



INTERNATIONAL CANOE FEDERATION

CANOE OCEAN RACING

COMPETITION RULES

2025

Taking effect from 1 January 2025

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to provide the rules that govern:

- a) Canoe Ocean Racing
- b) The organisation of Canoe Ocean Racing competitions

LANGUAGE

British English is the recognised language for all communication relating to these competition rules and the conduct of all canoeing international competitions.

Any word which may imply the masculine gender also includes the feminine.

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RULES STRUCTURE

ICF Sport Governance Rules <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common Rules applicable to all disciplines• Exactly the same wording contained in the first chapter of each rule book	[CR]
ICF Principle Rules <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The principle is applicable to all disciplines• Rules tailor made for each discipline• The principle affects all NFs to a high extent	[PR]
ICF Sport Rules <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Competition and Field of Play rules• All technical aspects specific to the disciplines	[SR]

RULES DECISION PROCESS

ICF Sport Governance Rules [CR]

	Congress	Board of Directors	Technical Committee	National Federations
Proposal		X	X	X
Drafting Wording		X		
Discussion	X			
Vote	X			

ICF Principle Rules [PR]

	Congress	Board of Directors	Technical Committee	National Federations
Proposal		X	X	X
Drafting Wording		X		
Discussion	X			
Vote	X Overall policy and direction	X Final wording after congress		

ICF Sport Rules [SR]

	Congress	Board of Directors	Technical Committee	National Federations
Proposal			X	X
Drafting Wording			X	
Discussion		X		
Vote		X		

PROCEDURE FOR REVIEW OF ICF RULES

The year prior to the Congress	<i>May to November</i>	Consultation with all stakeholders (e.g., athletes, coaches, officials) about rule changes needed.
	<i>December to First (1st) of March</i>	Rule proposals by National Federations and ICF Technical Committees.
The year of the Congress	<i>March</i>	Analysis of all proposals by ICF Technical Committees.
	First (1 st) ICF Board of Directors meeting in <i>March / April</i>	Vote of the sport rules [SR]. Assessment of sport governance rules [CR] and principle rules [PR].
	At least three (3) months prior to the Congress	Publication of the approved sport rules [SR] by the ICF Board of Directors. Publication of the assessed sport governance rules [CR] and principle rules [PR].
	ICF Congress <i>November / December</i>	Vote of the sport governance rules [CR]. Vote of the main policies and directions concerning the principle rules [PR].
	Board of Directors meeting after the Congress <i>November / December</i>	Vote of the principle rules [PR].
	First (1 st) of January After the Congress	Publication and application of the approved rule changes.

GLOSSARY

Sport	The sport is canoeing, kayaking and all paddling activities.
National Federation	Member National Federation of the International Canoe Federation.
Discipline	A discipline is a branch of a sport comprising one (1) or several events (e.g., Canoe Sprint, Canoe Slalom...).
Competition	The competition runs from the start of the first event to the completion of the last event of a discipline, excluding the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.
Athlete or player	Male or female athlete. In Canoe Polo refer to a player.
Gender	Men or Women
Boat/board	A boat/board is the watercraft used to practice canoeing (e.g., canoe, kayak, SUP): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A single boat/board: a boat/board with only one (1) place for an athlete (e.g. kayak single); • A crew boat/board: a boat/board with more than one (1) place for an athlete (e.g. canoe four).
Age group	e.g., junior, under 21, under 23, masters depending on each discipline
Category	A category is defined by a boat/board and a gender (e.g., Men Kayak, Mixed Canoe).
Class	A class is defined by a category and the number of places in a boat/board (e.g., men kayak double; women canoe four).
Event	An event is a contest in one (1) discipline resulting in the award of medals. An event is defined by at least a class and depending on the competition and the discipline with the additional optional information: a distance and / or an age group (e.g., junior men's kayak double 500m, under 23 women's kayak single, men's canoe double classic).

Type of event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual events: A boat/board comprised of one (1) or more athletes competing against other boats/boards. • Team events: two (2) or more boats/boards competing together against other teams.
Event Phase	A stage of competition (e.g., preliminaries, heats, semifinal, final).
Groups	Denoting one section (usually 5-10 athletes) that paddle in reverse ranked sequence for each run in a phase.
Run or race or match	The basic unit of an event phase (e.g., heats 1 st run, semifinal, final).
Competition programme	The list of events included in a competition.
Competition schedule	The complete list of events and their different phases with the time at which they will be held.
International Technical Official	Oversee the operation of the competition.
Host Organising Committee	The host organising committee can be a National Federation or a subsidiary or a third party organisation specialising in competition management.
Definition of meaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • may: optional • should: recommendation • must: mandatory / compulsory
Sport Class (only paracanoe book)	A Sport Class is a category defined by ICF Paracanoe in the Classification Rules, in which Athletes are grouped by reference to the impact of an eligible impairment on their ability to execute the specific tasks and activities fundamental to the sport.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ICF	International Canoe Federation
NF	National Federation
CORC	Canoe Ocean Racing Committee
CR	Sport Governance Rules
PR	Principle Rules
SR	Sport Rules
HOC	Host Organising Committee
ITO	International Technical Official
WRP	World Ranking Points
DNS	Did Not Start
DSQ	Disqualified
DNF	Did Not Finish
DQB	Disqualified for unsportsmanlike behaviour

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CHAPTER 1 - SPORT GOVERNANCE

1.1 - INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

[CR]

1.1.1 - All competitions announced as international must be governed by the rules of the ICF.

1.1.2 - Competitions organised by a National Federation, or its affiliated associations are regarded as international if foreign athletes / teams are invited.

1.1.3 - Canoeing competitions in regional, continental, and multi-sport Games must be organised under the ICF rules for World Championships for that discipline.

1.1.4 - The organisation and programme of canoeing in multi-sport games on a world level must be approved by the ICF and for continental level by the relevant continental association.

1.2 - INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION CALENDAR

[CR]

1.2.1 - The international competition calendar of each discipline is organised in four (4) levels:

	Type of competition	Competition
Level 1	ICF competition	ICF World Championships
Level 2		ICF World Cups
Level 3		ICF World Ranking competitions
Level 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• International competitions• Masters or open competitions• Invitational competitions	

1.2.2 - Only a National Federation, associate member, their clubs, or a continental association of the ICF may apply for a competition level 4 to be entered into the ICF calendar.

1.2.3 - A calendar application for an international competition level 1 and level 2 is outlined in the ICF statutes.

1.2.4 - A calendar application for an international competition level 3 (if applicable) and level 4 can be made by the following process:

1.2.4.a - A calendar application is made directly into the ICF database;

1.2.4.b - The deadline for calendar applications for international competition level 3 is First (1st) of September the year before the competition;

1.2.4.c - The deadline for calendar applications for international competition level 4 is three (3) months before the competition.

1.2.5 - Calendar publication

1.2.5.a - The calendar of ICF competitions level 1 and level 2 will be published by 1st January the year before the competitions;

1.2.5.b - The calendar of ICF competitions level 3 will be published by First (1st) of October the year before the competitions;

1.2.5.c - The calendar of international competitions (level 4) will be published immediately after approval by the ICF.

1.3 - ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY FOR ICF COMPETITION (LEVEL 1 TO 3) [CR]

1.3.1 - Only athletes who are members of clubs or associations affiliated with a National Federation have the right to participate in an ICF competition.

1.3.2 - An athlete having satisfied 1.3.1. and having first obtained the (written) consent of the athlete's National Federation, is permitted to compete individually in an ICF competition.

1.3.3 - Each National Federation must ensure that their athletes are in a good state of health and fitness which allows them to compete at a level commensurate with the level of the particular ICF competition.

1.3.4 - Each National Federation must ensure that their athletes, team officials, as well as the National Federation itself, carry appropriate health, accident, and personal belongings insurance.

1.4 - AGE GROUP

[CR]

1.4.1 - The first year an athlete can compete in an ICF competition (level 1 to 3) or an international competition (level 4) is the year of their 15th birthday.

1.4.2 - An athlete starting from the year of their 13th birthday can compete in an international competition (level 4) in a specific age group event with a suitably adapted competition format / rules defined by the HOC.

1.4.3 - The last year an athlete can compete in the U16 age group is the year of their 16th birthday.

1.4.4 - The last year an athlete can compete in the junior age group is the year of their 18th birthday.

1.4.5 - The last year an athlete can compete in the under 21 age group is the year of their 21st birthday.

1.4.6 - The last year an athlete can compete in the under 23 age group is the year of their 23rd birthday.

1.4.7 - An athlete can compete in a masters' event in the year that they reach the lower limit of the age group. The masters' age groups are defined by each discipline with a minimum age of 35 years.

1.4.8 - To enter in an event with a specified age group an athlete or the National Federation must produce documentary proof such as passport, identity card or similar document with a photograph, confirming the age of the athlete.

1.5 - ATHLETE SPORTING NATIONALITY CHANGE

[CR]

1.5.1 - An athlete who has competed internationally at any level in the last three (3) years requires authorisation from the ICF with the approval of the two (2) National Federations involved to change sporting nationality.

1.5.2 - For an athlete to be eligible for a change of sporting nationality he/she must have lived in that country for the last one (1) year or hold the nationality of the new country.

1.5.3 - An athlete who is aged 18 or under can change sporting nationality with the approval of the two (2) National Federations involved. He/she is not required to fulfil the one (1) year residency rule.

1.5.4 - The request for the change of sporting nationality must be made to the ICF by the new National Federation no later than 30th of November the year before the athlete wants to compete.

1.5.5 - For the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Olympic and Paralympic Charter rules will be applied for nationality issues.

1.5.6 - For an athlete to gain an Olympic or Paralympic quota place in canoeing they must hold citizenship/nationality of the National Federation they represent.

1.5.7 - An athlete cannot compete for more than one (1) National Federation in any calendar year in canoeing.

1.5.8 - UN Refugee athlete.

1.5.8.a - An athlete that has no recognised country of sporting nationality and has official UN Refugee status can compete in ICF competitions. The request to compete in ICF Competitions must be sent to the ICF Headquarters who will decide if the entry can be accepted in conjunction with the Technical Chair of the discipline;

1.5.8.b - The Refugee athlete will hold the same status as a national team member from other countries in the ICF competition and abide by ICF Statutes and Competition Rules;

1.5.8.c - The Refugee athlete must be allowed to compete in the National Championships in the country where he/she obtained UN Refugee status;

1.5.8.d - Changes to the athletes UN Refugee status or that the athlete obtains a sporting nationality will activate the ICF rules for sporting nationality.

1.6 - ENTRIES PROCESS

[CR]

1.6.1 - ICF competitions (level 1 to level 3).

1.6.1.a - Nominal entries for ICF competitions will only be accepted from National Federations which are current members of the ICF;

1.6.1.b - An entry must contain:

- Name of the National Federation to which the athlete(s) belongs;
- First and last name for the athlete(s);

- The country of birth of the athlete(s);
- The gender of the athlete(s);
- Date of birth of the athlete(s);
- The ICF number of the athlete(s) (if known);
- The events in which the athlete(s) or team(s) wish to take part;
- The first, last name(s) and the e-mail address of the Team Leader.

1.6.1.c - Nominal entries must be made on the ICF online entry system;

1.6.1.d - A receipt for the nominal entry will be available via the ICF online entry system;

1.6.1.e - The deadline for nominal entries is 10 days before the first day of competition or classification for paracanoe;

1.6.1.f - In extraordinary circumstances, an application can be made to the Technical Chair for the acceptance of late nominal entries from National Federations. It is the Technical Chair's discretion to accept or decline a late entry. Late entries to the competition will incur a fee of 50 euros per athlete in addition to the participation fee (late entries and withdrawals from events are described in chapter 13);

1.6.1.g - In crew boats the names of the athletes must be in the order that they compete in the boat. The first name must be the athlete at the front of the boat.

1.6.2 - International competition (level 4).

1.6.2.a - Nominal entries for international competitions (level 4) will be accepted from individuals or National Federations;

1.6.2.b - Entries must be in writing or online in accordance with the regulations given by the HOC;

1.6.2.c - An entry must contain:

- The sporting nationality of the athlete;
- First and last name(s) for the athlete;
- The gender of the athlete;
- Date of birth of the athlete;
- The events in which the athlete(s) or teams wish to take part.

1.6.2.d - The HOC must acknowledge in writing or electronically the receipt of each entry within two (2) days.

1.7 - VALIDITY OF A COMPETITION

[CR]

1.7.1 - World Championships (ICF competition level 1).

1.7.1.a - In the Olympic and Paralympic events, a valid World Championship is held only if at least six (6) National Federations from at least three (3) continents start in the event. If during the competition some National Federations drop out or do not finish, the validity of the Championships is not affected;

1.7.1.b - For the non-Olympic and non-Paralympic events, a valid World Championship is held only if at least six (6) National Federations in each event and at least three (3) continents start OVERALL in the competition. If during the competition some National Federations drop out or do not finish, the validity of the Championships is not affected.

1.7.2 - World Cup (ICF competition level 2) and ICF competition level 3:

1.7.2.a - A valid World Cup is held only when there is a minimum of five (5) National Federations from at least two (2) continents start in the competition;

1.7.2.b - To be recognised as a valid event at least three (3) boats/boards or three (3) teams from two (2) different National Federations start in that event;

1.7.2.c - For the validity of the event it is not necessary for all three (3) boats/boards or all three (3) teams finish.

1.7.3 - To be recognised as an international competition (level 4) at least an invitation must be distributed to National Federations or to foreign athletes.

1.8 - ICF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (LEVEL 1)

[CR]

1.8.1 - World Championships are only organised upon the authority of the ICF Board of Directors and only in the events given in the competition programme.

1.8.2 - Changes to the organisation of the World Championships may only be made by the process documented in the contract between the ICF and the HOC.

1.8.3 - The ICF Board of Directors will determine the competition programme, based on the recommendation of the concerned Technical Committee.

1.8.4 - The competition schedule is the responsibility of the ICF. The ICF will consider the broadcasting needs and / or other external factors affecting the schedule.

1.8.5 - Jury.

1.8.5.a - During the World Championships, the supreme authority rests with the Jury;

1.8.5.b - The Jury consists of three (3) persons;

1.8.5.c - The ICF Board of Directors appoints the members of the Jury;

1.8.5.d - One (1) of these members is named Chair of the Jury.

1.8.6 - Awards.

1.8.6.a - The awards are given according to the ICF protocol guidelines;

1.8.6.b - The medals are awarded as follows:

- 1st place: a gold medal
- 2nd place: a silver medal
- 3rd place: a bronze medal

1.8.6.c - In the crew boat/board events or team events, each athlete will receive the appropriate medal;

1.8.6.d - To maintain the formality of the ceremony the athletes receiving medals must wear their national team uniforms.

1.8.6.e Athletes/crews/teams who only have an invalid result mark (IRM), are not awarded.

1.8.7 - Nations Cup.

1.8.7.a - The Nations Cup will be awarded to the National Federation at the World Championships with the best overall performance;

1.8.7.b - The ranking list will be produced according to the system defined for each discipline.

1.9 - MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (LEVEL 4)

[CR]

1.9.1 - Masters World Championships can be organised in each discipline.

1.9.2 - The ICF Board of Directors will determine the events based on the recommendations of the concerned Technical Committee.

1.9.3 - Individual and National Federations entries will be accepted.

1.10 - ANTI-DOPING

[CR]

1.10.1 - Doping as defined in the World Anti-Doping Code and the ICF anti-doping rules is strictly forbidden.

1.10.2 - The anti-doping programme must be conducted in accordance with the ICF anti-doping control regulations under the supervision of the ICF medical and anti-doping committee.

1.10.3 - Athletes and support personnel, entered in any ICF competition or continental championships must complete the ICF's anti-doping education programme or equivalent before competing or risk being denied entry to the competition.

1.11 - APPEAL TO THE ICF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

[CR]

1.11.1 - A participating National Federation can appeal to the ICF Board of Directors if, after the end of the competition, new facts become known that would substantially affect a decision made at the competition.

1.11.2 - Matters of fact considered during the competition cannot be contested in an appeal.

1.11.3 - An appeal to the ICF Board of Directors must be submitted within 30 days following the end of the competition accompanied by a fee of 75 Euros. The fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.

1.11.4 - The ICF Board of Directors makes its decision and addresses it in writing to the National Federation.

1.12 - DISQUALIFICATION FOR SERIOUS UNSPORTSMANLIKE BEHAVIOUR [CR]

1.12.1 - "Disqualified for Serious Unsportsmanlike Behaviour (DQB)" indicates a disqualification due to a serious breach of the applicable rules or regulations issued by the ICF or the governing body responsible for the competition, or a violation of the World Anti-Doping Code.

1.12.2 - For DQB, the ICF has complete discretion regarding whether an Athlete/Team will be disqualified from one, several or all of the events entered at the competition, regardless of whether they are scheduled, in progress or already completed.

1.12.3 - For disqualification after competition caused by doping or ineligibility the following must be completed:

- Deletion of all achieved results and rankings of boat(s) /board(s) (DQB);
- Re-calculation of all results accordingly;
- Production of the revised version of all affected outputs (results, summaries, medals).

1.13 - RESULTS [CR]

1.13.1 - For ICF competitions (level 1 to 3) an electronic copy of the detailed official results must be provided to the ICF in a specified format within seven (7) days of the end of the competition. Electronic results must be kept online for historical purposes.

1.13.2 - For international competitions (level 4) an electronic copy of the detailed entries and official results should be sent to the ICF in pdf format for publication on the ICF website within seven (7) days of the end of the competition.

1.14 - TRADEMARKS AND ADVERTISING [CR]

1.14.1 - The advertising of tobacco smoking and strong spirit drinks is not permitted.

1.14.2 - Boats/boards, accessories and clothing may carry trademarks, advertising symbols and written text.

1.14.3 - Images, symbols, slogans and written text unrelated to sport funding or any political messages are not permitted.

1.14.4 - All advertising materials used should be placed in such a way that they do not interfere with athletes' identification and do not affect the outcome of the race.

1.15 - INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIAL (ITO) - EXAMINATION [CR]

1.15.1 - Examination calendar.

1.15.1.a - Each year the calendar of official examinations is published for each discipline following proposal from each Technical Chair;

1.15.1.b - Continental associations or National Federations are entitled to apply to hold an examination to the concerned Technical Chair. In this case, this organising entity has to cover the examination organisation costs including the full board and travelling expenses of the examiners.

1.15.2 - Candidates' application.

1.15.2.a - Only National Federations are entitled to nominate candidates for examination at least 30 days before the examination;

1.15.2.b - The applications must be sent to the ICF headquarters on the form designed by the ICF and published on the ICF website;

1.15.2.c - The ICF headquarters will forward the list of candidates to the concerned Technical Chair;

1.15.2.d - For every candidate applying for the examination, the National Federation will be charged 20 euros;

1.15.2.e - The final invoice will be sent to the National Federation in the period between 30th of October and 30th of November;

1.15.2.f - National Federations are financially responsible for their Officials.

1.15.3 - Conduct of the examination.

1.15.3.a - A sub-committee, appointed by the concerned Technical Chair, will administer the examination;

1.15.3.b - The examination will be carried out in English for officials who wish to be considered as officials for ICF competitions and will be based on their knowledge of the ICF statutes and the ICF rules. Each discipline may add a practical assessment or minimum experience requirement;

1.15.3.c - If candidates take the examination in any other official language, they may not be considered for officiating at ICF competitions.

1.15.4 - Officials' card

1.15.4.a - After completion of the examination the concerned Technical Chair completes the ICF official examination report and sends it to the ICF headquarters, where the officials' cards for those who passed the exam are issued and sent to the National Federations;

1.15.4.b - The officials' cards expire after four (4) years;

1.15.4.c - If an official's card is expired, lost, or destroyed a 20 euro fee for renewal will be charged;

1.15.4.d - A renewed official's card will be issued starting from the previous expiry date;

1.15.4.e - If an official's card has been expired for more than two years, the ITO must complete the examination again.

1.16 - ITO - NOMINATION FOR ICF COMPETITIONS

[CR]

1.16.1 - Only National Federations are entitled to nominate ITOs for ICF competitions level 1 and level 2.

1.16.2 - The deadline for submitting ITO proposals for each discipline is the 31st of December the year prior to the competition.

1.16.3 - The nominations are submitted to the respective Technical Chair (with a copy to the ICF headquarters).

1.16.4 - The Technical Chair will present a list of Officials to the ICF Board of Directors for their approval at the latest by 1st of March.

CHAPTER 2 - INTRODUCTION

2.1 - OBJECTIVE

[PR]

2.1.1 - The aim of a Canoe Ocean Racing competition is for competitors to race each-other over a designated course on open water or the open sea.

2.1.2 - Conditions prevailing on the day of the competition must be accepted. The emphasis will be on testing the athletes' abilities to use challenging conditions to their advantage to be the fastest over the course.

2.2 - INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

[PR]

2.2.1 - Types of international competitions:

Type of Competition		Competition	Entries
ICF competition	LEVEL 1	ICF World Championships ICF Junior and U23 World Championships	No limitations
	LEVEL 2	ICF World Cups	No limitations
	LEVEL 3	ICF Canoe Ocean Racing Continental Championships	To be determined by the organiser
International competition	LEVEL 4 International competitions Masters or open competitions Invitational competitions		

2.2.2 - These competitions must be supervised or managed by at least one (1) accredited official in possession of a valid ICF Ocean Racing Race Directors Official card.

CHAPTER 3 - ATHLETE EQUIPMENT

3.1 - BOATS SPECIFICATIONS

[PR]

There are no construction limitations for a surfski.

3.2 - CONSTRUCTION

[PR]

3.2.1 - The boats must be constructed in such a way that the athlete sits on top, with the boat forming one (1) watertight compartment.

3.2.2 - The shape, construction method, materials used, and steering mechanisms are without restrictions.

3.2.3 - All craft should have one (1) strengthened point provided near the cockpit for attaching a leash.

3.3 - MEASURING AND INSPECTION

[PR]

3.3.1 - The dimensions or weight of the surfski do not need to be measured.

3.3.2 - Inspection should be the presence of a strengthened point suitable for attaching a leash.

3.4 - SAFETY EQUIPMENT

[SR]

The following safety protocol is mandatory:

3.4.1 - The wearing of a personal flotation device (PFD), which conforms to the minimum requirements of ISO 12402-5 (level 50) during the competition. The PFD must have the following characteristics:

- They are to be manufactured out of bright coloured material, preferably luminous. Paddlers wishing to use a dark coloured PFD will be required to wear a bright coloured “visibility vest” over their PFD;
- They must be able to float a weight of 7.03kgs;
- They must carry the appropriate labelling;
- They must be in sound condition;
- They must have the name of the athlete shown on it;

- They must have enough pocket space to accommodate the required safety devices;
- They must be worn, as intended by the manufacturer for the entire duration of the event;
- They may not be modified in any way.

3.4.2 - A leash (approved by the organisers) if the wind, or predicted wind, is over 10 knots. The leash needs to be in sound working order and must be attached to a secure strong point on the craft, preferably the footstrap.

3.4.3 - The race number of the athlete must be affixed to the craft on either side of the front deck. Numbers are to be a minimum of 10cm tall in contrasting colours.

3.4.4 - For World Championships and World Cups, a tracking device which needs to be housed in a pocket of the PFD and may not be attached to the craft.

3.4.5 - It is recommended that a minimum of 30% of the deck of the craft must be covered with bright coloured paint or a bright coloured decal (preferably luminous).

3.4.6 - At the discretion of the organisers, the following additional equipment may be made compulsory:

3.4.6.a A pea less whistle.

3.4.6.b - Pyrotechnic devices such as hand held or aerial flares;

3.4.6.c - A communication device such as a mobile phone or vhf radio;

3.4.6.d - Navigation aids such as a compass or a GPS;

3.4.6.e - All around white light if the race is expected to start before sunrise or continue after sunset;

3.5 - IDENTIFICATIONS AND ADVERTISING TRADEMARKS

[PR]

3.5.1 - Requirements for advertising on equipment and clothing for ICF Canoe Ocean racing competitions are detailed in the ICF Guidelines for Advertising Trademark Identification on Equipment Manual.

3.5.2 - Any boat, accessory or article of clothing which does not comply with the above-mentioned conditions will be ineligible for use during the competition.

3.5.3 - Teams are responsible for their own equipment.

CHAPTER 4 - COMPETITION PROGRAMME

4.1 - BOATS AND DISTANCES

[PR]

4.1.1 - The official boats recognised by the ICF are:

Boats	
SS-1	Surfski single
SS-2	Surfski double
SUP	Stand Up Paddling Board
OC-1	Outrigger Canoe single

4.1.2 - Canoe Ocean Racing races may be run in the following classes:

MSS-1	Men Surfski single
MSS-2	Men Surfski double
WSS-1	Women Surfski single
WSS-2	Women Surfski double
XSS-2	Mixed Surfski double
MSUP	Men Stand Up Paddling Board
WSUP	Women Stand Up Paddling Board
MOC-1	Men Outrigger Canoe Single
WOC-1	Women Outrigger Canoe Single

4.1.3 - Distances.

There will be no limit of the length of course for local club level or sprint competitions. For national championships, Continental, International competitions, World Cup and World Championship competitions, the recommended distance is a minimum 20km and a maximum of 35km.

CHAPTER 5 - COMPETITION FORMAT

5.1 - FORMAT

[SR]

5.1.1 - Races may be run:

5.1.1.a - In one (1) stage;

or

5.1.1.b - Several stages over one (1) or several days. The final result being based on total racing time.

5.1.2 - Turning points must be negotiated as directed.

CHAPTER 6 - INVITATIONS AND ENTRIES

6.1 - INVITATION

[PR]

6.1.1 - Invitations should be sent minimum two (2) months before the competition.

6.1.2 - Invitations to an international competition must contain the following information:

6.1.2.a - Date and place of the competition;

6.1.2.b - Full race instructions, including layout and map of the course;

6.1.2.c - Proposed events;

6.1.2.d - Competition programme;

6.1.2.e - Nature of the course, water conditions and degree of difficulty;

6.1.2.f - Conditions/terms of participation;

6.1.2.g - Address to which entries should be sent;

6.1.2.h - Entries deadline.

6.2 - ENTRIES

[PR]

6.2.1 - Details of the entries process and forms are described in article 1.6.

6.2.2 - Similar details should be provided for the reserves, if any.

6.2.3 - For the World Championships, athletes are required to affix a decal of their national flag, together with their country code on both sides of their front deck. The decal must measure at least 30cm X 10cm. The HOC will accept the entries in conformity with the conditions/terms of participation. Therefore, the HOC can reject or delete the entry of the participants who fail to observe the conditions/terms of participation.

6.3 - MASTER COMPETITIONS

[PR]

6.3.1 - There is no limit to numbers of boats per class per NF.

6.3.2 - In SS-2 events the cumulative age of the 2 athletes will determine the age group in which a crew can compete.

6.3.3 - In a mass start, organisers must ensure that the various age group classes are easily identifiable, by providing unique colours of boat stickers, bib numbers or visibility vests.

CHAPTER 7 - COMPETITION OFFICIALS

7.1 - COMPETITION OFFICIALS

[SR]

7.1.1 - International competitions may incorporate the following International Technical Officials (ITOs):

- Race Director
- Competition Secretary
- Starter(s)
- Aligner
- Course Umpire
- Finish Line Judge(s)
- Timekeeper(s)
- Safety Officer
- Announcer
- Press Officer

7.1.2 - If circumstances permit, one (1) person may function in more than one (1) or more of the above positions.

7.1.3 - Officials' obligations:

7.1.3.a - To perform their tasks in conformity with the ICF rules;

7.1.3.b - Every judge will have the obligation to check their equipment necessary to perform their tasks is in working order. In the case any shortcoming is found, it is reported to the Race Director or Competition Manager;

7.1.3.c - Unauthorised persons must not enter any Officials area, unless called for by either the Competition Committee or the Jury.

All communications between the Competition Officials and the athletes and the Team Leaders must be in English. In the case of a translator being needed, this must be provided by the team.

7.2 - DUTIES OF THE COMPETITION COMMITTEE

[SR]

7.2.1 - ICF competitions are to be managed by a Competition Committee, consisting of:

7.2.1.a - Race Director;

7.2.1.b - Competition Director;

7.2.1.c - Safety Officer.

7.2.2 - The **Competition Committee** will:

7.2.2.a - Direct and supervise the competition;

7.2.2.b - Postpone the competition and decide on another time when it may be held, or abandon the competition, or, if the competition has already begun, abandon or reschedule the competition, in the event of inclement weather, dangerous conditions, or other unforeseen circumstances which make it impossible to carry out or finish the competition;

7.2.2.c - Decide on matters concerning disqualifications in cases where the rules have been broken during the competition;

7.2.2.d - Hear any protests that may be made and settle any disputes that may arise;

7.2.2.e - Make decisions based on the ICF Canoe Ocean Racing Rules;

7.2.2.f - Penalties in accordance with the ICF Statutes may also be imposed;

7.2.2.g - May disqualify any athlete who behaves improperly or who by his/her conduct or speech shows contempt towards the officials, other athletes or onlookers;

7.2.2.h - Hear the opinion of the Official(s) who controlled the race in which the infraction was said to have occurred, before any decision is made regarding an alleged infraction of the rules.

7.2.3 - A member of the Competition Committee may not participate in a judgment connected with an accident directly involving or a disqualification of an athlete from his/her own NF.

7.3 - DUTIES OF THE OFFICIALS

[SR]

7.3.1 - The **Race Director**, who is also the Chair of the Competition Committee, will decide on all matters arising during the actual competition, which are not dealt with in these rules.

7.3.2 - The **Competition Manager** is responsible for the preparation and running of the competition.

7.3.3 - The **Competition Secretary** will:

7.3.3.a - Record the results and prepare lists of prize winners;

7.3.3.b - Maintain a written record of the decisions of the Competition Committee passed relating to any protests and is responsible to have it recorded. Provide the Press Official with all necessary information regarding the running of the competition or the results.

7.3.4 - The **Starter(s)** will:

7.3.4.a - Decide all matters concerning the start of the races;

7.3.4.b - Be solely responsible for false start decisions;

7.3.4.c - Ensure that the starting signal equipment is in working order;

7.3.4.d - Utilise English in all communications with athletes;

7.3.4.e - Order the athletes to their places and carry out the start in accordance with the Canoe Ocean Racing Competition Rules.

All decisions of the Starter are final.

7.3.5 - The **Aligner** will:

7.3.5.a - Bring the boats to the starting line with the least possible delay;

7.3.5.b - Utilise English in all communications with athletes.

7.3.6 - The **Course Umpire** will:

7.3.6.a - Ensure that during a race the rules are complied with;

7.3.6.b Report any infractions to the Race Director, if the rules are broken, who, in turn, should refer it to the Competition Committee. The Competition Committee should then decide whether any of the athletes concerned should be disqualified or not;

7.3.6.c - Appoint officials to supervise the control points along the course.

7.3.7 - The **Finish Line Judge(s)** will:

7.3.7.a - Be placed at the finish line;

7.3.7.b - Decide the order in which the boats have crossed the finish line;

7.3.7.c - Use a simple majority to decide a dispute in the absence of a Photo Finish System and where the Finish Line Judges differ regarding determining the places of two (2) or more boats. In the case of equal voting, the Chief Judge has the casting vote;

The decisions of the Finish Line Judges are final.

7.3.8 - The **Timekeeper(s)** are responsible for recording the times. Before each race the Chief Timekeeper should establish that the stopwatches or other time-keeping equipment are working satisfactorily.

7.3.9 - The **Safety Officer** is responsible for advising the Competition Committee of the safety measures required and for seeing that these are implemented.

7.3.10 - The **Announcer** will:

7.3.10.a - Announce the start of each race, the order of starting and the placing of the athletes during the race on the instructions of the Competition Manager;

7.3.10.b - Announce the results after the race is completed.

7.3.11 - The **Press officer** must supply all necessary information to the representatives of the press, radio, and television, on the race and its progress. The Press Officer is therefore authorised to seek this information from the various officials who must provide as quickly as possible copies of the official results.

CHAPTER 8 - FIELD OF PLAY

8.1 - COURSE

[SR]

8.1.1 - Races may be held on any open water or the open ocean, in a variety of formats and conditions but predominantly with downwind conditions. Courses should be selected to test the seamanship and ability of the athletes to use the conditions to their advantage.

8.1.2 - Courses may be changed at short notice to suit the conditions on the day of the race.

8.2 - RACE MARKERS

[SR]

8.2.1 - Race markers (start line, finishing line and other course markers) will be explained in the race instructions.

8.2.2 - markers must be easily visible and recognisable (dimensions, form, colour).

CHAPTER 9 - PRE-COMPETITION

9.1 - DUTIES OF THE HOST ORGANISING COMMITTEE

[SR]

9.1.1 - The HOC is responsible for the preparation and running of the competition.

9.1.2 - The HOC must, in particular:

9.1.2.a - Make available a suitable venue and technical equipment conforming to the present Canoe Ocean Racing Competition Rules;

9.1.2.b - Fix the date and the competition schedule in agreement with the ICF;

9.1.2.c - Draw up and distribute the competition schedule including the date and time of the Teams Leaders meeting. It must be distributed in advance of the competition.

9.2 - TEAM LEADERS / ATHLETES'S MEETING

[PR]

9.2.1 - The following information must be posted or distributed to Team Leaders at least five (5) hours before the Team Leaders Meeting including:

9.2.1.a - Detailed information on the course(s) and their markings;

9.2.1.b - Starting time(s) and procedures;

9.2.1.c - Starting line;

9.2.1.d - Finishing line;

9.2.1.e - Athletes personal competition numbers;

9.2.1.f - Obligatory safety equipment requirements;

9.2.1.g - Transport arrangements for boats and athlete, if being provided by the organisers.

9.2.2 - The Team Leaders/Athletes Meeting must be held between three (3) and 30 hours before the first start. The meeting determines, amongst other things, the final entry details and confirm details of the course and the time schedule.

9.2.3 - After the meeting the definitive Competition Schedule must be available at the course, giving names and NF of the athletes and the revised start list.

9.3 - ALTERATION OF ENTRIES AND WITHDRAWS

[PR]

9.3.1 - Notification of alterations must be given at the Team Leaders Meeting.

9.3.2 - The Race Director may in exceptional circumstances accept written replacement of named athletes by named reserves up to one (1) hour before the start of the first race.

9.3.3 - The Race Director's decision as to what constitutes an exceptional circumstance is final and is not subject to appeal.

9.3.4 - The withdrawal of an entry is considered final, and no renewed entry of the same athlete/crew is allowed. Entry fees will not be refunded.

9.4 - CRAFT AND PERSONAL COMPETITION NUMBERS

[SR]

9.4.1 - All boats should carry a boat number, which should be attached to them as instructed by the race organiser.

9.4.2 - Marking must be set up to recognise the boats on the starting line and on the course. This procedure is for the safety and identification of the craft.

9.4.3 - Boats should be marked on both sides with numbers, letters or a combination of the two (2), which are at least 10cm high and printed in an easily readable typeface. The markings should be in a contrasting colour to that of the boat or be printed on a contrasting background.

9.4.4 - The whole of the number must be visible on the deck, in front of the cockpit.

9.4.5 - The personal numbers (bib) may be provided by the HOC and should be placed on the back and/or on the front of the athlete as required by the HOC. The title or main sponsors name may be shown on the front side with the personal numbers.

9.4.6 - All boats must carry the athletes' name and the identification of the country, which are at least 10cm high and printed in an easily readable typeface.

CHAPTER 10 - COMPETITION

10.1 - MEANS OF PROPULSION

[SR]

10.1.1 - The boats used for Canoe Ocean Racing must be propelled solely by means of a double-bladed paddle (SS1 or SS2) or a single bladed paddle (SUP or OC-1).

10.1.2 - The use of any other forms of propulsion, other than paddles is prohibited.

10.2 - START

[SR]

10.2.1 - The Start Line must be clearly marked, with the marks described to the athletes in the race instructions.

10.2.2 - The Start Line should be long enough to allow all athletes to line up alongside each other. When this is not possible, paddlers will be seeded at the discretion of the race committee, taking into account previous results and current form.

10.2.3 - The start signal, audible to all racers, may be a blast of a whistle or horn, a shot from a start gun or a shouted word “go”. The start signal must be described in the race instructions.

10.2.4 - A start with flag signal can be used if the conditions do not allow an audible signal.

10.2.5 - Athletes should be at the start at the time specified in the competition schedule. The start will be given without reference to any absentees.

10.2.6 - The start must be as fair as possible, allowing all athletes an equal chance.

10.2.7 - There must be a separate start for men and women.

10.3.1 - The method of starting should be selected according to the prevailing conditions and local customs. Starting procedures may be, but are not limited to those described below:

10.3.1.a - Lifesaving Start

- The Starter will call the athletes to the water's edge. Athletes will line up.
- All athletes will hold their craft, in ankle to thigh deep water as instructed by the Starter or assistants. When all athletes are aligned, and the conditions are favourable, the start signal will be given. If the organisers have made the wearing of a leash compulsory for the event, the leash must be attached to the craft before the start.

10.3.1.b - Stationary Water Start

- The athletes should position themselves so that the bows of the competing craft are behind the start line. The boats must be stationary and may be held at the stern if required. If the organisers have made the wearing of a leash compulsory for the event, the leash must be attached to the craft before the start.

10.3.1.c - Rolling Water Start

- Where strong wind or current render a stationary start difficult, a rolling start may be used. The boats are allowed to drift or paddle slowly towards the start line with a view to crossing at the time of the signal. The start line may be fixed or be between two (2) boats that are moving, usually downwind. If the organisers have made the wearing of a leash compulsory for the event, the leash must be attached to the craft before the start.

10.3.1.d - Beach Start

- Athletes will arrange their craft in a line on the beach. If there is not enough space, two or more lines may be used. Athletes will then stand behind a line at the back of their craft until the starter gives the starting signal. If the organisers have made the wearing of a leash compulsory for the event, the leash must be attached to the craft within the first 500 metres after the start.

10.3.1.e - Interval Start

- Where a simultaneous start is impracticable or undesirable, an interval lifesaving start, beach start, stationary water start or rolling water start (either in groups or individually) may be used. The order can be determined by a draw or by seeding;
- A list of athletes with their starting times must be displayed on a notice board and/or issued to the Team Leaders at least one (1) hour before the start of competition.

10.3.2 - In all cases paddlers must be called to the water at least 10 minutes before the scheduled start, or in the case of a Bank Start given a 10-minute warning.

10.4 - START PROCEDURE

[SR]

10.4.1 - Lifesaving Start, Beach Start and Stationary Water Start

The Starter must ensure all boats are stationary behind the starting line. When the Starter is satisfied that the boats are aligned correctly and are stationary, he/she will call "*Ready*" followed by the start signal (a *shot*, starting *horn*, *whistle blast* or the word "*Go*").

10.4.2 - Rolling Start

The athletes should move towards the start line slowly, aligned with each other as best as possible. When the athletes are approximately 10 metres from the start line, the command "*Ready*" will be called. When the Starter is satisfied that the boats are correctly aligned and that no athlete will obtain any undue advantage as a result of the start, he/she will give the start signal (signal (a *shot*, *horn blast*, *whistle blast* or the word "*Go*").

10.4.3 - False start (Beach or stationary water start)

10.4.3.a - If an athlete moves forward after the word "*Ready*" and before the start signal, he/she has made a false start;

10.4.3.b - An athlete who attempts to start before any instruction is deemed to have made an unfair start;

10.4.3.c - An athlete who attempts a false or unfair start will be warned;

10.4.3.d - The second warning will result in the imposition of a two (2) minute penalty;

10.4.3.e - The third warning will result in the athlete's disqualification from the competition;

10.4.3.f - The disqualified athlete must leave the water immediately.

10.4.4 - False start (rolling start)

If an athlete commences paddling after the word "Ready" and before the start signal is given, he/she has made a false start. An immediate time penalty of two (2) minutes must be imposed upon the athlete making a false start.

10.4.5 - Any penalty imposed under article 10.4.4 the Team Leader of the offending athlete should be notified by the Competition Director. Whenever possible, advice of any time penalty may also be given to the offending athletes at the first available opportunity.

10.5 - GROUP RACING AND SLIPSTREAMING

[SR]

10.5.1 - When athletes are racing in a group it is duty of all the athletes in the group to keep clear of each other at all times. This rule applies to any maneuvering within the group and while slipstreaming. Inadvertent contact between boats should be avoided.

10.5.2 - The organisers may prohibit slipstreaming between athletes in different categories and/or classes. Notice of any limitations to slipstreaming should be published in the race instructions.

10.6 - TURNS

[SR]

Marks must be rounded as described in the race instructions.

10.7 - COLLISION OR DAMAGE

[SR]

10.7.1 - The International Navigation rules will apply in full. In particular, note that it is every athlete's responsibility to avoid a collision, whether they have right of way or not and all action necessary must be taken to avoid a collision.

10.7.2 - Any athlete who is considered by a Course Umpire or Race Official to have been responsible for a deliberate collision or who deliberately damages the boat or paddle of another athlete may be disqualified.

10.8 - CHECK POINTS

[SR]

Athletes may be required to land ashore or pass-through checkpoints for safety or other reasons at points designated by the race organisers.

10.9 - MULTI-STAGE RACES

[SR]

10.9.1 - Where a race is divided into several stages the starts of the second and subsequent stages may be carried out individually or in groups as determined by the organiser and advised to the Team Leaders and/or athletes as appropriate.

10.9.2 - If carried out individually the athletes will leave the stage start in the order of arrival from the previous stage and at the same intervals of time.

10.9.3 - Athletes not completing a stage, for whatever reason, will not be allowed to start the following stage.

10.9.4 - Timing will be cumulative and the winner being the athlete/crew having taken the shortest time over the whole course making due allowance for any time penalties awarded by the organisers.

10.9.5 - The restart of the second or subsequent days may utilise any of the initial or stage start methods described in article 10.4 or otherwise as is local custom.

10.10 - ASSISTANCE

[SR]

10.10.1 - An athlete may not be accompanied along the course or assisted in any way by other boat not entered in the competition or by any vessel unless the vessel is an authorised seconding vessel as per the individual race rules. (e.g., motorboat).

10.10.2 - Any outside help (food, coaching, and navigation) is prohibited during the competition unless by an official seconding craft as per the individual race rules.

10.10.3 - Assistance from a boat outside of the competition (motorboat, sailboat, rowing boat etc.) may lead to the disqualification of the athlete.

10.10.4 - Private boats must not obstruct athletes during a race. If a relationship can be established between an athlete and an unofficial boat which obstructs an opponent, the athlete may be disqualified.

10.10.5 - In case of capsizing during the race an athlete may be helped by another contestant. An athlete may be disqualified or given a time penalty if he/she receives assistance from a boat outside the racing committee. An athlete may receive assistance from an official safety boat, on condition that there is no forward movement of the safety boat during the entire time of the assistance.

10.10.6 - An athlete suffering from a lower-body disability may, by prior agreement from the Competition Committee, receive assistance at a lifesaving start, a beach start or at a check point from designated helpers. Provided no advantage is gained from the assistance and provided the athlete leaves or is lifted from his/her boat before the helpers carry the boat.

10.10.7 - No exchange or substitution of boats is permitted during a single stage race or during a stage of a multistage race, even with other athletes from the same team. Boats may be substituted between stages in a multistage race if it can be shown that the original boat has been damaged beyond repair during a previous stage.

10.10.8 - Paddles may be exchanged if damaged.

10.11 - SAFETY MEASURES

[SR]

10.11.1 - Before an athlete may participate in an ICF recognised event, they must provide a written acknowledgement by his/her federation that the athlete is competent to paddle in extreme open ocean races of the length expected at a World championship.

10.11.2 - All athletes must wear a personal flotation device (PFD) described in article 3.4.

10.11.3 - Each athlete will be encouraged to carry hydration on their person or attached to their boat which is deemed sufficient by the safety officer for the duration of the competition.

10.11.4 - Every official is required to observe that the safety measures are being adhered to and to prevent athletes from starting or continuing if they fail to meet the requirements laid down in the race instructions.

10.11.5 - Canoe Ocean Racing is an extreme sport. It is a requirement that any athlete, seeing another in real danger should render all assistance in his/her power. Failure to do so may involve disqualification.

10.11.6 - Time bonuses based on actual delays may be awarded to any athlete providing assistance to a fellow participant.

10.12 - FINISH

[SR]

10.12.1 - The finish line will be between two (2) markers described in the race instructions either afloat, on the shore, or both. The preferred finish is a water finish between two (2) floating markers.

10.12.2 - The boat has finished the race when its bow crosses the finish line, or the upper body of the athlete crosses the finish line if the finish line is on shore.

10.12.3 - If two (2) or more boats cross the finish line at the same time they receive the same classification.

10.13 - DISQUALIFICATIONS

[PR]

10.13.1 - Any athlete who attempts to compete in a race by any other than honourable means or who breaks the racing rules, or who disregards the honourable nature of the racing rules will be disqualified from the race concerned (DSQ).

10.13.2 - All penalties or disqualifications must be confirmed by the Competition Committee in writing immediately, giving the reasons. The Athlete and/or the Team Leader of the athlete/team must acknowledge the receipt on the notice copy.

CHAPTER 11 - POST-COMPETITION

11.1 - PROTEST

[PR]

11.1.1 - A protest against the right of an athlete/crew to compete in a race must be addressed to the Race Director and handed to the Competition Committee not later than one (1) hour before the start of the first race of the competition.

11.1.2 - A protest made during a competition relating to an incident in the race must be in written form, addressed to the Race Director and handed to the Competition Committee not later than one (1) hour after the last of the athletes involved in the incident have:

11.1.2.a - completed the course;

or

11.1.2.b - forced to retire, one (1) hour after the retirement has been reported to the organiser.

11.1.3 - The organisers should be permitted to commence issuing preliminary results and carry out award ceremonies after one third (1/3), or the first three (3), whichever is the greater, of the athletes of the event have completed the course or their retirements notified to the organiser.

11.1.4 - If the protest is against a decision of the Competition Committee, the protest must be received not later than 30 minutes after the Team Leader is called to attend the Competition Committee to receive the written disqualification.

11.1.5 - The Competition Committee must note the time that the Team Leader is called to attend the Competition Committee on the written disqualification.

11.1.6 - All protests must be accompanied by a fee of 75 Euros (or an equal sum in the local currency). The fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld.

11.1.7 - The decision of the Competition Committee is final, except in World Championships.

11.2.1 - After the ending of World Championships and all International Canoe Ocean Racing competitions, listed in the ICF Competition Calendar, two (2) copies of the results, protests and appeals must be posted by the HOC to the ICF Headquarters (ICF HQ), one (1) to the Technical Chair, as well as displayed electronically on official websites.

11.2.2 - The results will be published according to the ICF official categories participating in each competition.

CHAPTER 12 - WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Refer to the International Competition Rules except as amended in this Chapter.

12.1 - ORGANISATION

[PR]

12.1.1 - World Championships may be arranged every year with the consent of the ICF Board of Directors at a place and time approved by it, and in accordance with the ICF Canoe Ocean Racing Rules.

12.1.2 - Validity of World Championships are described at article 1.7.

12.2 - COMPETITION PROGRAMME

[PR]

12.2.1 - The program of events should be arranged by the Canoe Ocean Racing Committee (CORC) in a schedule which will allow for the separation of the classes.

12.2.2 - World Championships should be held over a three (3) days period. The races will be held on the day with the best downwind conditions forecast, with preference given to the SS1 competition day.

12.2.3 - The exact day and time schedule may vary to suit the best conditions in the three (3) day window period of the competition.

12.2.4 - Championships are restricted to the following events:

MSS-1	Men Surfski single
WSS-1	Women Surfski single
U23MSS-1	Under 23 Men Surfski single
U23WSS-1	Under 23 Women Surfski single
JMSS-1	Junior Men Surfski single
JWSS-1	Junior Women Surfski single
XSS-2	Mixed surfski double
U23XSS-2	Under 23 mixed surfski double
JXSS-2	Junior mixed surfski double

12.2.5 - There will be no limit to the number of boats entered per nation.

12.3 - INVITATIONS, ENTRIES AND COMPETITION SCHEDULE

[PR]

12.3.1 - Invitations for World Championships will be issued by the organising NF (or HOC) and must be in accordance with the ICF Rules. Invitations should be sent out at least nine (9) months before the first day of the Championships.

12.3.2 - Entries for the World Championships can only be made through the NFs in accordance with the regulations given in the invitation or form athletes with authorisation of the NF.

12.3.2.a - Entry process is described in article 1.6.

12.3.2.b - The deadline for the numerical entries is 45 full days before the first day of the competition;

12.3.3 - The preliminary Competition schedule must be available at least three (3) days before the Championships and must contain the following details:

12.3.3.a - The starting time of each race;

12.3.3.b - The names and NF of the athletes in each race;

12.3.3.c - Full instruction on the course and training arrangements.

12.4 - STARTING POSITIONS

[SR]

Where possible, the start line should accommodate all competitors. If this is not possible, paddlers will be seeded at the discretion of the race committee, taking into account previous results and current form.

12.5 - SAFETY INSPECTION

[SR]

The boat controllers will check the athletes and boats for the required safety equipment before the start.

12.6 - THE COURSE

[SR]

12.6.1 - The course for a World Championship should be from point to point predominantly with downwind conditions.

12.6.2 - The course for a World Championship must be selected to test the seamanship and ability of the athletes to use the prevailing conditions to their advantage.

12.6.3 - Courses may be changed at short notice to suit the best downwind and safety conditions on the day of the race.

12.6.4 - The recommended distance should be a minimum of 20 km and a maximum of 35 km.

12.6.5 - Each race must be completed in one (1) stage, i.e., non-stop.

12.6.6 - Federations wishing to arrange a World Championships must have submitted the proposed course and technical arrangements for the inspection of the ICF CORC, and received its approval, before submitting their application to the ICF Board of Directors.

12.7 - APPEALS TO THE JURY

[PR]

12.7.1 - Team Leaders or other NF representatives have the right to appeal to the Jury against a decision of the Competition Committee on behalf of their athletes.

12.7.2 - The appeal must be handed to the Chair of the Jury in writing with reasons, not later than 20 minutes after the Team Leader is called to attend the Competition Committee to receive the written disqualification.

12.7.3 - The Competition Committee must note the time that the Team Leader is called to attend the Competition Committee on the written disqualification. An appeal must be accompanied by a fee of 75 Euros (or an equal sum in the local currency). The fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.

12.7.4 - On receipt of the appeal, the Chair of the Jury must advise the relevant Team Leader and indicate arrangements for hearing the appeal.

12.7.5 - The appeal must be heard as soon as possible. Witnesses may be called.

12.7.6 - If the paddler involved in the disqualification is still completing the course the time for lodging an appeal could be extended until one (1) hour after that paddler either completes the course or withdraws from the event.

12.7.7 - The decision of the Jury is final.

12.7.8 - Final results should be prepared, and medals and trophies presented after the Jury's decision is announced or the time limit for appeals to the Jury has expired (whichever is the latter).

12.8 - AWARDS

[PR]

12.8.1 - The medals will be awarded in accordance with article 1.8.6 and must on no account be presented to any other persons than those who have won championship races.

12.8.2 - Medals will be awarded to the open, U23 and junior categories, in both men and women. All athletes will be included in the open category. It is possible for a junior, master, or U23 competitor to win an open medal, as well as their age group medal. Juniors cannot win an U23 medal. There will be no senior category.

12.8.3 - Only medals, to the exclusion of all other prizes, are to be presented at the official ceremony.

12.8.4 - Other prizes may be presented on an occasion other than this ceremony.

12.9 - PRIZE MONEY

[SR]

12.9.1 - A suggested amount of 20,000 Euros is to be provided by the organisers of the ICF World Championships, to be split across the age categories, at the discretion of the organisers. This amount may be negotiated with the CORC.

12.9.2 - Tax deductions are not to be included in the announced prize money.

12.9.3 - The host organising committee will transfer all prize money to the relevant athlete's bank accounts, unless otherwise agreed. The prize money will be awarded to the first across the line for both Men and Women with the same prize money being awarded to Women as the Men. Extra prize money can be awarded.

12.10 - NATIONS CUP RANKING

[PR]

12.10.1 - The Nations Cup will be awarded in accordance with article 1.8.7 using the cumulative results of the first three (3) boats classified in each of the official events indicated in article 12.2.4. Points will be awarded in the following manner:

- 1st - 3 points
- 2nd - 2 points
- 3rd - 1 point

12.10.2 - In case of a tie the Nations Cup will be shared.

12.11 - MASTER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

[PR]

12.11.1 - There is no limit to numbers of boats per event per NF.

12.11.2 - Prize money is not a requirement.

12.11.3 - Friendship Cup - At the discretion of the HOC, a friendship cup may be awarded. The friendship cup will be determined using the cumulative results of the first three (3) boats classified in each of the official events indicated in article 12.11.4, in each age category, from each nation, which will be added to the points awarded to the nations cup.

12.11.4 - The World Championships are restricted to the following events:

12.11.4.a - MSS-1 (Men Surfski single);

12.11.4.b - WSS-1 (Women Surfski single);

12.11.4.c - XSS-2 (Mixed surfski double). The two athletes may be from different countries.

CHAPTER 13 - JUNIOR AND UNDER 23 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Refer to the International Competition Rules and special rules for World Championships except as amended in this Chapter.

13.1 - ORGANISATION

[PR]

CHAPTER 14 - WORLD CUP

Refer to the International Competition Rules and special rules for World Championships except as amended in this Chapter.

14.1 - ORGANISATION

[PR]

14.1.1 - The ICF Canoe Ocean Racing World Cup competitions must be arranged under the auspices of the ICF.

14.1.2 - The Ocean Racing World Cup competitions are held in accordance with the ICF Canoe Ocean Racing Rules.

14.1.3 - Entries to World Cup races must be done through the NFs or directly by the athletes with authorisation of their NF.

14.1.4 - Every National Federation can enter as many boats in each event as they wish in the separate competitions of the Ocean Racing World Cup competitions.

14.1.5 - Other races (such as SS-2 events) may be added as demonstration races once approved by CORC.

14.2 - AUTHORITY

[PR]

The Canoe Ocean Racing World Cup competitions must be conducted under the authority of a member of the ICF CORC or their representative.

14.3 - ICF'S COR DELEGATE

[SR]

14.3.1 - Duty of the ICF's COR delegate:

- The delegate of the ICF will supervise the WRP competition, except Continental or National Championships that will be supervised by Continental or National Federation;
- The delegate of the ICF must demand the complete programme and all updated information from the organiser 14 days prior to the invitation to check if the rules and ICF policies are being followed;
- He/she has the right to attend and vote at all meetings regarding the competition;
- He/she must, in co-operation with the organisers, establish the World ranking of all the athletes and oversee the production of the current Canoe Ocean Racing competition results;

- After each competition the delegate of the ICF, continental or national federation must submit a report to the Technical Chair concerning the sporting nature of the competition.

14.3.2 - The competition officials for the Canoe Ocean Racing World Cup or International competitions will be nominated by their NFs.

14.3.3 - The results must be forwarded to the Technical Chair and to the ICF HQ immediately at the end of the competition.

14.3.4 - The ICF CORC is responsible for the final results on points separately for men's SS-1, women's SS-1.

CHAPTER 15 - ITO - TRAINING PATHWAY

Procedure for becoming an ICF Canoe Ocean Racing International Technical Official:

15.1 - EXAMINATION

[PR]

15.1.1 - Applications should not be younger than 18 years of age.

15.1.2 - The examination will be performed as per article 1.15.

15.1.3 - Candidates who have failed one (1) examination may enrol for another examination, but not earlier than the following year.

15.1.4 - The ICF may waive the examination requirements for candidates approved by the ICF CORC.