



# Board of Directors

April 2023, Budapest, Hungary

## Reports

## Contents

Confederation of African Canoeing report.....	3
European Canoe Association Report .....	5
Pan American Canoe Federation Report .....	7
Canoe Sprint Committee Report .....	11
Canoe Slalom Committee Report .....	13
Paracanoe Committee Report .....	21
Wildwater Canoeing Committee Report.....	24
Canoe Marathon Committee Report .....	27
Canoe Polo Committee Report .....	31
Canoe Freestyle Committee Report .....	34
Ocean Racing Committee Report .....	38
Stand Up Paddling Commission Report .....	40
dragon boat commission report .....	42

## CONFEDERATION OF AFRICAN CANOEING REPORT

### 1. Activities and Progress

In preparation for upcoming events, the Confederation has conducted two inspection missions to Morocco and Egypt for the African championships in CSL and CSP, with the aim of ensuring that the events with high standard and run smoothly. Additionally, the Confederation has been holding meetings to prepare for the African Beach Games and the regular board meetings. Furthermore, Nigeria has been selected as the host for the CSP championships and will also be the first host for the stand-up paddle competition

### 2. Plans for the future

- African confederations meeting with OC of African Beach Games (April 2023)
- Admiral's African competition (May 2023)
- Alternative of the African CSL Championships (ICF World cup in Spain August 2023)
- African CSP Championships in Nigeria (Nov 2023)

### 3. Conclusion

Starting in April 2023, the African Confederations will attend a meeting with the Organizing Committee of the African Beach Games in Tunisia to discuss the upcoming event and ensure that all preparations are on track. This meeting will help to identify any potential issues and work towards resolving them.

In May 2023, the Admiral's African Competition will take place. This event is expected to attract a large number of athletes and spectators, will be an excellent opportunity to showcase the talent of African athletes and a great opportunity to identify any gaps toward the CSP Olympic qualification in November 2023.

Additionally, we will have a CSL session update in August 2023, the ICF World cup in Spain was decided to become a designated African Canoe Slalom competition. This will provide an opportunity for African athletes

to compete at a high level and reduce costs before participating in the World championships in London

Lastly, the African CSP Championships will take place in Nigeria in November 2023. This event will be a significant undertaking, and we are currently working towards ensuring that all necessary arrangements are made to guarantee its success.

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## EUROPEAN CANOE ASSOCIATION REPORT

### 1. Membership

By the decision of the 16th ECA Congress held in Chania, Crete, Greece on 25 March 2023, Mr. Jean Zoungana (FRA) has been elected as the ECA President. Mr. Andrej Jelenc is new ECA Vice President, Mr. Geir Kvillum new ECA Board member, all for the mandate period 2023-2027. Mr. Albert Woods is proclaimed as Honorary Life President of the ECA. On the same day ECA Board has appointed Mr. Roberto Liberato as ECA Technical delegate for the Ocean Racing for period 2023-2024.

### 2. Activities and Progress

Most of the activities were concentrated in coordination with the EOC and HOC of the European Games Krakow 2023 to guarantee fulfilling the high standard competition standard necessary for the Continental Olympic selection in coordination with the ICF Slalom Committee and continuing cooperation with the European Multisport Championships for inclusion of the Sprint discipline.

### 3. Recommendations

- To define and coordinate with the ICF Development commission distribution of the provided equipment to the selected developing NF.
- To establish education programme at the ICF level for licencing the Slalom Coaches with educational books.
- To define Continental Camps for TIP.

### 4. Plans for the future

All dates are already fixed.

## 5. Conclusion

Key focus:

1. Coordination of the Development activities ICF-ECA
2. Organisation of the Continental Development camps
3. Future system of the Olympic Qualification

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## PAN AMERICAN CANOE FEDERATION REPORT

### 1. Membership

No change

### 2. Activities and Progress

1. Meetings with General Secretary and administrative assistance in preparation to the Congress:

- February 2, 2023
- March 2, 2023

Sprint Technical Committee (Pan American Games) - Virtual:

- January 2, 2023
- January 28, 2023
- February 20, 2023
- March 4, 2023
- March 28, 2023

Slalom Technical Committee (Pan American Games) - Virtual:

- January 5, 2023
- February 8, 2023
- February 28, 2023
- March 15, 2023

ICF ExCo – Board - Virtual:

- February 9, 2023
- April 19, 2023

## ICF Board Meetings – Virtual:

- February 14, 2023

## Pan American Canoe Slalom Championship 2023 – By Phone:

- Several meetings with Andre, Alex & Organization Committee

## Pan American Junior/U23 Canoe Sprint Championship 2023 – virtual:

- January 6, 2023
- February 28, 2023
- April 5, 2023

## ICF Development program Meeting (Manager for America):

- February 16, 2023
- April 12, 2023

## Meeting with Panam Sports:

- Several meetings via Phone

Meetings have been held with the members of the Board, the presidents of the committees, COPAC professional staff and continental representatives of America. Summary of main events during 1Q/ 2023:

### 1. One to One Meeting in Puerto Rico (01/13-14/23) with:

Thomas Konietzko, Richard Pettit, Cecilia Farias

#### Objectives of the meetings:

- General Overview American Continents
- Multi Sport Organization in America
- Pan-American Games Santiago 2023 Status
- Sprint
- Slalom



- Pan-American Games Barranquilla 2027 Challenges
  - ICF Topics
2. Training CAMP for junior/U23 held From March 19-26, 2023
  3. Several CTO courses held in:
    - Chile (Sprint/Slalom)
    - Dominican Republic
    - Peru
    - Argentina
  4. Pan American Games
    - Technical visit in Chile for Sprint
    - Technical visit in Chile for Slalom
  5. Central American and Caribbean Games
    - Supporting the organization committee
    - Technical visit in Dominica Republic
  6. Supporting organization committees for the Sprint Junior/U23 Pan-American championship

### 3. Recommendations

Ensure events schedule for the non-Olympic discipline for 2023-2024.

### 4. Plans for the future

- To be approve by COPAC sprint Bids for:
- 2024 Qualification event for Paris 2024
- Begin meetings with Barranquilla Organization committee for the 2027 Pan American Games.
- Venues need to be identified for the Games:
  - Sprint - Possible Cali
  - Slalom - TBD
- Continue the meeting with Santiago 2023 organization committee.
- Distribution of Unallocated for CSP & CSL Quota Places
- Selection of the Continental Manager for America.

## 5. Conclusion

Key Focus:

1. One to One Meeting in Puerto Rico (01/13-14/23) with:

- Thomas Konietzko
- Richard Pettit
- Cecilia Farias

2. Selection of the Continental Manager for America

3. 2024 Qualification event for Paris 2024

## CANOE SPRINT COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee members:

- Toshi Furuya (JPN) Chair
- Dr Jens Kahl (GER) Member
- Alison Harris (NZL) Member
- Charles Luckman (USA) Member
- Botond Storcz (HUN) Member
- Henrietta Engel Hansen (DEN) Advisor
- Ricardo Machado (POR) Advisor
- Paolo Tommasini (ITA) Advisor

### 1. Committee Membership

No Change

### 2. Activities and Progress

- Launch of the working groups in the committee
- The future event program, Ranking system, multiple competition, rules, education and development
- Creating an optimal competition schedule both for athletes and the TV
- Improving and enhancing of the attraction of Canoe Sprint
- All the ICF major events will hold the portages in 5 K races.

### 3. Recommendations

- The future event program - Improving and enhancing of there attraction of canoe Sprint
- Mixed 5K races with portages
- Ranking system
- Multiple competition
- research of the new technology in the competition

### 4. Rule changes

The Olympic Qualification system has been updated to avoid misunderstandings.

It has been sent to the IOC.

## 5. Budget and resource needs

We used our committee budget for our last committee meeting in Budapest in February, 2023.

We need to have some researches of the new technologies such as lane observation equipment (system).

## 6. Plans for the future

The further researches for the future Olympic Games program- e.g. Mixed 5 K relays with portages

Ranking system, Multiple competition, the research of the new technologies.

## 7. Conclusion

The activation of each working groups for the future

- The future event program, Ranking system, Multiple competition
- The fair and attractive Olympic Qualifications - WCH, Continental Qualifications
- The Sports Presentation and the new technology

## CANOE SLALOM COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee members:

- Jean Michel Prono (FRA) Chair
- Sue Natoli (AUS) Member
- Arpornpan (Kikky) Buapat (THA) Member
- Alena Maskova (CZE) Member
- Meritxell Rodriguez Cadena (ESP) Member
- Eric Jackson (USA) Advisor
- Eric Lokken (USA) Advisor
- Daniele Molmenti (ITA) Advisor

### 1. Committee Membership

No change

### 2. Activities and Progress

#### Canoe slalom Rules 2023 finalisation and publication

Following the Pattaya Congress and Board of Directors when the Canoe slalom rules were approved, the Technical manager and Committee had to finalize the text of a limited number of articles and 2023 Rules Appendices still pending of results management and development confirmation from ORIS and Omega, this only for the Olympic Kayak cross Qualification competition format. This has been process in due time under the overview of Secretary General and Lluís Rabaneda and all Rules book and related Appendices were made available on the ICF dedicated web page by the 21st of December.

The Paris 2024 OQS has been finalized and validated with IOC Sport department. Dedicated FAQ document being elaborated and made available for NOC's and NF's

#### Preparation /coordination of the main CSL events for 2023 season:

##### Continental activity

- In cooperation with COPAC, follow up of the preparation of Continental Games Santiago 2023.
- In cooperation with CAC, follow up of the 2024 African Canoe slalom Continental qualifier bid with Khénifra (MAR) site visit and production of the feasibility report. Forecasted date for the event, April 2024 (TBC)
- 2023 CSL competition eligibility season for African NF'; since no continental championships will take place in 2023, a designated competition has been agreed with CAC; the World cup N°4 in Seo de Urgell (ESP) to be coordinated with training camp possibility leading to London World champs and Global Olympic qualifier

## ICF Competitions

- World championships 2023 and World cups series (7 competitions)
- Preparation of the 2023 CSL World cups and World championships competition schedules in coordination with ICF head quarter and services providers (Timing scoring and TV production)
- As previous seasons, two actions have been with each HOC's (6 from 7)
- Regular conference call meetings with HOC's for competition preparation
- Overseeing documentation for all HOC's & stakeholders to guide their work and standardize the procedures and delivery of the competitions.

## Paris 2024 Olympic Games, Canoe slalom competition preparation:

Various meetings (all conference calls) have been held with dedicated agenda to following areas.

- Olympic Broadcasting Service, Kayak Cross programme, event presentation
- CSLX format for qualification phase (CSLX session 1)
- Look of the Games, Principles and presentation for Canoeing
- Pre-Games training periods calendar and conditions

## Equipment

ICF Kayak Cross boats list established for 2023 and 2024 seasons.

In order to fulfil the CSL Rules 16.1.2, Boat registration for Olympic Games, all Kayak Cross boat manufacturers have been contacted to make sure they will register their new model in due time (31st December 2022). They were committed to send one sample of the boat registered no later than 31st of March. All the procedure has been completed with no difficulty. All boats samples collected will be used for the Kayak Cross competition support for TIP athletes.

Boats list available at: [https://www.canoeicf.com/sites/default/files/2023-2024\\_icf\\_kayak\\_cross\\_registered\\_boat\\_list\\_official\\_310323.pdf](https://www.canoeicf.com/sites/default/files/2023-2024_icf_kayak_cross_registered_boat_list_official_310323.pdf)

## **Kayak Cross start mechanism**

Developed from December 2021 in cooperation with CSL Technical Committee, Technical Manager and ICF advisor engineer Jean Pierre Bourhis, with a Germany based company, Settele\*, the Kayak Cross start mechanism was successfully used for Kayak Cross 2022 World championships held in Augsburg.

- However the front flap of the system was not solid enough and requests further development. The system is now efficient solid and adds to the ejecting platform, a fair way to align all boats and release them at the same instant.
- The 4 mechanism units are transportable in shipment boxes.
- \*Settele is the company who has developed the start mechanism for Ski Cross and Snowboard Cross and provide the service to O.G and World championships for both disciplines.
- For the forthcoming season, we are looking for a possible service, including mechanism transport, setting and maintenance during competition provided by Settele, to be hired by the HOC's at a reasonable price. The purchase of the start mechanism will be also an option for HOC's or National Federations for their domestic competitions.

## **Kayak Cross Helmet development**

From the introduction of the Kayak Cross format, concerns have been raised in regard to the protection of the athletes' head and face. The ICF Technical manager and committee have engaged with an Australian helmet manufacturer, Gath, producing Surf helmets also certificated CE norm EN 1385, white water helmet. Gath is the only manufacturer who has shown

interest in developing a Kayak Cross helmet. Prototypes have been developed and tested with the Australian Canoe Slalom team who gave all necessary feedback for evolving the prototype. For the 2023 season, we must be presenting the prototype evolution 2 to the slalom community for testing before final production of an approved model. The next step for ICF is to decide by the end of this season if the face guard helmet will be mandatory for ICF Competitions and Olympic Games.

## **Technical Committee meetings**

2023 season ITO's nomination meetings, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> November  
First "in presence" 2023 Technical committee meeting, London 11/14 January

## 3. Recommendations

### **New ICF Head Quarter staffing and organisation**

For many years, the CSL Technical committee has been playing a key role both in the Events delivery for ICF competitions and for the coordination with the Organizing federations and their respective HOC's.

With the new distribution of the responsibilities within the Head Quarter team, we have to find the right way to share the duties and to keep all stakeholders with the right and same level of information to achieve a proper coordination.

The Technical manager is definitely one key player to ensure this coordination with Technical Committee and the Headquarter team.

We understand this is a challenge for all Technical committees who have been working with high grade of autonomy especially for the non-Olympic disciplines but this is crucial for our organisation to maintain the capacity to deal with the high number of disciplines and events.

### **Kayak Cross for Paris 2024 Olympic Games.**



When introducing the new format in the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, ICF has been innovative and created a lot of expectation from our key stakeholders.

In seven seasons we have evolved a format to now present it at the highest level of sport competition, this supposes that we work with flexibility, initiative and imagination.

Because of the “performance obligation” to establish the CSLX format in the Olympic programme, ICF, the Technical Committee, Technical Manager, Paris 2024 and Olympic Broadcasting Service are still tuning elements for better showcasing the competition at all phases.

For 2023 season, we also propose to define the Kayak Cross course ahead of the competition to allow training on the course by the teams, secure a good gates setting from part of the HOC and also prepare the Officials on the course observation for training and education at the course specificity.

This is why we may have to propose light, but necessary rules additions, mostly in relation with equipment and athlete identification aiming to a better presentation and promotion of the competitions.

## 4. Rule changes

Subject to ICF President and Secretary General approval and support

## 5. Budget and resource needs

For the forthcoming season, three projects are forecasted:

- Purchase an I Pad for ICF competitions course design purposes (standard sketch on original venue course map)
- Design and manufacturing of a new ICF CSL gauge for official equipment control for both CSL and CSLX equipment.
- More important in term of impact for the ICF athlete's safety and budget wise is the support to CSLX helmet development partner Gath (AUS)

The two first expenses will sum 2000 euros and could be paid from the ICF Technical committee budget 2023/2024

The Helmet development support fund is forecasted 4000 to 5000 euros and could be supported with IOC technology development budget (TBC)

## 6. Plans for the future

### 1. 2025 CSL Rules evolution

“Sport for Climate action framework” must be our guideline when searching to give new orientations for the next two Olympic cycles.

- Timeline for the stakeholder consultation and elaboration of the rules changes proposal to be presented at the ICF Board by March/April 2024\*
- Definition of a new ICF competitions calendar skeleton
- Implement a special plan with actions to reboot the international CSL calendar with a supportive approach to a continental (regional) competition organisation.
- Prepare a new Olympic Games Qualification system for 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games

See annex 2 proposed process and timeline illustration

### 2. CSL and White water disciplines “Development /Sustainability Programme”

With the new organisation of this area within the ICF head quarter, Technical Manager, Technical Committee and Continental Associations must find a more consistent working plan to spread activity among the Continents. To be mentioned that IOC and Olympic Solidarity are partners we must engage more often with our projects.

For the Elite sport area, there is a role for a Continental Talent Developer to be identified and promoted, allowing a closer and permanent contact with identified developing NF's and talented athletes. Forster programme with our most advanced NOC's / National Federations has to be enhanced to increase our impact on this important area.

### 3. Olympic qualification competitions

- Paris 2024 preparation with a special attention to Kayak Cross first appearance being a success
- Continental Qualifications competitions preparation and overview (2023 /2024)
- Continental Games (Asia 2023, Pan Am and European 2023) preparation with respective Continental associations and securing the programme with CSL for 2027
- Los Angeles 2028 Canoeing programme being secured in May 2023, CSL venue to be confirmed, ICF is currently working on a satellite venue option, Oklahoma.

### 4. 2026 Youth Games programme once confirmed by IOC.

Assist with development of the 2026 Youth Olympic Games canoeing programme, working out the CSL format and especially finalize the field of play selection for CSL at Saly beach.

Propose a Canoeing continental qualification system for 2026 Youth Games

### 5. CSL Committee evolution 2024 and beyond, Technical committee members change over

Since several key members of the Committee will not follow with their duty further Paris 2024 Games, it is crucial to organise the recruitment or

at least motivate new “vocation” to be candidate for the forthcoming Olympic cycle.

## 7. Conclusion

Key focus:

- Deliver great and fair Olympic Games qualifier competitions (Global in London then Continentals in 2023 /2024)
- Finalise the Paris 2024 O.G. Canoe slalom competitions preparation
- Monitoring with all stake holders the CSL rules evolution beyond Paris 2024

## PARACANOE COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee members:

- John Edwards (CAN) Chair
- Diego Doga (ITA) Member – Head of Classification
- Jean Christophe Gonneaud (FRA) Member
- Julie Gray (GBR) Member
- Andrea Wood (AUS) Member
- Hassan Taymourtash (IRI) Advisor
- Ismael Uali Rojo (ESP) Advisor

### 1. Committee Membership

No change

### 2. Activities and Progress

#### IPC relationship management

- IPC wants more competitions: solution - ICF promote lower level multi-NF invitational

#### Competitions

- IPC Athlete Classification Code Review
- Participation in GIH Trunk Study
- Upper Limb Classification System for national use.
- IPC LA questions/responses
- IPC LA Event Submission preparation
- IPC Paris questions/responses - Venue changes required for accessibility to water; Will not be permanent which is a disadvantage for future use for int'l competitions.
- SOI (Special O Int'l) stronger relationship with ICF
- Paracanoe Bulletin #1 Publication
- 2022 World Champs had only 120 athletes and 28 NF's (BELOW MINIMUM #'s for IPC!)
- Duisburg 2023 Worlds preparations & site visit: Live TV, TIP Camp, Special O Ex.
- Szeged 2022 WC. preparations
- TIP Camp for VL1 Athletes - Auronzo
- close cooperation with Seb. Cuatrin in CSP projects

- Stable boat development: "Universal Flatwater Boat"
  - Paracanoe module to be incl. in CSP courses
  - Continental Managers to work with Paracanoe activities
  - Stable boats to become a 'staple' of ICF boat donation programme
- 
- ASIA - Asian Paracanoe Championships - April - UZB
    - 2023 Asian Paralympic Games - October
  - AFRICA - West Africa Development Project - execution in June in NGA: SEN, GHA, STP, CDI
    - participating - para-rowing included
  - EUROPE - CZE & MOL NPCs interested in Paracanoe development.
    - Level 3 Classification Workshop in June in Duisburg
  - OCEANIA - interest in Classification course from NZL & AUS. Need to expand to include islands
    - 2027 Pacific Games in Tahiti - target for Paracanoe inclusion
  - AMERICAS - no decision on 2023 Paracanoe Championship.
    - inclusion in 2027 Para- PanAm Games
    - still priority #1

MARATHON DISCIPLINE: Paracanoe Exhibition events in 2023 World Champs in Denmark

PARACANOE FUTURE DISTANCES: Committee to run a consultation with the community in 2023.

### 3. Recommendations

Development of the "Universal" boat

### 4. Rule changes

None at this time

### 5. Budget and resource needs

The Committee budget should reflect its work due to IPC commitments. Hence, it should not be less than the Olympic discipline budgets.

All other expenditures are in line with the 23/24 budget

## 6. Plans for the future

See above

## 7. Conclusion

Key Focus:

- West Africa Development Project - see above
- Asian Paralympic Games - execution
- Universal Boat Development - see above

## WILDWATER CANOEING COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee members:

- Manuela Gawehn (GER) Chair
- Tomislav Crnkovic (CRO) Member
- Mathias Gerard (FRA) Member
- Peter Schofield (GBR) Member
- Annalena Kuttenger (SUI) Member
- German Jimenez Prats (ESP) Advisor
- Marin Miller (USA) Advisor
- Tomas Slovak (CZE) Advisor

### 1. Committee Membership

no changes

### 2. Activities and Progress

4 online WW Committee Meetings (Dec, Jan ,Mar, Apr)

Integration of the new ww rules on ITO examinations papers and the proprofs revision quizzes

Planning of development actions for 2023:

- ITO education: 3 seminars were scheduled and planned – all 3 were cancelled due to less number of participants and postponed to education in presence during 2023 competitions
- Athletes Camps: Organising of 3 development camps with focus on C-events, Augsburg Senior Sprint Worlds, and Roudnice Jun/U23 Worlds

Preparation of 2023 Season:

- Several online meetings with organisers of Worlds and WorldCups (GER, ITA, CZE)
- 2 presence meetings with Augsburg organisers

Longterm calendar:

- 2024 Worlds in Sabero (ESP) – bid application send but still waiting on finalisation of bid questionnaire, No Worldcup applicants



- 2025 Sprint Worlds in conjunction with CSL – official bid request by Paddle Australia announced but not received yet.
- 2025 Jun/U23 Worlds no bids
- 2025 WorldCup Bid application La Plagne (FRA)
- 2026 Worlds – La Plagne (FRA) – bid book announced
- 2027 Sprint Worlds Sort (ESP) – bid application – supported by WW Committee

Introduction of the new Class380 project - Several discussions with stakeholders of federations and manufacturers

### 3. Recommendations

The bidding process and the technical deliverables need to be adapted and simplified according to the different disciplines and their requirements for World Championships, World Cups and Ranking Races. WWC committee will work with the tech deliverables after consultation with the 2023 organisers during the season.

Open entries for all events can help to get more participants to make the organisation of an competition more rentable.

ICF rankings for non-Olympic disciplines should be classified as level 4 races to allow unrestricted entries (WWC can't find any organiser who like to organise an ICF Ranking Race since 3 years)

### 4. Rule changes

WW Committee meet in June in Augsburg to discuss rule changes for implementation of the Class380 events and revision of the WWC team events for World and Continental Championships

## 5. Budget and resource needs

- 5000€ Development Camp Augsburg (focus C-events): ,10 athletes 2 coaches (accommodation, meals, coaches)
- 3000€ Development Roudnice, 2 training camps May and July – open for all Jun/U23 , organised by CZE organisers (support accommodation and meals during the 2 weeks)
- 4000€ travel costs WW Committee Member - Meetings and inspections

## 6. Plans for the future

### Introduction of the Class380- events:

- June 23: Test-event in Augsburg, consultation with NF's – more test event if organisers of Worldcups, Ranking Races
- Sept 23: Rule definition
- 2024: Class380 as side event during Worlds in Sabero and establishment in continental championships (try to go for Asian championships)
- Rule changes from congress with validation from 2025
- 2025: first official Class380 events

### Establishment of a coaches education platform

- During 2023 season: create a database of existing WW coaches worldwide
- Winterseason 2023/2024: online seminar series "from coach to coach"

## 7. Conclusion

### Key focus:

- Difficulties to find organisers and get Bid documents in time – revision of the bidding process for non-olympic disciplines and review of the technical deliverables
- Introduction of the class380 – events as an pathway between recreational paddler in downriver and the "formula 1 class"
- Rules revision

## CANOE MARATHON COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee members:

- Ruud Heijselaar (NED) Chair
- Stien Verlinden (BEL) Member
- Tim Cornish (RSA) Member
- Andras Faludy (HUN) Member
- Brian Chapman (GBR) Member
- Stefan Gustafsson (SWE) Advisor
- Sergio Ferreira (POR) Advisor

### 1. Committee Membership

There are currently no changes. Liaising with all continents is important for the further development of the marathon, which is why we want to add continental advisers to the marathon committee. The continents have already been approached with the approval to add them as advisers.

### 2. Activities Recommendations

1) Meeting with the TIP coach and Andy Birkitt (World Champion 2022) to held a training camp in stead of TIP camp (from 2024) to develop longer term benifits and growth in new countries. Very few TIP athletes from previous years return to World Championships after TIP.

2) For the races to be successful (also on the spot and on the internet), it is important that we have good commentators during the World Championships.

It is important to clarify in good time how everything will be done by means of a script.

We prefer 1 Sports Expert and 1 Professional commentator, who can be a newscaster, storyteller, analyst and keynote speaker. This involves more costs, which cannot be borne by the organisation alone, but an amount must also be released from the ICF. With the income of the recast must be possible to do. It is a win-win situation for ICF and organisation.

- 3) Working towards the World Championships through marathon athlete of the month so that we can get everyone excited about this world championship.
- 4) Don't forget a good promotion for the non-olympic disciplines in the prior Olympic year.
- 5) Each board meeting a sport commission meeting for all disciplines.
- 6) More same forms for protest and appeal for all disciplines.
- 7) Review of bids by the committee and the bidder, more time to discuss the technical part of the bid with sport experts. Budget to be approved by ICF HQ.
- 8) 4-year contract for race management, GPS and graphics, allowing this company to invest in a better product.
- 9) Cost host agreement to be reviewed, including race management, GPS and graphics.

### 3. Rule changes

A special chapter for World Cup races, for autumn spring board meeting

A special chapter for ranking races, for autumn spring board meeting

Add juniors K1 and C1 men and women short distance (PR) rule for 2024 World Championships

### 4. Budget and resource needs

We prefer 1 Sports Expert and 1 Professional commentator, who can be a newscaster, storyteller, analyst and keynote speaker. This involves more costs, which cannot be borne by the organisation alone, but an amount

must also be released from the ICF. With the income of the recast must be possible to do. It is a win-win situation for ICF and organisation.

We are now in 2023 and it will be nice to come up with ICF guidelines for special projects in the next year (i.e. 2024).

Support continents with seminar for coaches, athletes, NTOs and ITOs. Facilities arranged by continents, travel paid for by ICF.

Budget this year will be used in 2023, CAM meeting Ruse, Visit Sarasota (USA), Visit Brandenburg, Visit World Championship venue Denmark and 2024 venue Croatia, uniforms for CAM and TIP camp.

## 5. Plans for the future

- Development of marathon outside Europe is necessary with continental championships in all continents and paddled according to World Cup and World Cup concept. Combine World Cup races with continental championships. Ongoing project.
- Increase the number of Para paddlers as an exhibition sport and a full-fledged world championship from 2025.
- Promote marathon worldwide through training camps and education. From next year.
- Relay races men/women. Planned for 2025
- World Cup races around the world. On-site visits in most continents next year
- Same boat weight for marathon and sprint boats, so we get high-quality and beautiful races in both disciplines with portages. Difficult to set a timetable
- Educate and train non-active ITOs. Timeline next 2 years
- Train national officials who can perform some ITO tasks during events, reducing costs for athletes. Will be an ongoing project.
- Find title sponsors for the marathon. Investigate what is possible for the marathon and hope to know more by the end of 2023.

## 6. Conclusion

Key focus:

- Live streaming high-level commentary with a professional commentator and a male and female expert.

- Cost lower for the athletes. They make the show, it is not fair if they have to pay for the show that makes our sport great.
- Interesting audience in countries where the marathon (also important for World Games 2025) is not so well known yet. Through side events, we can interest a bigger audience to go to marathon main events.
- Hold World Cup races on all continents, appoint regional marathon advisors.

## CANOE POLO COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee members:

- Greg Smale (GBR) Chair
- João Botelho (POR) Member
- Dion Chen (HKG) Member
- Eva Lindmark (SWE) Member
- Mario Perez Lopez (ESP) Member
- Pawel Teleman (POL) Advisor
- Duncan Cochrane (AUS) Advisor
- Charlotte Bakkes (NED) Advisor

### 1. Committee Membership

Advisor Charlotte Bakkes - NED has joined the committee.

Charlotte is a recently retired athlete - at the 2022 ICF CAP World Championships at which she was captain and is now employed in canoe sport by the WATERSPORTVERBOND.

### 2. Activities and Progress

The committee met in Sweden in February with Thomas Rosset joining online.

Agenda items included - completion of 2022 ICF WC review; error by referee/s in the final and action towards the team that lost out; current world ranking; 2023 continental championships; referee and/or coaching support around these; Wisely ball contract expiration/renewal; 2024 WC qualification system; a great deal around the 2024 world championships; rules; appendices including that awaiting 2025 World Games confirmation; 2022 World Games review; 2026 World Championships; multi discipline WC; development/licence fee monies.

Most significant challenge is the 2024 ICF CAP WC in China - both communications and logistics in particular - shipping container/s; kayak rental; charter flight.

There is not a world championship for CAP this year so focus can be directed to supporting the continental championships and development.

Following the recent ICF President's visit to China matters are now clearer and movement towards 2024 can now be made.

### 3. Recommendations

Previously suggested incorporating athlete committee members into committees which was declined.

The CAP now has one male and one female advisor both who are recently retired athletes and one who is still a national coach. This is helping in discussion and also in why the CAP make such a decision.

### 4. Rule changes

None at this time.

### 5. Budget and resource needs

IF we conduct a "Future of Canoe Polo" seminar we may need to ask for some support but it's not certain we will do this now until non-Olympic discipline review is completed.

For 2023 we anticipate no additional monies other than ICF CAP budget/licence monies needed.

We have some concerns re the costs in 2024 for China.

### 6. Plans for the future

- Development coaching camp in Poland prior to the 2023 European CAP championships - particularly focussed on eastern European countries. Being led by ICF CAP Advisor POL - Pawel Teleman.



- Coaching course in support of the 2023 Asian CAP continental championships.
- Referee course already organised.
- Ditto 2023 Oceania CAP continental championships.
- Referee course if necessary.
- We want to help support the Africa and America continental championships but no information re dates/location etc?
- Development kayaks (30) to Argentina for Argentina and Paraguay - in communication re the cost of customs at this time.
- 8 sets of equipment from 2022 ICF CAP WC - to who?
- Site visit to Germany re 2026 WC - this was requested but went unanswered. In the last week this is moving forward again.

## 7. Conclusion

For decision:

- 2024 ICF Canoe Polo World Championships - China - proposal as Chief Official Greg Smale.
- 2025 IWGA World Games - proposal of Eva Lindmark (ICF CAP - SWE) to continue at ICF Technical Delegate.
- In connection to this the aim will be to involve ICF CAP - HKG Dion Chen in some of the meetings due to language - but a feeling that to be TD not appropriate as yet.
- 2024 ICF Canoe Polo World Championships - proposed competition dates 15th - 20th October 2024 inclusive, with access period being 11th to 20th October 2024.
- Reasons - just after the end of the typhoon period and accordingly September dates discussed with CHN Chair CAP would not work/be safe/reliable weather.

## CANOE FREESTYLE COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee members:

- Terry Best (GBR) Chair
- Alexandre Conte (FRA) Member
- Ciaran Maguire (IRL) Member
- Magnus Karlsson (SWE) Member
- Rowan Stuart (USA) Member
- Ned Poffenberger (USA) Advisor
- Anne Sommerauer (GER) Advisor

### 1. Committee Membership

CFRC would like to request the Board's permission to appoint Mr Matt Hamilton as an assistant to the committee.

Matt brings a wealth of knowledge and experience and will be a valuable asset to the team.

Initially, Matt will assist with everyday committee tasks and the presentation of this year's Worlds in the USA.

### 2. Activities and Progress

Since last November, the committee de-briefed on our recent Worlds & World Cups, setting out areas for improvement.

In March we held our annual face-to-face committee meeting in Germany, which is the location for the Worlds in 2025. Whilst there, we met with the host organisers of the Worlds along with NF representatives and town dignitaries. I want to thank Anne Sommeraur and Thomas Rosset for their help in managing this meeting.

At this meeting, we set out a timetable and task list for the coming year, which includes further development camps, ITO training seminars and a push to attract athletes from emerging nations.

This year's major project will be the management of the World Championships in Columbus. Regular HOC and CFRC meetings have now been timetabled so that we can start to work through the details.

Other goals for this year include finalizing a contract with our scoring system provider and formulating a long term development strategy.

As a committee, we recently reviewed the bids for the 2027 joint World Championships, and at the invitation of the French NF President, carried out a very productive site visit to the proposed location.

### 3. Recommendations

Following all of the recent changes, the organisation requires a period of stability with staff continuity and all organisational processes clearly defined. The committees require a service level agreement with headquarters in order to put in place long term plans.

My committee believes that the organisation should continue to strive to uphold the highest moral standards. Human rights, diversity and equal opportunities needs to remain paramount to our core principles.

The CFRC will continue to review its Rules and Technical Deliverables, with an emphasis on simplifying the system of athlete progression through the rounds.

Climate change and drought are likely to have an impact on our discipline, reducing opportunities that previously existed. Due to this, we need to remain flexible in our approach to new and novel ideas such as joint events.

We may in future, need to consider different competition formats that rely on shorter water releases.

The committee has chosen a Chief Judge and a list of ITO's for this year's World Championships. This list has been communicated to ICF headquarters and the respective ITO's NF.

### 4. Rule changes

No change

### 5. Budget and resource needs

The CFRC has submitted a project summary and budget proposal to apply for resources from the ICF's Special Projects budget. This would enable us

to run 2 ITO training seminars this year, with a view to re-establishing a core of officials.

If we are successful with this bid, these seminars will be held later this year in the USA and Europe respectively.

The CFRC would like to organise an athlete development camp during the run up to this year's World Championships. This camp would focus on emerging nations with an emphasis on athletes from countries that have traditionally not competed in Freestyle. The committee is finalizing a project which will be submitted by mid-may to Cecilia Farias, Vice president in charge of development and the ICF Development staff at the HQ.

## 6. Plans for the future

### Spring/Summer 23

- 1) Conclude bids for the 2026 World Cups and 2027 World Championships.
- 2) Conclude bids for the 2024 World Cups.
- 3) Sign a Host Agreement with this year's World Championship HOC.
- 4) Conclude and sign a contract with our computer scoring system provider.
- 5) Re-establish regular meetings with the HOC of this year's World Championships.
- 6) Plan ITO seminars.
- 7) Plan Development Camp.
- 8) Continue the work of the Freestyle 'Rules Working Group'
- 9) Work on a media campaign and communication strategy.

## Autumn/Winter 23

- 1) Organise and manage Freestyle World Championships with HOC and NF.
- 2) Establish regular meetings with HOCs of the 2024 World Cups and 2025 World Championships.
- 3) Implement ITO seminars and development camp.
- 4) Put forward changes to rules and Technical Deliverables for the approval of the BoD.
- 5) Formulate a 4-year development plan.

## 7. Conclusion

Key focus:

- To manage a successful World Championships in 2023
- To secure World Championships and World Cups for the future
- To create a 4-year development plan.

## OCEAN RACING COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee members:

- Colin Simpkins (RSA) Chair
- Rob Jenkinson (AUS) Member
- Marian Sarbu (BEL) Member
- Raymond Ho-Yin Lo (HKG) Member
- Michele Eray (USA) Member

### 1. Committee Membership

No change

### 2. Activities and Progress

Committee meetings held Oct 2022, Dec 2022, Mar 2023. Meetings held with organisers of Australian World Championships, Madeira World Championships, Mediterranean Beach Games. Facilitated ITO course and sponsorship of craft to African Beach Games. Compiled hosting agreement, facilitated ITO course, and assisted with program and bulletin for Australian Championships. Continued to solicit bids for World Championships in 2025 and 2027. Held meetings with a tracking company (Safetrx) in order to investigate the possibility of a universal tracking system.

### 3. Recommendations

We recommend that the Ocean Racing World Championships become an open event (as it has been for the past couple of years, and will be for this year) permanently. We also propose, once again, a name change of the discipline to "Ocean Paddling" and not Canoe Ocean Racing.

### 4. Rule changes

Rule changes to reflect the World Championships as an open event, and to change the discipline name to Ocean Paddling.

### 5. Budget and resource needs

The proposed budget has not been completed. It will include expenditure on safety (formulation of a universal tracking device), development

(equipment and expertise to developing countries), travel to meetings and the TIP.

## 6. Plans for the future

The successful organisation of the World Championships in Australia. The revival of the World Cup race in Mauritius. A comprehensive set of changes to the Ocean Racing rules. To solicit firm bids for the World Championships up to 2028.

## 7. Conclusion

Key focus:

- Changing the status of the World Championships to an open event permanently.
- Facilitating the World Championships in Australia 2023 and Madeira 2024.
- Promoting the discipline in other multi sport events.

## STAND UP PADDLING COMMISSION REPORT

Commission members:

- Noemi Horvath (HUN) Chair
- Fiona Wylde (USA) Member
- Emilie Fournel (CAN) Member
- Amr Temraz (EGY) Member
- Elena Prokhorova (RUS) Member currently suspended
- Kristin Thomas (USA) Advisor
- Tamas Buday (CAN) Advisor
- Anja Burger (RSA) Advisor
- Jean Michel Prono (FRA) Chair

### 1. Committee Membership

No change

### 2. Activities and Progress

The main activity was helping organizers of World Cups, World Ranking Races and World Championships to prepare for their event, providing essential information and solutions for each venue. Beside this long discussions were about the future of stand up paddling, how we can develop it and attract more participants at our events, involving more NFs.

### 3. Recommendations

Experiences from previous events (positive and negative) could be collected and shared with future organizers (especially with those ones, who will organize their first ICF event) in order to avoid common problems. We shared stats and projects from last year with this year's organizers so they know what to expect in terms of e.g. participation numbers or volunteer needs. As most of our organizers are not familiar with ICF manuals, it seemed to be a big help for them.

### 4. Rule changes

We are reviewing the existing rules, right now the Commission has no rule change proposal. Clear goal of the Commission is to finalize basic rules for stand up paddling as much as possible to avoid major changes every year.



## 5. Budget and resource needs

In 2023 from the Commission's budget 2.000 EUR will be allocated for the commentator at the World Championships and 1.000 EUR will be paid for ads on the social media channels to attract athletes to race at the ICF World Cups and World Championships.

## 6. Plans for the future

Supervising the organization of all ICF stand up paddling event in order to meet all ICF requirement. Updating the ITO seminar educational material. Investigating the option and condition of organizing TIP camps in the future. Looking for possibilities, how ICF can help developing stand up paddling at NFs, e.g. preparing a beginner level instructor certificate.

## 7. Conclusion

Key focus:

- Focus on high level events; raise the number of participating NFs at ICF stand up paddling events, creat consistent rules.
- Continue negotiations with event organizers, get in touch with NFs and discover how the Commission can help them developing stand up paddling, evaluating experiences from previous years in order to find the most appropriate rules.

## DRAGON BOAT COMMISSION REPORT

Commission members:

- Luk Wai-Hung (HKG) Chair
- Howard Chen (USA) Member
- Ulrike Schreck (GER) Member
- Yang Guang (CHN) Member
- Melinda Hildenbrand-Patyi (HUN) Advisor

### 1. Committee Membership

No changes

### 2. Activities and Progress

Meetings with CCA and HOC of 2023 ICF DBR Wcup and the following decision to postpone the event dates. DBR commission had a virtual meeting to promote "League" idea, innovation of DBR paddles discussion following proposal from Oscar Propulsion. Finalised proposals for 10 seater and 8 seater plan. Application for World Games 2025, chengdu, China.

### 3. Recommendations

The plan of the commission is to continue to find prospects of future ICF DBR event organisers. Qualify as an official event at multisport events such as the World Games and to continue cooperations with the Asian Games.

### 4. Rule changes

There are no requested rule changes from the commission at this stage. The ICF regulations on equipment such as paddles and boats to be further discussed with involved stakeholders and the commission.

### 5. Budget and resource needs

### 6. Plans for the future

Plans to identify and enrich national federations involved in DBR.  
encourage NFs to organize future world cups or leagues.

## 7. Conclusion

Key focus:

- Continue the progress with the World Games
- Continue to discuss best strategy of DBR boats and paddles for continued growth of the discipline.