

INTERNATIONAL CANOE FEDERATION (ICF)

ORDINARY CONGRESS

MINUTES OF THE ICF ORDINARY CONGRESS

HELD IN SAINT PETERSBURG, RUSSIA
16 & 17 NOVEMBER 2012





Minutes

1. Opening of the Congress

The ICF President, Mr. Jose Perurena Lopez opened the XXXIV ICF Ordinary Congress and welcomed all the delegates from the National Federations. He informed the Congress that there were 74 National Federations present and a maximum of 104 eligible votes including Proxies. The President thanked the All Russian Canoe-Kayak Federation for all the preparations carried out for the Congress and mentioned that the Board of Directors as well as Continental Associations had all held meetings with their delegates the previous day.

2. Roll-call of delegates and establishment of quorum

A roll call was held for the Congress.

Voting cards were used for all decisions by Congress. Elections were by secret ballot.

For voting 70 would be required for an overall majority vote, and 53 votes needed for simple majority.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the 2010 ICF Ordinary Congress, Spain

The Minutes of the 2010 ICF Congress were approved.

4. Appointment of scrutinisers for the period of the Congress

The following delegates were approved by the Congress as scrutinisers for the voting:

- Jens Kahl (GER)
- Sue Natoli (AUS)
- Jan Sasha (SVK)
- Catherine Wieser (SUI)
- Hengameh Ahadpour (IRI)

5. Reports

a) President's Report

The ICF President's report focused primarily on the Olympic Games programme and the

ICF Governance Review.

Olympic Games Programme

The Congress was informed that Canoeing at the London 2012 Olympic Games had been very successful and that the IOC had increased the ICF's funding to US\$ 14 million.

It was confirmed that there would be no major changes to the Olympic Games programme. However, for Rio 2016 discussions with the IOC continued regarding the inclusion of C1 women in Canoe Slalom as an additional event.

The President stressed his desire to develop a long term plan for the Olympic Programme to keep Canoeing ahead of other IFs.

The formation of a Technical Committee was proposed to look ahead to the 2020-2024 Olympic Games. The Technical Managers who were intended to be hired in the near future would be involved in the long term development of the Olympic disciplines and after two years (at the next ICF Congress in 2014), the structure of the Olympic programme would be reviewed.

Governance Review

The purpose of the Governance Review was to lay the foundations for the future of the ICF. Consultants both internal and external would be commissioned to conduct the Governance Review to assess the efficiency of the ICF including, Congress, Board of Directors, Executive Committee and the professional staff.

Canada stated its dissatisfaction with the ICF's inability to introduce Women's Canoe Category in Canoe Sprint for Rio 2016.

The IOC would not increase the quota for Canoe Sprint at the Olympic Games therefore it would be difficult to include Women's Canoe as this would mean taking quotas from other existing events.



Minutes

b) Secretary General's Report

Headquarters

Over the last two years there had been an increase in workload at the ICF Headquarters. The staff had been reduced from 7 to 5 and this had impacted the work and activities of the Headquarters.

Additional work included the Governance Review, television production and distribution, the ICF Database / MSL Project, inclusion of Paracanoe as an additional discipline and payments made to Canoe Marathon athletes, Canoe Polo, and the Olympic tickets scheme.

Olympic Games

The ICF had received a lot of positive feedback from many stakeholders including from broadcasters regarding London Olympic Games and Canoeing.

A total of 30 visits to London were made as opposed to 12 for Beijing to prepare for the Games.

The success of the NF Ticketing initiative was highlighted that set it apart from other Federations. The ICF sold tickets valued at approximately GBP 600,000.

Live TV Coverage

TV coverage of Canoeing had been a major success at the Olympic Games in London and when the complete audience figures would be available from the IOC in January 2013 the NFs would be informed.

The 2012 Canoe Sprint and Canoe Slalom World Cups were all covered live and were distributed globally. A close working relationship with broadcasters had improved visibility of the sport on TV around the world.

The TV Production and distribution were now being done in a more systematic way. There had been a lot of improvement over the past

two years.

There had been a substantial increase in Canoe Sprint audience and coverage figures, up to 68 countries showed Canoeing. The main reason for the increase was due to changes in scheduling and being able to stay away from other major sports. Canoe Slalom had seen a decrease in figures with better scheduling it was believed this trend would reverse.

Eurosport had committed to showing all the Canoeing events in 2013, which would be a first. The webcasting of events would continue in 2013.

6. Report by the:

a) 1st Vice President

Delegates were referred to his report. A lot of work had been done with Canoe Sprint, Canoe Marathon and Dragon Boat and emphasis placed on the Development Programme.

b) 2nd Vice President

The work of the ICF over the last few years was acknowledged.

The hope was that the Development Programme could be built upon and hopefully sold to a global company to spread the resources for canoeing worldwide.

The Olympic Games were a success but the long term strategy the President alluded to must be developed towards 2024, in order to protect Canoeing in the Olympic programme.

It was highlighted that the biggest priority of the ICF should be to develop its commercial potential, to build a business. If commercial success is not achieved in the next 2 years then the ICF would need to reassess its direction.

c) 3rd Vice President

Delegates were referred to his report.



Minutes

Activities in Brazil and for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games were detailed in the report.

d) Canoe Sprint

NF's and their respective continents were recommended to conduct a seminar for officials regularly.

Statistics were made available on the ICF website to show which countries attended ICF events since 1991.

The principles on which the World Championship and World Cup programmes were developed 4 years ago should be continued: to be attractive, universal and must have the intention of attaining gender equity.

e) Canoe Slalom

Canoe Slalom had increased to five World Cups each year with standardised programmes and consistent TV production. This had allowed more doubling up in events by athletes. The technical video service (TVS) used at the Junior and Senior World Championships and World Cups, provided a consistent standard at each event with technical footage distributed to all the teams.

A new website interface for events had been developed. Approximately 383,000 pages were viewed in 2012.

Women's Canoe

Gender equity was a target the Committee strived to achieve. Since the introduction of Women's Canoe in 2010 it was possible to see the evolution of the programme through the statistics. Federations were funding the category and there was now consistency in the number of entries. The standard was improving and the category was now more competitive.

Canoe Slalom Development Programme

It was highlighted that without the support of

the National Federations it would not be easy to plan any events. There had been a huge improvement in the quality of the athletes including those at the London Olympic Games, some of which came through the TIP Programme.

The Committee would like to focus on the local manufacturing capacities and that would need to be reinforced in the coming years to have boats being made regionally.

Future initiative

Preparations had already begun for Rio 2016 to develop a close relationship with CBCa and the Local Organising Committee. Work had started on the course design and construction.

f) Wildwater Canoeing

Delegates were referred to his report.

The Committee were active in trying to increase participation in the World Championships and World Cups in Wildwater.

Development of Wildwater had started in Africa, the first event was organised in conjunction with a Canoe Slalom competition in February 2012.

Coaching education projects would continue in Asia and America.

g) Canoe Marathon

Delegates were referred to his report.

In 2013 Canoe Marathon demonstration would be included World Games in Cali, Colombia. Qualification had been based on World Championship results and NFs had been informed of places available.

h) Canoeing for All

Delegates were referred to his report.

Canoeing for All Committee was about taking care of keeping canoeing members active,



Minutes

including Master Canoeing and Paracanoe.

In a four year period, Paracanoe had been included in the Paralympics and had more than 30 National Federations involved with athletes competing at ICF events.

Future initiatives would be:
 -Planet Canoe Conference, which would be the first ever conference on canoeing development with all stakeholders.
 -Blue 1000 Project which was about strategic partnership with WWF to promote clean water.

In January 2013 the IPC would decide the number of quotas as well as the number of events for 2016 Paracanoe in the Paralympics. The ICF would decide which events that would be included.

7. ICF Membership Report & Affiliation of new National Federations to the ICF

All three NFs (Madagascar, Mauritius and Barbados) had submitted all the necessary paperwork. Congress approved the members.

Three European NFs had requested for re-affiliation as they had changed their statutes and their structure. Finland, Netherland and Bosnia and Herzegovina were reapproved as ICF members by Congress.

Georgia's Federation situation was still pending as the ICF has not received re-affiliation documents.

There were now 158 members within the ICF.

8. Resolutions on Proposals Submitted by NFs, ExCo and BoD
a) ICF Statutes

Art 29 and Bylaw 33.3 by Canada NF were integrated into the governance review.

Art 16

Reason for change: women's involvement in ICF Congress and Meetings.

Issue Raised: Change the wording from "must" to "recommended" was accepted.

Vote on Art. 16	
Ballot	Votes
YES	73
NO	1
ABSTEIN	2
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED WITH AMENDMENT	

Art. 32 Proposal by Athlete's Committee

Reason for change: The Athlete's Committee required clearer rules for elections and the process of electing members.

Issue raised: High level athletes did not have time to take part in all meetings of the committee. There would be only 1 representative from the athlete's committee in each Technical Committee.

Vote on Art 32	
Ballot	Votes
YES	78
NO	0
ABSTEIN	3
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 17, 21 and 27.1

Clarification: all elections including executive committee and Chairman's elections would be every 4 years at the same time (starting from 2016), people that were elected in 2014, continue only for 2 years and in 2016 everybody would be elected. New governance and new changes in the structure would be discussed in 2014 Congress and implemented in 2016.

Vote on Art 17, 21, 27.1	
Ballot	Votes
YES	72
NO	5
ABSTEIN	4
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	



Minutes

Art 22, Quorum

Issue Raised: Active Federations with athletes for the technical congress could act with representation as low as 30% of members. It would require 63 NFs to make 40% and good distribution around the continents required. The rule change was to protect registered NFs costs and to avoid potential extraordinary congress.

Vote on Art 22	
Ballot	Votes
YES	54
NO	22
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION NOT CARRIED	

The rest of the proposals (art 19,26,27,29,32.3,32.4,40) would be included in the governance review.

**b) Rule Changes
Canoe Sprint Competition**

Art 11.3.1,11.3.2,11.3.3,11.3.5 proposed by FRA NF:

Issue Raised: 11.3.3 was difficult to apply for World Cups, all the Canoe Sprint World Cups were in Europe and hard for other continents. 11.3.5 seemed to be very restrictive.

The ICF BoD was not in favour.

Vote on Art 11.3.1,11.3.2,11.3.3,11.3.5	
Ballot	Votes
YES	10
NO	68
ABSTEIN	3
NO VOTES	
MOTION NOT CARRIED	

Art 46.2 CRO Proposal withdrawn by CRO NF.

Art 46.2 FRA NF

Aimed to reduce costs for NFs in the current economic situation.

Issue Raised: For some Juniors it was seen as discriminative as they bypass the age limit and cannot participate whereas European Championships and Continental Championships were not the same level of event. It had been changed 2 years ago and was not in force yet, so no experience and it was not logical to change the rule again.

Vote on Art 46.2	
Ballot	Votes
YES	43
NO	44
ABSTEIN	1
NO VOTES	
MOTION NOT CARRIED	

New Art proposed by CRO NF regarding combining Junior and U23 competitions. It was a word correction as the rule had been approved in 2010.

Vote on NEW article	
Ballot	Votes
YES	70
NO	4
ABSTEIN	2
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

New Art proposed by CRO NF extending competition to 4 days as there were too many events for a 3 day format.

Vote on Art NEW	
Ballot	Votes
YES	86
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 46.3 removed automatically according to previous vote.



Minutes

Canoe Slalom

Art 2.3.1 was already stated in Technical rules.

Canoe Slalom had a number of changes to be made. For the minutes only questions or comments were noted alongside the voting results.

Art 3.4

Vote on Art 3.4	
Ballot	Votes
YES	74
NO	0
ABSTEIN	1
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 4.1.2, 4.1.3

Vote on Art 4.1.2, 4.1.3	
Ballot	Votes
YES	92
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 4.2

Vote on Art 4.2	
Ballot	Votes
YES	77
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 6.3.1

Vote on Art 6.3.1	
Ballot	Votes
YES	87
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0

NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 7.3

Issue Raised: A concept needed to be created and not isolate the issue. Slight rewording and more detailed presentation to the ICF BoD would be done in 2013.

Vote on Art 7.3	
Ballot	Votes
YES	67
NO	8
ABSTEIN	2
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED WITH AMENDMENT	

Art 8

Vote on Art 8	
Ballot	Votes
YES	74
NO	2
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 8.1

Vote on Art 8.1	
Ballot	Votes
YES	87
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 8.5, 8.5.1,8.5.2,8.5.3,8.5.4,8.5.5 moved to Technical rules.

Art 9, 9.1,9.3,9.3.1,9.5,9.6,9.7,9.11,9.12,9.13,9.16

Vote on Art 9	
Ballot	Votes
YES	78
NO	0



Minutes

ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 11.1,11.1.1,11.3,11.4,11.5

Vote on Art 11.1,11.1.1,11.3,11.4,11.5	
Ballot	Votes
YES	77
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 36

Vote on Art 36	
Ballot	Votes
YES	72
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 36.1, 37,37.1, 37.1.1, 37.2, 37.2.1, 37.2.2, 37.3, 37.4, 37.5, 37.5.1, 37.5.2, 37.5.3, 38.2,40.1.1,40.2 already approved in **Art 8.1**

Art 39,39.2, 39.2.1

Vote on Art 39,39.2, 39.2.1	
Ballot	Votes
YES	76
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 41.1.2 and 41.1.3 accepted, change of abbreviation

Art 41.3

Vote on Art 41.3	
Ballot	Votes
YES	87
NO	0

ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 41.6.1, 41.6.1.1, 41.6.1.2, 41.6.2, 41.6.2.1, 41.6.3, 41.6.5

Vote on Art 41.6.1, 41.6.1.1, 41.6.1.2, 41.6.2, 41.6.2.1, 41.6.3, 41.6.5	
Ballot	Votes
YES	84
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 41.10, 41.10.2, 41.10.3

Official nomination including fee to participate in Canoe Slalom competitions.

The fee would be related to the size of the team, the goal was to choose the capable officials and not those who could afford the fees. Improves fair selection and not according to the economic capacity of the technical official's NF.

Vote on Art 41.10, 41.10.2, 41.10.3	
Ballot	Votes
YES	70
NO	4
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 41.14.5.1

Introducing women's Canoe award and creating age canoe class

Vote on Art 41.14.5.1	
Ballot	Votes
YES	84
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 42.1

Was voted for under Canoe Sprint rules.



Minutes

CHAPTER 5 NEW

Vote on CHT 5	
Ballot	Votes
YES	88
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 44.1.3, 44.1

Vote on Art 44.1.3, 44.1	
Ballot	Votes
YES	84
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 44.1.4

SLO NF withdrew its proposal and CSLC proposal was kept

Vote on Art 44.1.3, 44.1.4	
Ballot	Votes
YES	81
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Wildwater Canoeing

Art 6.1.1, 6.2.1, 6.2.2 was recommended by the Chair to add them to the Technical Rules

Vote on Art 6.1.1, 6.2.1, 6.2.2	
Ballot	Votes
YES	82
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 11.1, 35.6, 36.6, 36.3.5, 37.5.2, 37.5.5, 38.1.1.2

Vote on Art 11.1, 35.6, 36.6, 36.3.5, 37.5.2, 37.5.5, 38.1.1.2	
Ballot	Votes
YES	85
NO	1
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 8.4 proposed by FRA NF was withdrawn

Art 2.3.1, 2.2.1.1, 6.1.1 vote to change them to Technical Rules

Vote on Art 2.3.1, 2.2.1.1, 6.1.1	
Ballot	Votes
YES	89
NO	1
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 7.1.2

Vote on Art 7.1.2	
Ballot	Votes
YES	80
NO	3
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Canoe Marathon

FRA NF proposals 11.3.2, 11.3.3, 11.3.4, 35 were already voted in Canoe Sprint rules.

Art 30, proposal regarding the boat wash hanging would be slightly changed.



Minutes

Art 30 and 31

Vote on Art 30, 31	
Ballot	Votes
YES	88
NO	0
ABSTEIN	1
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED WITH AMENDMENT	

Canoe Polo

Art 3.7, 7.1

Vote on Art 3.7, 7.1	
Ballot	Votes
YES	86
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 82.2 and 82.6

Vote on Art 82.2 and 82.6	
Ballot	Votes
YES	3
NO	83
ABSTEIN	1
NO VOTES	
MOTION NOT CARRIED	

Canoe Freestyle

Art 1, 5, 6, 20.5 GR to TR

Vote on Art 1, 5, 6, 20.5	
Ballot	Votes
YES	89
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 3.5 used the same wording as Canoe Slalom Rules

Vote on Art 3.5	
Ballot	Votes
YES	88
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 10.3.8

Vote on Art 10.3.8	
Ballot	Votes
YES	85
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 20.1

Vote on Art 20.1	
Ballot	Votes
YES	87
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

Art 21.5

Vote on Art 21.5	
Ballot	Votes
YES	80
NO	0
ABSTE	2
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

15.1 was withdrawn

Art 10.3.11, 10.3.11.1, 10.3.11.2 FRA NF proposal: Not approved as per Canoe Sprint. CFR Committee proposed to reword.



Minutes

Ocean Racing

Art 13.3 already voted in Canoe Sprint Rules and rejected.

Introduce World Series and World Championships Rules

Vote on Art	
Ballot	Votes
YES	81
NO	0
ABSTEIN	1
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

9. Election of Executive Committee Members

Vote: President	
Ballot	Votes
YES	93
NO	0
ABSTEIN	9
NO VOTES	
JPL re-elected ICF President	

Vote: 2 nd Vice President	
Ballot	Votes
Richard Fox (AUS)	40
Joao da Costa Alegre (STP)	52
Joao da Costa Alegre elected 2nd Vice President	

Vote: Treasurer	
Ballot	Votes
YES	81
NO	0
ABSTEIN	9
NO VOTES	
Luciano Buonfiglio re-elected ICF Treasurer	

10. Election of the Chairs of the Standing Committees

a) **Canoe Sprint** There was one single Candidate, Frank Garner (USA). 79 in favour, and 13 abstentions.

b) **Canoe Slalom** There was one single Candidate, Jean Michel Prono (FRA). 86 in favour, 5 against and 1 abstention.

c) **Wildwater Canoeing** There were two Candidates, Jens Perlwitz (GER) and Andrej Grobisa (SLO). Jens Perlwitz was re-elected with 50 votes to 37 for Andrej Grobisa.

d) **Canoe Marathon** There was one Candidate, Jorn Cronberg (DEN). 91 in favour, and 0 abstentions.

e) **Canoeing for All** There was one Candidate, John Edwards (CAN). 92 in favour, and 1 abstention.

11. Treasurer's report and approval of financial accounts 2010-2012

For greater efficiency and more transparency all monies were transferred from 3 Italian banks to ICF Swiss accounts.

The financial commission continued to manage the ICF funds. The ICF Headquarters administered all finances and for transparency an external auditor had been appointed.

The economic situation had been difficult everywhere and would remain for the next few years.

When the budget was put together the exchange rate was 1.41 Euro to the Swiss Franc and now it was down to 1.20.

The ICF had received USD 14 million from the IOC for the next four years.



Minutes

Doping control cost had increased and ICF needed to invest in Paracanoe. It was proposed that after the Congress the budget would be revised with an additional 1.5 million Euros to fund TV and new staff for ICF. The Financial Commission would present the revised budget to the Board of Directors. The revised budget would include the cost of hiring two Technical Managers.

Issues raised: There was a significant difference between the proposed budget and the book keeping.

It was explained that the additional deficit included the money spent for two years of TV production that was approved by the last Congress.

In future Congresses specific details would be provided for each item on the budget.

How was the ICF protecting its financial future since money was lost due to exchange rate?

The ICF would invest in three different currencies to safeguard the future of the Federation.

12. Auditors report and approval

Approval of financial reports 2010 – 2012 and Approval of Budget 2012 – 2014

Vote on budget for next two years	
Ballot	Votes
YES	86
NO	0
ABSTEIN	3
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

13. Presentation of the Continental Reports

Africa

Delegates were referred to the reports submitted. Due to the size of the African

continent the Confederation was trying to organize many regional events. A lot had been invested in growing the sport with attention on development such as the All African Youth Games where Canoe-Kayak had been included.

Issue raised The incident in Maputo, Mozambique in 2011 where Tunisian canoe athletes were ousted by Police from the event was a concern.

This event was very unfortunate. However the rules were governed by the NOC and not the ICF. Future Olympic Qualification may not use All African Games as the chosen event.

Americas

Delegates were referred to the documents by COPAC representatives.

COPAC had established a well defined strategy and concerned athlete development in the continent.

A framework had been created within which the Confederation worked on development programmes with the objective of improving the sport. COPAC's policy and strategy was based on best practices for NFs that needed this assistance with the objective of improving the general activities of Canoeing in the Americas.

A new logo and brand for the Confederation had been created.

COPAC considered the environment and recommended that NFs include sustainability measures within their activities.

Asia

The 2014 Aisan Games would be held in Incheon, South Korea with both Canoe Sprint and Canoe Slalom. A training camp would be organized for Canoe Slalom in December 2012.

Eleven nations participated at the Dragon



Minutes

Boat championships organised by the Thai Canoe Federation.

Next year India would organise the Asian Dragon Boat Championships, Asian Canoe Sprint Championships would be in Uzbekistan and Canoe Slalom Asian Championships in Chinese Taipei.

Europe

Delegates were referred to the Reports submitted to Congress.

There was a strong possibility that Canoe-Kayak would be part of the newly formed European Games. Azerbaijan was hoping to host the inaugural Games. ECA had signed a declaration of intention to include Canoe Kayak in the European Games.

Issue raised: What was the possibility of having Canoe Slalom included in the European Games?

The choice depended on the host country. The ICF would continue to push for Sprint and Slalom to be included.

Oceania

The activities undertaken by the Oceania Canoe Association in the last 2 years were detailed in the report.

The work ethos of OCA President Helen Brownlee who was recovering from a serious illness was acknowledged. The ICF Congress was the first that she had missed in 32 years and it would be appropriate that the Congress noted her absence and acknowledged her long contribution to Canoeing.

14. Reports by Chairs of Standing Committees

a) Dragonboat

The Dragon Boat Chairman reflected on the 4th World Championships which took place successfully with 15 nations in Milan, Italy. He

requested support from National Federations to increase the number of participating nations at World Championships. Dragon boating represented a gateway to Canoeing and should therefore be seen as a bridge to other canoe disciplines and an added value for the future of Canoeing.

The next World Championships in 2013 would be held in Kiev. The ICF had recently received a bid from Venice, Italy to host the 2017 Championship.

b) Canoe Polo

The Canoe Polo World Championships were deliberately held every 2 years to control expenses while slowly developing the sport. The sport structures were in place in Europe, Oceania and Asia. The Americas were developing well and more work needed to be done by the Committee for Africa.

The Shot clock was approved and had been very successful and the last championships had been covered by television.

Wildcards allowed invitations to be extended to Namibia (U21) and NZL (U21W) who won Bronze and Finland who were back into the World Championships after a period away.

Canoe Polo had an online refereeing training programme that was proving very successful.

A Masters Championships would be added to the ICF programme every four years to ensure that there was one worldwide Canoe Polo Championship a year.

c) Canoe Freestyle

Delegates were referred to the report.

2013 World Championships in the USA would be a big step forward in organising the event for this discipline.

Freestyle was proud for having the sport as part of Canoe Slalom Competition in London Olympic Games.



Minutes

It was announced that the Russian minister of sport has confirmed that Canoe Freestyle was a top level sport in Russia.

d) Canoe Ocean Racing

Delegates were referred to the report.

New rules for World Series and World Championships were prepared and approved by the Board and Congress.

The first Ocean Racing World Championships would be organised in 2013. The goal of the committee was to work with NFs and organisers to increase national and continental events. It was a big opportunity for countries with natural water to develop canoeing.

e) Medical and Anti-Doping

Delegates were referred to the report.

The ICF website showed all information regarding testing, statistics and penalties and the ICF RTP list. The online education programme (Pure Paddling Performance) was mandatory for all juniors participating in ICF events and had 1500 users so far.

In total the ICF took 300 samples per year and the RTP was updated quarterly.

The costs for each urine sample:
Urine sample analysis: 330-900 EUR
EPO: 310 and IRMS: 310 EUR

Blood sample analysis: 290-400 EUR
Blood transfusion: 165 GH/SERA: 165 EUR

Hence an increase in budget had been approved by the ICF BoD.

f) Women's Commission

The number of men participants was more than women at the Gender Equity Workshop. It showed the willingness of NFs to involve women in canoeing. Anne Merklinger pointed

out some important aspects that the committee would work on in the coming year.

g) Athletes' Committee

Delegates were referred to the report.

The Committee would focus on athlete's education and guidance on life after sport retirement.

The committee believed that the contribution of athletes within the sport would help to improve the quality of the sport and it was proposed that every Technical Committee included an athlete as a Committee member.

Daniela Molmenti (ITA) would join the Athletes Committee until the next election in 2013.

15 & 16. Debrief of the Development Programme; Development Programme Objectives Canoe Sprint

One important target was talent identification for athletes and coaches. In 2012 the Development programme produced eight athletes that qualified for the Olympic Games.

The ICF organised training camps in World Championships and World Cups from 2010 to 2012.

The ICF had introduced a systematic education programme of four levels. Participation in the coaching courses had been significant.

Support was given to Paracanoe for the World Championships and improving these athletes in light of the Paralympic Games in 2016.

Canoe Slalom

Delegates were referred to the report presented for the Congress.



Minutes

17. ICF Development Programme objective and plan for 2012-2014

The ICF would continue with talent identification programmes and coaches education. Development of Paracanoe was essential. The ICF would also support the development of Women’s Canoe as had been done since 2010.

18. ICF Awards

Congress presented ICF awards to the following individuals:

- Mr Etele BARÁTH (HUN) - ICF Honorary Member
- Mr Vittorio CIRINI (ITA) -ICF Honorary Member
- Mr Anthony CHAN (HKG) - ICF Honorary Member
- Mr Charles Yatman (USA) - ICF Honorary Member
- Mr Jan Bache-Wiig (NOR) - ICF Honorary Member

19. Establishment of ICF Working Programme for 2012-2014

The working programme for 2012-2014 was presented by the BoD and was approved by the Congress.

Vote on Working Programme 2012-2014	
Ballot	Votes
YES	86
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

20. Approval of Annual ICF Membership Fees, 2012-2014

It was announced by the Treasurer that the membership fee would remain the same for the period of 2012-2014.

Vote on membership fee 2012-2014	
Ballot	Votes
YES	86
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
MOTION CARRIED	

21. Establishing Time and Place of the next ICF Congress

The President of the Polish Canoe Federation presented the bid for the next ICF Congress in Warsaw (POL).

Vote on Time and Place of Next ICF Congress	
Ballot	Votes
YES	90
NO	0
ABSTEIN	0
NO VOTES	
XXXV ICF Ordinary Congress would be in Warsaw, Poland	

23. Closing of the Congress

Mr Jose Perurena Lopez thanked everybody for their four years collaboration to progress Canoeing. The ICF staff and Russian Federation were thanked for organising and hosting a successful Congress.

The President declared the XXXIV ICF Ordinary Congress in St-Petersburg, Russia officially closed.