

BoD March 2015
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INTERNATIONAL CANOE FEDERATION (ICF)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD IN MARRAKESH, MOROCCO
21-32 MARCH 2015



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**MINUTES BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
21-23 March Marrakech, MOROCCO**

Participants:

Name	Nationality	Position
José Perurena	Spanish	President (Executive Committee Member)
Istvan Vaskuti	Hungarian	1st Vice President (Executive Committee Member)
Joao Manuel Da Costa Alegre	Sao Tome and	2nd Vice President (Executive Committee Member)
Tony Estanguet	France	3rd Vice President (Executive Committee Member)
Luciano Buonfiglio	Italian	Treasurer (Executive Committee Member)
Simon Toulson	British	Secretary General (Executive Committee Member)
Helen Brownlee	Australian	President OCA - Oceania Canoe Association
Albert Woods	British	President ECA - European Canoe Association
Cecilia Farias	Argentinian	President COPAC - Panamerican Canoe Federation
Maree Burnett	New Zealander	Continental Representative Oceania
Ahmad Donyamali	Iranian	Continental Representative Asia
Dwight Corbin	Canadian	Continental Representative America
Branko Lovric	Croatian	Continental Representative Europe
Saifudin Patwa	Kenyan	Continental Representative Africa
Tim Cornish	South African	Continental Representative Africa
Victor G. Ruiz	Puerto Rican	Continental Representative America
Mario Santos	Portugal	Continental Representative Europe - Chair Ocean Racing
Thomas Konietzko	German	Continental Representative Europe
Frank Garner	Canadian	Chair Canoe Sprint
Jean-Michel Prono	French	Chair Canoe Slalom
Jorn Cronberg	Danish	Chair Canoe Marathon
Jens Perlwitz	German	Chair Wildwater Canoeing
Andrea Donzeli	Italian	Chair Canoe Polo
Dr LUK Wai Hung	Hong Kong	Chair Dragon Boat
Lluís Rabaneda i Caselles	Spanish	Chair Canoe Freestyle
Donald McKenzie	Canadian	Chair Medical and Anti-Doping
John Edwards	Canadian	Chair Paracanoe Committee
Anders Gustafsson	Swedish	Chair Athlete Committee
Shoken Narita	Japanese	President ACC - Asian Canoe Confederation

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	Responsible Person	Deadline
<p>PRESIDENT'S WELCOME</p> <p>The ICF President welcomed everybody to Marrakesh. Anders Gustafsson excused himself from the meeting as had to work in Australia.</p> <p>The BoD approved the minutes from the ICF Congress and BoD meeting in Warsaw, November 2014.</p>		
<p>Bidding Process for 2017-2019 ICF Events</p> <p>2019 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships Applications: Szeged (HUN), Duisburg (GER) BoD voted: Szeged (HUN)</p> <p>2019 ICF Junior & U23 Canoe Sprint World Championships Applications Pitesti (ROU) BoD voted to postpone to the next BoD</p> <p>2017 ICF Canoe Sprint World Cups Szeged (HUN), Belgrade (SER), Montemor-o-Velho (POR) were all selected</p> <p>2018 ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships Applications: Rio (BRA), Krakow (POL) BoD voted: Rio (BRA) with condition that venue operator was found</p> <p>2018 ICF Junior and U23 Canoe Slalom World Championships Applications Ivrea (ITA) BoD voted: Ivrea (ITA)</p> <p>2019 ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships, Applications: White Water World Championships,consisting of Canoe Slalom, Canoe Freestyle and Wild Water Canoeing , Bratislava (SVK), White Water World Championships,consisting of Canoe Slalom, Canoe Freestyle and Wild Water Canoeing , La Seu D'Urgell (ESP) BoD voted: La Seu D'Urgell (ESP)</p> <p>2017 ICF Canoe Slalom World Cups 1 Prague (CZE) June 16-18, 2 Markkleeberg (GER) June 23 -25, 3 Augsburg (GER) July 05-07, 4 La Seu (ESP) August 4-6 ,5 Ivrea (ITA) Aug 11-13 were all selected</p> <p>2019 ICF Canoe Marathon World Championships Applications: Shaoxing (CHN), Hazewinkel (BEL) BoD voted: Shaoxing (CHN)</p> <p>2017 ICF Canoe Marathon World Cup</p>		

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<p>Shaoxing (CHN), Hazewinkel (BEL) selected</p> <p>2016 Canoe Polo World Championships BoD voted: Siracusa (ITA)</p> <p>2019 ICF Wildwater Canoeing World Championships Applications: White Water World Championships,consisting of Canoe Slalom, Canoe Freestyle and Wild Water Canoeing , Bratislava (SVK), White Water World Championships,consisting of Canoe Slalom, Canoe Freestyle and Wild Water Canoeing , La Seu D’Urgell (ESP) BoD voted: La Seu D’Urgell (ESP)</p> <p>2017 Canoe Freestyle World Championships BoD voted: Rio de Janeiro (BRA) on condition venue operator found</p> <p>2019 Canoe Freestyle World Championships Applications: White Water World Championships,consisting of Canoe Slalom, Canoe Freestyle and Wild Water Canoeing , Bratislava (SVK), White Water World Championships,consisting of Canoe Slalom, Canoe Freestyle and Wild Water Canoeing , La Seu D’Urgell (ESP)/Sort (ESP) BoD voted: Sort (ESP)</p> <p>2018 Dragon Boat Club Crew World Championships BoD voted: Lake Lanier Gainesville (USA)</p>		
<p>GENERAL COMMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT</p> <p>He had been present in many IOC meetings regarding Agenda 2020 as had Tony Estanguet.</p> <p>For Paralympic Games the ICF only had Kayak events, however, the possibility of introducing Va’a for Tokyo 2020 was high and all continents needed to work to develop the discipline in their continent.</p> <p>In 2017 the IOC would review all Olympic Sports and as a consequence the ICF needed the maximum number of athletes in Canoe ladies in Milan at the World Championships to show it was a strong event. At the last Canoe Sprint World Championships there were 34 nations represented by men and 19 nations with women. In Canoe Slalom the situation was better but could still be improved also.</p> <p>According to the medals for the Olympic Games canoeing had a high number of medals and therefore was at risk to losing some.</p> <p>The President would stand for election to the ASOIF Executive in order to keep close to the group influencing the decisions on the Olympic Programme.</p>		

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<p>Changing events or replacing events/disciplines would not be easy but it was a task the ICF needed to do to stay on the Olympic programme. Detailed, objective analysis was required in the next year on the Olympic Programme for Canoeing.</p>		
<p>Olympic Strategy Commission Report</p> <p>The Chair thanked the ICF HQ, President and Tony Estanguet for the support on their ongoing project.</p> <p>The project principals were: Gender Equity Diversity Universality Sustainability</p> <p>The goal was to evaluate the whole sport and make proposals for the Olympic Programme 2020 and beyond.</p> <p>The short term targets were to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluate the effectiveness of the ICF TV & Media strategy. 2. An Image Campaign to improve the perception of the sport particularly aimed at the IOC members. 3. Create a Questionnaire to evaluate the status of all canoeing disciplines around the world <p>Long term targets were to:</p> <p>Propose an Olympic programme that achieved gender equity by 2020 Propose which events should be included in the Olympic Programme. Propose changes of competition format and a better sport presentation.</p> <p>The Canoe Slalom booklet and the new image brochure were sent to all NFs, highlighting arguments showing sustainability of Canoeing venues.</p> <p>Potential new formats in Canoe Slalom with fixed poles were to be tested in Germany and for Canoe Sprint a new course layout was to be tested in Hamburg.</p> <p>Various proposals were being assessed and the Commission would provide a proposal for the Olympic Programme by the next BoD meeting.</p>		
<p>SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT</p> <p>The BoD approved Belize as an ICF member resulting in the ICF having 163 member federations.</p>		

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<p>The requests for nationality change of Canoe Polo and Canoe Slalom athletes were refused as it was decided to follow the rules and not to apply any exception.</p> <p>As requested at the last BoD meeting the ICF headquarters had looked for a marketing agency. The ICF had met with a number of agencies. Three agencies were selected: Synergy; based in Lausanne, ACT agency based in Germany and Tridem Sport based near Zurich.</p> <p>Tridem Sports worked with the International Ski Federation on sponsorship and TV and were the most suitable fit for the ICF as their staff could concentrate on canoeing in the summer. The agreement was on commission basis only. However, the agreement would be exclusive in nature for them to sell ICF commodities. The BoD approved the appointment of Tridem and agreed that the ICF HQ finalise a contract with the agency.</p> <p>The BoD approved the “ICF expenses policy” which would be the base for reimbursement of expenses for all ICF stakeholders.</p> <p>Social Media had changed for most sports recently, with many IF’s investing heavily into the area to ensure they have good numbers for their statistics when the IOC assessed them. The ICF had to be careful not to be left behind the other IFs. A proposal would be made to the BoD for addressing this issue.</p>		
<p>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT</p> <p>The BoD was referred to the reports produced for the meeting.</p>		
<p>TREASURER’S REPORT</p> <p>In January 2015 the Swiss bank removed the ceiling for the Euro exchange rate resulting in the ICF losing 20 percent of its ICF investments. It was agreed that the ICF had to keep to the original budget approved for 2014-2016, however, spending had to be controlled whilst the exchange rate impacted the financial situation of the ICF.</p> <p>It was explained that the cost of the ICF Congress 2014 was significantly higher than the amount that was proposed due to the Polish federation not being able to pay the part of the bills. Finally, the ICF paid the bill. The BoD agreed that this situation should not happen in the future.</p>		
<p>ICF GOVERNANCE</p> <p>The ICF Congress 2016 would be shown new changes to the ICF Governance structure. However, at the last BoD meeting it was decided to maintain the existing structure of the BoD.</p>		

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<p>In 2016 the ICF may need an extraordinary Congress to approve the changes to the statutes for the Governance changes.</p> <p>The ICF President's proposal was:</p> <p>ExCo Structure: President – 1st Vice President – Flat Water Vice President – Wildwater Vice President – Treasurer / Marketing - 5 Continental Presidents – Athlete Representative - Secretary General. An increase of 6 people.</p> <p>Board of Directors: The 12 Executive Board Members – 8 Continental Representatives – 8 Technical chairs – 2 other Chairs (Athletes and Medical/Anti doping). A total of 30 people.</p> <p>The ICF President suggested to have one four day long BoD meeting a year and two Executive Committee meetings a year.</p> <p>The President requested that an ICF Strategic Plan be drafted by the ICF Secretary General and also the roles and responsibilities for each stakeholder within the new structure be developed. The papers were to be presented to the BoD before the next meeting.</p> <p>It was mentioned that Paracanoe needed support and had to be part of the changes. The working functions of the ExCo compared to the roles of the BoD needed to be analysed.</p> <p>The implementation of timeline for the Governance was seen as important so that NFs had time to assess it before the Congress in 2016.</p>		
<p>CANOE SPRINT – Frank Garner</p> <p>It was highlighted that the costs due to the World Cup program changes in 2015 (three distances in one day) had increased significantly by 10'000 to 15'000 Euros per World Cup. This was seen as not sustainable and future solutions were needed to reduce costs.</p> <p>In order to make sure to have serious bidders, it was discussed in the past that a bidding fee of 2'500 EUR not refundable, would be asked to the NFs who apply to ICF Events. The money would be used in the event management budget.</p> <p>The principle was agreed with but the rule should be applied to all Olympic disciplines which could certainly improve the process. If decision was made then it should be mentioned in the rule books. Further discussions and propositions to be made at the next Board Meeting.</p> <p>The CSPC supported the proposed idea of a technical manager for the</p>		

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<p>discipline within the ICF HQ.</p> <p>ITOs:</p> <p><i>2015 ICF Junior and U23 World Championships and Senior World Championships</i> - The ICF received 40 applications for the Juniors and 60 for the Senior. The lists of officials presented by CSPC were approved by the BoD.</p> <p>Olympic test Event Canoe Sprint, Rio de Janeiro, September 2015 the ITO list was approved by the BoD.</p> <p>The 2016 Paralympic Games, Rio de Janeiro, the ITO list was approved by the BoD.</p>		
<p>CANOE SLALOM – Jean Michel Prono</p> <p>ITOs: same list as for the test event in Rio as for the World Championships in London 2015.</p> <p>The Olympic Committee Commission had suggested introducing a world ranking, starting the year after the Olympic Games as a part of the Olympic qualification quota. The aim would be to enhance the World Cups in both Olympic disciplines. The topic needed to be discussed as part of the Qualification System with the BoD at a later meeting.</p>		
<p>WILDWATER CANOEING – Jens Perlwitz</p> <p>A bid from Augsburg had been received for the 2017 ICF Wildwater Canoeing World Cup. The Committee would look for three more bids to make the series complete.</p> <p>Wildwater Canoeing Committee proposed ITOs for 2015 ICF competitions which were approved by the BoD.</p>		
<p>CANOE MARATHON – Jørn Cronberg</p> <p>The Committee had been working in line with the Strategic Operation Plan for the discipline.</p> <p>The Committee asked for the support of the BoD for the hosting of World Cups in 2017 (Belgium and China) and also to approve the ITOs for World Championships 2015. Both requests were approved by the Board.</p> <p>Canoe Marathon with the approval of the BoD was using the same facilities as Canoe Sprint with two concepts:</p>		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Normal distance with a lap of 3.6 km which fit within a Regatta course - Following the World Games in Cali, a short lap of 1.2 km was introduced, using a heat and final system. 		
<p>CANOE POLO – Andrea Donzelli</p> <p>A Facebook page for Canoe Polo was declined by the BoD. It was explained that the decision was taken several years earlier to centralise the media under the ICF umbrella.</p> <p>The Committee would like to re-organise the World Championships starting from 2016, with two separate World Championships for U21 and Senior teams running consecutively at the same venue.</p> <p>The main reasons were to reduce the cost for the NFs and bring the events into city centres. It would also facilitate the progressive increase of team numbers in the future. In 2014 there were 64 teams. 68 teams were already planned for 2016 and 72 in 2018.</p> <p>It was pointed out that the rules were General Rules and would need to be submitted to the next ICF Congress for implementation in 2018, if agreed.</p> <p>The Committee asked for a better venue for World Games 2017. It was not likely a change could be made if Canoe Polo wanted the extended number of teams. Would be discussed further with World Games.</p>		
<p>DRAGON BOAT – Dr Wai Hung Luk</p> <p>The 2016 ICF Dragon Boat World Championships would take place in Moscow (RUS), the 2017 ICF Dragon Boat Club Crew World Championships in Treviso (ITA) and the 2018 ICF Dragon Boat World Championships in Gainesville (USA).</p> <p>The BoD approved the list of ITOs for the World Championships.</p>		
<p>CANOE FREESTYLE – Lluís Rabaneda</p> <p>The Committee wanted to run Judges seminars in the next two years. It was proposed to organise the two seminars in Canada and the UK. The Committee requested a budget of up to 7,900 Euros. There would be at least 15 people at each seminar. The project was approved by the BoD.</p> <p>The Committee requested to change two definitions in the rule appendices. The changes were approved by the BoD.</p> <p>The Committee was working on the 2016 and 2018 ICF Canoe Freestyle World Cups. Bids had already been submitted from Brazil and Argentina for</p>		

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<p>2016. Further information would be provided to the BoD.</p>		
<p>OCEAN RACING – Mario Santos</p> <p>The Ocean Racing Committee proposed to keep the same format as the first World Championships which was approved by the BoD.</p>		
<p>MEDICAL COMMITTEE – Donald McKenzie</p> <p>It was suggested that ICF should encourage wellness assessments for canoeing athletes like in other sports. It would involve a questionnaire of physical examination and at least an ECG.</p> <p>Over 3’700 athletes had completed the Pure Paddling Anti-doping Education Programme.</p> <p>WADA had included a minimal level of analysis of testing in the ICF Doping Control program which resulted in an increase in costs for ICF. Due to this issue the Medical Committee requested an increased budget. Analysis would be completed in the next budget review.</p>		
<p>PARACANOEING – John Edwards</p> <p>The ICF had financially covered the classification expenses for the main 2015 competitions.</p> <p>The provisional rules for Va’a was approved by the BoD.</p> <p>A fee structure for Paracanoe teams at World Championships was proposed to cover Classifier expenses: less than four athletes=100 EUR, less than 8 = 200 EUR, less than 12 athletes=300 EUR, 12 or more athletes = 400 EUR. Proposal was approved by the BoD.</p> <p>The Paracanoe and Marathon Committees were working together to develop rules. Proposal for future rules and competitions would be completed for the next ICF Congress.</p> <p>The ICF President thanked the Chair, his Committee and the Canadian Federation for the huge work that had been done to get Paracanoe where it was in such a short period of time.</p>		
<p>ATHLETE COMMITTEE (ICF Secretary General)</p> <p>It was stated that two athletes had been proposed by NF’s for vacant positions on the Athlete Committee, one for Canoe Marathon and one from Paracanoe.</p>		

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<p>AFRICAN CONTINENTAL REPORT</p> <p>The African Continental Committee highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the CAC Continental DP Budget and Activity Projects for 2015 - dates of the Africa Canoe Sprint Championships and Olympic Qualifier 29th March 2016 – 4 April 2016 - dates of the Africa Canoe Slalom Championships and Olympic Qualifier 7th-15th November 2015. <p>The Commonwealth Games would be in RSA in 2022. Ongoing discussions were being held to include Canoeing. In case it did not work the back up plan would be to have a Commonwealths Canoeing Championships before or even during the Commonwealth Games in order to showcase Canoeing.</p>		
<p>AMERICAS CONTINENTAL REPORT</p> <p>In the Caribbean area there were about 20 countries with NOCs from which only 7 had Canoeing federations.</p> <p>Further development of the Caribbean and Central America was important for canoeing in the region.</p> <p>The ICF President congratulates COPAC for having included the C1 women sprint and Canoe Slalom in the Pan American Games. Further planning was required for Canoeing events at the Lima 2019 Games.</p> <p>It was requested to have a dedicated Paracanoe budget for the American Continent.</p>		
<p>ASIA CONTINENTAL REPORT</p> <p>The Asia Continental Association was currently preparing the 2018 Asian Games in Indonesia. The Asian Games had grown too large with 36 sports events included in the Programme and organisers were trying to reduce the size.</p> <p>ACC had been pushing for two years to include Canoe Polo in the programme. ACC requested that all 16 Olympic Canoe events were kept in the Asian Games program, as well as the inclusion of Traditional Boat race and Canoe Polo as an exhibition event.</p> <p>ACC requested support from the ICF to support the ACC efforts in the above issue.</p>		
<p>EUROPE CONTINENTAL REPORT</p> <p>The ECA requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ranking of the level of International competitions, 		

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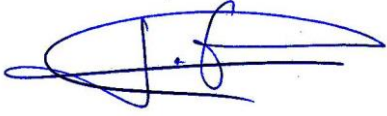
<p>- Proposal to organise a calendar meeting between the ICF, Continental representatives and media experts to avoid clashing of the events.</p> <p>ICF President highlighted the good work that has been done by the ECA to include Canoeing in the first European Games.</p> <p>To add new disciplines in the European Games, ECA has to work through the European Olympic Committee to try to introduce all the categories of Canoeing.</p> <p>Canoeing was accepted in the European Youth Olympic Programme for 2017 thanks to the support of the Slovakian Canoe Federation.</p>		
<p>OCEANIA CONTINENTAL REPORT</p> <p>There was no TIP programme planned in conjunction with the CSP World Championships. This was a huge obstacle for developing countries. It went against the philosophy of the TIP which was to identify and select young paddlers who had the potential to qualify for the 2016 Olympic Games.</p> <p>The way it had been structured for 2015 made it very difficult for the Oceania Continent to be present at the Olympic Games.</p> <p>Solutions to reallocate the TIP budget to help African and Oceania Continents would be considered following the BoD meeting.</p>		
<p>WOMEN'S COMMISSION</p> <p>The Women Commission was pleased with the 2020 Gender Equity decision of the ICF BoD.</p> <p>It was highlighted that the ICF needed to reflect again on the opportunity for women to be appointed as ITO's at ICF competitions.</p> <p>The Commission still wanted the e-mail addresses for the women members as asked to the Chairs at the last Board meeting. Only one discipline had so far replied.</p>		
<p>ICF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME</p> <p>The plans for 2015 Development Programme were outlined and the situation regarding the TIP programmes for 2015.</p>		
<p>MISCELLANEOUS</p> <p>After the last BoD meeting there were some discussions about recognising</p>		

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<p>members leaving the BoD. The letter of the ICF President thanking people for their involvement was appreciated but more could be done.</p> <p>For the next Congress those people recognised would receive ICF medals.</p>		
<p>MEDIA</p> <p>The ICF needed to invest online because media represented 20% of the IOC criteria in its evaluation of IFs for the Olympic Games.</p> <p>2015 was a major year in terms of online work for the ICF. There would be an increase in interest during Olympic qualification. The current online infrastructure of the ICF was seven years old and did not integrate well with social media platforms.</p> <p>The proposal was for maximum exposure for all disciplines, a platform for athletes and use National Federation's content more. The ICF wanted to be the first IF fully supporting its Athletes online, with a platform called "Medallists".</p> <p>Redtorch company was to push the media at ICF events. Redtorch provides event social media assistance to boost audience reach. A Media Sports Team would be created to help during events by delivering content on a freelance basis.</p> <p>The expected budget was : 200'000 EUR investment over 4 years consisting of:</p> <p>Redevelopment of website:100'000 Olympic Qualifier/World Championship Social media Engagement: 26'000 Medallist Athlete profile Platform: 18'000 Social Media Advertising: 20'000 Media Support Network: 36'000 :</p> <p>The online platform for social media was guaranteed to be ready at least a month prior to the World Championships in 2015.</p> <p>Sportscene owns the domain name of PlanetCanoe.com. The BoD agreed to try to obtain the domain name. It was agreed to contact Sportscene to discuss the problems that had arisen in the past and try to find a suitable solution to work together in the season ahead.</p>		
<p>The location of the next BoD scheduled for late November 2015 was not decided and would be communicated to all BoD members as soon as possible.</p> <p>It was requested to change the programme to finish the Board meetings on Saturday instead of Sunday.</p>		

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