

INTERNATIONAL CANOE FEDERATION (ICF)

ORDINARY CONGRESS

MINUTES OF THE
XXXVII ICF ORDINARY CONGRESS
HELD IN BUDAPEST, HUNGARY
23 & 24 NOVEMBER 2018





Minutes

Opening of the Congress

The ICF President welcomed representatives of rafting and waveski, and congratulated the European Canoe Association on reaching its 25th birthday.

The President introduced Hungarian NOC Secretary-General and ICF Official Photographer, Balint Vekassy, who made a welcoming speech.

"We have passed the halfway mark from Rio to Tokyo," Vekassy told the Congress. "Not sure many of you familiar about slogan of Tokyo – Unity and Diversity. We are very fortunate to have this in all our disciplines. The diversity is a strength. It is what we represent in the world of sport. There are not too many sports who have this kind of advantage."

"Three E's – entertain, engage and excite. If we can achieve this, we are done with the most difficult aspects of our sport."

Roll-call of delegates and establishing of the Quorum

Roll-call and Quorum was accepted.

Approval of the minutes of the 2016 ICF Congress

The minutes of extraordinary and ordinary Congress in Baku passed unanimously.

Vote on 2016 Congress Minutes	
Ballot	Votes
YES	61
NO	0
ABSTAIN	2
MOTION CARRIED	

Appointment of scrutineers for the period of the Congress

Scrutineers were accepted.

President's Report

Canoeing was well received in the YOG 2018. Thank you Cecilia Farias for her work on the project. Thank you Mr Narita for his work towards Tokyo 2020. For Paris 2024 as the President is Tony Estanguet the situation looks good for Canoeing.

Thank you to the two Korean Federations for working together to bring both Koreas together for the dragon boat event at this year's Asian Games.

Masters Games – In Osaka they are expecting 30,000 athletes of which 2000 will be canoeing.

Va'a category was added for Paralympic Games as part of Paracanoe in Tokyo 2020.

Canoe can be perceived to be in its best position in its history. But for the future we have to innovate and continue to develop the sport.

The Canoe Sprint Super Cup events in China and Russia in 2018 were perfect for showcasing Canoeing because they were in the middle of the city and attracted large tv audiences.

We must work together to develop the sport and ensure the future of the ICF is guaranteed.

Secretary General Report

Thank you to the ICF Congress for allowing an increase in the size of ICF staff. It has made a big difference. For a small Federation we punch a lot higher than we should. We have a good reputation internationally. We now have 10 staff up from five.

The ICF achieved some significant milestones in the last two years. We had a large IOC grant for the world YOG qualifier in Barcelona and the Super Cup was a new inclusion to our calendar.



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We've worked closely with the athletes committee and have regular meetings with the athletes at World Cups and World Championships.

The World Championships have been a great success. The media exposure for past two years has been very high, a lot of broadcasters taking our coverage. We have more than 160 countries that have shown the highlights.

Canoe sprint is the fourth largest Olympic sport ranked on number of participants.

Innovation has been a focus recently – sport presentation needed to be looked at. We brought in several new changes at events. A lot more involvement with television, green screens, drones, and the celebration pontoon.

The financial outlook for the next eight years is very solid and very secure. No problems in the near future. The ICF is looking at different revenue streams. One is a recreational canoeing platform.

Governance – The statute changes at this Congress will hopefully solidify our position and are important changes for the ICF to advance as a transparent and accountable Federation.

Television – we have an EBU contract until the end of 2020. We have concluded a two-year contract with Eurosport showing every single world cup over the next two years.

6. Reports by Vice Presidents

Tony Estanguet

I believe our sport is going well. I'm impressed by the efforts being made on a daily basis to improve our sport. Congratulations to the Chairs of the disciplines.

My focus is on trying to create synergies among the Olympic family.

First challenge – Engage with the Olympic family and to better engage with the audience. TV coverage over past 20 years, there is an increase in the age of the tv audience. We have to be more appealing, more spectacular and more fun for the youth.

Second challenge – how to better place the athletes within the movement. Many issues regarding doping, corruption, different problems with the sports movement. Within our organisation we will address the place of athletes and better engage with them.

The YOG – I have been impressed by our presence and our product and the improvement of our athletes. We had 16 different countries winning medals from five different continents.

Innovation – We have to demonstrate that canoeing is fast in bringing in change and remaining flexible. It is not always easy, but it will reem benefits. I take the example of slalom, and a lot of efforts made in explaining penalties for the audience.

Extreme canoe – We decided two years ago to add this new event. We have had three world championships, the idea is to showcase the sport more widely, introduce new audience. It is connected to recreational boat market, anyone can use and buy these boats.

The challenge is to make extreme slalom more spectacular. We have to get people easily in and out of the gates. We have to have drama, we have to accept that in this new event we put everything in place to have confrontation and contact.

I know the sport can change lives. My life has changed because of sport. The values that you develop on a daily basis regarding respecting the environment, others, health – there is a responsibility to educate our youth not just to become champions, but to become citizens and leaders.



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Cecilia Farias

In Lima we incorporated extreme slalom, and before we introduced women events. It requires courage to move forward.

We worked hard at YOG. We went beyond our expectations. We planned to take the sport to the people, not the people to the sport. We had 1 million spectators. The YOG format for canoe is very important.

Diversity and Inclusion Commission – we were invited by ASOIF to take part in the women in leadership seminar. Great to see so many women at our Congress too.

I deliver many judges seminars. I also delivered a seminar on women in wrestling. It was an incredible experience. Gender equality affects all sports with the same sort of problem.

One future project is to work on sexual harassment and abuse in our sport. We need to develop tools to deal with this, and we have to promote awareness.

Thomas Konietzko

Incredibly successful year for all flatwater disciplines. We were very innovative. We tried to put our athletes more in the focus of the public. We tried new formats, now it is up to our experts to evaluate what was successful.

We exchanged views with NF's, athletes and manufacturers. Our athletes need to be able to plan and have security, and to know we are not planning to change too much.

We are looking to upgrade our traditional World Cups. We want to make participation more attractive, introduce additional competitions. We introduced the Super Cup with great success.

Dragon boat – We met twice with the International Dragon Boat Federation. We still cannot find an agreement for governance of the sport.

Joint Korean dragonboat team – it was successful, they won the first gold medal together at Asian Games.

Marathon – It will be included in the World Games in 2021.

SUP – We organised two ECA Cups in SUP, one European Championships, and some international SUP events in 2018. Discussion with athletes and manufacturers has not been easy. But in the past two years we gained a lot of credibility among the SUP community.

But unfortunately we could not have a World Championships. ISA did everything to stop this event, and Portuguese SUP Federation legally blocked the World Championships.

We are working on a 2019 World Championships and hope to be able to announce it soon.

Paris 2024 presentation – Tony Estanguet

We built our project on two main pillars. An inspiring celebration and providing a legacy. We promise a stage to give athletes the best chance to prepare and perform.

Canoeing – for first time since Beijing, our disciplines will be located in one venue. Everything is on track to welcome you straight after Tokyo 2020. French Federation already relocated its headquarters so it is a good sign of preparation.

Olympic and Paralympic week at schools in France – it has enabled us to introduce Olympic and Paralympic values to more than 2 million children.

Reports by Chairs of Standing Committees

Canoe Sprint – Frank Garner

Martin Marinov has brought added value and activity to our work.



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The IOC have told us they like our program, they think it is balanced. But we want stability.

We have tried portages, figure 8's, relays as new events. We will continue to try things, such as, mixed events.

Collaboration has been exciting. We met with athletes, boat builders – involving as many stakeholders as we can. We know we have to improve our sport presentation. We have to make it simple. The new start procedure has been wonderful – showcasing our athletes.

Special formats is our future, to meet our city requirements. We need to adapt to what a city can provide us. We need to create a show.

We will have mixed C2 and mixed K2 at World Cups this year, and will continue to work on long distance.

We are trying to settle the competition schedule by the end of the year so teams can prepare well in advance for the upcoming season.

Canoe Slalom – Jean Michel-Prono

We have been promoting change in the entry rules at ICF ranking to have more athletes. NFs engage more with our discipline, engage more in women's event at this level.

We have worked on a consistent world competition schedule. There is no change now in schedules.

Results management – we committed to delivering results quicker and safer. Thanks to smartphone, every judge has a device that allows them to input directly from their device directly into timing scoring system.

Ivrea Junior World Championships extremely successful in participation, but only one continent won medals. So there is room for other continents to improve.

Sport presentation – we have to engage better with general public. For Pau – two TV networks showed extreme slalom, in Rio it was 10 companies. Interest is high for this event.

Olympics – Moving from five to six days of competition. We want to extend the use of the venue and more chance for promotion through more TV coverage.

YOG Qualification Event was a success thanks to the Spanish Federation, who jumped in from scratch. 260 participants for 64 quotas and 61 NOC's competed.

Three continent program – new source of funding from the IOC. We use this funding to help organising capacity for future events. We hope to have three whitewater disciplines mixed at continental events. Shorter schedule, with modified rules for entry.

Equipment development – competition for electronic gates is still progressing. We are working to show the penalty on the poles so public can see what happens. We are reviewing the standard of equipment such as helmet design for extreme slalom.

IOC presentation – Rachel Spry

Increased IOC analysis of events at Olympic Games. We will compare every aspect of canoeing – spectators, cost, popularity etc.

In Tokyo there will be 10,616 athletes plus new sport, maximum 310 events. By Paris we want 10,500, so reduce numbers by more than 500. Big thank you to ICF for gender equality in canoe. Technical officials and coaches – striving to have 50-50 in Tokyo 2020.

Timeline for announcing Olympic events has been moved forward – seven years out decisions will be made on what sports are on the program, five years out organisers can add additional sports, four years out program released.



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Dakar YOG – We have committed to not building any new venues. We are debriefing with Federations from Buenos Aires, and next year we'll look at what venues are available. March 2019 the Dakar 2022 program will be released.

Paris 2024 – discussing new norm with IF's. End of 2019 questionnaire will be sent to IF's, they have to submit list of which events they want on the Paris 2024 program.

Harassment and abuse in sport has been a big focus in recent years.

Governance – transparent elections and have good succession planning imperative for International Federations.

Tokyo 2020 presentation

11 km to slalom venue, 10 km to sprint venue from athlete village. About 20 minutes travel time. Average daily temperature about 30 degrees.

SLALOM: Two events before Olympic Games. Elimination event 18-20 October and test event 25-27 October 2019. Eight training periods of training with 60 days of training.

Expect completion of course end of May 2019. Olympic venue will be open on 4 July 2019. Training starts from 15-24 July.

CANOE SPRINT/PARACANOE: Sea Forest waterway – this will be a permanent venue. Construction completed by end of May 2019. To eliminate waves and keep water levels the same we have two dams constructed. The pumps work to keep salt water consistent after dams closed. Three rows of special wave absorber – six kilometres in length.

Test event will be 12-15th September. Venue open three days before start of event.

Discussions and Resolutions on the proposals submitted by NFs, ExCo and BoD

Vote on Guinea and Dominica membership	
Ballot	Votes
YES	62
NO	3
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	

USA – we've been in long discussions with representatives. The previous organisation disbanded and became American Canoe Association. Now they've changed to a new direction under leadership of ACA.

Two days ago they declined to come to congress, and lost their high performance director. The ICF Board is not comfortable approving ACA as a full member as they don't meet development criteria. We need a strong home organisation because of LA 2028. Keep provisional membership in place and ICF work with COPAC, USOC and ACA to have a high level structure in USA.

Vote on continued affiliation of USA as provisional member	
Ballot	Votes
YES	58
NO	5
ABSTAIN	3
MOTION CARRIED	

Approval of ICF Financial accounts 2016-18	
Ballot	Votes
YES	58
NO	3
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	

Approval of ICF budget	
Ballot	Votes
YES	57
NO	3
ABSTAIN	2
MOTION CARRIED	



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British Canoe: Article 31 – ICF executive committee can be convened to act as finance committee. Strong argument for a clear defined finance committee to be created within ICF. Can't agree with Executive Committee acting as finance committee. Our recommendation is Finance Committee needs to be established.

ICF Board agreed to draft new rules, will be completed in 2019.

Article 1.4 – insert International Para Committee recognition into statutes.

Insert International Paralympic Committee recognition	
Ballot	Votes
YES	65
NO	0
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	

British Canoeing: Our view is topics should be clearly defined and circulated beforehand for discussion, rather than put business on the table at Congress at no notice.

Vote on detailed responsibilities of congress	
Ballot	Votes
YES	59
NO	4
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	

British Canoe: We feel its not correct to say 'female' representative. To have fair balance Statutes should say both genders should be represented.

ICF: Some wording needs to be amended. The current wording is a result of historic battle of women in ICF trying to get recognised. It was written for a way to open the way for more women to be included. We are in position of transition at the moment.

British Canoe: We are happy to withdraw amendment on gender wording for the time being.

SWEDEN: This is a democratic issue. We think the people here should be allowed to vote, and should not be allowed to have proxy vote. For us in Sweden it is a democratic issue.

Voting without representation in person is not permitted	
Ballot	Votes
YES	34
NO	30
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION LOST	

ICF Board proposed minimum 12 years of service to be honorary member.

Vote on 12 years of service to become honorary member	
Ballot	Votes
YES	61
NO	2
ABSTAIN	2
MOTION CARRIED	

Board member of two positions must resign one position	
Ballot	Votes
YES	61
NO	2
ABSTAIN	2
MOTION CARRIED	

ICF required clarification of responsibility of disciplinary measures by ICF Board and Executive Committee.



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Clarification of responsibility of disciplinary measures	
Ballot	Votes
YES	61
NO	2
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	

Duties of ICF Ethics Commission	
Ballot	Votes
YES	65
NO	1
ABSTAIN	0
MOTION CARRIED	

ICF noted there had been discussions about changing U23 to U21. The ICF Board agreed not to bring the issue to Congress yet as requires further analysis. We will work to bring to Congress in 2020.

Proposal to define levels of competition for all disciplines.

Define levels of competition	
Ballot	Votes
YES	59
NO	3
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	

Proposal to add individual entries to events directly by the ICF. This is to cover Masters, SUP etc where National Federations not directly involved. Gives the ability to be more flexible so we can add more competitors for events.

ICF highlighted that it affects only level four in slalom, level three in sprint competitions. Gives ICF scope to widen participation. We do not allow individual entries in World Championships and World Cups.

SPAIN: Raised the issue of insurance for athletes and who has responsibility for them.

PORTUGAL: Concern national license will be lost as will nominate directly to ICF.

FRANCE: Agreed with the ICF proposal.

TAHITI: I totally disagree. It is very dangerous for the safety of the paddler. Who is in charge if there is a problem.

PRESIDENT: We have three clear levels in our International events. We need to attract 1000's of competitors around the world that are not currently affiliated to National Federations.

DENMARK: We need to help organisers and Federations. We have to approve this proposal because will help popularity of sport.

BELGIUM: Problem with clubs – we have cities that arrange marathons, most participants can enter themselves without any control. They don't need to be a member of any club or nation.

INDIA: The list should go through Federations only.

ICF confirmed that the proposal would not touch current National Federation responsibilities. ICF proposal concerns lowest level of competition or newer disciplines where national teams not required. For example Masters – we don't want to put the pressure on National Federations to have to put together a team.

INDIA: If you start at a low level, it will increase. As long as ICF organises any event, it has to go through the Federation.

ICF stated it is already working in canoe slalom competition, clubs/athletes can already enter individually for lower class competitions.

AUSTRALIA: You've added a lot more detail than what we have been asked to vote on. It is important that entries into event need to be members of an affiliated organisation. This



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clause relates to the right to participate in the event, not who has the right to enter.

BELIZE: We have had problems over entries – why does ICF want the NF's to approve lists of athletes for this level of events?

ICF confirm NFs can always object to an athlete competing with a suitable explanation.

British Canoe: A lot of people here agree with the principal but needs rewording.

NETHERLANDS: Why not simplify proposal – stating individuals has right to enter a level 3 or level 4 competition for a discipline or specifically nominated events (Eg. SUP).

ICF will individually write the level of competition for international level three and four plus specify Masters and SUP events for individual entries

Add individual entries for events directly by the ICF	
Ballot	Votes
YES	39
NO	19
ABSTAIN	4
MOTION CARRIED	

ICF stated small anomaly in the Sporting nationality change – junior athletes. Under current situation parents move country, but the juniors would not be able to compete for new country.

Amendment of sporting nationality rule	
Ballot	Votes
YES	62
NO	0
ABSTAIN	6
MOTION CARRIED	

Update entries procedure	
Ballot	Votes
YES	56
NO	4
ABSTAIN	0
MOTION CARRIED	

Late entries policy – ICF to charge a 20 Euro fee for a late entry to discourage the large amount of late entries at ICF competitions.

Late entries policy	
Ballot	Votes
YES	54
NO	7
ABSTAIN	0
MOTION CARRIED	

Proposal to add non-Olympic World Championships in Olympic Years. It is not compulsory but gives ICF flexibility to organise if demand is there from National Federations.

Add non-Olympic World Championships in Olympic years	
Ballot	Votes
YES	58
NO	4
ABSTAIN	2
MOTION CARRIED	

List of possible events for the World Championships	
Ballot	Votes
YES	51
NO	3
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	



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Program for junior and U23 decided by ICF Board	
Ballot	Votes
YES	57
NO	7
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	

Schedule and approval of World Championships announced one year before the event	
Ballot	Votes
YES	63
NO	1
ABSTAIN	0
MOTION CARRIED	

Proposal to have official World Ranking system for Canoe Sprint.

Vote on ICF canoe sprint world ranking system	
Ballot	Votes
YES	60
NO	3
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	

Update of competition calendar process	
Ballot	Votes
YES	61
NO	1
ABSTAIN	0
MOTION CARRIED	

Make anti-doping education program compulsory for all athletes in all disciplines.

Make anti-doping education program compulsory for all athletes	
Ballot	Votes
YES	59
NO	1
ABSTAIN	0
MOTION CARRIED	

Create Masters World Championships in each discipline.

Create Masters World Championships in each discipline	
Ballot	Votes
YES	61
NO	2
ABSTAIN	0
MOTION CARRIED	

One overall nations cup at World Championships – just provide one trophy.

Reduce to one overall nation cup per World Championships	
Ballot	Votes
YES	57
NO	3
ABSTAIN	2
MOTION CARRIED	

Marathon World Championships add K1 and C1 for men and women over short distance	
Ballot	Votes
YES	49
NO	4
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	



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Proposal to reduce number of jury members from 5 to 3.

Reduce jury at world championships from 5 to 3 members	
Ballot	Votes
YES	62
NO	0
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	

Change of number of continents hosting wildwater world cups	
Ballot	Votes
YES	59
NO	2
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	

DRAGON BOAT – Change one athlete one club rule

One athlete one club in club world championships	
Ballot	Votes
YES	59
NO	0
ABSTAIN	3
MOTION CARRIED	

Define 10-seater and 20-seater events.

Define 10-seater and 20-seater events	
Ballot	Votes
YES	60
NO	1
ABSTAIN	3
MOTION CARRIED	

Limit one team for World Championships, five clubs per nation.

Limit one per team per world championships, five clubs per nation	
Ballot	Votes
YES	58
NO	2
ABSTAIN	4
MOTION CARRIED	

OCEAN RACING

Ocean Racing Chair: The idea is in the younger classes of ocean racing, there are not so many Junior, women and U23, we are having trouble reaching the number of country quotas. New temporary rule to be four federations and two continents.

PRESIDENT: The standard rule is three continents and six federations. This reduction is not positive for ocean racing. Maybe have a temporary change until next Congress.

SPAIN: If not lower the threshold numbers we won't have an international competition.

For junior classes need four federations to be a valid event from two continents	
Ballot	Votes
YES	42
NO	15
ABSTAIN	2
MOTION CARRIED	

Accept that doping cases from national anti-doping agencies can be counted for sanctions	
Ballot	Votes
YES	56
NO	1
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	

ICF propose a new layout for ICF Technical Rules. There would be three levels of rules.



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First level is applicable to all Federations. Second level – universal, but can be tailor made for each discipline. Third level – ICF sport rules solely applicable to each discipline.

First level – Rules made by Board/National Federation and vote by Congress. For second level, Congress gives direction and Board finalises wording. Third level – technical committee and national federation make rules, decided at ICF Board level. The proposal hopefully improves clarity of rules and make more logical order in the formatting of the rule books.

British Canoe: Current system difficult to understand, so changes would be welcome and seem logical. Concern is around middle group – would some of those decisions fall out of Congress and go to lower level, so no real input at Congress? Statutes in future should clearly define consultation process.

DENMARK: We strongly support these changes, but we need to make sure Congress still has a voice. If we remove Congress rights, we run the risk of not getting quorum.

ICF assures that Congress will remain the ultimate body and the new structure clearly identifies Congress input in rule changes for the sport without any weakening of the role of Congress.

Change to three levels of new rule definitions	
Ballot	Votes
YES	59
NO	2
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	

All ICF technical rule books to be published in new format	
Ballot	Votes
YES	60
NO	2
ABSTAIN	0
MOTION CARRIED	

Canoe Sprint

We are going to allow weed deflectors on rudders. It was a provisional rule, now it will be formal rule.

We've updated the duties of ITO's; trying to speed up boat control and have self regulating weight control before races.

Canoe Slalom

At each Olympic Games we have discussion with organising committee regarding course configuration. This will be completed by ICF two months before the opening of the Olympic Village.

Canoe Polo

Penalty cards – Three cards across the team, the fourth gets a yellow to calm things down. Penalty will be a maximum of two minutes.

Presentation of the Continental Reports

Africa

There were 53 NOC in Africa of which 35 were ICF members. Potential to grow further exists.

Americas

From next year COPAC will have ocean racing Championships. Also Pan American Games in Lima 2019 with sprint, slalom and maybe ocean racing. Asuncion 2022 South American Games, slalom will be introduced for first time.

In 2023 in Santiago, slalom will be included in PanAm and we are also hoping to have Paracanoe in 2023 Paracanoe Panams.

Asia

Big change in Asian Games was having dragon boat as a discipline, and also had canoe polo as a demonstration sport. We had five additional events in dragon boat, and two



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in polo, so canoeing is getting bigger in Asian Games.

The co-operation between South Korea and DP Korea was fantastic, and they won a dragon boat gold medal. There were more than 30 media companies there to cover the event.

For 2021 Masters Games, we have more disciplines than we have in the Olympics. We hope to have more athletes competing.

Europe

We were unable to convince IOC to have European Games included in Olympic Qualification, and it cost us 25,000.

Oceania

Acknowledge Helen Brownlee. She was a trailblazer for women on our Board. The first woman to serve on ICF Board. She left a significant legacy in the Oceania region.

Pacific Games – we had been given verbal confirmation canoe sprint would be included in 2019 in Samoa, however now not possible. But has been accepted in 2023 in Solomon Islands.

Urge people to visit our region – for ocean racing next year, and U23 and U18 canoe slalom world championships in Auckland.

Athletes Commission

Developing athlete back stories, how that can benefit the sport and bring to attention of public and media. There are powerful messages that can be sent out to the community. Good way for NF's to spread stories.

We will be consulting about the possible change from U23 to U21 rule with athletes. Sport presentation has improved dramatically over the past 12 months.

Athlete surveys would be distributed twice a

year and work to increase the athlete database.

A project was shown to entice companies to get involved in canoeing to promote the wellbeing of athletes and staff.

Reports by Chairs of Standing Committees

WILDWATER

Our primary goal is to grow the sport, simplify the sport. Wildwater canoeing is the easiest discipline, this is our opportunity to grow our sport around the world.

C1 women was incorporated since 2009, C2 women from 2015.

BELGIUM: What is role of WRF and the International Rafting Federation.

The ICF recently realised that there are two rafting organisations. We have an agreement with the World Rafting Federation to work together to develop our sports simultaneously.

MARATHON

We introduced GPS graphics this year which was a big step forward for us.

The number of entries in C1 and C2 is a serious problem.

Next year we will go to China, which will be a big challenge for ICF.

For 2023 we have five nations that want to organise a marathon World Championships. Shows how popular our sport is.

The new World Series next year will give a chance for paddlers at all level.

CANOE POLO

Hope to have left a legacy on east side of Canada following our World Championships. It



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was the fifth edition outside of Europe. Live stream statistics show 1.6 million minutes viewed for one event.

We have sponsorship from Yupin Sports – they helped with World Championships, balls for all World Championships, clothing for referees. We will follow up with coaching and referee training to improve the sport.

FREESTYLE

We have integrated athletes into our committee.

2017 World Championships was challenging but at the end was a very good result. Local government invested US\$500,000 to help and they put together a very good show.

Next year we have World Championships in Sort (ESP). We are working through a tv production deal.

After World Championships we will fix what are the standards we want on tv production and computer production. When we find a company, they will provide the material to the ICF for the next six years.

We want to help each continent. This year a junior athlete from Argentina won a medal, so that is a great success for us. We will run a judging seminar in Oceania.

OCEAN RACING

Ocean racing is a very recent discipline inside the ICF. In six years we have organised three World Championships, continental championships and national championships.

Major concern is the awareness of ocean racing. We have to make people aware of ocean racing, we will try to create a tool to give all the information required. Safety is a major area. Livestreaming and GPS tracking are part of our events to improve understanding.

PARACANOE

Mission was to make paracanoe the most inclusive sport possible. Three more medals will be available in Tokyo 2020, with 90 athletes. It has also been announced Paracanoe will be on the Paris 2024 program. We conducted eight classification workshops. We had the Stockholm conference on the future of paracanoe.

There is a decline in the number of National Federations taking part which is a bit disappointing.

There is more money available, through national Paralympic money. We need to activate this money.

We are targeting to increase women participation. We want to increase number of VL1 athletes, and want to focus on upper limb impairment. Long term plan is to go to 12 events and 120 athletes for Paris, and have upper limb inclusion for Los Angeles, within the 12 event schedule.

DRAGON BOAT

Dragon boat was included in this year's Asian Games. The ICF dragon boat committee had a site inspection in Kiev.

We now have 54 ITO's from more than ten countries. In 2018 Chinese Canoe organised the fifth Asian Dragon Boat Championships and are hosting the first Dragon Boat World Cups in 2019.

The joint Korean team for the Asian Games had just 30 days training as a joint team. The project was successful and may result in further collaboration.

End of this year we will inspect venue for 2020 World Championships in India.

MEDICAL AND ANTI-DOPING

Each year canoeing has about 4000 global doping controls. Blood samples, urine



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samples. Same as judo, rowing, volleyball and triathlon. We have targeted out-of-competition testing – we do about 300 tests and end up with about 500 samples.

Organisers have to budget for more tests and not simply blood and urine. It's very expensive.

We currently have 30 sanctions on the doping sanction list – from old anabolic steroids, to designer drugs of today.

A lot of athletes are concerned playing field is not level and we have to have evolution and hope the next generation returns the moral compass.

Safeguarding athletes from harassment and abuse in sport. This is necessary for IF's and the ICF needs to implement guidelines immediately.

Financial Report

The ICF is on track to finish the financial period in budget.

In accordance with the ICF financial strategy we have chosen conservative and short-term investments. We can expect \$600,000 profit interest for the period 2016-2018.

The ICF currently has reserve assets of approximately 7 million Euros.

SINGAPORE: Why did ICF overspend on TV and legal costs.

SUP legal fees and Court of Arbitration costs were not forecast in the 2016 budget. Broadcasting costs were higher than expected although some revenues are still to be received from broadcasters so should not be such a high deficit at the end of the financial period.

Vote on Treasurer's report	
Ballot	Votes
YES	58
NO	3
ABSTAIN	1
MOTION CARRIED	

STAND UP PADDLING (SUP)

In September 2017 ICF created an SUP committee. The need for structure in SUP is vast. There are events around the world. Majority are private races.

We have a lot of athletes coming from slalom and sprint, doing it competitively for cross-training. It's a natural progression and a good natural addition to the family of the ICF.

The ICF want to hold first ever masters and age group categories.

The legal case over ownership of SUP will be decided by Court of Arbitration in 2019.

ICF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Canoe development – Focus on canoe development generally. Domestic boat production project is being utilised by National Federations.

Support given by ICF development program should be combined with support given at national and continental level.

Some projects were not gender equal. It is important we work hard on this to achieve gender balance.

The TIP camps are open to coaches and athletes, but they are limited. We require more coaches, more boats etc. We often have to limit the numbers because of lack of resources.

One of our objectives is to have participation at ICF events. The ICF builds up relationships with all participants. If there are national



Minutes

federations that request support, we always go back to the continental association for their opinion on the athlete.

We had special projects – one was to regions affected by the hurricanes. Another was the donation of used boats. These projects were useful for the development of the sport.

Used boats initiative – we donated 130 boats.

Coaches education is key to development. For next two years we have training camps, participation in world cups. We are planning to host international coaches conference in canoe sprint.

PHILLIPINES: Since 2015 we have received a lot of emails saying we qualify for boats. When will we receive them? ICF confirmed boats will be sent very soon.

SLALOM: 37 development actions completed. 735 people involved, 5300 days of activity. 22 countries, 4 continents. 45 percent were women. 32 different coaches from 17 different countries.

We have donated 146 boats, 50 paddles and two sets of YOG buoys. Iran has manufactured 40 boats.

ICF Budget 2019 – 2020 Approval

The ICF increased the budget for one full time development manager in the HQ. Additional money for television production as well as yearly inflation costs. Budget increase is approximately 1 million Euros extra from the last two years.

Vote on ICF Budget 2019-2020	
Ballot	Votes
YES	57
NO	3
ABSTAIN	0
MOTION CARRIED	

Awards

Recognition of long-standing members of ICF.

Elly Muller (Netherlands) awarded Order of Merit for lifelong work in canoeing.

Jean-Claude Dethise (Belgium) – Awarded Order of Merit for lifelong work in canoeing.

Otto Bonn (Hungary) – ICF Honorary Member - awarded trophy for lifelong contribution to canoeing.

Helen Brownlee (Australia) – 32 years on ICF board of directors. An inspiration to all of us. Elected as an ICF Honorary member.

Time and place for next Congress

Two applicants to host the next congress – Tunisia and Philippines

Vote on Budapest for Congress	
Ballot	Votes
Tunisia	22
Philippines	39
ABSTAIN	
Philippines awarded next congress	

The ICF President declared the XXXVII ICF Ordinary Congress in Budapest, Hungary, officially closed.