

2017 Canada Games
Requested Exemption from Para Sailing Age Requirements
Joe Gerlinsky, 2.4M. Saskatchewan

The 'final' entry list for the 2.4M class at 2017 Canada Summer Games included only seven entries, one below the minimum number identified for 'meaningful competition.' Canada Games Council invited proposals of second entries from provinces to achieve the minimum eight entries.

Only Saskatchewan proposed a second entry, but that proposed entrant, Joe Gerlinsky, is over the eligible age. Saskatchewan requested an age exemption:

"Joe Gerlinsky first started sailing the 2.4 for the 2013 Canada Games. Since then he has been actively sailing and coaching with the Blackstrap Wheelchair sailing group. He has sailed the Nationals every year since the 2013 Canada Games, he has won the Sail West 2.4 class 3 times and raced in the World Championships when they were in Canada. He purchased a boat in 2014. He is a very active sailor and mentor for the sailing group in SK and the prairies. He is also a very high quality individual that others enjoy sailing with. He really loves sailing."

Saskatchewan also noted that its primary entry was age compliant.

Decision of the Panel

The panel notes that Joe Gerlinsky placed 13th in the 2016 2.4mR Canadian Championships and medaled (silver) in the 2.4M class at the 2013 Canada Games.

The panel addressed the matter through questions.

1. Did the proposed candidate meet residency (but not age) requirements? The panel is satisfied that Joe Gerlinsky meets residency requirements, but does not meet age requirements.
2. Is the candidate a credible candidate para athlete? On the basis of results of the 2016 2.4M Canadian Championships, and the 2013 Canada Games, the panel is satisfied that Joe Gerlinsky is a credible candidate para athlete in the 2.4M class.
3. Was there no apparent candidate para athlete satisfying Canada Games residency and age requirements for the 2.4M class? Saskatchewan has already entered an age compliant competitor, but is entering Mr. Gerlinsky in response to Canada Games Council's invitation for a proposed second entry. No other province made a proposal.

On the basis of these questions the panel grants an age exemption to allow Joe Gerlinsky to represent Saskatchewan in the 2017 Canada Games 2.4M para class, as the province's second entry. This exemption does not amend Canada Games rules and regulations *per se*, but is specific to Joe Gerlinsky alone. Should he choose to participate in another class, or should he be replaced by another athlete, this age exemption is null and void.

Warren Nethercote, Chair

Lynne Beal

Mike Turner

Ken Dool

July 12, 2017