

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

Change History: (note: the language contained in each update replaces and supersedes any pre-existing language. For example, the guidelines for Team Selection in Amendment 4 C dated November 2009 supersede the previous guidelines set for in Amendments 3 and 4).

1. Origin – Oct 10, 1996 – transition from NSWC/USCKT to ACA governance, adopted by the Wildwater committee and accepted by ACA.
2. Updated Feb. 1997 – **Amendment 1** added for Wildwater Team Selection.
3. Updated April 2001 – transition from ACA to USACK governance. Amendment 1 modifies the selection procedure for US team trials, **Amendment 2** added for documenting the National Championships race format.
4. Updated April 2002. Team Trials format specifications updated. The Team selection criterion specifies athletes must successfully finish the races. Team manager position reverted to non-voting member.
5. Updated September 2004 with **Amendment 3**:
 - National Championships race format amended to recognize individual champions for Sprint, Classic, and the National Champion from the combined percentages
 - Team selection criteria (Team Trials) updated with the following:
 1. Racers must make a minimum percentage off of the fastest K-1 on one of the race days to be on to be on the team.
 2. Team Trials must include a Classic Race and two (combined) Sprint Races. Team selection will be Winner of the Classic, Winner of the Sprint, with the remaining slots to be filled based on the best combined percentages.
 3. Exceptions/exemptions for not attending Team Trials.
6. Updated February 2006 with **Amendment 4** to modify Team Trials for 06 and future years due to new ICF rules that permit 6 boats per class at World Cups, and 6 boats at the World Championships (with the four fastest boats from each country racing in classic or sprint at the Worlds).
7. Updated February 2007 with **Amendment 4.B** to clarify the methodology for Team selection when a split (East and West) Team Trials are utilized as in the case of the 2007 Junior Team.
8. Updated October 2008 with **Amendment 3.A.5**. This amendment was inserted in the text on National Championships to clarify the protocol for declaring National Champions in the event of an uncontested class.
9. Updated November 2009 with **Amendment 4.C** to further clarify Team selection criteria:
 - Jr. Team selection is subject to minimum performance criteria.
 - Women in Canoe are subject to selection criteria with an additional class handicap of +10%
 - The minimum percentages for Senior Team selection will normally be in the 15-20% range plus the class handicap. The minimum for each Team Trials venue will be set by race organizer in conjunction with the WWC.
10. **Amendment 3.B.3.B** inserted Dec 2010 to clarify the bye process and to cover the granting byes in years when Team Trials occur in the summer or fall of the year before international competition, beginning with the selection of the 2011 competition team.
11. Updated January 2012. Amendment 3.B.3.B. modified

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

USA Canoe/Kayak BYLAWS of the WILDWATER COMMITTEE

I. Name.

This activity shall be known as the WildWater Committee (WWC) of the USA Canoe/Kayak (USACK) organization. In these Bylaws whenever the name 'Committee' or the contraction WWC appears, it shall be taken to mean USACK Wildwater Committee.

II. Purpose.

- A. To promote WildWater paddling as a sport, and encourage its growth through the development of competitive, recreational, and education programs that contribute to the growth of Wildwater paddling.
- B. To foster the development of Wildwater paddling skills through the establishment and maintenance of an instructional curriculum consistent with USACK instruction guidelines.
- C. To develop coaching and leadership from within the Wildwater community of paddlers for the purpose of providing leadership to developing paddlers and developing competitive athletes in Wildwater racing.
- D. To develop competitive events and training programs that stress Wildwater paddling skills.
- E. To administer and coordinate the selection events for representation of United States Wildwater Teams in ICF sanctioned competitions.

III. Wildwater Committee Officers.

- A. A. The WildWater Committee shall be comprised of its Officers, Athlete Representatives, and elected At-Large members. WWC members must be current USACK members and affiliate members of the WWC. At least twenty percent of the WWC shall be comprised of athlete representation.
- B. **Chair.** The WWC Chairperson shall be elected from among WWC Affiliates by majority ballot of the WWC affiliate members, mailed (or emailed) on or before December 1st of odd numbered years. In the event that the WWC is unable to elect a chair, the USACK board shall have authority to appoint an interim chair until such elections can be completed.
 - b.1 The duties of the Chair shall be to prepare agenda for and to call and preside over meetings of the WWC; to appoint subcommittees and act in behalf of the committee between meetings of the WWC; to assure the WWC selects an election officer for committee elections administration in odd numbered years. The Chair bears overall responsibility to set an annual agenda of committee goals for advancing ongoing instructional, competitive, and promotional programs and is also to act upon budget matters pertaining to WWC allocations in absence of the Treasurer.
 - b.2 The Chair is a voting member of the WWC.

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

C. **Vice Chair**. A Vice Chair shall be elected from among WWC Affiliates by majority ballot of the WWC affiliate members, mailed on or before December 1st of odd numbered years.

c.1 The duties of the Vice Chair shall be to preside over meetings of the WWC in absence of the Chair; to coordinate and report the activities of subcommittees as directed by the Chair.

c.2 The Vice Chair is a voting member of the WWC.

D. **Treasurer**. A Treasurer shall be elected from among WWC Affiliates by majority ballot of the WWC affiliate members, mailed (or emailed) on or before December 1st of odd numbered years.

d.1. The duties of the Treasurer shall be to collect cost information on WWC committee proposed expenditures on equipment and/ or program activities for discussion among the WWC committee; to prepare a proposed budget for the WWC each year to be submitted to the USACK Board of Directors for review and approval; to communicate with the USACK National Office for discussion and approval of all disbursements from the WWC committee approved allocation; to work with any subcommittee with assigned purposes of improving revenue or altering budgeting practices within the WWC; to communicate any revenue improvement activities to the USACK National Office.

d.2 The Treasurer is a voting member of the WWC.

E. **Newsletter/Rankings Editor**. **The Newsletter/Rankings Editor shall be elected from among WWC Affiliates by majority ballot** of the WWC affiliate members, mailed (or emailed) on or before December 1st of odd numbered years.

e.1. The duties of the editor shall be to collect and publish information regarding programs, training, competitions, and meetings organized by the WWC and those like activities of interest to the WWC membership; to collect racing results information and publication of Wildwater competitor rankings twice annually.

e.2 The News/Ranking editor is a voting member of the WWC.

F. **Events and Program Coordinator**. The Events and Program Coordinator shall be elected from among WWC Affiliates by majority ballot of the WWC affiliate members, mailed (or emailed) on or before December 1st of odd numbered years.

f.1 The duties of the coordinator shall be to solicit information from all sources and provide facts and opinions to the committee regarding site selections for US Wildwater Team Trials and Wildwater National Championships; to assist in promotion and coordination of training camps, junior development program opportunities, and to provide information and coordinating activity pursuant to Wildwater training, development, instructional, coaching, and racing activities.

f.2 The Program Coordinator is a voting member of the WWC.

G. **Athlete Representative(2)**. The Athlete Representatives shall be elected from among WWC Affiliates by majority ballot of the WWC affiliate members, mailed (or emailed) on or before December 1st of even numbered years.

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

g.1. The Athlete Representative shall have participated in Wildwater National Championships within the past two years, or have been a member of the US Wildwater Team within the past four years.

g.2. One Athlete Representative shall be elected from the eastern portion of the United States ,

g.2.a) inclusive of all states east of the Mississippi River, and Minnesota, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Louisiana, and Texas,

g.2.b) and one representative from west of the Mississippi River, excluding the specific states mentioned in part a) of this sentence.

g.3. The duties of the Athlete Representative shall be to communicate agenda items from the committee to the WWC affiliates in their respective regions of the USA, and to gather collective information regarding input to committee affairs and programs from the WWC affiliates upon WWC affairs.

g.4 Each Athlete Representative is a voting member of the WWC.

H. **Team Manager** The team manager shall be selected and appointed by the WWC elected committee members, at any time as needed to fill the role of manager and team leader for the US Wildwater Team.

h.1 The duties of the team manager shall be to coordinate travel and lodging affairs for the US team during the periods of participation in International Competition; to inform current team members of any information specific to their participation as a team member in competition, development, and promotional activities.

h.2 The Team Manager is a non -voting member of the WWC.

I. Co-op committee members (3). Co-op committee members shall be elected or appointed by consensus of the committee for a term of one year, for specific reason to participate in WWC affairs, by majority vote of the current committee officers.

i.1 The duties of coop committee members shall be to fulfill specific role or activity to the benefit of the WWC and/or the WWC affiliates as specified in writing by the Chair.

i.2 Co-opted members are non-voting members of the WWC.

J. All officers shall be elected from nominations received from WWC affiliates only.

IV. WWC Affiliate Membership.

A. Any USACK member in good standing may become an Affiliate Member of the WWC by registering as same and paying the annual affiliation fee as set by the USACK Board. Affiliate members will receive WWC newsletters, WWC meeting minutes, competition updates, and shall have one vote in elections for committee officers.

V. Subcommittees.

A. The WWC may appoint subcommittees to provide smaller work groups for areas of special interest. Subcommittees can be formed by suggestions of the WWC members. Subcommittee members can be appointed by the chair or a majority vote of the WWC board. Subcommittee members will select a primary contact and spokesperson on the committee for their WWC related activities.

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

VI. Committee Board Meetings.

- A. The WWC shall convene for a meeting at least once each year. Additional meetings are encouraged through telephone conference, or other means of meeting as a group without incurring travel costs.
- B. The Chair must provide notice and a written agenda to members 30 days prior to committee meetings. Business not on the agenda may not be acted on until the successive meeting.

b.1 A meeting by pre-arranged telephone conference, in which a quorum exists, shall be allowed for the purpose of conducting committee business, and for acting on agenda items, provided 30 day written notice per these bylaws.

- C. If the Chair is unable to attend, the Vice Chair may be appointed to preside over a scheduled committee meeting.
- D. WWC meetings will operate by Roberts Rules of Order, tempered with common sense and good manners.
- E. A quorum of committee shall be one more than 50 % of the committee officers.
 - e.1 A proxy representative shall be allowed for Athlete Representatives, for items listed on the written agenda, when written notice of proxy is provided to the Chair, or Vice Chair presiding over the meeting.

- F. A permanent WWC Board Agenda shall include:
 - Administration of US Wildwater team and junior team selections
 - Selection of event sites, and coordination of US Wildwater team trials and US Wildwater National Championships events.
 - Subcommittee and workgroup reports.
 - Training camps, programs, and development activities
 - Financial reports
 - Bylaw and structure revisions reports.
 - Nominations and Elections matters
 - Business affairs regarding USACK, or ICF directives.
 - New business.

VII. Amendments to Bylaws.

- A. Amendment to these bylaws shall be by a majority vote of the WWC committee officers. The vote may be by mail (or email), or in committee session, provided written publication to WWC affiliates at least 90 days prior to vote, and agenda guidelines for notice of committee business.
- B. Any proposed Amendment must present to the WWC Chair in precise written form, including rationale and objectives of change. The Chair shall be responsible to see that publication of changes in precise written form is distributed for publication, and that rationale, in precise written form from the proposing party is distributed with the proposed Bylaw change.
- C. Any concern of governance, eligibility, or administration of WWC affairs not covered in these bylaws shall revert to USACK Constitution for governance.

(Approved , December 1996, Amended 2001 to change all reference of ACA to USACK)

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

Chris Osment, Committee Chair,
David Mason, Vice Chair
Brent Reitz, Events & Programs
Bob Powell, Treasurer
Jim Ingram, Team Manager
John Pinyerd, Athlete Rep
Hank Bevington, Athlete Rep).

Modifications to bylaws in April 2001, approved by committee:

Scott Overdorf, Chair
David Mason, Vice Chair
Chris Osment, Treasurer
Chris Norbury, Events & Programs
Jim Ingram, Team Manager
Bill Hooson,
Mike Beavers, Athlete Rep
Matt Lutz, Athlete Rep

Modifications to bylaws in April 2002, approved by committee.

David Jones, Chair
Chris Norbury, Vice Chair
Chris Hipgrave, Treasurer
Chris Osment, Team Manager
Mike Beavers, Newsletter Rankings
Tom Wier, Athlete Rep
Middy Tilghman, Athlete Rep

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

Amendment I. US Wildwater Team Trials and Selections of the national team for representation in ICF sanctioned events.

Origin February 1997. Chris Osment, Jim Ingram, Dave Mason, Brent Reitz, Bob Powell, John Pinyerd

Updated April 2001. Chris Osment, Scott Overdorf, Chris Norbury, Mike Beavers, Matt Lutz.

Updated April 2002. Members present for vote. David Jones, Chris Osment, Chris Norbury, Middy Tilghman, Chris Hipgrave, Tom Wier.

Amendment 1.

- A. Eligibility and Qualification for the US team. Participants must be members of the National Governing Body (NGB) for the nation which they represent (This is an ICF requirement). US Wildwater Team members must be a registered member with USACK, which holds charter of National Governing Body for United States representatives in ICF sanctioned Wildwater events.
- B. As a courtesy and fairness among participants, all racers in the US Wildwater Team Trials shall declare their intent to contend for a team position prior to the start of selection races. Declaration of intent shall be listed on the Team Trials event entry form. The race organizer or race official of the Team Trials shall provide a list of all contestants prior to the start of the race indicating which competitors plan to try out for a position on the Wildwater Team.
- C. Designation of United States Teams. In accordance with the calendar of events from year to year for ICF sanctioned World Cup or World Championship events and Junior Pre-World and Junior-World events, selection of US Wildwater Team and US Junior Wildwater team contestants shall be held annually for representation of the United States (sic: the US Wildwater Team, and US Junior Wildwater Team) in World Cup, World Championships, and Junior Pre-World and Junior World Championships teams. No other team designations or selections shall be made.
- D. Conduct of competition. For senior and junior team selections, the races shall be conducted according to ICF Competition rules in regard to safety, equipment, classification of boats, and rules of competition. Please refer to the ICF Wildwater Committee Rules of Competition on questions regarding safety, equipment, and conduct of events. For United States Team Trials and Junior Team trials, at least one member of the Wildwater Committee shall be present at competition to administer team selection affairs, and observe the conduct of competition. It is preferable for the team manager, or a non-competitor member of the WWC to be present at the selection events.
- E. The US Wildwater Team trials shall consist of two days of racing. The format of the event shall be determined by the Wildwater Committee at least three months in advance of the race date, or earlier. The format shall be either two classic races, or a classic and a sprint race, with the sprint race conducted on the second day; and exceptionally the format may be two days of sprint races if the World Championships format also calls for this type of agenda. (updated April 2002).
- F. Order of selection to the team – all years.
 - f.1 All competitors who declare to contend for a position on the senior team shall race on both days of competition and must successfully complete both days of racing to complete the selection process for the team. (added April 2002)

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

f.2 On day one, the first place finisher in each class is automatically qualified for the team. If a top place finisher in the team trials has declared not to contend for the team, then the selection goes to the top finisher, in each class, who has declared intent to contend for a position on the team. Percentage behind the fastest boat in each class shall be calculated for all other racers. For calculation of percentage of finish, the top finisher of the class regardless of intention to compete for a position on the team, shall be used for calculation of percentage of finish for all the competitors in that class.

f.3 All remaining positions for the team will be selected at the end of day two, by calculating the combined percentage of finishes from both days of competition. For calculation of percentage of finish on day two, the top finisher of the class regardless of day one qualification, or intention to compete for a position on the team, shall be used for percentage of finish for all the competitors in that class.

The second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth positions are filled by participants who have the best combined percentages from two days of racing. For each racer, calculate the percentage of finish on day one, then calculate the percentage of finish on day two, then add the two percentage values together.

f.4 The calculation for percentage of finish is the ratio of a competitors time (the numerator) divided by the fastest competitor's time (denominator). Percentage values for racers who are not the fastest in their class will be values greater than 100%.

G. Special guidelines regarding Junior Team Selections.

g.1 Junior team trials contestants shall declare their intent to compete for position on the team and to represent the United States prior to the beginning of competition.

g.2 When Junior Team Trials are conducted together with Senior Team Trials, the selection of Junior team positions will be a two day event conducted according to the selection method in items 1 & 2 above, and conducted with the senior team trials races.

g.3 When Junior Team Trials are conducted separately from Senior Team Trials events, a one day classic race/event will be acceptable at each site. In a one day event for Junior Team Selection, contestants will be selected on to the team in order of finish in a classic race, with two competitors selected at each of the separate Junior Team Trials sites.

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

Amendment 2. Conduct of Wildwater National Championships races and determination of the National Champions, Second and Third Place finishers.

Approved March 2001: Scott Overdorf David Mason, Chris Osment, Chris Norbury, Jim Ingram,
Bill Hooson, Mike Beavers

Amendment 2.

- A. The U.S. Wildwater National Championships shall be conducted annually.
- B. The National Championships shall consist of two races at one venue, and the final results and determination of National Champion, Second, and Third place awards shall be calculated according to the steps described in this amendment.
- C. Conduct of competition. For senior and junior national championships selections, the races shall be conducted according to ICF Competition rules in regard to safety, equipment, classification of boats, and rules of racing. Please refer to the ICF Wildwater Committee Rules of Competition on questions regarding equipment and conduct of events. For United States Wildwater National Championships, at least one member of the Wildwater Committee shall be present at competition to observe the conduct of competition. It is preferable for a committee member who is a non-competitor member of the WWC to be present at the events.
- D. Strict administration of boat measuring may be waived upon consensus of the organizers and participating Wildwater racers. The ICF rules for flotation requirements shall not be waived. Any competitor may ask for a strict boat measurement to be performed by the race organizer if any boat appears to be in question of adherence to the rules.
- E. Determination of US Wildwater National Champions shall be in the four championship Wildwater classifications. Wavehoppers, or similar plastic boats shall be allowed as additional classes in conjunction with the US. Wildwater National Championships at the discretion of the local organizing committee.
 - e.1 Wavehopper or other classes are not required for the US Wildwater national championships.
- F. The National Championships event shall consist of two races. A classic race and a sprint race shall be used. The classic race will be the traditional Wildwater race of at least 10 minutes and not to exceed 30 minutes in length. The sprint race will consist of two runs for each competitor on a course of at least 400 meters and not more than 800 meters (preferably around 1.5-2 minutes in length). The sprint race shall be conducted according to the ICF rules on conduct of competition. A competitor must complete the classic run and both sprint runs for the times to count toward finishing of the race.
- G. The classic and sprint races may be run on two days, or on one day, in either order. The order of races and schedule of events shall be published at least 90 days prior to the date of competition.
- H. Calculation of award for National Champions. The calculation of the winner of the National Championships, and for second and third place awards shall be by combined lowest percentage of finish. Percentages shall be combined from the two races to determine the national champions in the following manner:

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

h.1 In each of the two races which are the classic and the sprint event, the fastest competitor in each race shall be calculated to have a percentage of 100%.

h.2 All other competitors percentage shall be calculated by dividing the slower competitor's time by the winning time in his/her class. The result shall be converted to percentage value. This method results in all competitors that are slower than the single fastest competitor in his/her class shall have a percentage number greater than 100. After the two races are completed, the percentage of finish from the two races for each competitor will be combined to give each person their total. The racer who is equal to or closest to 200% shall be the national champion. Second and third place awards will go to the competitors with the next two lowest values, or next closest values to 200% value.

A simple explanation of the system is: "the lowest total percentage is the fastest overall competitor of the competition".

h.3 In case of a tie for first place, the National Champion shall be the competitor whom was fastest in the Classic race of the National Championships. If the top two competitors were tied in the classic race to the nearest tenth of a second, the second tie-breaking factor will be the competitor with the fastest total sprint time.

Amendment 3.

A) National Championships are amended to recognize Sprint, Classic, and combined Champions.

B) The Team selection criteria is updated to include more emphasis on sprint and to establish minimum percentages to earn a berth on the team.

Approved September 2004: John Pinyerd, Ben Sandiford, Chris Hipgrave, Chris Wiegand, Tom Wier, Geoff Calhoun, Martin Bay, (and non voting members Chris Norbury, Michael Beavers, Bob Bofinger).

Amendment 3.

3.A. National Championships Awards:

3.A.1. There will be three (3) national championships awarded for each class (K1M, K1W, C1 and C2) in junior and senior age groups.

3.A.2. The Wildwater Classic National Championship will be awarded to the winner of the Classic race in each class, along with 2nd and 3rd in that race and will be known as the Wildwater Classic National Champion.

3.A.3. The Wildwater Sprint National Championship will be awarded to the winner of the Sprint Event in each class along with 2nd and 3rd in that race, and will be known as the Wildwater Sprint National Champion. (Note: the Sprint Event will consist of two individual races/heats and the times will be added together for one total time).

3.A.4. The final national championship will be awarded to the combined winner with the lowest combined percentage over the 2 events, irrespective of whether that individual has been credited with another of the national championships, and will be known as the Combined National Championship. The calculation of the winner of the Combined National Championships, and for second and third place awards shall be by combined lowest percentage of finish. Percentages shall be combined from the two races to determine the Combined National Champions in the following manner:

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

In the Classic and the Sprint Event, the fastest boat in each race shall be calculated to have a percentage of 100%. The percentage given to all other boats shall be calculated by dividing the slower boat's time by the winning time in that class. The result shall be converted to percentage value. This method results in all boats that are slower than the single fastest boat in his/that class shall have a percentage number greater than 100. After the two races are completed, the percentage of finish from the two races for each boat will be combined to give each boat a total. The boat with the score equal to or closest to 200% shall be the Combined National Champion. Second and third place awards will go to the boats with the next two lowest values, or next closest values to 200% value. A simple explanation of the system is: "the lowest total percentage of the Classic and Sprint Event is the fastest overall boat of the competition".

(Amendment 3.A.5 Approved October 2008: Seth Eisner, Doug Ritchie, Chuck Brabec, John Pinyerd, Chris Hipgrave, Matt Lutz, Crissy Zeltner, Tom Wier and inserted for clarity)

Uncontested classes will be defined as those having only 1 entrant. The entrant in an uncontested class may complete both sprint runs, OR the classic run and still be eligible to qualify as National Champion in that class, and overall National Champion.

3.B. National Team Selection Criteria

3.B.1. Racers must record a time within a minimum percentage of the fastest boat (in any class) in either the Classic OR the Sprint Event to be selected to the USA Wildwater Team.

The general guidelines for the minimum percentage that a racer must record of the fastest boat (in either the Classic or Sprint Event) to make the US Team (minimum percentage standard + individual class handicap) are:

- o K-1 Men: 23% + 0% = 23%
- o K-1 Women 23% + 10% = 33%
- o C-2 23% + 10% = 33%
- o C-1 23% + 15% = 38%

The WWC may adjust the minimum percentage, taking into account the river conditions of the venue selected for Wildwater Teams Trials, as well as the rivers that will be raced at the World Championships/World Cups. Depending on the river conditions, the board may elect to modify either the minimum percentage standard or the individual class handicap, or both. Additionally, the WWC may alter the minimum percentage requirements for the sprint race independent of the classic race, and vice versa, depending on race and course conditions. Percentages will be established by majority vote of the WWC and will be made known to ALL competitors prior to the start of competition at the Wildwater Team Trials.

3.B.2. National Team Trials must include a Classic Race and a Sprint Event (consisting of two Sprint races/heats where the results are combined into one total time). The selection criteria will be:

- o Winner of the Classic
- o Winner of the Sprint Event (based on the combined times of two Sprint races/heats)
- o The remaining places on the team will be filled based on the best combined percentages from the Sprint and Classic Event – i.e. the individuals with the closest values to a cumulative percentage total of 200% when Classic and Sprint results are added will be selected.

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

3.B.3. National Team Trials are normally treated as the only way that an athlete can earn a berth on the USA Wildwater Team. In the event that an athlete is unable to attend National Team Trials, the athlete must complete the following criteria to be **CONSIDERED** by the WWC:

- The athlete should petition the board by January 15th, but never later than 60 sixty days prior to the date of National Team Trials.
- The athlete must propose an alternative plan for qualifying for the team prior to USA Team Trials at the time of petition. This plan must be submitted to the WWC in writing and must contain a means of proving verifiable race results that may earn the athlete a berth on the USA Wildwater team. The WWC will analyze the proposal, along with the results obtained, and will then determine if a sufficient standard has been reached to merit selection for the USA Wildwater National Team without attendance and qualification at the National Team Trials. Decisions will be made on an individual basis and selection of one individual on one occasion does not guarantee selection of this, or any other individual, at any other time.
- The athlete should have both qualified for and competed internationally for the US National Team within the 3 calendar years prior to the date of the petition. The WWC will waive this requirement only in extreme circumstances.

3.B.3.B **Bye Procedure Clarification/Update**: (Approved and inserted Dec 2010 by John Pinyerd, Tom Wier, Chris Hipgrave, Tom O'Sullivan, Chris Norbury, Chuck Brabec, Seth Eisner, Jeremy Rogers, Denny Adams). The purpose of this Amendment is to clarify the bye process and to cover the granting byes in years when Team Trials occur in the summer or fall of the year before international competition, beginning with the selection of the 2011 competition team.

Having well attended Team Trials are vital to the integrity, survival, and validity of our sport. Therefore, National Team Trials are normally treated as the only way that an athlete can earn a berth on the USA Wildwater Team. In the event that an athlete is unable to attend the (Senior) National Team Trials, the athlete must meet and complete the following criteria to be **CONSIDERED** by the WWC:

- The athlete shall have both qualified for, and competed internationally for, the US National Wildwater Team within the 3 calendar years prior to the date of the petition.
- An athlete cannot be granted byes on consecutive teams for any circumstances (without qualifying through Team Trails and competing internationally). Under no circumstances can an athlete receive more than two byes in their lifetime.
- The athlete must apply in writing to the Wildwater Committee for a bye no later than two weeks **before** Team Trials occurs. (Note: Because 2011 is a transition year, athletes have until Jan 15th 2011 to complete bye requests for the 2011 Sr. Team).
- All requests should be submitted in writing to the Wildwater Committee Chairman who will make an initial review. Requests that meet the criteria below will be forwarded to other Committee members for consideration. The application must include:
 1. The reason for the request (i.e. the hardship or unavoidable event that precludes the athlete from attending Team Trials).
 2. Verifiable performance results that prove the athlete would earn a berth if they could attend Team Trials.
 3. A plan to show ongoing development and fitness as part of their alternative plan to earn a berth and qualify for the team. The plan must including races/training camps that the athlete will participate in and some method of measuring performance against athletes who qualify for the team.

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

4. The athlete must commit to attend at least one of the Team Training Camps provided for US Team members between Trials and international competition.
- If a bye request is granted by the WWC, the **athlete must complete the following** process in order to earn their berth on the Team:
 - They must complete the plan they outlined in their bye request (according to the criteria outlined above).
 - They must provide race results and evidence of completing their training plan to the WWC on an ongoing basis.
 - Failure to complete the bye process or compete internationally as planned will result in disqualification from consideration of bye requests from the athlete in any future years.

Decisions will be made on an individual basis and selection of one individual on one occasion does not guarantee selection of this, or any other individual, at any other time. A bye may be granted provisionally, pending acceptable results from alternative selection methods or dependant on the number of paddlers qualifying at team trials.

Amendment 4.

The team selection method for Team Trials in 2006 and future years is amended due to new ICF rules that permit 6 boats per class at World Cups, and 6 boats per class at the World Championships (with our best four boats racing in classic or sprint races at the Worlds). In summary, the new selection method is:

- The 2 fastest sprinters are automatically selected providing they minimum meet percentages already established.
- The 2 fastest classic racers are automatically selected providing they minimum meet percentages already established.
- The best combined percentages from the sprint and the class races will be used to fill the remaining vacant positions in the Sprint or Classic or both, providing they meet the percentage cut-off for making the team.

Unanimously approved February 2006 for 2006 Team Trials and subsequent years: John Pinyerd, Doug Ritchie, Ben Sandiford, Chris Hipgrave, Rob Murphy, Tom Wier, Shaun Smith (and non voting members Chris Wiegand and David Jones).

Amendment 4.A

4.A.1. The selection process of the USA Wildwater Team applies to all years, all classes, juniors and seniors.

4.A.2. The provisions for Team Selection in Amendment 3 of the Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee will apply to the extent that they do not conflict with the revisions set forth in this Amendment.

4.A.3. National Team Trials must include a Classic Race and a Sprint Event (consisting of two Sprint races/heats where the results are combined into one total time). The amended selection criteria are:

○ **Sprint (top two Sprint boats in each class):** On day one of Team Trials the top two Sprint finishers in each class are automatically qualified to the Team. If either of the top two finishers in the Sprint has declared not to contend for the Team, then the selection goes to the next top finisher in each class who has declared intent to contend for a position on the Team. Regardless of overall position, athletes must finish inside the committee established percentage cutoff to be eligible for a Team position. These top two finishers in the Sprint shall race the Sprint in the World Championships, Pre-

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

World Championships or World Cup.

o **Classic (top two Classic boats in each class):** On day two of Team Trials the top two Classic race finishers in each class are automatically qualified to the Team. If either of the top two finishers in the Classic has declared not to contend for the Team, then the selection goes to the next top finisher in each class who has declared intent to contend for a position on the Team. Regardless of overall position, athletes must finish inside the committee established percentage cutoff (as described in Amendment 3) to be eligible for a Team position. These top two finishers in the Classic shall race the Classic in the World Championships, Pre-World Championships or World Cup.

o **Remaining Positions (best combined percentages):** Percentage behind the fastest boat in each class shall be calculated for all other racers (as more fully described in Amendment 3). For calculation of percentage of finish, the top finisher of the class regardless of intention to compete for a position on the Team, shall be used for calculation of percentage of finish for all the competitors in that class. All remaining positions for the Team will be selected at the end of day two, by calculating the combined percentage of finishes from both days of competition.

o **World Championship Team Selection:** For World Championships, the fifth and sixth Team positions will only be filled if the top two finishers of day one are different from the top two finishers of day two AND the finish time of the 5th and/or 6th boat in either the Sprint or the Classic is fast enough to have placed them in the top 4 boats (in that event). These positions will be filled by participants who have the best combined percentages from two days of racing. For each racer, calculate the percentage of finish on day one, then calculate the percentage of finish on day two, and then add the two percent values together. Regardless of overall position, athletes must finish inside the committee established percentage cutoff to be eligible for a Team position. These Team positions will be used to ensure that the four (4) fastest eligible boats per class will race in the Sprint and the four (4) fastest eligible boats per class will race in the Classic at the World Championships (with a maximum of six (6) boats per class attending the World Championships).

4.B.1. Junior Team Section When Split (East and West) Trials are Utilized:

- The selection method will follow the guidelines for set forth in the Bylaws, while talking into consideration that there are split Team Trials.
- The fastest Sprinter and the fastest Classic Racer (not already chosen) will be selected in each class at East Trials and at West Trials and will be named to the team (i.e. for a total of 4 boats per class).
- The third fastest boat in each at East Trials and at West Trials will be named to the team as an alternative boat. The third boat will be the boat with the best combined percentage (not already chosen). The purpose of the two alternative boats in each class (i.e., one from the East and from the West) is to fulfil ICF requirements allowing up to 6 boats per class in an International Race or a World Championships. The alternative boats will train with the team and will fill in as forerunners if allowable.
- Any boat which qualifies as one of the top four boats (i.e., finishes in the top two in East or West competition) will race in at least one event (Classic or Sprint) at the World Championships. For the remaining events, in the spirit of racing the four fastest boats, an alternative boat may race in one of the top four spots at the World Championships due to one or more of the following:
 - 1) One of the top 4 boats elects to give up their spot.
 - 2) It is unanimously agreed upon by the coach and the two boats involved that the alternate boat is faster on the course to be raced and a change is appropriate.
 - 3) A time trial is held and the results show that the alternate boat is faster on the course to be raced and a change is appropriate.

4.B.2. The USA Team will be selected first and foremost from the Team Trials selection

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

process. Athletes not selected in at the East Trials are free to compete at West Trials and visa versa. In the event that there are remaining slots for the Team, the following process will be used to fill the vacant slots if any exist at the conclusion of East and West Trials:

- Should any slots remain unfilled, racers who performed well at East or West Team Trials but finished in 3rd, 4th, 5th, or 6th place will be eligible for team selection (if they are capable of safely racing and are capable of meeting the percentage cut offs).
- The process of selecting the team from Team Trials participants who are capable of safely racing/training at the Junior World will be followed until the 4 best boats and the 2 alternates (up to 6 boats total) are chosen.

4.C.1. Juniors who are to compete in international competition must meet minimum performance standards, be capable of training with the team, and be fully capable of self rescuing.

- Juniors should in be capable of finishing within 25% (plus class/gender handicaps) of the fastest Jr K-1 in the USA. In the case of split of Team Trials an extrapolation should be done off of the racers that are attending the event to ensure that these minimums are roughly met by anyone earning a berth and is planning on racing internationally.
- All racers who plan on international racing (both Junior and Senior) must be capable of self rescue in whitewater of a degree similar to the international course(s) they will race on and must be capable of training with the team.
- The senior ranking Wildwater Committee Member that is on site at team selection should work with coaches/parents to qualify any racers whose speed and/or skills are questionable and advise them accordingly.

4.C.2. Women in Canoe (WIC) may also participate in the USA Team Selection (the process is the same for both Juniors and Seniors).

- Eligibility to race in International Competition is subject ICF rules (note: ICF rules at the time of this amendment require a minimum of 5 countries for each class. As a result, participation of WIC may be limited to "forerunner" status and may require a petition from the Wildwater Committee to the host organization)
- Women in Canoe are subject to the same selection criteria as all other classes. WIC will receive an additional class handicap of +10%.

4.C.3. The minimum percentages outlined in Amendment 3B are to be tightened to 15-20% range for 2010 and subsequent years.

- The minimum will be set by race organizer in conjunction with the WWC depending on course conditions. Courses with swift/deep current will receive a smaller percentage minimum (i.e.15-17%) and courses with shallows or slow moving currents should receive a larger percentage (i.e. 19-20%)
- The general guidelines for the minimum percentage that a racer must record off the fastest boat (in either the Classic or Sprint Event, using 18% as an example) to make the US Team during one of the days of racing are:
 - K-1 Men: 18% + 0% = 18%
 - K-1 Women 18% + 10% = 28%
 - C-2 18% + 10% = 28%
 - C-1 18% + 15% = 33%
 - C-2 Women 18% + 10% + 10% = 38%
 - C-1 Women 18% + 15% + 10% = 43%

Amendment 5

The policy for considering bye requests from athletes unable to attend team trials is amended to change the time requirements for submitting a petition for a bye. Other requirements as stated in Amendment 3.B.3.B still are in effect.

Approved January 2012 for the national team competing in 2012 and subsequent years.
Votes for: Jeremy Rodgers, Tom Wier, Chuck Brabec, Tom O'Sullivan.

Bylaws of the Wildwater Committee

Amendment 5.A.

The athlete must apply in writing to the Wildwater Committee for a bye no later than two weeks **before** Team Trials occurs, *unless extenuating circumstances exist which shall be included in the bye request.* (italics indicate language added to Amendment 3.B.3.B).