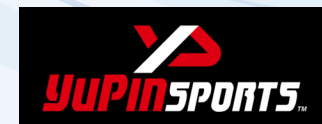




Canoe Polo

Rule Focus

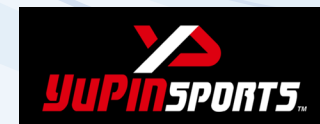
Welland World Championships
2018





The purpose of this Rule Focus is to increase the consistency of refereeing at the championships and to give clarity to Referees.

It is intended to be an open and public document, so that Coaches and Players can be aware of areas that Referees are being asked to consider, *PRIOR* to the start of the Championships.



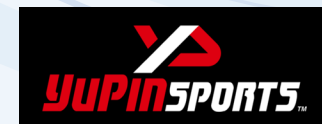


Specific areas of focus:

- Sprint Start
- Advantage
- Contact with the ball in a players hand
- Obstruction in the 6m area

Use of technology:

- Referee Headsets
- Goal line Cameras





Sprint Start

When the players come together the focus should be on how they are controlling their boat.

Out of control and into body – FOUL

If the player on top rides over the deck in one continuous action with no significant contact to the body – NO FOUL

Bow of the boat into body or face-guard – FOUL

Didn't win possession but continues to paddle onto the boat into the body of the opponent or onto the spray-deck and stops - FOUL

Didn't win possession but continues to paddle under the boat until it contacts his body and stops - NO FOUL

A player who could have avoided any of the fouls above should receive at least a Green Card.





Advantage

**What is the 'real' advantage in allowing play to continue?
There should be a "benefit" to the play continuing (73.1)**

Is a goal the likely end result?

Card can be issued at the next break in play if the original foul would deserve it.

**Pass does not complete or no shot. - Then make sure you call it back -
to the point of the original foul**

**It may help players and spectators if Referees can continue signalling "play on"
throughout the time that they are playing advantage.**





Contact with the ball in a players hand - Open play

The punctuation of 69.5 has given rise to an inconsistency between referees.

**For clarity - the intention is that during open play IT WILL BE ALLOWED,
to take or knock the ball from an opponent's hand,
so long as there is no direct contact with the opponent.**

**Any force that is deemed, by the referee, to be excessive or in which, in any way,
endangers the tackled player will result in a foul being called.**

(Downward pressure is not generally acceptable)





Contact with the ball in a players hand - When shooting

Any contact with the arm that is likely to cause injury must be called as a foul.

Covered by any or a combination of the following rules :

65 Illegal Hand Tackle

69 Illegal Holding

Any hand-tackle, which endangers the tackled player.

And

65.2 Any body contact other than one open hand to the opponents' back, upper arm or side.

CONTINUED





Contact with the ball in a players hand - When shooting (Continued)

Illegal Holding - additional clarification adapted from European Handball

Existing rule:

“69.5 A player using a forceful action with one or both hands that results in significant contact with the opponent’s arm, or with the ball that is still in contact with the opponent’s hand.”

ADDITIONAL NEW CLARIFICATION to be added to 69.5:

‘Any contact from the side or behind that either strikes or pulls back the throwing arm an opponent who is in the process of throwing or passing the ball.’

A Free Shot or Goal Penalty Shot with the appropriate card will apply depending on the situation, location and severity of the foul.





Obstruction in the 6m area

Rule 67 defines a jostle: “A jostle is a player manoeuvring their kayak against an opponent’s kayak... at the attacking end of the field, to gain a position”

This rule has meant that almost all boat to boat contact in the 6m area becomes part of a jostle. Therefore, apart from the exceptions of 67.2, 67.3 and 67.4, that contact WOULD NOT be called as a foul. Players engaged in jostling cannot unilaterally decide that they are no longer jostling.

However in some circumstances it can be seen that contact in the 6m area may not be considered as a jostle and then a foul could be called for Illegal Obstruction.

The most quoted example is a player who takes a corner throw and is then prevented from joining the general play by an opponent. They are not jostling, they are being illegally obstructed.





Use of Technology

Referee Headsets - *will be available and used in Welland.*

It is hoped that this will speed up communication between Referees and with the Table Officials. This should be a particular advantage when referees do not agree on a decision and call time out to consult. (Ideally only regarding Goal, Penalty or Yellow and Red Card decisions.) If after brief discussion they still do not agree the First Referee will make the final decision.

Goal Line Cameras - *will be available and used in Welland.*

Goal Line Cameras will be used at the start of each half to ensure that teams line up and do not “jump” the start. The Camera feed will be viewed by the Table Officials.

All other Goal Line situations will be controlled by the Referees.

