



**December 13, 2017
Invitation Bulletin**





2018 ICF CANOE POLO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Welcome to the 2018 ICF Canoe Polo World Championships

Greetings to everyone in the Canoe Polo community around the world! The 2018 ICF World Championships Host Organizing Committee (HOC) in partnership with Canoe Kayak Canada are already working on welcoming the many teams and athletes to Welland next summer, and we hope the information in this bulletin will be helpful to you for planning and confirming your participation in our event.

Welland is located in the Niagara region of Canada, one of the great tourist destinations of the world; so while we work to deliver a premier event that raises the bar for Canoe Polo as a sport, we also look forward to showcasing all the great features of our region with you to enhance your experience.

In this bulletin we focus on sharing the most important information to the participants in the event, in future editions we will expand the information provided to share more helpful details about the event including the venue, amenities, services, tourism options, and more!

Sincerely,

2018 ICF World Championships Host Organizing Committee



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Table of contents

City of Welland – General Information	3
Key Dates	4
Organizing Committee Structure.....	5
Welland International Flatwater Centre – Venue Information	5
Travel (Airport Locations).....	6
Airport Shuttle	6
Canadian Visa Requirements.....	6
Participation Fees and Services	7
Payment Process	7
Event Registration	8
Accommodation Information	8
Accommodation Rates	9
How to Book Accommodations	10
Cancellation Policy.....	10
Medical Insurance	10
Participant Checklist	11
Contact	11



City of Welland – General Information

Welland, Ontario, Canada is known as “The Rose City” for its beautiful rose gardens located within the city’s parks. It is situated in the heart of the Niagara Region and is abundant with heritage, culture and community spirit.

The citizens of Welland are proud to host the World Championships and welcome newcomers to explore the wonderful opportunities the City and Region has to offer.

Welland is located in a part of Canada that offers a unique and renowned natural environment. The Niagara escarpment is a major feature of the area; a 725km long ridge that extends throughout southern Ontario. Visitors enjoy the forested areas and waterfalls of the escarpment through world-class hiking and outdoor adventuring opportunities. Another spectacular feature of the Niagara region is the Niagara Parkway, a scenic drive from Fort Erie to Niagara- on-the-Lake. In a 1943 visit, Winston Churchill referred to the Parkway as “the prettiest Sunday afternoon drive in the world.”

In addition to the abundance of parks, trails, gardens and beaches is the Region’s most famous feature, Niagara Falls – one of the Great Wonder’s of the World. The Falls are 57 meters high (180 feet) and has 168,000 cubic meters of water fall over its crest every minute. Hydro created from the redirected waterflow provides electricity to Southern Ontario and Western New York, making the falls a vital resource to both Canada and the United States. The majesty of the Falls attracts millions of visitors annually to the “Honeymoon Capital of the World.”





2018 ICF CANOE POLO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Key Dates

December 20, 2018	.....	Bookings open for accommodations, offsite meals, and accommodation shuttles
January 10, 2018	.....	Closing date for confirmation of entry submitted to ICF
January 11, 2018	.....	Opening of online entries on ICF Sports Data Platform (SDP)
February 1, 2018	.....	Latest date for wildcard invitations
February 23, 2018	.....	Deadline for accommodation booking (initial payment due, excluding wildcards)
March 16, 2018	.....	Deadline for online registration through ICF SDP – numerical entries, excluding wildcards
March 23, 2018	.....	Deadline for accommodation (final payment, excluding wildcards)
March 31, 2018	.....	Closing date for confirmation of wildcard entry submitted to ICF
April 15, 2018	.....	Deadline to request VISA Invitation Letter
April 30, 2018	.....	Deadline for wildcard accommodation (full payment required by this date)
July 3, 2018	.....	Closing of online registration on ICF SDP
July 27, 2018	.....	Accreditation opens
	.....	Venue opens for pre-training
July 29/30, 2018	.....	Official training days and start of scrutineering
July 30, 2018	.....	Scrutineering and training;
	.....	Opening Ceremonies (Merritt Park Amphitheatre)
July 31, 2018	.....	Start of 2018 ICF Canoe Polo World Championships*
August 4, 2018	.....	Championship Finals and medal ceremonies for U21 events*
August 5, 2018	.....	Championship Finals and medal ceremonies for Senior events*
	.....	Closing Ceremonies & Celebration
August 6, 2018	.....	Departure day

**Final schedule to be approved by ICF Canoe Polo Committee*



Organizing Committee Structure



Welland International Flatwater Centre – Venue Information

The Welland International Flatwater Centre (WIFC) North Course will be the host venue for the 2018 ICF Canoe Polo World Championships. The WIFC is located at the end of the 7.5km long Welland Recreational Waterway. The WIFC venue is a premier international flatwater sport facility and venue, with infrastructure up to date with current international standards for hosting and accessibility.

The WIFC will be focused on presenting a high quality event, fitting of the growing and exciting sport of Canoe Polo; four top quality competition pitches will be in place, meeting all ICF requirements.

In addition, the WIFC venue will be outfitted with:

- 8 practice goals
- State of the art operational facility (multipurpose building and broadcast/results tower)
- Fully accessible facility for athletes and spectators
- Athletes Village with boat storage
- WIFI connectivity
- 500 permanent grandstand seats in front of “Centre Pitch”
- Paved trails along both sides of venue
- 35 foot deep water with basin-like characteristics and minimal waves



Travel (Airport Locations)

The main arrival airport for the 2018 ICF Canoe Polo World Championships will be Pearson International Airport (YYZ), a large international hub with flights to most parts of the world.

Pearson Airport is located 75 minutes from Welland.

Airport Shuttle

The Host Organizing Committee is pleased to offer Airport Transportation from Toronto Pearson Airport to your accommodation site. The round trip fees for this service:

Participant	\$70 CAD per person
Participant and Kayak	\$160 CAD per person

Airport transportation must be booked in advance, the specific payment process will be provided in Bulletin 2, early in 2018.

Limitations of service: Airport transfer organized through the HOC will not be available from Buffalo International Airport (BIA) or Hamilton Airport (YHM)

Canadian Visa Requirements

All visitors to Canada require a visa except citizens of countries where an exemption has been granted. Please visit the following website to obtain visa requirement information about your specific country:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada.html>

International participants should be advised that upon arrival to Canada they will be required to produce their travel Visa when proceeding through Canadian Customs. Canadian Visas are not available at the border or airport upon entry to Canada, they must be obtained before travel to Canada.

Upon request an official Letter of Invitation will be sent via email to each Team and or National Federation. **Please do not delay in beginning your Visa application!!!**



Participation Fees and Services

All participants of the 2018 ICF Canoe Polo World Championships (Athletes, Coaches, Team staff and Team Leaders) must pay a daily Participation Fee to access the World Championships Competition. Participation fees must be paid in full to validate issuance of event accreditation passes.

Cost

\$365 (CAD) per participant

Duration

Participation fee entitles each participant to the services listed below for a total of eight (8) days:

July 29-30, two (2) official training days

July 31-August 5, six (6) competition days

Services

- Accreditation
- Daily Lunch at Venue
- Use of Flatwater Centre
- Use of venue and pitches
- Drinking Water at Venue
- Boat Racking
- On-site Security
- On-site Medical Services
- Free venue WIFI
- Attendance at Opening Ceremonies
- Transportation to/from Opening Ceremonies from Official Accommodations
- Access to local shuttle/transportation to shopping areas



**Participation fee does not include offsite meals, accommodations, or accommodation shuttle*

Payment Process

Details regarding the payment process, including methods of payment for participant fees will be provided in bulletin 2



2018 ICF CANOE POLO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Event Registration

The 2018 World Championships is a 'closed' event, meaning all participating teams for the event must be invited by the ICF Canoe Polo Committee based on the completed qualification process for the event.

All invited teams are then required to complete the online registration process for all athletes, coaches, and support staff through the ICF registration portal known as SDP.

Please register at: <https://icf.msl.es/icf/main.jsp>

Accommodation Information

The HOC is pleased to provide **three** all inclusive accommodation options to participants, each including breakfast and transportation shuttle, with dinner also available as an additional option.

Option A: Niagara College Welland - Athletes' Village

Welland Campus is located ten minutes away from the Welland International Flatwater Centre

Niagara College provides suite style accommodations. Each suite provides a private shared bathroom, shared kitchenette and two separate bedroom areas.

Breakfast and dinner will be served in an adjacent building to the residence. A large window for mealtimes will be established, to ensure teams are able to accommodate their evening meal within the competition schedule.

A sample menu will be provided via bulletin.

For 2018 ICF World Championships, Niagara College Residence has made 100 suites available, limiting accommodation to 200 participants at this location.



Option B: Brock University

Brock University is located in St. Catharines, 25 minutes from the Welland International Flatwater Centre.

Niagara College provides double occupancy rooms in a university style accommodation with shared bathroom access.

Breakfast and dinner will be served in an adjacent building to the residence. A large window for mealtimes will be established, to ensure teams are able to accommodate their evening meal within the competition schedule.

A sample menu will be provided via bulletin.



2018 ICF CANOE POLO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS



Option C: Canada's Best Value Inn

Canada's Best Value Inn is located ten minutes away from the Welland International Flatwater Centre

Rooms are based on double occupancy and have two twin beds in each, each room has a private bathroom.

Breakfast and dinner will be served in an adjacent building to the hotel. A large window for mealtimes will be established, to ensure teams are able to accommodate their evening meal within the competition schedule.

A sample menu will be provided in via bulletin.

For 2018 ICF World Championships, Niagara College Residence has made a limited number of rooms available at Canada's Best Value Inn, bookings will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.



Accommodation Rates

Both accommodation locations and options include:

- Overnight stay
- Breakfast
- Event shuttle

Option 2 includes above + evening meal

Rates for Accommodations:

Accommodation Location	Option #1 without dinner	Option # 2 including dinner
Niagara College – Welland	\$95.75 CAD	\$120.75 CAD
Brock University	\$84.75 CAD	\$109.75 CAD
Canada's Best Value Inn	\$110.28 CAD	\$135.28 CAD



2018 ICF CANOE POLO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

How to Book Accommodations

Booking of accommodations will be completed through our partners Canadian Sport Team Travel. CSTT is a team of professionals specializing in sport-related travel who are committed to keeping costs as low as possible for amateur athletes.

**Note – transactions charges may apply depending on method of payment, please consult CSTT portal for further information*

To Book your rooms please visit: https://secure.cstt.com/Tournaments/HotelList_Results.php?eventid=9040

This link will be active starting December 20, 2018

Or

Contact Kelly Enwright after December 20, 2018 at:

1-800-304-6346

kelly@sport-travel.com

Cancellation Policy

In the event a booking is cancelled, a charge will be made equivalent to any loss suffered by Canoe Polo Welland.

The amount of any cancellation fee will be calculated according to notice given after the following dates:

May 11, 2018	30% of total costs
June 6, 2018	50% of total costs
June 29, 2018	100% of total costs

Medical Insurance

Canoe Polo Welland 2018 asks that all participants of the World Championship take out a medical insurance policy in their respective country. All costs above the regular first aid and ambulance services are to be covered by this medical insurance policy.

Canoe Polo Welland 2018 will not cover any expenses in connection with hospital, dental or other medical treatment.

2018 ICF CANOE POLO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Participant Checklist

To ensure teams are clear on the steps required to confirm registration in the 2018 World Championships the HOC presents this simple checklist to use in conjunction with the key dates found on page 5:

- Become familiar with key dates (p. 5)
- Launch Visa application process (p. 7)
- Book your accommodation and offsite meals through CSTT (p. 10)
- Register your team through SDP portal (p. 9)

Contact

If you have any questions about the information contained in this bulletin, please email the HOC: canoepolowelland2018@canalcorp.ca and we will be happy to reply to you within 48 hours.





2018 ICF CANOE POLO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

