

**Water Safety Ireland**

Doc. No. SP-02  
Revision 1.0  
Date 19 Feb, 20

**TITLE: National Team Selection**

Author: Sports  
Commission

**APPROVALS**

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REV	SECTION	SUMMARY OF CHANGE	DATE
1.0	Draft	Procedure 2012 Upgrade	14 March 2012
1.1	Draft	Procedure 2016 Upgrade	10 March 2016
1.2	Draft	Procedure 2020 Upgrade	

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## 1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure is to set out how a team to represent Ireland at International Lifesaving Competitions is selected.

## 2.0 SCOPE

Applicable to all aspects of the administration functions as outlined within this procedure.

## 3.0 REFERENCES

Irish Water Safety Policy Manual  
Procedures Manual

## 4.0 DEFINITIONS

WSI = Water Safety Ireland  
SC = Sports Commission of Water Safety Ireland

## 5.0 AUTHORITY & RESPONSIBILITY

The Sports Commission has the overall authority to oversee all activities and ensure they are carried out consistent with this procedure.

## 6.0 METHOD

This procedure covers all aspects of selecting National Teams for the sport of lifesaving.

1. The team will be chosen by a panel of three Selectors who will be appointed by the SC on the basis of previous national and international experience or involvement in lifesaving competitions. The SC may appoint a replacement Selector if any of the Selectors becomes ill or is unable to meet their responsibilities or where there is a declared conflict of interest.
  - 1.1. The panel will consist of 1 SC member, 1 national coaching team member and 1 International Referee, each being from different counties. However, it is recognised that this is not always possible and the SC reserve the right to appoint a suitable alternative selector.
  - 1.2. The panel of selectors will be announced by the SC 2 weeks prior to the first trials date.
  - 1.3. Selectors who have a conflict of interest in relation to one or more competitors being considered must inform the SC prior to the beginning of the selection process. The SC will determine whether the notified conflict requires the selector to be replaced or not.
  - 1.4. Selectors must act for the duration of the selection process and refrain from discussing any part of the selection process with external individuals.
  - 1.5. Selectors may ask for contributions from the national coaches or their appointed deputy, in cases where the head coach has removed themselves from the process.
  - 1.6. Any selector who is canvassed in any form must formally notify the SC instantly.
  - 1.7. Any competitors suspected of canvassing the selection panel directly or indirectly will be disqualified immediately from the process.
2. The team will consist of a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 6 competitors. Final team numbers will be determined by the Sports Commission.
  - 2.1. The SC will notify the panel of selectors with regard to the maximum number of competitors per team that are to be selected.
  - 2.2. The SC reserves the right to not select a team where deemed appropriate.
  - 2.3. Trial events will be relevant to the competition the team are being selected for and will be decided in advance by the SC.
3. Each team will be selected as follows;
  - 3.1. Half of the agreed number of team places will be selected and filled by the squad members who score the highest points under the Total Points Criteria (4).
  - 3.2. The remaining team place(s) will be chosen by the Selectors, subject to the Wild Card selection criteria. Selection will be aimed at maximising the results of the team. All squad camps and National competition performances will be considered.
    - 3.2.1. Should an individual that is a non squad member, wish to be considered for selection as a Wild Card, they must notify the SC on the Wild Card Application Form before the closing date. The SC will invite a number of wild card

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applicants to attend the National Trial Days for performance appraisal. No points are allocated to these competitors.

- 3.2.2. Should an individual, squad member or otherwise, not present at the trials, wish to be considered for selection as a Wild Card, they must notify the SC in writing on the Wild Card Application Form before the closing date. The Selectors will consider these and those not automatically selected under the Total Points Criteria, for the remaining team place(s).
- 3.2.3. Written notification may be waived in exceptional circumstances (e.g. sudden illness or bereavement) provided communication of same is made to the SC to enable consideration at the selection meeting.

#### 4. Total Points Criteria

4.1. The maximum points attainable by squad members is 110, awarded as follows;

4.1.1. Attendance, 28 points

- 4.1.1.1. 28 Points will be allocated for full attendance at all mandatory squad camps. If a valid written excuse (certified injury or sickness, family bereavement, state exams) is received for non-attendance prior to the camp by the SC or Squad Admin, half of the points available for that day will be allocated. If no written excuse is received no points are allocated.
- 4.1.1.2. For competitors who do not attend a minimum of 50% of the mandatory squad camps for full days, no attendance points are allocated.

4.1.2. Official 2 Trial Days, 82 points

- 4.1.2.1. All squad members will be invited to attend trials in the pool and on the beach.
- 4.1.2.2. Pool events will be timed (in heat declared winner format if necessary) and points will be allocated from first to eighth as follows;  
12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 3, 2, 1.
- 4.1.2.3. Open water / beach events will be run over an appropriate course with points allocated from first to eighth as follows;  
12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 3, 2, 1.
- 4.1.2.4. A squad member's best six results from the pool and open water / beach will be taken forward to their Total Points scored, so long as at least two of those results are from events in the pool and at least two of those results are from events in the open water / beach.
- 4.1.2.5. Bonus Points will be awarded to the first three squad members in the following events:  
Super Lifesaver  
Ocean Man / Ocean Woman  
Bonus Points will be awarded as follows:  
1<sup>st</sup> - 5 points  
2<sup>nd</sup> - 3points  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 1point

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These will be awarded in addition to allocated points referenced in 4.1.2.2 and 4.1.2.3

5. Following the Official Trial Days, the selectors will submit to the SC a panel consisting of the names of the competitors deemed selected through the Total Points Criteria procedure and up to a further 6 competitors who shall be deemed appropriate for consideration for the remaining Wild Card positions.
  - 5.1. The SC will announce the names of this panel following the Trials, along with any extra criteria that the SC deem necessary to complete the selection process for that year's international competition.
  - 5.2. This panel for selection will be required to attend all team camps and any competitions as instructed by the SC between the panel announcement and the start of the international competition.
  - 5.3. This panel for selection will be required to attend all national competitions for their age group or as instructed between selection announcement and the international competition.
  - 5.4. The final selected team will be announced following the last selection camp/competition as indicated by the SC on the panel announcement.
  - 5.5. The Selectors will propose the final team based on all performances at camps, trials and competitions and adherence to any other criteria set down by the SC.
  - 5.6. Any Competitor selected can be deselected on the basis of the de Selection procedure
6. The selected team will be submitted to the SC for approval. All squad members and those who applied for Wild Cards will be informed of the team/panel selection by the SC.
7. De-Selection Procedure: Selected team members may be de-selected for the following reasons:
  - 7.1. A declared injury by a selected team member, which will impede their performance capacity.
  - 7.2. An injured team member following confirmation of the injury through an assessment by an independent expert appointed by SC.
  - 7.3. Failing to meet performance targets agreed with the National Coaches upon selection to the team.
  - 7.4 Breaches of Water Safety Ireland General Rules and Procedures for Sport.
  - 7.5 Breaches of Water Safety Ireland Social Media Policy
8. The decision of the SC will be final.
9. Appeals against any breach in the procedures as detailed above may be lodged by athletes in accordance with the Appeals Procedure.

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## 7. RECORDS/DOCUMENTATION

Title.	Description	Form No.	Retention period
National Team Selection	Process for selecting a national team for senior men, senior ladies, junior boys and junior girls.	SP-02	3 Years minimum