# Technical Handbook for head to head sprint and obstacle slalom 

Version 2018 updated on 15 June 2018
This document was created for Youth Olympic Games, Buenos Aires 2018

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## A. GENERAL REGULATION FOR ALL EVENTS

A.1. Aim

The aim of the competition is for athletes to race each other in kayaks or in canoes over the given course in the shortest possible time according to the rules.
The number of athletes entered in each event determines the progression system.
The progression system is based on:

- time (qualification heats and repechages)
or
- winning a race (last 16 , quarterfinals, semifinals, finals)


## A.2. Categories

There are four (4) categories:

| Short name | Long name |
| :---: | :---: |
| K1M | Kayak Men |
| K1W | Kayak Women |
| C1M | Canoe Men |
| C1W | Canoe Women |

## A.3. Events

There are eight (8) events:

| Men's Events (4) |  | Women's Events (4) |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K1 | Head to head sprint | K1 | Head to head sprint |
| K1 | Obstacle slalom | K1 | Obstacle slalom |
| C1 | Head to head sprint | C1 | Head to head sprint |
| C1 | Obstacle slalom | C1 | Obstacle slalom |

## A.4. Age

To be eligible to participate in the 2018 Canoeing World Qualification Competition and Youth Olympic Games, Buenos Aires 2018, athletes must have been born between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2003.

## A.5. Validity of an event

An event is held only if at least six (6) National Federations from at least three (3) continents start in the event.

## A.6. The race

A.6.1. All participating athletes must compete in the same category in:

- head to head sprint event


## and

- obstacle slalom event.
A.6.2. The participating athletes in each category will be divided into pairs based on the progression system.


## A.7. Boat specifications \& boat control

A.7.1. Boat specification:
A.7.1.a - Canoe sprint boat for head to head sprint events:

|  | K1 | C1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Maximum length | 5.20 m | 5.20 m |
| Minimum width <br> Measured 10 cm from the <br> bottom of the hull | 0.31 m | 0.31 m |
| Minimum weight | 12.00 kg | 14.00 kg |

The canoe sprint boat must fulfil ICF Canoe Sprint rules article 8.
A.7.1.b - Canoe slalom boat for obstacle slalom events:

- The boat must be the hybrid type (K1 and C1) "Versatile" slalom boat produced by Polaczyck Co. with following specifications:

|  | Hybrid K1 / C1 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Minimum length | 3.50 m |
| Minimum width | 0.60 m |
| Minimum weight | 10.5 kg |

A.7.2. All boats will be provided by the Organising Committee and ICF:

- Canoe sprint boat: 30 K1 "Vintage" produced by NELO (three different sizes) and 30 monotype C1 "Vintage" (three different sizes) produced by NELO
- Canoe slalom boat: 45 "Versatile" will be provided in three different sizes
A.7.3. All provided boats will respect the specifications defined in section A.7.1.
A.7.4. It will be obligatory to use these boats. An athlete cannot compete in any other boat.
A.7.5. The boat will be allocated based on athlete size and competition timing.
A.7.6. Before the competition, all boats should pass boat control for approval.
A.7.7. After race, boat control will be taken randomly.


## A.8. Personal numbers

A.8.1. All athletes will be distributed a bib number which they will keep throughout the competition. The bib will include the athlete's country code.

## A.9. Photo finish - Timekeeping

A.9.1. There must be photo-finish equipment approved by the ICF.
A.9.2. The time must be recorded and published in $1 / 100$ s of a second.
A.9.3. There must be two video systems with camera/VCR with slow motion that must show the athletes' relative position in their boat at the finish line.

## A.10. Start order for qualification phase

A.10.1. In each category, each athlete will be allocated a randomly computer-generated start order.
A.10.2. This start order will be used to pairing athletes in qualification phase.

## B.RACING ORGANISATION AND REGULATIONS OF THE COMPETITION

## B.1. Progression system

The competition is composed of two phases; qualification and final phases:

- The qualification phase is up to two rounds depending on the number of entries in a particular event. The qualification phase can consist of: qualification heats and repechage.
- The final phase is up to four rounds depending on the number of entries in a particular event. The final phase can consist of: last 16, quarterfinals, semi finals and finals.


## B.2. Diagram of the progression system

B.2.1. "A" - Up to 16 athletes

|  | Composition | Pairing | Progression |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Qualification heats | -All athletes entered in this event | - Pairing by start order (1-2, 3-4, 5$6, \ldots$ ) | -The 4 fastest by time advance to the quarterfinals <br> - Rest to repechage |
| Repechage | - From the qualification heats, $5^{\text {th }}$ place and below by time | - Same order as the qualification heats. <br> - At the place of qualified athlete, next non-qualified takes the place | - 4 fastest by time advance to the quarterfinals <br> - Rest out |
| Last 16 | Not applicable |  |  |
| Quarterfinals <br> (8 athletes) | - The 4 fastest by time from the qualification heats <br> - The 4 fastest by time from the repechage | - The 4 fastest athletes from qualification heats will be ranked $1^{\text {st }}$ to $4^{\text {th }}$ by time <br> -The 4 fastest athletes from repechage will be ranked $5^{\text {th }}$ to $8^{\text {th }}$ by time <br> - The highest ranked half to be paired with the lowest ranked half ( $1^{\text {st }}-5^{\text {th }} ; 2^{\text {nd }}-6^{\text {th }} ; \ldots$ ) | - Winners to the semi final <br> - Rest out |
| Semi finals (4 athletes) | -The winners from the quarterfinals | - Pairing by time from quarterfinals $\left(1^{\text {st }}-3^{\text {rd }} ; 2^{\text {nd }}-4^{\mathrm{th}}\right)$ | - Winners to the gold medal final orest to the bronze medal final |
| Finals <br> (2-2 athletes) | - Bronze medal <br> - Gold medal | - | - |

B.2.2. "B" - 17 to 24 athletes

|  | Composition | Pairing | Progression |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Qualification Heats | $\bigcirc$ All athletes entered in this event | - Pairing by start order (1-2, 3-4, 5-6,...) | -The 8 fastest by time advance to last 16 <br> -The rest to the repechage |
| Repechage | -From the qualification heats, $9^{\text {th }}$ place and below by time | - Same order as the qualification heats. <br> -At the place of qualified athlete, next non-qualified takes the place | - The 8 fastest by time advance to last 16 <br> - Rest out |
| Last 16 <br> (16 athletes) | - The 8 fastest by time from the qualification heats <br> - The 8 fastest by time from repechage | -The 8 athletes from qualification heats will be ranked $1^{\text {st }}$ to $8^{\text {th }}$ by time <br> -The 8 athletes from repechage will be ranked $9^{\text {th }}$ to $16^{\text {th }}$ by time <br> - The highest ranked half to be paired with the lowest ranked half ( $1^{\text {st }}-9^{\text {th }} ; 2^{\text {nd }}-10^{\text {th }} ; \ldots$ ) | - Winners to the quarterfinals <br> - Rest out |
| Quarterfinals <br> (8 athletes) | - The winners from the last 16 | - Pairing by time from last 16 <br> - The fastest half to be paired with the slowest half ( $1^{\text {st }}-5^{\text {th }} ; 2^{\text {nd }}-6^{\text {th }}$; ...) | - Winners to the semi final <br> - Rest out |
| Semi finals (4 athletes) | - The winners from the quarterfinals | - Pairing by time from quarterfinals $\left(1^{\text {stt }}-3^{\mathrm{rd}} ; 2^{\text {nd }}-4^{\mathrm{th}}\right)$ | - Winners to the gold medal final <br> - Rest to the bronze medal final |
| Finals (2-2 athletes) | -Bronze medal <br> -Gold medal | - | - |

B.2.3. "C" - 25+ athletes

|  | Composition | Pairing | Progression |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Qualification Heats | -All athletes entered in this event | - Pairing by start order (1-2, 3-4, 5-6,...) | -The 5 fastest by time advance to quarterfinals <br> $\circ 6^{\text {th }}$ to $35^{\text {th }}$ place to the repechage <br> - Rest out |
| Repechage | -From the qualification heats, $6^{\text {th }}$ to $35^{\text {th }}$ place by time | - Same order as the heats. <br> - At the place of qualified athlete, next non-qualified takes the place | - The 3 fastest by time advance to quarterfinals <br> - Rest out |
| Last 16 | Not applicable |  |  |
| Quarterfinals (8 athletes) | - The 5 fastest by time from the qualification heats <br> - The 3 fastest by time from repechage | - The 5 athletes from qualification heats will be ranked $1^{\text {st }}$ to $5^{\text {th }}$ by time <br> - The 3 athletes from repechage will be ranked $6^{\text {th }}$ to $8^{\text {th }}$ by time <br> - The highest ranked half to be paired with the lowest ranked half ( $1^{\text {stt }}-5^{\text {th }} ; 2^{\text {nd }}-6^{\text {th }} ; \ldots$ ) | - Winners to the semi final <br> - Rest out |
| Semi finals (4 athletes) | -The winners from the quarterfinals | - Pairing by time from quarterfinals $\left(1^{\text {st }}-3^{\text {rd }} ; 2^{\text {nd }}-4^{\text {th }}\right)$ | - Winners to the gold medal final <br> -Rest to the bronze medal final |
| Finals <br> (2-2 athletes) | - Bronze medal <br> -Gold medal | - | - |

## B.3. Pairing

B.3.1. For the qualification heats athletes are paired by start order.
B.3.2. For subsequent rounds, the athletes will be paired based on their time achieved in the previous phase. The fastest half ranked athletes will be paired with the lowest half ranked athletes.
B.3.3. From the last 16 onwards, the winner of each pair progresses to the next phase by knock out. After each phase a ranking list will be established by time.
B.3.4. In case of an odd number of athletes in a round:
B.3.4.a - If the athletes are paired by start order (qualification heats and repechage), the lowest athlete will race alone.
B.3.4.b - If the athletes are paired by time, the first athlete from the fastest half will race alone. An example with 7 athletes: $1^{\text {st }}$ alone, $2^{\text {nd }}-5^{\text {th }} ; 3^{\text {rd }}-6^{\text {th }}$ and $4^{\text {th }}-7^{\text {th }}$.

## B.4. Tie break rules (except for gold final and bronze final)

B.4.1. Ties may occur if:

- Two or more athletes record the same time during the qualification,
- The officials cannot determine who crossed the finish line first.
B.4.2. Rules for qualification heats round:
- If the progression is affected by two or more athletes having the same result in the qualification heats, the tie should be broken by a re-run (tie break run).
- If two or more athletes are tied which affects the start order for a subsequent round, the tie should be broken by a re-run. Alternatively, the tie can be broken by a coin toss with agreement of all affected team leaders.
- The fastest athlete will be ranked highest. The original race time will be displayed on the results of the phase.
- The starting time of the re-race will be determined by the competition committee.
B.4.3. Rules for other rounds:
- The athlete with the fastest time in the previous round of competition is declared the winner.
- If the tie still occurs, the prior round times will be considered until the tie can be broken.


## B.5. Tie break rules (for gold final and bronze final)

B.5.1. Additional medals will be awarded if a tie between athletes occurs in a final race.
B.5.2 Gold medal dead heat: two gold medals will be awarded. No silver medal will be awarded.
B.5.3. Bronze medal dead heat: two bronze medals will be awarded.
B.5.4. If a tie occurs between athletes with invalid results, the competition committee can request a re-run. If a re-run is not possible the medals will be allocate as follow:

- Gold final: two silver medals will be awarded, and no gold medal will be awarded
- Bronze final: both athletes will be ranked $4^{\text {th }}$ and no bronze medal will be awarded


## B.6. Invalid results

B.6.1. Athletes with invalid results will receive one of the following:

| DNF | Did Not Finish | See section B.7 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| DSQ | Disqualified | See section B.8 |
| DNS | Did Not Start | See section B.9 |
| EXC | Excluded | See section B.10 |

## B.7. Did Not Finish (DNF)

B.7.1. An athlete is given a DNF result in the case where he/she does not cross the finish line.
B.7.2. An athlete is given a DNF result in the case where he/she leaves the boat completely.
B.7.3. For obstacle slalom event, an athlete is given a DNF result in the case where he/she crosses the finish line upside down (the head of the athlete is entirely under water).
B.7.4. If an athlete is not able to complete the race due to an equipment issue (paddle or boat or a part of the boat), the race will not be re-run. Spare paddles cannot be given to the athlete. The athlete will be marked as DNF in the results.

## B.8. Disqualification (DSQ)

The Competition Committee is the decision maker on any disqualification matters. Athletes may be disqualified in the following cases:
B.8.1. Athlete does not successfully navigate the course and cross the finish line correctly.
B.8.2. Athlete does not take part in the qualification heats of one event and will be disqualified (DSQ) for the other event in the same category.
B.8.3. Athlete paddling on the opponent's course.
B.8.4. Athlete who accepts outside assistance.
B.8.5. Athlete who false starts twice in the same round.
B.8.6. For specific matters of disqualification in the obstacle slalom event see section E.7.

## B.9. Did Not Start (DNS)

B.9.1. The athlete is not at the start in due time.

## B.10. Excluded (EXC)

B.10.1. The Competition Committee is the decision maker to exclude athletes from the competition.
B.10.2. An athlete may be excluded in the following cases:
B.10.2.a - Attempts to win a competition by "irregular" means (e.g. cheating, doping)
B.10.2.b - Willfully breaks the rules
B.10.2.c - Behaviour / code of conduct issues / bringing the sport into disrepute

## B.11. Progression and ranking for athletes with invalid results

B.11.1. The sort order for athletes who have an invalid results mark is DNF and DSQ considered equally, followed by DNS.
B.11.2. In qualification heats, these athletes will not be ranked and will not progress but will be sorted in alphabetical order, after considering section B.11.1.
B.11.3. If an athlete receives a DNF or a DSQ result in subsequent rounds:

- These athletes will be ranked below all the athletes who have successfully completed the course.
- After considering section B.11.1, these athletes will be ranked by their time from the previous round.
- These athletes can progress if the competition rank allow it.
B.11.4. If an athlete receives a DNS result in subsequent rounds:
- These athletes will be ranked below all the athletes who have successfully completed the course.
- After considering section B.11.1, these athletes will be ranked by their time from the previous round.
- These athletes cannot progress at all.
B.11.5. If an athlete receives an EXC results in subsequent rounds:
- The athlete will not be ranked in the competition.
- He/she will appear with the mark excluded (EXC) at the end of the competition results.
- All his/her results will be annulled for all events.


## B.12. Withdrawals

B.12.1. Withdrawal of an entry from one event requires the justification of illness or injury supported by a medical certificate to avoid disqualification from the other event in the same category.

## B.13. Protests / Appeals

B.13.1. Upon official publication of the disqualification by the competition committee, team leaders may protest against competition rule irregularities to the competition committee within ten minutes.
B.13.2 Protest cannot be made against disqualification for false start nor incorrect course negotiation.
B.13.3. If the protest is dismissed, there is no further right to appeal.

## B.14. Re-run

B.14.1. Irregularities on the course, or unbreakable ties, may result in a re-run. Athletes may be requested to re-run either an interrupted or a completed race following a decision of the Competition Committee. Any re-run decision cannot be appealed.
B.14.2. The starting time of the re-run will be decided by the competition committee.

## B.15. Calculation of final ranking for an event

B.15.1. The final ranking is calculated as follows depending on the qualification system utilised:
B.15.1.a - Progression system "A" - Up to 16:

| Rank | Last round | Details |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Gold medal final | Winner |
| 2 |  | Loser |
| 3 | Bronze medal final | Winner |
| 4 |  | Loser |
| 5 | quarterfinals | Losers from quarterfinals ranked by time |
| 6 |  |  |
| 7 |  |  |
| 8 |  |  |
| 9 to 16 | repechage | $9^{\text {th }}$ onwards from repechage ranked by time |

B.15.1.b - Progression system "B" - 17 to 24:

| Rank | Last round |  |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 1 | Gold medal final | Winner |
|  |  | Loser |
| 2 | Bronze medal final | Winner |
|  |  | loser |
| 3 |  |  |
| 4 | Quarterfinals |  |
| 5 |  |  |
| 7 |  | Losers from last 16 ranked by time |
| 7 |  | $4^{\text {th }}$ onwards for repechage ranked by time |
| 9 |  |  |
| 9 | to 16 |  |
| 17 to 24 |  | Repechage |

B.15.1.c - Progression system "C" - 25+:

| Rank | Last round | Details |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Gold medal final | Winner |
| 2 |  | Loser |
| 3 | Bronze medal final | Winner |
| 4 |  | Loser |
| 5 | Quarterfinals | Losers from quarterfinals ranked by time |
| 6 |  |  |
| 7 |  |  |
| 8 |  |  |
| 9 to 35 | Repechage | $4^{\text {th }}$ to $30^{\text {th }}$ from repechage ranked by time |
| 36 to ... | Qualification heats | $36^{\text {th }}$ onwards from qualification heats ranked by time |

## B.16. Final ranking for an event not completed

B.16.1. If an event is not completed due to cancellation, in these exceptional circumstances the final results of the competition based on the last completed round of the event will be the results.
B.16.2. If the event is cancelled after the qualification heats, the final result is the ranking list from this round.
B.16.3. If the event is cancelled after the repechage, the final result is the ranking list from the qualification phase (combined ranking from qualification heats and repechage).
B.16.4. If the event is cancelled after any round of the final phase the final result is the final ranking updated at this stage with:
B.16.4.a - Winners of the last completed round ranked by time at the top of the ranking list.
B.16.4.b - Followed by losers of the last completed round ranked by time
B.16.4.C - And finally followed by other athletes already ranked based on their last completed round.

## C. OFFICIALS

C.1.1. The competition is to be managed by a competition committee consisting of the technical delegate (event delegate) and two members. The ICF board of directors will approve the composition.
C.1.2. ICF will select 14 ITOs for a competition. The same officials will judge all events.
C.1.3. The selection of the competition committee and 14 ITOs will be based on the recommendation of the ICF canoe sprint and canoe slalom committees taking into account continental representation. The ICF board of directors will approve the selection.
C.1.4. 10 national technical officials (NTOs) will be selected by the organizing committee to support the ITOs.
C.1.5. One of the ITOs or NTOs will take the position of technical manager: responsible for the equipment and other technical matters including the technical staff in connection with the event.
C.1.6. The competition shall be held under the supervision of the following officials:

- Finish line judges
- Starter
- Pre-starter or aligner
- Boat marshals
- Course umpires
- Time keeper
- Boat placing assistants
C.1.7. A seminar will be given for the selected officials before the competition starts.


## D.SPECIFIC COMPETITION RULES FOR CANOE HEAD TO HEAD SPRINT

## D.1. The course construction and the course design

D.1.1. The layout of the course provides equal distances for each athlete and is marked with visible buoys and separated with buoy-lines between the 2 sides. The athlete finishes the race when his/her boat's bow reaches the finishing line.
D.1.2. It has 3 straights, and two turning maneuvers (one anticlockwise and one clockwise). The full course length is approximately 400 m . The start and finish will be on the same line.
D.1.3. The breakdown of the race course:

- The $1^{\text {st }} \mathrm{leg}$ is 70 m straight from the start to the $1^{\text {st }}$ turning buoy;
- The $2^{\text {nd }}$ leg is the $1^{\text {st }}$ turn around the buoys (anticlockwise);
- The $3^{\text {rd }}$ leg is approximately 100 m straight until the second turn
- The $4^{\text {th }}$ leg is the $2^{\text {nd }}$ turn around the buoys (clockwise);
- The $5^{\text {th }}$ leg is the final 70 m straight until the finish line;
- Two turning points with about 25 m radius will be marked with 5 buoys ( 40 or $50 \times 50$ cm in size)
- The 5 buoys indicating the turn will be located as per the draw.
- Two automatic start machines are required. Speakers need to be placed on the start machines.
- In order to see the direction clearly a swimming lane rope shall be placed on the course to separate the two directions of the two paddlers on the head to head sprint course.
D.1.4. In exceptional circumstances the competition committee, in conjunction with the technical delegate / event delegate, may amend the course to suit local conditions. National Federations will be advised as soon as this information is available.

See example of course map on next page.

## D.2. The traffic on the course

D.2.1. The paddling direction will be anti-clockwise at the first turn.
D.2.2. The race will be one full lap of the course - one anticlockwise and one clockwise turn.
D.2.3. The athletes shall paddle on the course in accordance with the layout of the course from start to finish.
D.2.4. The athlete's body, paddle or the boat can touch the swimming lane rope or buoys at any point but the boat cannot go inside or on the wrong side of the course.
D.2.5. Incorrect negotiation on the course can be corrected by paddling back and correctly completing the course.
D.2.6. If the two athletes are passing each other at the same turn, the athlete entered the turn first has the priority to finish his maneuver.

## D.3. Starting rules

D.3.1. Two athletes will start at the same time on the start line. The starts will be supported by automatic start machines.
D.3.2. The start interval will be defined by the ICF technical delegate (event delegate).
D.3.3. The athlete receiving course A (random, computer generated) needs to line up closest to the finish-tower whilst the athlete with course B shall line up on the opposite side. The letters will be placed on boats for the race.
D.3.4. The athletes shall be on the water at the starting area when and where the Officials require.
D.3.5. The start must be on time respecting the race schedule.
D.3.6. The start command will be: "READY - SET" then start signal or gunshot will be given. Between the order of SET and the start signal the athletes must not paddle. If any athlete starts paddling before the start signal they will be given a false start and a final warning.
D.3.7. In the event of a second false start, in the same race, by the same athlete he/she will be disqualified (DSQ) from the competition for this event.
D.3.8. In the case that an athlete is disqualified (DSQ) for 2 false starts, the remaining athlete will have to complete the course to progress to the next round.
D.3.9. In the case that an athlete withdraws (DNS) from a race, the remaining athlete will have to complete the course to progress to the next round.

## D.4. Finishing rules

D.4.1. The finish line is the same place as the start line.
D.4.2. Athletes finish the race when the bow of the boat reaches the finish line between the marked (red) buoys with the athlete in it.
D.4.3. Athletes must remain in the finish area until dismissed, as they may be required for equipment or doping control.

## E. SPECIFIC COMPETITION RULES FOR OBSTACLE SLALOM

## E.1. The course construction and the course design

E.1.1. The layout of the course is the same for both athletes with marked visible red and green numbered buoys (see design draw on the next page). A separation buoy-line between the two courses exists.
E.1.2. Two courses will be built with an identical layout. Four pairs of buoys will be placed on the approximately 50 m long course.
E.1.3. The breakdown of the race course:

- Zone 1 - Start to $4^{\text {th }}$ buoy: The athletes paddle from the start, negotiating the buoys 1 to 4 in the required direction.
- Zone 2 - Eskimo-roll area: between $4^{\text {th }}$ and $5^{\text {th }}$ buoy
- Zone 3 - From $5^{\text {th }}$ buoy to finish line: The athletes exit from the rolling area and return to the finish line by clearing buoys 5 to 8 .
E.1.4. The start position (see design draw in appendix 1) requires two platforms on the pontoon for the boats to slide down to the water
E.1.5. The entire course shall be marked with the required colored buoys. Buoys for obstacle slalom should be as shown on the sketch (8 red and 8 green)
E.1.6. In exceptional circumstances, the competition committee, in conjunction with the technical delegate / event delegate, may amend the course to suit local conditions. National Federations will be advised as soon as this information is available.

See example of course map on next sheet.


## E.2. Negotiation of the course

E.2.1. All the buoys must be negotiated in numerical order (1 to 8).
E.2.2. All buoys may be negotiated in any presentation from the correct side of the buoy.

## E.3. Negotiation of the buoys

The buoy line is the line between two buoys, perpendicular to the buoys considering the longitudinal axis of the course

E.3.1. Negotiation of a buoy begins when the start is given or the boat and the body of the athlete breaks the buoy line
E.3.2. Negotiation of a buoy ends when the negotiation of any subsequent buoy begins OR the finish line is crossed.
E.3.3. The following conditions must be satisfied for a buoy to be considered correctly negotiated:

- All buoys must be negotiated in accordance with the direction established by the colour of the buoy:
- Red buoys: to be passed on the right-hand side
- Green buoys: to be passed on the left-hand side
- The complete body of the athlete and boat must go along the buoy in accordance with the correct side of the buoy and the course plan.
- During any buoy negotiation no part of the body and boat is allowed to break the buoy line on the wrong side.
E.3.4. There is no penalty for touching a buoy


## E.4. Correct negotiation of the eskimo-roll

E.4.1. The paddlers must make a full roll (fall right-come up left or fall left-come up right).
E.4.2. The roll must be done within the defined area marked by the $4^{\text {th }}$ and $5^{\text {th }}$ buoys and 2 other buoys making a square area ( $5 \mathrm{~m} \times 10 \mathrm{~m}$ ).

## E.5. Starting rules

E.5.1. For each race, athletes will be randomly (computer generated) allocated start position A or B.
E.5.2. Athletes will be called to the start by the pre-start control immediately after the previous athletes have completed their race.
E.5.3. Athletes will start the race by sliding off the platform into the water.
E.5.4. The start command will be: "READY - SET" then the start signal will be given. Between the order of "SET" and the start signal the athletes and their boats must remain motionless, hands on the shaft paddle. In any other case, he/she will be given a false start and a final warning. In the case of a second false start by the same competitor, he/she will be disqualified (DSQ) from the event.
E.5.5. In the case that an athlete is disqualified (DSQ) for 2 false starts, the remaining athlete will have to complete the course to progress to the next round.
E.5.6. In the case that an athlete withdraws (DNS) from a race, the remaining athlete will have to complete the course to progress to the next round.

## E.6. Finishing rules

E.6.1. The finish line is an imaginary line. 2 coloured (not red or green) buoys will mark the finish line.
E.6.2. Athletes finish the race when the bow of the boat crosses the finish line.
E.6.3. Athletes must remain in the finish area to warm down until dismissed, as they may be required for equipment or doping control.

## E.7.Specific matters resulting in disqualification for obstacle slalom

E.7.1. Intentional pushing of a buoy to allow negotiation (it is not judged an intentional push when the body and the boat of the athlete were already in a position in which it would have ideally negotiated the buoy).
E.7.2. Buoy omitted. Buoy(s) omitted is determined to have occurred when negotiation of any subsequent buoy begins or the finish line is crossed.
E.7.3. During any buoy negotiation no part of the body and boat is allowed to break the buoy line on the wrong side.
E.7.4. The full eskimo-roll is not completed as describe at the section E.4.

