

# 2025 ICF CANOE POLO RULE CLARIFICATIONS

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ICF Canoe Polo





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# SPRINT STARTS (1)

## Not at the Same Time:

If one player arrives late and fails to maintain control of their kayak, resulting in direct contact with the nose of their kayak on the opponent's body, PFD, or helmet, the action will be considered deliberate and/or dangerous.

- The referee shall call an Illegal Kayak Tackle,
- A sanction card will be awarded,
- The color of the card will be determined based on the severity and impact of the contact.

If a player chooses to dive in front of an opponent's kayak to gain possession of the ball, and as a result is hit by the opponent's kayak, this will not be considered as a dangerous tackle by the opponent because they did not cause the dangerous kayak tackle.

If one player is clearly first to the ball, the other player (who does not get the ball) must make the effort to avoid any dangerous kayak tackle or contact with the opponent's body.





# SPRINT STARTS (2)

## Both arrive at the Same Time:

If both players arrive at exactly the same time and there is incidental contact, such as one kayak sliding over the other without significant impact, it will be considered normal play.

- No foul will be called,
- No card will be issued, as the contact is not deliberate, as both players are contesting the ball fairly.





# DEFENDER'S PADDLE

If a defender is stationary with their hand(s) or paddle positioned beyond arm's reach, and an attacker **deliberately initiates contact by moving into that area:**

- No foul will be called, provided that,
- The defender's hand(s) or paddle remain stationary,
- It is the attacker's responsibility to avoid contact in such situations when attempting to shoot or score a goal.





# ILLEGAL HAND TACKLE (1)

## Before the Throwing Action begins:

If the attacker's arm is **stationary** and the **throwing action** has not **yet started**,

The defender may play the ball, provided that:

- There is no forceful or downward action,
- The contact is not dangerous, and
- The defender makes contact only with the ball, not the hand or arm.





# ILLEGAL HAND TACKLE (2)

## Once the Throwing Action begins:

As soon as **the ball is raised behind the attacker's head**, indicating the start of the throwing motion:

- No contact is permitted with the attacker's throwing arm or the ball.

*10.21.2.d - Any hand-tackle from the side or from behind, that either strikes or pulls back the throwing arm of a player who is in the process of throwing or passing the ball.*

