

Tokyo 2020

media guide – canoe slalom



Canoe Slalom



Canoe slalom at the Kasai Canoe Slalom Centre
July 25 – 30, 2021

CANOE SLALOM – A BEGINNER’S GUIDE

The course contains 18–25 gates, each gate comprised of two hanging poles. The downstream gates are coloured green and the upstream gates are red. Competitors must navigate their boat down the course without touching the gate.

As a guide, there will be either six or eight upstream gates.

If the competitor's boat, paddle or body touches either pole of the gate, a time penalty of **two seconds** is added. If the competitor misses a gate, a **50-second** penalty is given. The penalty seconds are then added to the time it took the competitor to complete the course to provide an overall time.

In **kayak**, the competitor is seated and uses a double-bladed paddle, paddling on alternate sides. In **canoe**, the competitor uses a single-bladed paddle and sits with legs bent at the knees and tucked under the body, paddling on either the left or right side.

In the Olympic Games, each competitor completes two runs in the qualification round and the faster time of the two runs gives the qualification result.

The fastest time from the two heats runs for each athlete determines who will progress to the semi-final. The number of athletes in the semi-finals for each event is as follows:

Men’s canoe: 15

Women’s kayak: 24

Women’s canoe: 18

Men’s kayak: 20

The **ten fastest** semi-finalists will compete in the final, and the ranking and the medallists will be determined based on their finals run alone.



FOR MORE INFORMATION AT THE GAMES

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TOKYO 2020 CANOE SLALOM SCHEDULE

Date and Time: Sun 25 July 13:00 - 16:45

Venues: Kasai Canoe Slalom Centre

- Canoe (C1) Men Heats
- Kayak (K1) Women Heats

Date and Time: Mon 26 July 14:00 - 16:45

- Canoe (C1) Men Semi-final
- Canoe (C1) Men Final
- Canoe (C1) Men Victory Ceremony

Date and Time: Tue 27 July 14:00 - 17:00

- Kayak (K1) Women Semi-final
- Kayak (K1) Women Final
- Kayak (K1) Women Victory Ceremony

Date and Time: Wed 28 July 13:00 - 16:45

- Canoe (C1) Women Heats
- Kayak (K1) Men Heats

Date and Time: Thu 29 July 14:00 - 16:45

- Canoe (C1) Women Semi-final
- Canoe (C1) Women Final
- Canoe (C1) Women Victory Ceremony

Date and Time: Fri 30 July 14:00 - 17:00

- Kayak (K1) Men Semi-final
- Kayak (K1) Men Final
- Kayak (K1) Men Victory Ceremony

For the most up to date schedule, please refer to the [Tokyo 2020 website](#)



ATHLETES SELECTED TOKYO 2020 (Refer to [Tokyo 2020 website](#) for updates)

NOC/Event	K1 Men	C1 Men	K1 Women	C1 Women
AND			DORIA VILARRUBLA Monica	DORIA VILARRUBLA Monica
ARG	Lucas ROSSI			
AUS	Lucien Delfour	Daniel Watkins	Jessica Fox	Jessica Fox
AUT	Felix OSCHMAUTZ		Viktoria WOLFFHARDT	Nadine WERATSCHNIG
BEL	Gabriel DE COSTER			
BRA	Pedro GONCALVES		Ana Satila	Ana Satila
CAN	TAYLER Michael	SMEDLEY Cameron	MAHEU Florence	DANIELS Haley
CHN	QUAN Xin		TONG Li	CHEN Shi
COK			Jane NICHOLAS	Jane NICHOLAS
CRO		MARINIC Matija		
CZE	Jiří PRSKAVEC	ROHAN Lukas	Katerina KUDEJOVA	Tereza FISEROVA
ESP	LLORENTE David	Ander ELOSEGI	Maialen CHOURRAUT	Nuria VILARRUBLA
FRA	NEVEU Boris	THOMAS Martin	Marie-Zelia LAFONT	DELAUSSUS Marjorie
GBR	Bradley Forbes-Cryans	Adam Burgess	Kimberley Woods	Mallory Franklin
GER	AIGNER Hannes	Sideris TASIADIS	FUNK Ricarda	HERZOG Andrea
HUN				SCHMID Julia
IRL		Liam Jegou		
ITA	Giovanni DE GENNARO		Stefanie HORN	Marta BERTONCELLI
JPN	Adachi KAZUYA	Haneda TAKUYA	Yazawa AKI	Sato AYANO
KAZ		Alexandr KULIKOV	Yekaterina SMIRNOVA	
MAR	Mathis SOUDI		Celia JODAR	
MEX			Sofia REINOSO	
NED			Martina WEGMAN	
NZL	Callum Gilbert		Luuka Jones	Luuka Jones
POL	Krzysztof MAJERCZAK	Grzegorz HEDWIG	Klaudia ZWOLINSKA	Aleksandra STACH
POR	LAUNAY Antoine			
RUS	EIGEL Pavel	EIGEL Pavel	Alsu MINAZOVA	Alsu MINAZOVA
SEN		Jean Pierre BOURHIS		
SLO	Peter KAUZER	Benjamin SAVSEK	Eva TERCELJ	Alja KOZOROG
SUI	DOUGOUD Martin	KOECHLIN Thomas	Naemi BRAENDLE	
SVK	Jakub Grigar	Benus Matej	Mintalova Eliska	Skachova Monika

SWE	HOLMER Erik			
TPE			Chu-han CHANG	
UKR			Viktoriia US	Viktoriia US
USA	Michal SMOLEN	Zachary LOKKEN	Evy LEIBFARTH	Evy LEIBFARTH

TOKYO CANOE SLALOM ATHLETES – AT A GLANCE

- Women's C1 will make its Olympic debut. 22 women have entered.
- 35 countries will compete in canoe slalom in Tokyo – the highest number ever (the previous highest was 30 countries in Rio and London)
- Three countries – Mexico, Chinese Taipei and Hungary – will be making their Olympic canoe slalom debut.
- Andorra, Sweden and Ukraine will be at their second Olympics.
- There will be 82 athletes competing.
- Only one Olympic champion from Rio 2016 – Spain's **Maialen Chourraut** in the women's K1 – will be back to defend her title.
- Nine athletes will compete in both the K1 and the C1. Russia's Pavel Eigel is the only male athlete entered in both.
- 17-year-old American Evy Leibfarth will be the youngest competitor.
- Rio gold medalist Maialen Chourraut is the oldest athlete in the competition at 38.
- Five athletes – Maialen Chourraut (Spain), Peter Kauzer (Slovenia), Takuya Haneda (Japan), Ander Elosegi (Spain) and Luuka Jones (New Zealand) – will be competing at their fourth Olympic Games.



ATHLETES TO WATCH

MEN'S KAYAK

PRSKAVEC, Jiri (CZE) – Bronze medalist from Rio Olympics, he won the world championships in 2015 and 2019 – both Olympic selection events. Is in form after winning gold at the ICF world cup in Prague, his final event before Tokyo

KAUZER, Peter (SLO) – competing at his fourth Olympics, won silver in Rio and was world champion in 2009 and 2011

AIGNER, Hannes (GER) – won the bronze medal in London in 2012 and was world champion in 2018

GRIGAR, Jakub (SVK) – finished fifth in Rio, a two-time U23 and two-time junior world champion. Showed his form with a win at the final ICF world cup before Tokyo

DE GENNARO, Giovanni (ITA) – finished seventh at the 2016 Olympics and has won four ICF world cup gold medals

NEVEU, Boris (FRA) – 35-year-old finally getting a chance at an Olympic Games, a former world champion who looking to win France's first men's K1 gold since 2004

FORBES-CRYANS, Bradley (GBR) – defeated reigning Olympic gold medalist for the Olympic berth in Tokyo. Finished fourth at the 2019 ICF world championships.



WOMEN'S KAYAK

CHOURRAUT, Maialen (ESP) – reigning Olympic champion from Rio who also won bronze at the 2012 London Olympics

FOX, Jessica (AUS) – Olympic silver medalist in London, bronze medalist in Rio, three-time ICF K1 world champion

FUNK, Ricarda (GER) – Narrowly missed selection for Rio, was the overall ICF world cup winner in 2016 and 2017

TERCELJ, Eva (SLO) – ICF world champion from 2019, competed at the 2012 London Olympics

KUDEJOVA, Katarina Minarik (CZE) – 2020 European champion, 2015 world champion, finished 10th at Rio Olympics

JONES, Luuka (NZL) – Competing at her fourth Olympic Games, Jones won silver in Rio in 2016 and bronze at the 2019 ICF world championships

WOODS, Kimberley (GBR) – Consistent British paddler making her Olympic debut

HORN, Stefanie (ITA) – Finished eighth at the Rio Olympics, competed for Germany from 2006-2012 before switching to Italy

LEIBFARTH, Evy (USA) – American teenager making her Olympic debut, won the K1 junior world title on the eve of the Tokyo Olympics

SATILA, Ana (BRA) – made her Olympic debut as a teenager in London, now at her third Olympics.



MEN'S CANOE

BENUS, Matej (SVK) – Silver medalist at the Rio Olympics, he is a three-time overall ICF world cup winner, the latest in 2019. Comes from a powerful canoeing nation

TASIADIS, Sideris (GER) – Silver medalist at the London Olympics, finished fifth in Rio in 2016. Overall ICF C1 world cup winner in 2013 and 2017

SAVSEK, Benjamin (SLO) – Third Olympics, finished 6th in 2016 and 8th in 2012. ICF world champion from 2017 and European champion in 2020

ROHAN, Lukas (CZE) – Silver medalist at 2020 European championships, held that form with an ICF world cup win at the same venue at his final race before Tokyo

HANEDA, Takuya (JPN) – Hometown favourite looking to improve on his bronze medal from Rio in 2016. This will be his fourth Olympic Games

BURGESS, Adam (GBR) – 2018 European silver medalist won a hotly contested battle to earn selection for GB for Tokyo. Former U23 world champion

THOMAS, Martin (FRA) – France has dominated this event at the Olympics, and Thomas had to defeat the defending Olympic champion Denis Gargaud Chanut for the Tokyo ticket



WOMEN'S CANOE

FOX, Jessica (AUS) – Has dominated this event, winning the ICF world title on four occasions. Finished second at the 2019 world titles

HERZOG, Andrea (GER) – Reigning ICF C1 world champion, won a silver and gold at the only two ICF world cups contested this year

FRANKLIN, Mallory (GBR) – 2017 ICF world champion and 2019 European champion. Has also won three world championship silver medals

WERATSCHNIG, Nadine (AUT) – Third at the 2019 ICF world championships, third at the final ICF world cup event in Markkleeberg before Tokyo

SATILA, Ana (BRA) – 2019 U23 ICF world champion, was also ICF junior world champion in 2014. Competing at her third Olympic Games

LEIBFARTH, Evy (USA) – 17-year-old will be the youngest canoe slalom competitor in Tokyo

FISEROVA, Tereza (CZE) – Silver medal at 2017 world championship, bronze in 2018, three-time silver medalist at European championships, including in 2021



CANOE SLALOM AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES

Canoe slalom made its first appearance at the Olympics in 1972 in Munich, following a fierce lobbying campaign from the German Canoe Federation.

The competition was held in Augsburg, about 60 kilometres from Munich, on a course which is still in operation today and will host the ICF World Championships in 2022 to mark the 50th anniversary of canoe slalom at the 1972 Games.

It was the last appearance of canoe slalom at the Olympics until 1992, when the sport was included in the programme for the Barcelona Games. The competition was held in La Seu, 180 kilometres north of Barcelona, the same venue which hosted the 2019 ICF world championships and Olympic qualifiers.

Since 1992 canoe slalom has been part of every Olympic Games. All of the venues are still being used today, with the exception of Athens from 2004. The venue used at the 1996 Games in Atlanta was a natural course on the Toccoa/Ocoee River.

After eight Olympics with the same programme, men's and women's K1, men's C1 and men's C2, canoe slalom in 2020 will undergo a major change.

For the first time, women will race C1, replacing men's C2. This will also mean that, for the first time, there will be an equal number of men and women competing in canoe slalom.

The Kasai Canoe Slalom Centre will be our host at the Tokyo Olympics. It will be the first constructed course in Japan and has been developed on land adjoining the Kasai Rinkai Park. The venue will have capacity for 7,500 spectators.

The Tokyo government plans to use the facility for a wide range of water sports and leisure activities after the Games.





CANOE SLALOM BY THE NUMBERS

1972 - Canoe slalom was first part of the Olympic programme at the Munich 1972 Olympic Games. Athletes from former Democratic Republic of Germany (East Germany) won all four gold medals. Canoe slalom was dropped from the programme for 20 years, returning in 1992.

68 – The total number of German athletes who have competed in the Olympic canoe slalom program, a figure which includes athletes from West and East Germany in 1972

36 - Elena KALISKA (SVK) is the oldest athlete to have won a gold medal in Olympic canoe slalom (as a 36-year-old). She did so in the women's K1 at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.

25 - Togo is among the 25 National Olympic Committees (NOCs) which have won only one Olympic medal across all sports. Benjamin BOUKPETI (TOG) claimed bronze in the men's K1 at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.

17 - Michal MARTIKAN (SVK) is the youngest athlete to have won a canoe slalom gold medal. He was 17 years and 70 days old when he won the men's C1 at the Atlanta 1996 Olympic Games.

18 - Number of Olympic medals won by France in canoe slalom, more than any other NOC.

15 – The number of nations who have had just one canoe slalom competitor at an Olympic Games

10 – The number of countries which have competed in the canoe slalom competition at every Olympic Games since 1972

9 - Of 10 NOCs with at least one Olympic gold medal in canoe slalom come from Europe. Joe JACOBI (USA) and Scott STRAUSBAUGH (USA) are the only non-Europeans who have won a canoe slalom gold medal, in the men's C2 at the Barcelona 1992 Olympic Games.

8 – Number of Olympics where canoe slalom has been on the programme.

8 - Number of gold medals won by Slovakia at the Olympic Games, all in canoe slalom. The eight gold medals are also a record for canoe slalom at the Games. Slovakia has also won two gold medals at the Olympic Winter Games, both in biathlon.

6 - The Czech Republic's STEPANKA HILGERTOVA holds the record for the most Olympic appearances in canoe slalom. She competed at every Games from 1992 to 2012.

6 – The number of purpose-built Olympic canoe slalom venues still hosting events and activities for the public. Only Athens from 2004 is no longer in use, while the Atlanta course was on a natural river.

5 - MARTIKAN is the only athlete who has claimed five Olympic medals in canoe slalom (two gold, two silver, one bronze). He achieved this at five different Olympic Games, from 1996 to 2012.

3 - Athletes Pavol HOCHSCHORNER (SVK), Peter HOCHSCHORNER (SVK) and Tony ESTANGUET (FRA), have won a record three gold medals in canoe slalom.

1 - The win by Tim BAILLIE (GBR) and Etienne STOTT (GBR) in the men's C2 at the London 2012 Olympic Games is the only gold medal in canoe slalom won by a host NOC.





MEN'S KAYAK

PREVIOUS OLYMPIC MEDALISTS

2016 – RIO, BRAZIL

Gold – CLARKE Joseph (GBR)

Silver – KAUZER Peter (SLO)

Bronze – PRSKAVEC Jiri (CZE)

2012 – LONDON, GREAT BRITAIN

Gold – MOLMENTI Daniele (ITA)

Silver – HRADILEK Vavrinec (CZE)

Bronze – AIGNER Hannes (GER)

2008 BEIJING, CHINA

Gold – GRIMM Alexander (GER)

Silver – LEFEVRE Fabien (FRA)

Bronze – BOUKPETI Benjamin (TOG)

2004 – ATHENS, GREECE

Gold – PESCHIER Benoit (FRA)

Silver – WALSH Campbell (GBR)

Bronze – LEFEVRE Fabien (FRA)

2000 – SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Gold – SCHMIDT Thomas (GER)

Silver – RATCLIFFE Paul (GBR)

Bronze – FERRAZZI Pierpaolo (ITA)

1996 – ATLANTA, USA

Gold – FIX Oliver (GER)

Silver – VEHOVAR Andraz (SLO)

Bronze – BECKER Thomas (GER)

1992 – BARCELONA, SPAIN

Gold – FERRAZZI Pierpaolo (ITA)

Silver – CURINIER Sylvain (FRA)

Bronze – LETTMANN Jochen (GER)

1972 – MUNICH, GERMANY

Gold – HORN Siegbert (GDR)

Silver – SATTLER Norbert (AUT)

Bronze – GIMPEL Harald (GDR)

MEN'S KAYAK – RECENT WORLD CHAMPIONS

2019 – LA SEU, SPAIN

Gold – PRSKAVEC Jiri (CZE)

Silver – LLORENTE David (ESP)

Bronze – CRESPO Joan (ESP)

2018 – RIO, BRAZIL

Gold – AIGNER Hannes (GER)

Silver – PRSKAVEC Jiri (CZE)

Bronze – EIGEL Pavel (RUS)

2017 – PAU, FRANCE

Gold – TUNKA Ondrej (CZE)

Silver – PRINDIS Vit (CZE)

Bronze – KAUZER Peter (SLO)

2015 – LEE VALLEY, UNITED KINGDOM

Gold – PRSKAVEC Jiri (CZE)

Silver – POLACZYK Mateusz (POL)

Bronze – SMOLEN Michal (USA)

2014 – DEEP CREEK, USA

Gold – NEVEU Boris (FRA)

Silver – COMBOT Sebastien (FRA)

Bronze – BIAZZO Mathieu (FRA)

2013 – PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

Gold – HRADILEK Vavrinec (CZE)

Silver – PRSKAVEC Jiri (CZE)

Bronze – POLACZYK Mateusz (POL)



WOMEN'S KAYAK

PREVIOUS OLYMPIC MEDALISTS

2016 – RIO, BRAZIL

Gold – CHOURRAUT Maialen (ESP)

Silver – JONES Luuka (NZL)

Bronze – FOX Jessica (AUS)

2012 LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

Gold – FER Emilie (FRA)

Silver – FOX Jessica (AUS)

Bronze – CHOURRAUT Maialen (ESP)

2008 – BEIJING, CHINA

Gold – KALISKA Elena (SVK)

Silver – LAWRENCE Jacqui (AUS)

Bronze – OBLINGER-PETERS Violetta (AUT)

2004 – ATHENS, GREECE

Gold – KALISKA Elena (SVK)

Silver – GIDDENS Rebecca (USA)

Bronze – REEVES Helen (GBR)

2000 – SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Gold – HILGERTOVA Stepanka (CZE)

Silver – GUIBAL Brigitte (FRA)

Bronze – BARDET Anne-Lise (FRA)

1996 – ATLANTA, USA

Gold – HILGERTOVA Stepanka (CZE)

Silver – CHLADEK Dana (USA)

Bronze – FOX Myriam (FRA)

1992 – BARCELONA, SPAIN

Gold – MICHELER Elisabeth (GER)

Silver – WOODWARD Danielle (AUS)

Bronze – CHLADEK Dana (USA)

1972 – MUNICH, GERMANY

Gold – BAHMANN Angelika (GDR)

Silver – GROTHAUS Gisela (FRG)

Bronze – WUNDERLICH Magdalena (FRG)

WOMEN'S KAYAK – RECENT WORLD CHAMPIONS

2019 – LA SEU, SPAIN

Gold – TERCELJ Eva (SLO)

Silver – FOX Jessica (AUS)

Bronze – JONES Luuka (NZL)

2018 – RIO, BRAZIL

Gold – FOX Jessica (AUS)

Silver – FRANKLIN Mallory (GBR)

Bronze – FUNK Ricarda (GER)

2017 – PAU, FRANCE

Gold – FOX Jessica (AUS)

Silver – DUKATOVA Jana (SVK)

Bronze – FUNK Ricarda (GER)

2015 – LEE VALLEY, UNITED KINGDOM

Gold – KUDEJOVA Katerina (CZE)

Silver – FUNK Ricarda (GER)

Bronze – PFEIFER Melanie (GER)

2014 – DEEP CREEK, USA

Gold – FOX Jessica (AUS)

Silver – PENNIE Fiona (GBR)

Bronze – PFEIFER Melanie (GER)

2013 – PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

Gold – FER Emilie (FRA)

Silver – NEWMAN Nouria (FRA)

Bronze – SCHORNBERG Jasmin (GER)



MEN'S CANOE

PREVIOUS OLYMPIC MEDALISTS

2016 – RIO, BRAZIL

Gold – GARGAUD CHANUT Denis (FRA)

Silver – BENUS Matej (SVK)

Bronze – HANEDA Takuya (JPN)

2012 – LONDON, GREAT BRITAIN

Gold – ESTANGUET Tony (FRA)

Silver – TASIADIS Sideris (GER)

Bronze – MARTIKAN Michal (SVK)

2008 BEIJING, CHINA

Gold – MARTIKAN Michal (SVK)

Silver – FLORENCE David (GBR)

Bronze – BELL Robin (AUS)

2004 – ATHENS, GREECE

Gold – ESTANGUET Tony (FRA)

Silver – MARTIKAN Michal (SVK)

Bronze – PFANMOLLER Stefan (GER)

2000 – SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Gold – ESTANGUET Tony (FRA)

Silver – MARTIKAN Michal (SVK)

Bronze – MINCIK Juraj (SVK)

1996 – ATLANTA, USA

Gold – MARTIKAN Michal (SVK)

Silver – POLLERT Lukas (CZE)

Bronze – ESTANGUET Patrice (FRA)

1992 – BARCELONA, SPAIN

Gold – POLLERT Lukas (TCH)

Silver – MARRIOTT Gareth (GBR)

Bronze – AVRIL Jacky (FRA)

1972 – MUNICH, GERMANY

Gold – EIBEN Reinhard (GDR)

Silver – KAUDER Reinhold (FRG)

Bronze – McEWEN Jamie (USA)

MEN'S CANOE – RECENT WORLD CHAMPIONS

2019 – LA SEU, SPAIN

Gold – JOLY Cedric (FRA)

Silver – ELOSEGI Ander (ESP)

Bronze – BOZIC Luka (SLO)

2018 – RIO, BRAZIL

Gold – ANTON Franz (GER)

Silver – WESTLEY Ryan (GBR)

Bronze – TASIADIS Sideris (GER)

2017 – PAU, FRANCE

Gold – SAVSEK Benjamin (SLO)

Silver – SLAFKOVSKY Alexander (SVK)

Bronze – MARTIKAN Michal (SVK)

2015 – LEE VALLEY, UNITED KINGDOM

Gold – FLORENCE David (GBR)

Silver – SAVSEK Benjamin (SLO)

Bronze – WESTLEY Ryan (GBR)

2014 – DEEP CREEK, USA

Gold – LEFEVRE Fabien (USA)

Silver – SAVSEK Benjamin (SLO)

Bronze – ANTON Franz (GER)

2013 – PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

Gold – FLORENCE David (GBR)

Silver – SLAFKOVSKY Alexander (SVK)

Bronze – SAVSEK Benjamin (SLO)



WOMEN'S CANOE – RECENT WORLD CHAMPIONS

2019 – LA SEU, SPAIN

Gold – HERZOG Andrea (GER)

Silver – FOX Jessica (AUS)

Bronze – WERATSCHNIG Nadine (AUT)

2018 – RIO, BRAZIL

Gold – FOX Jessica (AUS)

Silver – FRANKLIN Mallory (GBR)

Bronze – FISEROVA Tereza (CZE)

2017 – PAU, FRANCE

Gold – FRANKLIN Mallory (GBR)

Silver – FISEROVA Tereza (CZE)

Bronze – SATILA Ana (BRA)

2015 – LEE VALLEY, UNITED KINGDOM

Gold – FOX Jessica (AUS)

Silver – HOSKOVA Katerina (CZE)

Bronze – VILLARRUBLA Nuria (ESP)

2014 – DEEP CREEK, USA

Gold – FOX Jessica (AUS)

Silver – FRANKLIN Mallory (GBR)

Bronze – REBOURS Oriane (FRA)

2013 – PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

Gold – FOX Jessica (AUS)

Silver – FRANKLIN Mallory (GBR)

Bronze – LOIR Caroline (FRA)



