat may petition the chief judge to allow additional time between themselves and another boat beyond the scheduled time. The chief judge will grant the petition in cases where the boat has been interfered with by a slower boat or has overtaken a slower boat during a previous Junior Team Trials race run, or otherwise demonstrates concrete evidence of disadvantage.
 - xi. Athletes may compete in a maximum of two classes. Athletes racing in two classes who have too little time between their different class runs will be given a special start order.
 - xii. Athletes choosing to compete in two classes are required to participate in both classes to the best of their abilities. Any athlete not taking four runs in each class will be disqualified in both classes except in cases of injury, medical emergency, or serious extenuating circumstances. For any of the aforementioned reasons, the competition committee will decide if the athlete's results are valid or disqualified.
- c. The Course:
 - i. A three-person "Course Design Committee" will be appointed by the USAWS Development Committee to design the course.
 - ii. The courses for Junior Team Trials should be challenging to top junior competitors, and should, to the extent possible, resemble in nature and difficulty the courses expected to be found at the international races for which the trials are being held.
 - iii. After all gates are in race position a demonstration run must be made by at least one non-competitor. The demonstration runs should include all boat types.
 - iv. The race shall not commence until the competition committee has approved the course.

III. 2007 JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION

- a. General Policies:
 - i. The Junior Team selection procedures will be the same for all boat classes.
 - ii. The results of the Junior Team Trials shall be used to determine athlete eligibility for the 2008 Junior World Championships, other Junior National Team camps and events, Junior National Development Team camps and events, USACK athlete funding and other benefits provided by USOC, USACK and USAWS.
 - iii. All types of the aforementioned eligibility and benefits apply to athletes from the completion of the Junior Team Trials until the completion of the 2009 Junior Team Trials.

- iv. Athlete results at the 2008 Junior World Championships may be used to select a subset of eligible athletes to receive specific racing, training, or funding benefits, as determined by the USAWS Development Committee. Any use of 2008 Junior World Championships results for future Junior National Team or training camp eligibility must be announced prior to the first Junior Team Trials race.
- b. Junior Team Selection Process:
- i. Any eligible junior team athlete who makes the senior team is automatically added to the 2008 Junior Team, contingent upon notifying the U.S. Team leader within 2 days after Senior Team Trials that he/she will attend the majority of the senior international races, and notifying within that same period the Development Chair and/or the Junior National Team Leader that he/she will race in the Junior Worlds in Roudnice nad Labem, Czech Republic on July 24th-27th. Athletes who achieve this pre-selection are encouraged, but not required, to attend Junior Team Trials. Those athletes, in effect, become 1st (or 2nd, or 3rd) based on their results relative to other junior athletes who make the senior team in that class.
 - ii. Within one hour of posting the final results on the final day of the Junior Team Trials, boats eligible for the 2008 Junior National Team, based on the criteria specified in provisions above, must commit to represent the United States at the World Championships in 2008. If a boat fails to commit, the next best finishing boat from the Junior Team Trials may serve as a replacement for those races. The uncommitted boat will then be considered a member of the Junior Development Team.
 - iii. After completion of the second day of trials, the boats in each class will be given a ranking list on the following basis:
 - In each of the runs, the fastest boat in each class (excluding any foreign athletes who might be racing and any junior team athlete who was pre-selected at Senior Team Trials) will be used to calculate the Percentage-Off-Leader Score ("POLS") for each boat. A boat's POLS = (boat's time – leader time)/leader time (This number may be converted into a literal percentage by multiplying by 100).
 - For each boat, the best (lowest) three (out of four) POLS will be averaged to create a Series POLS.
 - The boat with the lowest series POLS shall be the first ranked boat. The boat with the next lowest series POLS shall be the second ranked boat, and each consecutively lower ranked boat will be determined in the same manner, respectively.
 - iv. If, after completion of the Junior Team Trials, an athlete is ranked in the top three in two classes, the athlete must indicate to the Junior National Team Leader in which class he will compete in 2008 ICF sanctioned races within one hour of the posting of all final results.
 - v. The Junior National Team will consist of the top three boats in each class based on the final rank-listing and with a Class-Adjusted-Percentage-Off-Leader Score ("CAPOLS") of 15% or less (see below for computation explanation of an overall CAPOLS).
 - vi. All US Junior Team athletes must return a signed Code of Conduct and Athlete Agreement at athlete processing following the Junior Team Trials. Athletes must agree to abide by these rules, regulations and guidelines. Failure to sign and agree by the Code of Conduct and Athlete Agreement will result in forfeiture of that athlete's US Junior Team position. Forfeiture will result in the position being offered to the next eligible athlete per the terms of the Athlete Replacement Procedures below.
- c. Athlete Replacement Procedures:
- i. If either member of a C-2 boat resigns or is unable to compete, the entire boat must be replaced.
 - ii. If a Junior National Team boat cannot race at the Worlds for reason of injury, illness or family tragedy, the next ranked boat will be eligible for full status as a Junior Team member. The replaced Junior Team member will still be considered a member of the Junior National Team.
 - iii. If a Junior National Team boat later decides to withdraw from competing at the Worlds for non-extenuating (injury, illness, family tragedy) circumstances, the next ranked boat will be eligible for full status as a Junior Team member. The athlete who withdrew from the team will then be considered a member of the Junior National Development Team.
- d. CAPOLS Explanation:
- i. An individual boat's "class-adjusted percentage" (CAP boat) is computed by dividing a boat's race score by a "boat-class factor". These factors shall be:
 - K1 = 1; C1 = 1.0459; C2 = 1.1182; and K1W = 1.1170
 - ii. The "boat-class factor" is designed to reflect relative performance between classes based on recent international race percentages. A boat's "class-adjusted percentage off leading score" (CAPOLS) equals the following:
 - CAPOLS = ((CAP boat - CAP top)/ CAP top)
 - iii. Whereby the "CAP top" is the top class-adjusted percentage for that particular race. An overall CAPOLS is computed by averaging a boat's best 3 out of 4 CAPOLS.