



Minutes / Canoe Polo Committee meeting
Putrajaya, Malaysia
6th to 9th of February, 2003

Present:	Frits JAGER	Chairman	(NED)
	Jon BISSET	Member	(AUS)
	Dominique LE BELLOUR	Member	(FRA)
	Greg SMALE	Member	(GBR)
	Carmel VEKINS	Member	(IRL)

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1. Opening

The meeting was opened with a special word of welcome to the new committee member Greg Smale. Also a word of thanks to the Malaysian organizers. We regret it that the committee had to split in two groups during their stay.

Mr. Ali Ghalamsiah, vice-president of the ICF and secretary-general of the ACC visited the meeting and discussed on development of Asian Canoe Polo.

Also Mr. Wu Wen-Ta, member of the ICF board of directors and president of the ACC visited the meeting for some time.

2. Announcements

Jon, Carmel and Frits visited the Miyoshi venue the 3 days before this meeting. At this moment in time we come to the conclusion that the organizers progress correct and in a good direction.

3. Fixing Agenda

The proposed agenda was amended: under Any other business we add the Future coaching course, and the items 10 to 13 where change in order and placed after point 17.

4. Minutes of the last meetings

4.1 Hong Kong / Macau January 2002

The minutes were finalized with the next changes:

- Present: Alan Lam HKG not Hiroshi Ishii JPN
- Point 6.3: With a maximum of 24 in the year 2006, and a future maximum of 20 senior teams and 8 under-21 teams and 4 playing areas this 4 days is in reach.

Out of the minutes and action-list:

- Start to communicate on a periodical term with: chairpersons of National Canoe Polo Committees; National Team Coaches; National Team Leaders; ICF Referees.
- Jon has enough information to renew the manual for Worlds as per 1-4-2003.

CP 03/01 JB: renews the manual on World Canoe Polo Championships before 1-4-2003. Distribute it to ICF President, HQ, CPC, organizers 2004 and 2006 World Canoe Polo Championships.

5. World Championships

5.1 Future format

5.1.1 Number of teams per category

We accept to go back to 24 teams in 2006 and 20 from 2008 at the senior and 10 at the U-21 from 2006. The Canoe Polo Championships must be held on a venue where 4 playing areas and sufficient warm-up areas are available, so that the championships will last 4 days of competition.

5.1.2 Format

During the last Worlds we realized some unfairness in the program and in the seeding.

The second round one year after the continental first round will be as follows:

- a. The first part of the second round (Ch.4, art. 6.2.1) starts with 4 groups of 6 teams;
- b. The second part of the second round (Ch.4, art. 6.2.2.) will exist out of 6 groups of 4 teams;
- c. The third round (Ch.4, 6.2.3) for the teams playing for the places 1 to 8 will be a cross over and final/semi final for 1 to 4 and 5 to 8

For the teams playing for the numbers 9 to 16 and 17 to 24 a straight game between the numbers one, numbers two etc. for each position will be played.

The last games for these groups will be between the 8 versus 9 and 16 versus 17.

For the Senior categories 106 games per category have to be played. In the U-21 categories this will be 28 games. Maximum number of games 268, played on 35 minutes gives 156 hours and 20 minutes. At 4 playing areas with a playing time of 11 hours per day the competition can be played in 4 days.

5.1.3 Allocating teams

After a long discussion the polo committee decided to change the way of seeding. We believe that the outcome will be fair for all participating teams.

5.1.3.1 Seeding

- a. Where four groups will be formed the ranked teams will be placed as follows:

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
1	2	3	4
8	7	6	5
9	10	11	12
16	15	14	13
17	18	19	20
24	23	22	21

- b. The seeding will be based on the position in the ranking list of the previous World Championships and will continue till 24.
If the 24 will not be reached than the rest of the (new) teams will be drawn in position.

CP 03/02 JB/FJ: To prepare a manual for the committee related to procedures towards the competition at the World Canoe Polo Championships

CP 03/03 FJ: Propose the board to agree with the numbers for competing federations at the Worlds second round.

5.1.4 Participation in the Intermediate and final round

The intermediate rounds and final round will be held in one country. For these rounds, 24 Men and 24 Women teams, and 10 Under-21 Men and 10 Under-21 Women teams, are invited to participate. The choice for the participating teams of these rounds depends first on the place in the continent, second on the result per continent at the previous World Championships and than on the placing of teams at the continental round.

For this the following procedure per Senior category is proposed;

	Men/Women
1. The best team of each continent	5 teams
2. Result per continent at previous Worlds	16 teams
3. Wild Cards	3 teams

Ad 1. By inviting the best of each continent in the second and final round all the continents are presented.

Ad 2. The following best teams are also coming from the different continents. Their numbers are selected on base of the results at the previous World Championships. In this way the difference between the strength per continent is included.

If a continent has no regional round, out of the last World Canoe Polo Championship in numbers 1 team plus the number of teams of the continent involved ending in the top 16 is the total numbers of the continent entering the next Worlds. Their following order will be equal as in the results-list of the last Worlds.

If other federations from that continent wants to participate these federation must **challenge** the lowest ranked federation as decided described before. The challenge must be held in the year before the final round.

Ad 3. The wild cards will be handed out by the ICF Canoe Polo Committee at her discretion. It is likely that the hosting federation and the following hosting federation will be awarded one if not invited yet.

Ad 4. If a team declines the invitation, the next team of the continent will be invited. If there is no such federation than the next team of an other continent, based on the results of the previous Worlds will be invited. If there is no team left, the choice of the continent is to the discretion of the ICF Canoe Polo Committee. The procedure will continue till 24 teams accept the invitation to enter the second round.

Example of the working of the proposed system

For clarification I give you the following example for a category. The used names and numbers are imaginary:

2004 Results list numbers 1 to 16 decide the numbers per continent for 16 places at the 2006 Worlds.

Continent	Continental Champion	Top 16 places	Places for 2006
Europe	1	10	11
Asia	1	2	3
America's	1	2	3
Africa	1	1	2
Oceania	1	1	2
<i>Sub-total</i>	5	16	21
Wildcards			3
Total			24

2005 Continental first round, on the basis of the final ranking the 3 federations that go on to the second and final round will be decided.

Continent	Participating Federations	Place at first round
America's	Brazil	1
	USA	2
	Canada	3
	Chile	4

To the second and final round, based on the result of 2005 go:

Brazil as the best of the continent (1);

USA and Canada the federations deserves the place for 2006 from the America's (2 and 3).

2006 Second rounds and third round at one venue.

5.1.5 Challenge

In the continent where no continental first round is being held, teams that are willing to participate have to challenge another team.

Out of the last World Canoe Polo Championship in numbers 1 team plus the number of teams of the continent involved ending in the top 16 is the total numbers of the continent entering the next Worlds. Their following order will be equal as in the results-list of the last Worlds.

If other federations from that continent wants to participate these federation must challenge the lowest ranked federation as decided described before. The challenge must be held in the year before the final round. The federation being challenged must organize a championship with the challenging federations. Rules for a valid challenge will be given by the ICF Canoe Polo Committee.

CP 03/04 ALL: Define rules for challenging.

CP 03/05 ALL: Define the allocating rules for U-21 teams categories at the Worlds.

CP 03/06 FJ: Explain the board what and how problems round the World Canoe Polo Championships have been solved and make presentation for the board. After the board meeting publish the new system to the national federations.

5.2 2004 World Canoe Polo Championships Miyoshi/Japan

The organizers made good progress. During the inspection, all details where agreed on by the inspectors.

5.3 2006 World Canoe Polo Championships Amsterdam/Netherlands

No new information was given.

5.4 2008 World Canoe Polo Championships

The National federations of Canada, Poland and Spain have prepared a bid for the Championships. The board will decide the venue for 2008.

6. Continental Championships

6.1 Europe

The next European Championships 2003, will be from 13 till 17 August in Kilcock, Ireland. The organizers expect to host 16 men, 12 women, 12 U-21 men and 5 U-21 women teams. Information is available on www.canoepolo.ie/europeans2003.

The Championships of 2005 will be organized in Murcia, Spain.

6.2 Asia

The Asian Canoe Polo Championships 2003 will take place in Chinese Taipei.

7. World Games

The ranking list of the 2004 World Canoe Polo Championships will be the base for the decision which teams will be invited to come to the World Games.

The German Men and Women teams will be competing together with the top-5 of Worlds 2004. If German teams are included in the top 5 the following federation on the ranking list will be invited.

The 6 men and women teams will be invited on July 25th on the final day of the Worlds in Japan. Invitations need to be accepted before October 1st 2004. If federations don't enter or decline the next federations will be invited on October 3rd 2004. They have till December 1st 2004 to accept. If less than 6 federations accepted, the ICF Canoe Polo Committee will invite by telephone or email till 12 teams have accepted. The information will be send to the ICF HQ, Technical Delegate Joachim Schwarzrock and the IWGA.

The Committee asked the rules around sponsoring and advertisement during the World Games. The Technical Delegate will be asked to come forward with information around this subject.

The committee expressed their feelings towards uniformity at the World Games. In particular the kayaks bear our concern. The Federations must comply with the rule on similarity. The invitation will express the feelings of the canoe polo committee.

CP 03/07 FJ: Prepare a letter to invite teams to come to the World Games 2005

CP 03/08 FJ: Publish on internet how teams can participate at the World Games 2005.

CP 03/09 FJ: To know the rules for sponsoring and advertisement at the World Games 2005.

8. Promotion

Several items were discussed at the meeting. Advertisement of our sport is vital to gain access to the media. Beside the federations, the ICF is responsible to work hard on publishing over the sport.

We decide to actively ask the organizers of international events, on the calendar or not, to inform the committee. We will search for or launch a platform where the calendar will be exposed. After the tournament a report with a maximum number of words must be received. A format will be proposed. Information is needed on the type of competition, highlights and a report on the grand final, results lists etc. Also photo's distinguished for the individual competition are required.

On a monthly base the information is compiled and emailed to all national federations and their canoe polo committee chairman, their team-leaders; the ICF board members, committee members, and is published on the ICF website.

Jon proposed the renewal of the website. The websites now on the internet are more dynamic and easier to renew. A new format can bring the website back to an appreciated one. The renewal will bring new costs. Jon will make a proposal.

The www.canoeicf.com website has *not enough information on canoe polo*. All members are urgently asked to fill in detailed information for the website. Think about photo's and video parts for the archive as well!

CP 03/10 JB/GS: Find or prepare a platform for the information and make a format for organizers how to give the information for the platform.

CP 03/11 JB: Make a proposal for the renewal of the website.

9. International Referees

The course held in Malaysia proved to be successful and therefore worthwhile. Out of 19 candidates, of several federations, 4 passed and are ICF qualified.

The CPC thanked Tom Colton and Carmel Vekins for their fine work.

9.1 Grading

We have in this moment in time 60 ICF qualified referees. Last meeting the CPC decided to make a proposal to grade the referees in A/B/C level. Invitations for referees need to go through the national federation involved.

Carmel proposed the three levels.

A: Very high skilled referees; consistently fair and always of a high standard. Allows for a free flowing game with excellent control.

B: High standard referees; consistently fair, moving towards a high standard. Reads a match well, and has good control.

C: Top level in their own country system ideally. Satisfactory control and consistency.

The levels will be reached through assessments. The assessment-sheets will renewed. Carmel proposed a system where the referee gets a copy of the assessment-sheet. This is approved by the committee.

9.2 Examinations

Examinations will be both in writing and practical. The written examination can be transferred in an oral examination in one of the three ICF languages.

9.3 Questionnaire

The questionnaire for referees is still being answered on. When Carmel has them all she will inform the committee on the thoughts of the referees regarding their ICF qualification and work as an ICF qualified referee.

CP 03/12 CV: To make new assessment-sheets and inform the referees about grading by a news-letter. Make an information sheet for the website on these items.

10. Referee Advisory Panel

The canoe polo rules are still very large. It seems that there are possibilities to change the rules by deleting (sub)-paragraphs. The CPC asks the RAP to come forward with a proposal to delete at least 20 rules.

CP 03/12 CV: To ask the RAP to make a proposal in deleting 20 rules.

11. Referee Assessors

The number of assessors is rising. We appointed Greg Smale what brings the total to 16. Carmel will, true the national federations ask for two more assessors.

12. International Coaching Course

The first ICC was held in Malaysia. Greg, Dominique and Dave Sanders (member of the British golden team 2002) conducted a course that was visited by 39 persons from various Asian federations. Both coaches and tutors were enthusiastic about the course and the level it reached.

The ICF CPC thanks Dave, Greg and Dominique for their hard work done.

Greg proposed the next course to be in Sweden. In combination with multiple European countries around Sweden this course is necessary to develop that part of the Europe into canoe polo.

13. Asian Canoe Confederation

During the meeting Mr. Ghalamsiah pointed out to the ICF CPC that the national federations of Asia needs to be developed in canoe polo. The ACC's president Mr. Wu Wen-Ta has provided many federations with canoe polo kayaks. The ICF CPC queried the plan behind the distribution in terms of development programs, thinking on getting competitors, coaches, trainers, referees, competition etc.

Mr. Ghalamsiah explained that the ACC wants to split Asia into three zone's. Western-Asia with the Iran being the central point; Mid-Asia with India and East-Asia with Japan. Each region has its own needs. The central part needs to be developed from none without a strong base. The Western part can be developed with Iran being a strong base point. Eastern Asia has more than one strong access point. Their needs are to reach a higher level.

The ICF agreed with Mr. Ghalamsiah that development is beneficial for both ICF and ACC. The plan behind the development, including the needs will be written by the ACC. The ICF CPC will try their best to support wherever needed.

14. Canoe Polo Rules

The new rulebooks, valid from 1-1-2003 are ready to be distributed. It seems that the web-site needs an up-date on the rules. The next possibility to change the rules will be in the beginning of 2005.

CP 03/13 FJ/JP: Ensure the correct rules valid from 1-1-2003 are on the website.

15. Next Meeting

15.1 October 2003

The coming meeting will be held in Madrid, Spain. The exact dates will follow after contacting ICF HQ.

16. Closing

The meetings were spread out due to obligations to the organizers. Next to the opening of the tournament by the prime-minister and a 45 minutes discussion with the Minister of Sport and Youth, the CPC participated in visiting the planned racing course, slalom course and canoe polo course and advised the architects on the needs for these courses.

The members were thanked for their participation and be wished a pleasant journey home.

Obdam, February 16th, 2003.

Frits Jager

17. ACTIONLIST

17.1 All members

- CP 03/04 ALL: Define rules for challenging.
- CP 03/05 ALL: Define the allocating rules for U-21 teams categories at the Worlds.

17.2 Frits Jager

- CP 03/02 JB/FJ: To prepare a manual for the committee related to procedures towards the competition at the World Canoe Polo Championships
- CP 03/03 FJ: Propose the board to agree with the numbers for competing federations at the Worlds second round.
- CP 03/06 FJ: Explain the board what and how problems round the World Canoe Polo Championships have been solved and make presentation for the board. After the board meeting publish the new system to the national federations.
- CP 03/07 FJ: Prepare a letter to invite teams to come to the World Games 2005
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- CP 03/13 FJ/JB: Ensure the correct rules valid from 1-1-2003 are on the website.

17.3 Jon Bisset

- CP 03/01 JB: renews the manual on World Canoe Polo Championships before 1-4-2003. Distribute it to ICF President, HQ, CPC, organizers 2004 and 2006 World Canoe Polo Championships.
- CP 03/02 JB/FJ: To prepare a manual for the committee related to procedures towards the competition at the World Canoe Polo Championships
- CP 03/10 JB/GS: Find or prepare a platform for the information and make a format for organizers how to give the information for the platform.
- CP 03/11 JB: Make a proposal for the renewal of the website.
- CP 03/13 FJ/JB: Ensure the correct rules valid from 1-1-2003 are on the website.

17.4 Greg Smale

- CP 03/10 JB/GS: Find or prepare a platform for the information and make a format for organizers how to give the information for the platform.

17.5 Carmel Vekins

- CP 03/12 CV: To make new assessment-sheets and inform the referees about grading by news-letter. Make an information sheet for the website on these items.