



GENERAL INFORMATION ON PARACANOEING DEVELOPMENT, EVENTS AND PARTICIPATION IN THE World Championships 2011 SZEGED

Introduction

The ICF, together with the International Va'a Federation (IVF) launched the Paracanoeing development programme to expand the sport of canoeing to the worldwide community of persons with a disability in 2009. The sport of Canoeing discipline gives opportunities to people with various physical impairments at club, regional, national and international levels to enrich the lives of all paddlers through this program. Athletes with Intellectual Disabilities are not included in the Paracanoe programme at this time.

In December of 2010, the International Paralympic Committee accepted Paracanoeing into the 2016 Paralympic Games. The IPC has a number of recommendations to the ICF in order to bring it into full compliance with the IPC programme. The ICF is working on these recommendations going forward.

GOALS for 2011

Achieve more than 28 Federations participating in the Paracanoe events at the 2011 World Canoe Sprint Championships in SZEGED.

In 2010, 28 ICF Federations sent Paracanoe athletes to compete at the World Championships. Sixty-Seven paracanoeists attended. The level of competition was quite high. We need to better our 2010 achievement to show progress to the IPC. This goal is entirely reasonable given the new Paralympic profile for paracanoeing and based upon the many indications of new federations participating.

INFORMATION FOR THE 2011 WORLD CANOE SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIPS

At the World Championships in Szeged 2011 there will be four 200 meter singles events:

MEN	WOMEN
K-1 (kayak)	K-1 (kayak)
V-1 (canoe)	V-1 (canoe)

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- a) Races will be organized for the three categories within each event
- b) The categories: 'LTA', 'TA' and 'A' category athletes may enter each event.
- c) Medals/Awards will be given for each category within each event.
- d) Minimum 6 competing national federations required for each category in order for it to be a valid World Championship. This permits a maximum number of athletes/categories while not increasing the number of events on the program
- e) One athlete per country may enter each event and category.
- f) The K-1 boats will be supplied by the ICF for those who have not own boats. NELO has made a generous sponsorship of K-1's for the event.
- g) V-1 boats should be independently arranged by National Federations. The ICF and IVF are working to find V-1 boats to provide for competitors. Only Pola Albatrosses are available at this time.
- h) National Federations need to make room reservations in Szeged via the Org. Comm. or request the ICF for assistance
- i) The athletes can arrive with their National Team in Szeged any time in the case the expenses will be covered by the NF. This needs to be communicated to the Org. Comm.
- j) The Paracanoe Heats are scheduled for Wednesday Aug. 17th and the Finals will take place on Thursday, Aug. 18th
- k) Paracanoe athletes who need to be classified need to arrive no later than Sunday, August 14th.
- l) The classification of paracanoe athletes will occur on Monday, Aug.15 and Tuesday, Aug. 16th.
- m) Those athletes whose participation will be financially supported by the ICF shall arrive in Szeged on 14 August and leave on 19th Aug. 2011.

Paracanoe Schedule in Szeged for 2011 World Championships							
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AM	Athlete & Classifier Arrivals	Classification/ Practice	Classification/ Practice			Athlete Departures	Classifier Departures
PM		Classification/ Practice	Classification/ Practice	HEATS	FINALS	Classifiers Debrief	

TRAINING CAMP before World Championships

The Hungarian Canoe Federation offers the opportunity for Paracanoeing athletes and teams to have a training camp before the World Championships in Dunavarsany (26 km from Budapest, which is a National Training Center) where also will be a training camp for the international Talent Identification Programme, and Women in Canoeing Development Programme. The cost will be 35 Euros/day per athlete. Federations should contact the Organizing Committee for further information or to make reservations.

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**ICF Paracanoe
BOAT STANDARDS
(Rev. January, 2011(3))**

General Notes:

1. Modifications are permitted for stability if the boat is made slower. (ie. stabilizing pontoons)
2. Adaptation equipment is not regulated. It is included as part of the weight of the boat if it is securely attached.

K-1

Maximum Length	520 cm.
Minimum Width	50 cm. (measured 10cm from the bottom of the hull)
Minimum Weight	12 kg.

K-2

Maximum Length	650 cm.
Minimum Width	47 cm. (measured 10cm from the bottom of the hull)
Minimum Weight	18 kg.

V-1

Maximum Length	730 cm
Minimum Weight	13 kg.

V-1 Ama (pontoon)

Maximum Length	See note 1 below
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V-2

Maximum Length	850cm
Minimum Weight	18 kg.

V-2 Ama (pontoon)

Maximum Length	See note 1 below
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Va'a Notes:

1. The va'a shall be a single hull va'a, rigged with a single ama (outrigger pontoon) and double 'iako (spreaders), separated by at least one (1) seat.
2. A.) The hull, ama and 'iako must meet the specifications set forth above.
B) When the event host is not providing a set of identical V1 or V2 for the event, the hull, ama and 'iako must meet the specifications set forth above.
3. Para Va'a equipment such as a support seat must be removable. The paddler may supply his/her own equipment as approved by the IVF Para Va'a Committee Chair.
4. Either sit-in or sit-on-top va'a may be used; however, the sit-in va'a is recommended.
5. The ama will be attached on the left side, but must be able to be attached on the right side to accommodate paddler needs as approved by the IVF Para Va'a Committee Chair.
6. Rudders are not permitted.

CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

SPORT CLASSIFICATIONS

ICF recognizes three (3) sport classes for PaddleAbility: **LTA, TA, A.**

The International Va'a Federation (IVF) recognizes six (6) sport classes. The following classifications blend the two classification systems.

NOTE: Minor refinements are being worked upon with a need to better align the IVF and the ICF Systems, to ensure alignment with IPC standards and to ensure appropriate specific canoeing standards

LTA (IVF 5 & 6 Point Paddler)

The LTA class is for paddlers with a disability who have functional use of their legs, trunk and arms for paddling, and who can apply force to the foot board or the seat to propel the boat. Eligible LTA paddlers may typically have a minimum disability equivalent to one of the following:

- Amputee
- Neurological Impairment equivalent to incomplete lesion at S1
- Cerebral Palsy Class 8 (CPISRA)

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LTA paddlers must meet minimum disability requirements:

LTA - The minimum physical disability is a full loss of three fingers on one hand, or at least a tarsal metatarsal amputation of the foot, or the loss of ten points on one limb or fifteen points across two limbs when assessed using the Functional Classification Test as set out in the *Classification Application Form for Physical Disabilities and the ICF Classifiers Instructors Manual*.

TA (IVF 4 Point Paddler)

The TA class is for paddlers who have functional use of the trunk and arms. They are unable to apply continuous and controlled force to the footboard or seat to propel the boat due to significantly weakened function of the lower limbs.

Eligible TA paddlers may typically have a minimum disability equivalent to at least one of the following:

- Bilateral around knee amputation, or significantly impaired quadriceps, or
- Neurological impairment equivalent to a complete lesion at L3 level, or an incomplete lesion at L1, or
- Combination of the above such as one leg with around knee amputation and one leg with significant quadriceps impairment; or
- Classification by the international sports federation for paddlers with cerebral palsy (CPISRA) as eligible to be in CP Class 5.

A (IVF 1 – 3 Point Paddler)

The A class is for paddlers who have no trunk function (i.e. shoulder function only). An A class paddler is able to apply force predominantly using the arms and/or

shoulders. These athletes will likely also have poor sitting balance. Eligible paddlers may typically have a minimum disability equivalent to at least one of the

following:

- Cerebral Palsy Class 4 (CP-ISRA); or
- Neurological Impairment with a complete lesion at T12 level, or an incomplete lesion at T10.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- Special 'O' World Games (2011 - Athens, Greece): Canoeing (K-1) is on the competition program. Federations need to contact their national Special 'O' committees to gain access to the competition.

CLASSIFIER TRAINING

- Classifier Training
 - Pan America: Brazil, May, 2011
 - World Championships: Szeged August, 2011
 - Asia: Asian Canoe Championships, Tehran, October 2011
- Individuals interested in becoming an ICF Paracanoe Classifier must be recommended by their national canoe federation. Recommendations must be accompanied by a resume and should be sent to:
 - John Edwards at jhedwards@canoekayak.ca and
 - Julie Lowe at newark.4a@ntlworld.com

ATHLETE CLASSIFICATION

- Database is developed.

SAFETY

- Safety Protocol established. Needs to be published.
- Training of Safety Personnel to be developed and piloted.
- Personal Flotation Device (PFD) (life jacket) policy developed.

PRIVACY ISSUES

- Privacy Protocol policy developed.

PARACANOEING: 2012 and Beyond

A 2012 ParaCanoeing World Championship to be organized in conjunction with one of the Canoe Sprint World Cups.

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FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT:

John Edwards, Chairman jhedwards@canoekayak.ca
or

Csaba Szanto ICF Technical Expert csaba.szanto@canoeicf.com

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