

2016 Event Requirements for U23 Australian Rowing Team

Background:

The Rowing Australia (RA) Selection Policy 2013-2016 outlines the broad selection criteria for all rowers, coxswains and coaches and can be viewed on the RA website at www.rowingaustralia.com.au.

The vision of the RA High Performance Program is to be the number one rowing nation in the world.

The objective of the Selection Policy is to provide a framework that underpins the vision by selecting the Athletes and the boats that will give Australia the best chance of achieving its performance objectives of winning medals, and most importantly Gold medals, at the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

This document operates as an appendix to the RA Selection Policy 2013-2016 and outlines the activities that rowers, coxswains and coaches must complete to be eligible for selection consideration for the Australian Under 23 (U23) Rowing Team for 2016.

Performance through the selection process will guide the selection panel's decisions. The selection process includes:

- Reviewing the race data and results in relation to expected performance standards and if clear then decisions can and will be made.
- Consideration of the performance context. The performance context includes where the standard of a performance would fit on the world stage.

The Selectors, as part of the selection criteria, are obliged to consider the objective race data and results but there are situations where consideration of this data alone does not indicate a clear selection outcome, particularly with crews. In situations like these, the Selectors will apply a standard which calls for a value judgment and overall assessment of the range of selection criteria when making a selection decision. Selectors will take into account the selection criteria in part 3 of the Selection Policy and will be giving significant weighting to the athlete's boat-moving ability and his or her individual performance data as listed in the event requirements listed below.

The Selectors will limit the number of crews selected to compete at the U23 World Championships to a maximum of eight (8) crews from:

- up to six (6) crews from those crews that otherwise meet the selection requirements and standards (including on-water performance benchmarks) at or prior to the Australian U23 Selection Trial #1; and
- any further crews that otherwise meet the selection requirements and standards (including on-water performance benchmarks) at or prior to the Australian U23 Selection Trial #2,

with the category from which the crew(s) shall be selected (if any) to be at the Selectors' sole and absolute discretion.

For the avoidance of doubt, the maximum number of crews to be selected to compete at the 2016 U23 World Championships shall not exceed eight (8).

The minimum on-water performance benchmarks required in each boat class under consideration for the Under 23 World Championships are as follows:

	<i>Under 23 Men</i>	<i>Under 23 Women</i>
1x	07:02.9	07:44.3
2-	06:36.1	07:22.8
2x	06:26.1	07:10.3
4+	06:21.8	
4-	06:03.6	06:45.3
4x	05:58.0	06:36.9
8+	05:43.6	06:23.0
L1x	07:10.5	07:51.9
L2-	06:44.7	
L2x	06:31.8	07:18.8
L4-	06:10.2	
L4x	06:04.0	06:43.5

The minimum on-water performance benchmarks assume competition in neutral environmental conditions. Accordingly, the Selectors may make adjustment (if any) to the minimum performance standards for environmental conditions as they see fit by reference to speed order or comparative trials or races as decided by the Selectors in their absolute discretion (the **Adjusted Performance Benchmarks**). The Selectors may also use the Adjusted Performance Benchmarks to rank the performance of crews.

The Selectors will not recommend selection of a boat to compete at the Under 23 World Championships unless a crew has achieved an Adjusted Performance Benchmark in that boat at or prior to the **Australian Under 23 Selection Trial #1** or (if invited) **Australian Under 23 Selection Trial #2**.

If more than six (6) crews at **Australian Under 23 Selection Trial #1** achieve an Adjusted Performance Benchmark, then the Selectors may select the top ranked six crews.

If any further crews at **Australian Under 23 Selection Trial #2** achieve an Adjusted Performance Benchmark, then the Selectors may select the top ranked crews, provided that the maximum number of crews to be selected to compete at the 2016 U23 World Championships shall not exceed eight (8).

If an athlete races in two or more boats that achieve an Adjusted Performance Benchmark at a selection trial, the Selectors still have a discretion to nominate each boat if the boat with the replacement athlete or athletes demonstrates to the Selectors' satisfaction that it can achieve an Adjusted Performance Benchmark.

U23 Athletes who seek Senior A selection will need to satisfy the requirements set out in the Senior A Event Requirements, which are available on the RA Website. At the point where such athletes are no longer in contention for Senior A selection, they must then satisfy the remaining requirements set out in the U23 Event Requirements for 2016.

Rowing Australia, through the National Talent Pathway Program (NTPP), is enhancing the selection process to provide opportunities for Australian oarsmen and oarswomen based in the USA. The US-Based Australian Program will provide an opportunity to gain selection into a limited number of Under 23 boat classes in 2016. This document contains specific details for athletes based in Australia, and US-Based Australian athletes.

NB: The details contained within these 2016 Event Requirements are subject to change. Without limitation Rowing Australia may amend the 2016 Event Requirements by announcing and publishing further or varied requirements and standards from time to time prior to the relevant event or trial and the publication or notification shall take effect in accordance with the 2016 Selection Policy 2013-2016.

Specific Details – Athletes based in Australia:

OCTOBER 2015

9 – 23 October	Athletes are strongly encouraged to complete a 5km Ergometer Test #1 (refer Note 2)
21 – 24 October	Athletes are strongly encouraged to compete in Domestic NTC Long Distance Time Trial #1 (refer Note 3)

NOVEMBER 2015

13 November	Closing date for completion of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2016 Under 23 Nomination Form, 5pm AEDST • 2016 Under 23 Coach Nomination Form, 5pm AEDST (refer Note 1).
13 November	Coxswain CV to be submitted to RA (refer Note 7)
16 November – 20 December	Opening of window for completion of 5km Ergometer Test #2 (refer Note 2A)
18 – 21 November	Domestic NTC Long Distance Time Trial #2 (refer Note 3)

DECEMBER 2015

9 – 12 December	Domestic NTC Long Distance Time Trial #3 (refer Note 3)
20 December	Close of window for 5km Ergometer Test #2 (refer Note 2A)

JANUARY 2016

25 January – 7 February	Opening of window for completion of 5km Ergometer Test #3 (refer Note 2A)
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FEBRUARY 2016

7 February	Close of window for 5km Ergometer Test #3 (refer Note 2A)
12 - 13 February	It is mandatory for all nominating Athletes to compete in the NSW State Championships (refer Note 4)

MARCH 2016

1 – 8 March	2km Ergometer Trial (refer Note 2A)
14 – 20 March	Sydney International Rowing Regatta (National Championships) (refer Note 5)
24 March	Invitation list of National U23 Trialists announced (refer Note 6)

APRIL 2016

6 – 10 April	Australian Under 23 Selection Trial #1 (refer Notes 6, 11 and 15)
14 April	Naming of initial 2016 Australian Under 23 Team (refer Notes 12 and 17)
15 April	Naming of AUS based athletes to attend Australian Under 23 Selection Trial #2 (refer Note 9)

JUNE 2016

23 – 26 June	Training camp for initial 2016 Australian Under 23 Team (refer Note 17)
27 – 29 June	Australian Under 23 Selection Trial #2 (refer Notes 6, 11 and 15)

JULY 2016

2 July	Announcement of final 2016 Australian U23 Team (refer Note 12)
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AUGUST 2016

18 – 24 August	Junior, U23 and Non-Olympic World Championships – Rotterdam, The Netherlands
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Specific Details – Athletes based in the USA (refer Note 8(a))

DECEMBER 2015

16 November – 20 December	Opening of window for completion of 5km Ergometer Test #1 (refer Note 2B)
1 December	Closing date for completion of 2016 Under 23 Nomination Form, 5pm AEDT (refer Note 1)
20 December	Close of window for 5km Ergometer Test #1 (refer Note 2B)

JANUARY 2016

1 January – 7 February	Opening of window for completion of 5km Ergometer Test #2 (refer Note 2B)
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FEBRUARY 2016

7 February	Close of window for 5km Ergometer Test #2 (refer Note 2B)
8 February – 8 March	Opening of window for completion of 2km Ergometer Trial (refer Note 2B)

MARCH 2016

8 March	Close of window for 2km Ergometer Trial (refer Note 2B)
11 March	Initial invitation list of US-Based Australian U23 Trialists to attend U23 Selection Trial #2 announced (refer Note 9)

MAY 2016

27 May – 5 June	Compete at NCAA or IRA events
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JUNE 2016

10 June	Final list of invitees to attend U23 Selection Trial #2 announced (refer Note 9)
23 – 26 June	Training camp (refer Note 17)
27 – 29 June	Australian U23 Selection Trial #2 (refer Notes 9, 11, 15)

JULY 2016

2 July	Announcement of final 2016 Australian U23 Team (refer Note 12)
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AUGUST 2016

18 – 24 August	Junior, U23 and Non-Olympic World Championships – Rotterdam, The Netherlands
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Rowing Australia reserves the right to amend or add further requirements and standards prior to a relevant trial or event, to be notified and to take effect in accordance with the Selection Policy including, without limitation the right to set specific target times for each boat class and crew for a relevant trial or event.

Notes:

- 1) Athletes attempting selection in the U23 Team must be 22 years of age or younger on 31 December 2016.
 - a) U23 Athletes who seek Senior A selection will need to satisfy the requirements set out in the Senior A Event Requirements, which are available on the RA Website. At the point where such athletes are no longer in contention for Senior A selection, they must then satisfy the remaining requirements set out in the U23 Event Requirements for 2016.
 - b) For **Australian based athletes**: There are two parts to the RA 2016 Under 23 Nomination Form – Notification and Terms and Conditions. This Note relates to both Athletes and Coaches.
 - i) Both parts of the RA Under 23 Nomination Form must be completed electronically on the Rowing Australia website (<http://www.rowingaustralia.com.au/national-team-selection-information/>) before 5pm AEDST on Friday 13 November, 2015.
 - ii) Nomination Form (Terms and Conditions) for athletes aged under 18 years must be completed by the athletes' parent/guardian on the athletes' behalf.
 - iii) Please note that by competing at an RA Event, or any activity specified in these Event Requirements, you undertake and agree to abide and be bound by the terms and requirements of, amongst other things, the 2016 Selection Policy Handbook, this Event Requirement, as well as the Nomination Form and RA Policies and Codes of Conduct.
 - c) For **USA based Athletes**: There are two parts to the RA 2016 Under 23 Nomination Form – Notification and Terms and Conditions. This Note relates to both Athletes and Coaches.
 - i) Both parts of the RA Under 23 Nomination Form must be completed electronically on the Rowing Australia website (<http://www.rowingaustralia.com.au/national-team-selection-information/>) before 5pm AEDST on Tuesday 1 December, 2015.
 - ii) Nomination Form (Terms and Conditions) for athletes aged under 18 years must be completed by the athletes' parent/guardian on the athletes' behalf.
 - iii) Please note that by competing at an RA Event, or any activity specified in these Event Requirements, you undertake and agree to abide and be bound by the terms and requirements of, amongst other things, the 2016 Selection Policy, this Event Requirement, as well as the Nomination Form and RA Policies and Codes of Conduct.
- 2) **National Ergometer testing** is to be conducted in line with Australian Rowing Team Ergometer Testing protocols as outlined on the RA website at <http://www.rowingaustralia.com.au/sports-science/rowing-testing-protocols/>
 - A. For **AUS-BASED ATHLETES**:
 - a) 5km Ergometer Test #1 (9-23 October 2015)
 - i) Nominating athletes are strongly encouraged to complete this test.
 - ii) Rate Cap 24 strokes per minute
 - iii) Must be completed by 5:00pm 23rd October 2015 and submitted to the NTC Head Coach.
 - b) 5km Ergometer Test #2 (16 November – 20 December 2015)
 - i) Rate Cap 26 strokes per minute.
 - ii) Must be completed by 5:00pm 20th December 2015 and submitted to the NTC Head Coach.
 - c) 5km Ergometer Test #3 (25 January – 7 February 2016)
 - i) Open rate
 - ii) Must be completed by 5:00pm 7th February 2016 and submitted to the NTC Head Coach.
 - d) 2km Ergometer Test (1 - 8 March 2016)
 - i) Open rate
 - ii) Must be completed by 5:00pm 8th March 2016 and submitted to the NTC Head Coach.
 - iii) Must be completed by all National Team nominees.
 - B. For **US-BASED ATHLETES**:
 - a) 5km Ergometer Test #1 (16 November – 20 December 2015)
 - i) Rate Cap 26 strokes per minute.
 - ii) Must be completed by 5:00pm 20th December 2015 and submitted to nwagstaff@rowingaustralia.com.au.
 - b) 5km Ergometer Test #2 (1 January – 7 February 2016)
 - i) Open rate.
 - ii) Must be completed by 5:00pm 7 February 2016 and submitted to nwagstaff@rowingaustralia.com.au.
 - c) 2km Ergometer (8 February – 8 March 2016)
 - i) Open rate.
 - ii) Must be completed by 5:00pm 8 March 2016 and submitted to nwagstaff@rowingaustralia.com.au.
- 3) At each **Domestic NTC Long Distance Time Trial** each athlete will be required to complete two time trials over as close as practicable to 5 kilometres. At each domestic NTC Long Distance Time Trial, the first trial should be completed in the primary selection boat (1X for scullers and 2- for sweep) as specified below, and the second trial may be completed in any boat class as requested by the NTC Head Coach
 - a) Results of each Domestic NTC Long Distance Time Trial are to be submitted to Rowing Australia by the NTC/State Head Coach within 48 hours of completion of each time trial.
 - b) Applications for exemption for Extenuating Circumstances should be made prior to the event through your NTC/State Head Coach – they will in turn forward the request for exemption to the General Manager – Sport, Jaime Fernandez.
 - c) Sweep athletes **may** compete in pairs or singles in Domestic NTC Long Distance Time Trial #1 but must compete in pairs in Domestic NTC Long Distance Time Trials #2 and #3.
- 4) **NSW State Championships**: All athletes nominating for National Team selection are required to participate.
 - a) Those nominating for sculling selection to compete in the 1x, those for sweep in the 2-.

- b) Athletes are required to race in the highest age category for which they are seeking selection
- c) Athletes are encouraged to compete in other boat categories in addition to the small boat.
- NSW State Championships results may be considered by the Selectors.
- 5) The **Sydney International Rowing Regatta (National Championships)** will be the primary mechanism for achieving an invitation to the Australian U23 Selection Trial #1.
- Athletes nominating for sculling selection must compete in the 1x, those for sweep in the 2-.
 - Athletes must race in their nominated weight category
 - Athletes are required to race in the highest age category for which they are seeking selection
 - Races will be conducted as a normal part of the National Championship Regatta.
 - Athletes must also race at least one medium or big boat within this regatta (i.e. double, fours, quads or eights).
- 6) In determining the Athletes who will be invited to attend the **Australian Under 23 Selection Trial #1** the Selectors will assess performances in the activities specified in these Event Requirements against the Selection Criteria in Part 3 of the Selection Policy and apply their discretion in accordance with that policy.
- 7) **Coxswains will be required to submit a coxing CV**, including two coaching referees by 17:00 AEDT on 13 November, 2015 to the National Selectors through the RA Office (nwagstaff@rowingaustralia.com.au). This should outline coxing history, past performance and relevant experience. Following the consideration of submitted information, coxswains may also be required to participate in a coxswain selection interview with designated selectors.
- 8) All athletes must complete all stipulated activities unless there are medical reasons or extenuating circumstances that prevent this. Rowing Australia is to be provided with an appropriate medical exemption form or notified of the particular extenuating circumstances as soon as is practicable before the activity. Applications for medical exemptions must be made in accordance with the RA Medical Management Policy.
- US based athletes are not required to complete all requirement listed at 'Specific Details – Athletes based in Australia', but are required to complete all activities listed under 'Specific Details – Athletes based in the USA'.
- 9) Invitations to attend the Australian U23 Selection Trial #2 will be based on a ranking established by the Selectors of eligible US based athletes and from Australian based athletes that attended Australian U23 Selection Trial #1 but did not achieve selection at that event.
- 10) Lightweight athletes are required to be within the following weight ranges for racing, time trials, and any national testing (excluding 5km monthly Ergometer Testing):
- Athletes that have also nominated for Senior selection must comply with the individual weight targets specified in accordance with the Olympic Selection Policy Handbook.
- From October 2015 to January 2016 – no specified weight, however weights must be recorded and sent to RA when completing racing or testing.
 - For racing at the NSW State Championships athletes must abide by the event rules.
 - For racing at the National Championships athletes must abide by Rowing Australia rules.
 - For the March 2016 National 2km ergometer test athletes must not weigh more than the FISA maximum weight (i.e. Men 72.5kg and Women 59.0kg) when competing each test.
 - Lightweight athletes invited to participate at the National Selection Trials are required to race all events at or below FISA average weight (i.e. Men 70.0kg and Women 57.0kg) – this may be achieved by crew average in crew boats. This weight stipulation includes single scullers as the priority boats selected will be crew boats and athletes must demonstrate their ability to perform at the weight requirement.
- 11) The minimum on-water performance benchmarks required in each boat class under consideration for the Under 23 World Championships are as follows:

	Under 23 Men	Under 23 Women
1x	07:02.9	07:44.3
2-	06:36.1	07:22.8
2x	06:26.1	07:10.3
4+	06:21.8	
4-	06:03.6	06:45.3
4x	05:58.0	06:36.9
8+	05:43.6	06:23.0
L1x	07:10.5	07:51.9
L2-	06:44.7	
L2x	06:31.8	07:18.8
L4-	06:10.2	
L4x	06:04.0	06:43.5

The minimum on-water performance benchmarks assume competition in neutral environmental conditions. Accordingly, the Selectors may make adjustment (if any) to the minimum performance standards for environmental conditions as they see fit by reference to speed order or comparative trials or races as decided by the Selectors in their absolute discretion (the **Adjusted Performance Benchmarks**). The Selectors may also use the Adjusted Performance Benchmarks to rank the performance of crews.

The Selectors will not recommend selection of a boat to compete at the Under 23 World Championships unless a crew has achieved an Adjusted Performance Benchmark in that boat at or prior to the **Australian Under 23 Selection Trial #1** or (if invited) **Australian Under 23 Selection Trial #2**.

If more than six (6) crews at **Australian Under 23 Selection Trial #1** achieve an Adjusted Performance Benchmark, then the Selectors may select the top ranked six crews.

If any further crews at **Australian Under 23 Selection Trial #2** achieve an Adjusted Performance Benchmark, then the Selectors may select the top ranked crews, provided that the maximum

number of crews to be selected to compete at the 2016 U23 World Championships shall not exceed eight (8).

If an athlete races in two or more boats that achieve an Adjusted Performance Benchmark at a selection trial, the Selectors still have a discretion to nominate each boat if the boat with the replacement athlete or athletes demonstrates to the Selectors' satisfaction that it can achieve an Adjusted Performance Benchmark.

- 12) Participants selected to compete at the U23 World Championships must pay a seat fee contribution for international preparation and competition. The seat fee will be advised to the Participant by RA prior to Australian Under 23 Selection Trial #1.
- 13) The following are basic determinants to be considered by selectors with regards to the nomination of coaches to the RA Board for endorsement:
 - a) Satisfaction of the selection criteria as specified in the Rowing Australia Selection Policy
 - b) Performance of athletes competing at the trials under the direct responsibility of the coach
 - c) Previous performance history and conduct with National crews
 - d) Capacity to coach/deal with multiple categories/disciplines
- e) Highly organised and structured in preparing and managing athletes throughout the training block in Australia and subsequent tour
- f) Compliance with Rowing Australia Polices and regulations
- 14) Nomination of coaches to the RA Board for endorsement will occur at the trials in conjunction with the naming of nominated athletes. **All coaches recommended for selection** will be required to attend an Orientation Program following the National Underage Selection Trials on **Monday 11 April** at SIRC.
- 15) The Selectors reserve the right at their sole discretion to choose the crew combinations, seat racing partners and the matrix of seat racing in the Australian Under 23 Selection Trial #1 and #2, and to conduct ergometer and such other tests as required in order for the Selectors to assess the specified selection criteria.
- 16) Reference to a crew in these Event Requirements includes where the context permits reference to a single sculler.
- 17) The Training Camp (23 – 26 June, 2016) will be mandatory for all Athletes named in the initial 2016 Australian Under 23 Team and those Athletes invited to the Australian U23 Selection Trial #2 in accordance with Note 9.