



# WHY THIS PRESENTATION?

- To understand what **we do**, learning from the **past**
- To **share** information
- To listen to **your questions**
- To help us to **build** the future



- It is not a perfect model to duplicate
- It is not THE solution but OUR solution in a place and a time



# EVERYTHING STARTED FROM:



- Stories of men and women
- A canoe club and/or a federal organization
- A global political, economic, social and cultural context

# 1920 - 1960/70

## CIVIL/WAR 'INVALIDS'



- Input of family, friends, with the warm regard of the club president (many doctors, company owners, ...)
- Integration of some paddlers in the club life
- Society felt it had to repair the effect of war, work, on the injured body (and often hide the mental health problems)
- Teaching by friends or elders in a mentoring process.

# 1970 - 2000

## BIRTH OF THE 'HANDI-KAYAK'

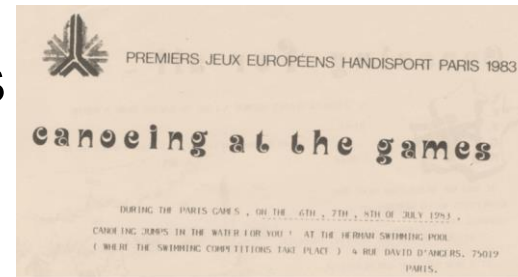
- **1975:** first law about handicap in France = society must compensate you if you 'suffer' a handicap
- Integration in FFCK 'education and coaching' committee
- Identification of good practices for leisure and competition
- DIY system for adaptation, first work with rehabilitation centers





# 1970 - 2000 ACTS + FACTS

- French Ministry of sports strongly supports '**Sport for All**'
- ICF Touring committee action
- **Handisport European Games** in Paris 1983
- '**Paddle for All**' competition in Nottingham
- '**Paddle the River Ardeche**' in a home made fiber glass canoe



• A sport accessible to all

On the occasion of the 1st European Handicapped Games in Paris (FRA) last July, 750 handicapped athletes from 20 European countries and Israel attended a canoeing/kayak demonstration.

In the October 1983 issue of the "Canoe/Kayak Magazine", Elisabeth Hugon, from the Handi-Kayak Commission of the French Canoeing/Kayak Federation, gives an indication of the different techniques for mounting a craft to



# SITUATION AT THE END OF 90'S

- High level of knowledge and skills shared by few people in France (less than 5).
- National sprint competitions stopped
- Leaders exhausted and resigning from their positions
- The paddlers switched to other activities or stopped all-together
- Handi-kayak slowly fell into hibernation



**.... But was NOT dead ....**

# 2000 - 2018

## SPRING AGAIN:

### CLUB NETWORK + INTEGRATION



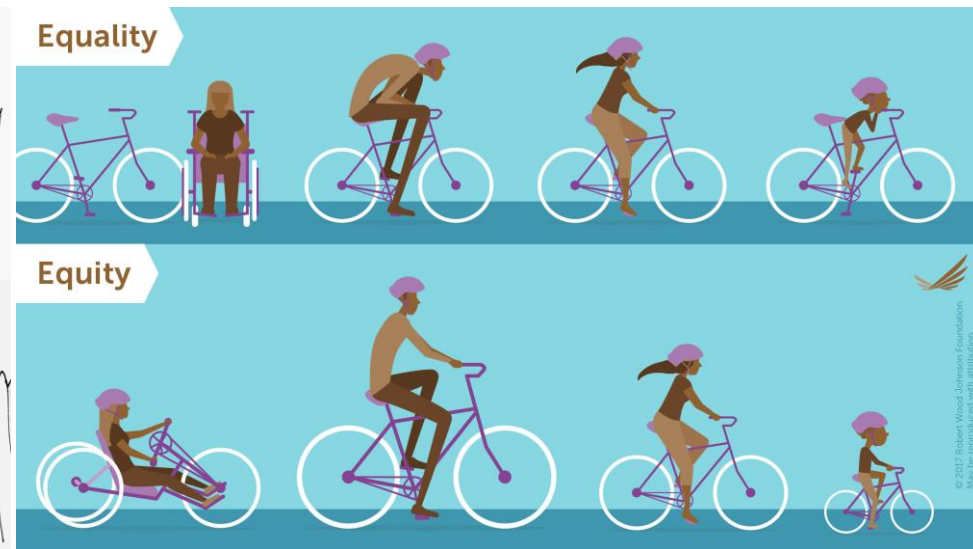
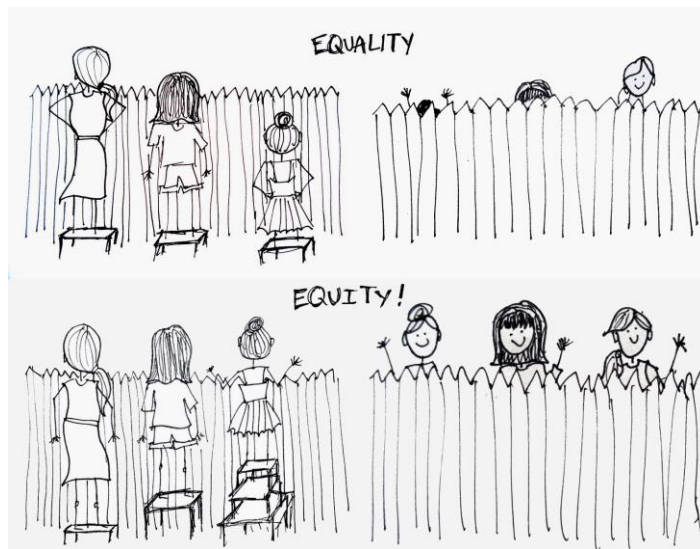
- Coaching education program for 10 pers/yr
- Better adaptation of the equipment (larger cockpits, team boats)
- Show handi-kayk as non-competitive activity: 2003 Spitzberg trip with Handisport Federation



# 2000 – 2018 CON'T

## KEY FACTORS

- **2005:** National law passed about 'person in handicap situation' in accordance with the International Classification of functioning, disability and health (WHO 2001).



- Society has the responsibility to provide equal chances to each person, regardless of any temporary or permanent impairment to live a 'full life' (access to education, work, culture, sport, social life, health,...)

# 2000 – 2018 CON'T

## KEY FACTORS

- Part time (2001-2006) and full time (2007-16) job for a professional in charge of national handi-kayak development (leisure and competition) paid by the French government
- Development of 'Paracanoe' and inclusion in the Paralympic Program in Rio



# 2018 SITUATION

- **220** coaches with specific Paracanoe training (180+40)
- **200** clubs organizing activities for people with disability (vs 700 club in France)
- more than **500** paddlers fully included in clubs all year round (60 with mental disability)
- more than **5,000** paddlers participate in 1-2 week training camps (2/3 with mental disability)
- **+/-30** paddlers involved in Paracanoe National Championship representing **25** clubs including **5** women
- **120** paddlers involved in Adaptive National Championship (slalom and sprint) with Adaptive Federation and FFCK

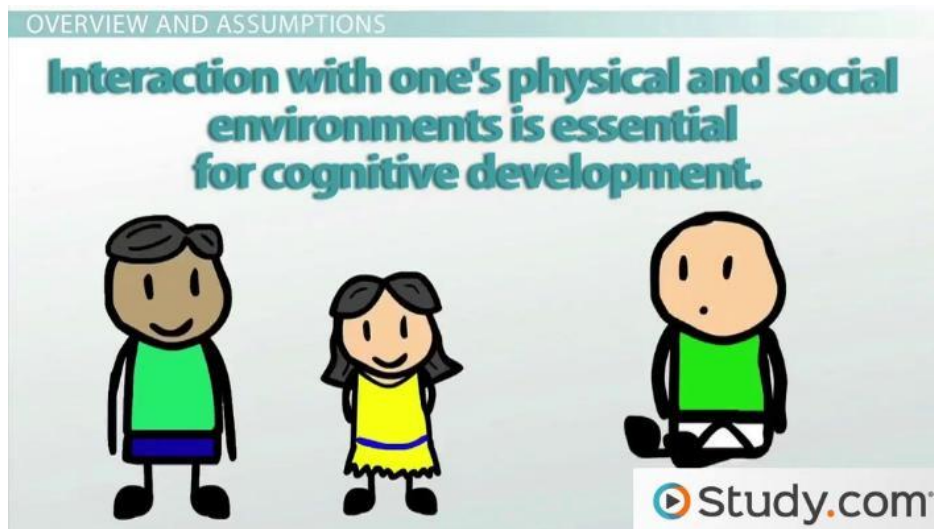




# 3 IDEAS ABOUT PAST + FUTURE

## 1. INTEGRATION

Stay focused **on the integration goal** in all aspects of our structure = introduction of the 'care ethics' in our federation DNA. Move from individual project to collective project.



Inclusion has short and long term positive effects on any paddler with a disability AND on people who are given the opportunity to interact with a person with disability (i.e. Paddlers, president, judges, coaches, parents, sponsors, elected officials, all committees chairs,...)

# 3 IDEAS ABOUT PAST + FUTURE

## 2. Teamwork



We have to keep moving from a 'charity system' to social network system built around 'action and passion' (rehab centres, sponsors, political and territorial organization, club, individuals, former coaches,..)



# 3 IDEAS ABOUT PAST + FUTURE



## 3. ENGAGEMENT OUTSIDE OF COMPETITION

Competition by itself is not enough to build a large development of practice



Why we do it  
How we do it,  
Who are the participants and stakeholders?  
What do we want to achieve?



# PARIS 2024 PARA GAMES + LEGACY



Paris 2024 is the next milestone regarding 2 different and interacting aspects:



The *EXPECTATION* is to have:  
As many **GOLD** medals as possible  
1 athlete per event  
**= WHAT**



We also have the responsibility to prepare *now* what will be the  
Legacy = **HOW**

