



## TEAM CANADA SELECTION PROCESS

**World Elite and Club Championships  
Singapore; August 17-30, 2026**

**Trials: Calgary, Alberta; September 20-21, 2025**



### 2026 IVF WORLD SPRINTS OVERVIEW

The 2026 IVF World Sprint Championships will follow the same format and procedures as previous years (2018, 2022, and 2024).

- Part one of the event features the **World Elite Championship** showcasing the top V6/V12 paddlers in J19 and *Open* age categories from each country.
- Part two is the **World Club Championship**.
- Note: All V1 races are considered Elite but will be run throughout the seven days of the Championship events. Elite and Club are further defined on page 2.

This document will cover the selection process for paddlers to represent Canada for both the **CLUB** and **ELITE** Championships.

For more information on the event, please see the [IVF Race Rules \(SPRINTS\)](#).

Specific event information will be posted, and updated, on the [IVF website](#).

### 1 SELECTION PROCESS OBJECTIVES

- To provide participating paddlers/crews with a fair and equitable opportunity to make TEAM CANADA for the 2026 World Elite and Club Crew Championships in Singapore.
- To build the strongest and most cohesive TEAM CANADA for 2026
- To achieve this, CORA has introduced a High Performance Committee (HPC) which will oversee these processes.

### 2 PADDLER REQUIREMENTS

- All paddlers must have, and maintain, a current CORA membership
- All paddlers must hold Canadian Citizenship and/or be residents of Canada
- Any paddlers not able to attend or meet the required qualification events or procedures may request an exemption to be reviewed by CORA's HPC. See the Exemption section of this document.

### 3 IMPORTANT TERMINOLOGY

#### Elite

- World Elite Championship – The Elite World Championship is where countries/regions are represented by their best paddlers.  
The events are V6 500m, V6 1000m or 1500m (turns), and V12 500m.  
The categories are: Junior (J19) and Open for men and women, and Mixed Open for Para.
- V6 - Canada has **one entry** per category for Open men and women in 500m and 1500m
- V6 - Canada has **one entry** per category for J19 for men and women in the 500m and 1000m
- V6 - Canada has **two entries** for Para Mixed
- V12 – Canada has **one entry** per category for Men, Women and Para Mixed in the 500m
- All V1 paddlers are considered ELITE no matter their age category
- ELITE paddlers may be chosen for drug testing at the event
- Canada aims to field the best paddlers/crews possible for the ELITE Championships
- Paddlers aged 14+ can be considered for J19 Elite Crews.
- Paddlers aged 16+ can be considered for Open Elite Crews.

#### Club

- World Club Championship – Club teams from participating countries will compete for the title of “Club Champion”.
- Competitors participating in the Elite V6 or V12 events will be allowed to join their club crew without limitation on the number of elite competitors per crew, with the exception of Open Club V6 and Open Club V12 crews which are limited to 3 elite competitors per Open Club V6 entry or 6 elite competitors per Open Club V12 entry.
- Within CORA, a club crew is defined as a group of paddlers from the same club or who are self-organized from individual paddlers that train together regularly (self-selected or pre-determined crew).
- Club teams wishing to represent Canada should apply according to the process outlined in the Club Selections section of this document.
- In a change from previous years, there will NOT be a Free Agent process for the CORA Club Crew selections.

For background on the setup of the World Sprints event and the particulars around Elite and Club - please see the [IVF Race Rules \(SPRINTS\)](#).

## 4 FEES

During registration, each paddler will pay \$200 to participate in the selection process. There is an additional \$125 fee to a maximum of an additional \$250 for any additional category (Elite V6, V1, Club Crew V6). Note that there is not an additional fee for V12. Note that these fees apply whether or not a time trial in Calgary is required for selection/qualification.

The following are examples of where an additional fee would be required:

- If a paddler is trying out for Elite V6 and also V1, there will be an additional \$125 fee.
- If a paddler's club crew V6 is vying for one age category and the paddler is also on a crew vying for a separate age category, there will be an additional \$125 fee.
- If a paddler wants to try out for Elite V6, Elite V1 and vye for a Club Crew V6 (3 categories) there will be 2 additional \$125 fees.
- If a paddler tries out for a V6 crew (Elite or Club Crew) and also a V12 crew, there will NOT be an additional \$125 fee.

For paddlers selected to go to Singapore, there will also be an additional fee of approximately \$300 per paddler collected at a later date. The exact amount will depend on the number of paddlers on Team Canada.

Each Elite V6 crew will be assigned a CORA coach and each paddler on an Elite V6 crew will have an mandatory \$1000 coaching fee.

## 5 KEY DATES

July 10th, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TEAM CANADA online registration for the Trials open</li> </ul>
August 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deadline for registration to compete at Trials. Registration must be completed <b>by all athletes (including all V6 Crew members)</b>. <b>Fees for registration due at time of registration (see below)</b>. Note there are supplemental forms for Elite V6/V12 paddlers and Club Crew V6 crews.</li> </ul>
<b>September 2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>TRIALS - Calgary Canoe Club</b> Saturday 20th - Sunday 21st</li> </ul>
October 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ALL Paddlers <u>not</u> intending to compete in Singapore to provide notice to the HPC</li> <li>Paddlers on Club V6 crews must confirm their intent to the HPC.</li> </ul>
November 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Application opens for any unclaimed V1 spots</li> <li>Application opens for any unclaimed V6 spots</li> </ul>
November 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Application for any unclaimed V1 spots closes</li> <li>Application for any unclaimed V6 spots closes</li> <li>After this deadline paddlers who have not time trialed will be eligible to apply for vacant spots</li> </ul>
November 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Posting of all TEAM CANADA Club Crews.</li> </ul>
Late 2025 / Early 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elite Selection/Training Camp (mandatory) dates announced</li> <li>Initial Elite selections announced</li> <li>Elite Coaching fee \$1,000 becomes payable</li> </ul>
January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All paddlers confirm attendance at Singapore 2026</li> </ul>
February 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A second fee will be payable. This is expected to be approximately \$300 per paddler (dependent on athlete numbers)</li> </ul>
March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Camp for Elite V6 crews, if required by Coaches</li> </ul>
April 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final fees and documents due to CORA</li> </ul>
Early May 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IVF registration deadline</li> </ul>
May 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs) to CORA deadline CORA</li> </ul>
<b>August 17-30</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Singapore World Sprint Championships</b></li> </ul>

## 6 AGE CATEGORIES

Paddlers must have reached the minimum age of an age category by the end of the calendar year in which the competition is taking place (2026). The table below identifies the age categories, their corresponding age ranges, and minimum age requirements. All PARA events are in the PARA Open category.

<b>AGE CATEGORIES</b> <b>*D.O.B in 2026</b>	<b>AGE CRITERIA</b>	<b>Number of Club Championships Entries plus Elite V1</b>	<b>Championship Race Distances</b>
JUNIOR 16	16 & Under (min. age: 11yrs)	V1 = 3 V6 = 6, V12 = 3	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 1000m
JUNIOR 19	19 & Under (min. age: 14yrs)	V1 = 3 V6 = 6, V12 = 3	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 1000m
OPEN	Min. age of 16yrs	V1 = 3 V6 = 6, V12 = 3	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 1500m
PARA (Open)	Min. age of 16yrs	V1 = 3 V6 = 6, V12 = 3	V1 250m V1/V6/V12 500m V6 1000m
MASTERS 40	40+yrs	V1 = 3 Men, 4 Women V6 = 6, V12 = 3	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 1000m
MASTERS 50	50+yrs	V1 = 3 V6 = 6, V12 = 3	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 1000m
MASTERS 60	60+yrs	V1 = 3 Men, 4 Women V6 = 6, V12 = 3	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 1000m
MASTERS 70	70+yrs	V1 = 3 Men, 6 Women V6 = 6, V12 = 3	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 500m 1 turn
MASTERS 75	75+yrs	V1 = 3 V6 = 6, V12 = 3	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 500m 1 turn
MASTERS 80	80+yrs	V1 = 3 V6 = 6, V12 = 3	V1 250m V6 500m V6 500m 1 turn

## 7 EXEMPTION CONSIDERATIONS

If a paddler has an emergency/unforeseen circumstance, the paddler MUST apply via the exemption form application to the HPC for an exemption.

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY FOR AN EXEMPTION](#)

Exemptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Only exemptions due to injury, illness or family emergency, namely death or illness associated with a family member, will be considered. Exemptions will not be granted for conflicts with work, vacation, family, etc.

Elite paddlers (V1/V6/V12) seeking an exemption will be required to organize a head-to-head race with 1 or more paddlers that will be at trials on a marked course with supervision of one of the sprint committee members or a coach approved by the committee.

The HPC will take into account:

- Circumstance
- Paddler's resume
- Previous IVF experience and performance
- Past race season performances in V1/OC1
- Prognosis (if injury/illness)
- Commitment

Exemption for Athletes Rostered in a Club Crew (all divisions) for attending the Calgary Trials:

- The crew is permitted to roster up to 2 additional spares on their roster list. Crews must pull from this roster in order to substitute an athlete with an exemption.

Exemption for Club Crews to not attend the Calgary Time Trials:

- If there are more than 6 crews vying for a single age/gender V6 division, all crews must race off at the Calgary Time Trials. There will be no exemptions for full crews, only exemptions for individual athletes in the event of emergency (see above).

## **8 TEAM CANADA SELECTION CRITERIA - ELITE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **ALL AGE CATEGORIES**

#### **V1 SELECTION PROCESS**

All paddlers wishing to be considered for V1 MUST attend the Calgary Trials.

#### **BOAT BEING USED FOR TRIALS**

Solo Rudderless Outrigger Canoe (V1) – Teva Nui (tentative)

#### **V1 RIGGING**

Rigging will be standardized as per IVF rules. Any alteration of the rigging will result in immediate disqualification.

#### **RULES FOR V1**

IVF rules for V1 will be followed: no additional equipment may be added to the V1 (no seat accessories, foot braces, or GPS on boat)

#### **IMPORTANT - AGE CATEGORIES**

Paddlers will only be allowed to qualify for one age category except for paddlers who won medals in the past IVF World Championships who may race 2 age categories.

To qualify for each age category, paddlers must trial in both age categories.

Note that paddlers may be limited to only their age category.

***This will be confirmed based on registration numbers for eligible spots.***

#### **IMPORTANT - RACE PROGRAM PRIORITIES**

If a paddler is racing in two age categories, note that the IVF Sprints program will not be altered to accommodate paddlers with back-to-back races. A scratch fee of US\$100 will be levied by the IVF (and paid by the paddler) should a paddler scratch a race.

#### **TIME TRIAL PROCESS**

The time trials will consist of heats and/or finals (A, B, C...) depending on the number of entries for each age category. Age categories may be combined depending on the number of registered entries for each age category.

***Typically, top ranked V1 paddlers per age category*** from the time trials will be awarded V1 spots.

#### **FORFEITING SPOT**

Paddlers awarded a V1 spot but unable to attend the World Championships in Singapore may forfeit their spot by notifying the HPC. The next fastest paddler based on time trial results/exemption applications may be offered the V1 spot.

**EMPTY/UNCLAIMED SPOTS**

If any empty/unclaimed spots remain after the time trials in any age category they can be applied for and will be assigned at the discretion of the HPC.

Application for any empty/unclaimed spots will open November 6, 2025 and close November 15, 2025. Priority will be given to paddlers that time trialed. If spots are still available after the above deadline, paddlers without a V1 time trial result may apply for that spot; awarding of V1 spot in this instance is not a guarantee.



## **9 TEAM CANADA SELECTION CRITERIA - ELITE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **J19 & OPEN**

#### **V6/12 SELECTION PROCESS**

All paddlers wishing to be considered for the ELITE crews MUST attend the Calgary Trials.

Paddlers applying for ELITE must fill out the supplemental Elite application form.

[CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE SUPPLEMENTAL FORM FOR ELITE V6 / V12](#)

Paddlers aged 16 or older are eligible to be considered for the Elite Open V6 and V12 crew.

Paddlers aged 14, and not turning 20, in 2026 are eligible to be considered for the Elite J19 V6 crew.

Paddlers vying for an ELITE crew will race on Saturday. All Elite athletes are required to make themselves available on Sunday for additional assessment by coaching staff. Afterwards, a pool of athletes will be chosen. The Elite pool will be further assessed at one additional mandatory selection/training camp. The date will be determined by the coach in consultation with the paddlers. The expenses for this camp, including coaching fees are covered in the athletes mandatory fees. Additional costs associated with travel, accommodation, etc are the responsibility of the athlete.

Paddlers must stipulate on the registration form that they are competing for a spot on the Elite Open and/or J19 crew, especially if they are registered with a Club crew for the Club V6 selection process. It has already been stated that there can only be three members of the ELITE crew on an Open V6 Club Crew. Please note that this does not affect pool selection but could affect the selection of the ultimate ELITE V6 crew.

Each paddler in the ELITE crew pool will be expected to pursue a level of training that is expected of a World Class paddler in preparation for the World Sprints. If training and performance declines after the final crew selection, a paddler may be removed from the crew and replaced with an alternate.

#### **TIME GUIDELINES:**

For paddlers new to OC Sprint Trials, the following guidelines provide a benchmark for OC1 times. If your race time is close to this or faster, please register. If you are not yet at this level, but you are close, we do need to fill out the V12 canoes.

Men's 2:37

Women's 2:57

#### **FORFEITING SPOT:**

Paddlers awarded an ELITE pool spot but unable to attend camps or the World Championships in Singapore may forfeit their spot by notifying the Selection Committee.

## **10 TEAM CANADA SELECTION CRITERIA - CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **ALL AGE CATEGORIES**

#### **V6 / V12 SELECTION PROCESS**

For any division in which there are more than six V6 entries, Club crew attendance at race-offs will be mandatory in Calgary.

For 2026, the HPC strongly encourages Clubs to form their own crews and register as such. Paddlers may be recruited from other CORA Clubs, as well as unaffiliated paddlers, with the only stipulation that they be CORA members. The HPC feels this provides a better opportunity for crews to train together on a regular basis.

V6 Club Crew trials will be on Sunday, September 21st. V6 Club Crews are strongly encouraged to attend trials even if there are less than six entries in their division. Based on trial results, all V6 crews will be seeded. The three V12 entries will be based on the V6 trial results. If your crew chooses not to attend, V6 seeding and V12 pairing will be affected.

Each paddler on the crew needs to register as an individual and pay the registration fees. In addition, the team captain needs to complete this form to register the crew (no additional fees).

[CLICK HERE IF YOU ARE A TEAM CAPTAIN AND ARE READY TO REGISTER A V6 CLUB CREW](#)

Club crews must roster all their paddlers plus up to 2 alternates that might be of consideration. If a roster is incomplete, the registration is considered incomplete and the crew will not be registered.

#### **REPLACEMENT PADDLERS**

Club crews have the option to list 2 alternates to their roster that can be used in the event of a regular crew member requiring an exemption at trials or in the event of a regular crew member being unable to attend Singapore. If the Committee deems that the changes to the crew are significant enough that the crew has become weaker such that seeding with other crews or even selection is in question, the Committee reserves the right to change seeding or de-select this team. If the Club Crew exhausts its alternates but wishes to continue to compete, it may contact the Program Manager to determine if going forward is an option for that crew.

Note that if a Club crew disbanded after trials, some of the paddlers that still want to go may be left without a crew. If this is the case, those paddlers should notify the CORA IVF Manager (via [sherry@canadianoutrigger.ca](mailto:sherry@canadianoutrigger.ca)) that they are available to fill-in if needed. CORA will retain a list of those who would like to be available as spares. Anyone adding their name to this list acknowledges that their contact info may be shared with others in the Team Canada selection process.

**AGE CATEGORY LIMIT**

Individual paddlers may be on crews in 2 different age categories, but a V6 crew of the same 6 paddlers cannot be in 2 categories. After the selection process, if there are still vacant V6 spots this limitation may be reassessed by the selection committee.

**NOTE REGARDING V12 ROSTERS**

V12 crews will be selected by the Selection Committee. Sometimes age categories need to be combined to create V12 crews, for example, Master 70 and Master 75. If paddlers are rostered on V6 crews in 2 divisions, there will not be enough paddlers to fill the V12s. In this circumstance, further recruitment may be required to fill V12's, which is not CORA's responsibility.

## **11 TEAM CANADA SELECTION CRITERIA - PARA ADAPTIVE**

### **ALL AGE CATEGORIES**

#### **V1 / V6 / V12 SELECTION PROCESS**

##### **PARA ADAPTIVE CATEGORIES**

There is an adaptive category for V1.

If 6 adaptive paddlers register, a V6 entry (mixed) will be formed.

Adaptive paddlers are encouraged to join Club crews as well.

Please contact [sherry@canadianoutrigger.ca](mailto:sherry@canadianoutrigger.ca) if you are an adaptive paddler interested in attending the World Sprint Championships – even if you missed the trials, please reach out ANYTIME!

## **12 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING TIME TRIALS**

##### **RE-RACES**

Paddlers have **20 minutes** following their time trial race to post an appeal for a re-race (circumstances must be legitimate such as equipment malfunction, interference during the race not noted by the on-water official). The HPC will rule on the appeal. Appeals received after 20 minutes have passed after the end of the race will not be considered.

##### **GPS ON BOAT**

GPS devices may **NOT** be used during time trial races.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** [sherry@canadianoutrigger.ca](mailto:sherry@canadianoutrigger.ca)