

BoD November 2011
Typed by HQ: 10 Dec 2011
Approved by Pdt: 6 Jan 2012
Distributed by HQ: 6 Jan 2012

INTERNATIONAL CANOE FEDERATION (ICF)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD IN BARCELONA, SPAIN
11 – 12 NOVEMBER 2011



BoD November 2011
Typed by HQ: 10 Dec 2011
Approved by Pdt: 6 Jan 2012
Distributed by HQ: 6 Jan 2012

The information contained in this document is confidential and strictly for personal use of the members of the ICF Executive Committee and the ICF Board of Directors



**MINUTES BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Barcelona, Spain 11 - 12 November 2011**

Participants:

José Perurena López	ICF President	Branko Lovric	Continental Representative Europe
Istvan Vaskuti	1 Vice President	Saifudin Patwa	Continental Representative Africa
Richard Fox	2 Vice President (ABSENT)	Victor G. Ruiz	Continental Representative America
Joao Tomasini	3 Vice President	Mario Santos	Continental Representative Europe
Luciano Buonfiglio	Treasurer	Irina Siraeva	Continental (ABSENT) Representative Europe
Simon Toulson	Secretary General	Frank Garner	Chair Canoe Sprint
Helen Brownlee	President OCA	Jean Michel Prono	Chair Canoe Slalom
Joao Manuel Da Costa Alegre	President CAC	Jorn Cronberg	Chair Canoe Marathon
Albert Woods	President ECA	Jens Perlwitz	Chair Wildwater Canoeing
Cecilia Farias	President COPAC	François Ryffel	Chair Dragon Boat
Maree Burnett	Continental Representative Oceania	Lluís Rabaneda i Caselles	Chair Canoe Freestyle
Kee-Huat Chua	Continental Representative Asia	Greg Smale	Chair Canoe Polo
Ahmad Doniamali	Continental Representative Asia	Donald McKenzie	Chair Medical and Antidoping
Dwight Corbin	Continental Representative America	Pierpaolo Ferrazzi	Chair Athletes (ABSENT)
Shoken Narita	President ACC	John Edwards	Chair of Canoeing for All

Description	Responsible Person	Deadline
<p>PRESIDENT'S WELCOME</p> <p>The President welcomed everybody to Barcelona and congratulated Dr. Cecilia Farias and Dwight Corbin on their new positions representing the Americas Continent. The ICF extended its full gratitude to Charles Yatman for his outstanding contribution to Canoeing.</p>		

BoD November 2011
Typed by HQ: 10 Dec 2011
Approved by Pdt: 6 Jan 2012
Distributed by HQ: 6 Jan 2012

<p>Two BoD Members were excused: Richard Fox and Irena Siraeva.</p> <p>The minutes from the BoD meeting in Paris, France April 2011 were approved.</p>		
<p>PRESIDENT'S REPORT</p> <p>The President had travelled extensively since the last BoD (22 trips) and had been involved in many activities, especially since being elected an IOC Member.</p> <p>Confirmed that Canoeing was in good standing with the IOC and that he had received good feedback from many people.</p> <p>A clear plan for events including an updated skeleton plan must be devised for the next four years as there were now too many ICF events on the calendar.</p> <p>Canoe Marathon and Canoe Polo have been included in the 2013 World Games in Columbia. The venue for Marathon had not been decided and Columbia did not have a Women's Canoe Polo team. Final decision on the team to replace them would be decided by the Chair and ICF President.</p> <p>The IOC has agreed with the canoeing format for the Youth Olympic Games and the same number of athletes will be used as in Singapore last year. The ICF will ask for a reduction in age category to cover 15 to 16 year olds.</p> <p>The Governance specialist (Antonio Fernandez) would present the first proposal later in the meeting. It would be the third time a proposal to change the governance structure in the ICF has been made. It will require all levels of the decision making structure to agree with the changes otherwise the project will not happen.</p> <p>The ICF President and Antonio Fernandez made a presentation on how they see the future of the ICF structure and statutes. There were many questions and queries from the BoD regarding the proposal. The ICF President said that the presentation was just an idea and all stakeholders needed to be interviewed before final concept be put forward for approval.</p> <p>A Commission was agreed by the ICF President including BoD members and the external consultant Antonio Fernandez who would validate the procedure and process leading up to the Congress in 2012.</p>		
<p>SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT</p> <p>There was a general presentation regarding the state of play of the main areas of the HQ work presented by the ICF staff.</p>		

BoD November 2011
Typed by HQ: 10 Dec 2011
Approved by Pdt: 6 Jan 2012
Distributed by HQ: 6 Jan 2012

<p>The final discussion point related to the success of TV in 2010. It was highlighted that there needs to be more formality and consistency in the way the sport and its athletes are presented on TV.</p> <p>The season had resulted in much more media and TV exposure than in previous years and generally was seen as a success.</p> <p>A plan needed to be developed on how other continents could replicate the TV arrangements locally. This was raised specifically from the African region.</p> <p>Swiss Timing had previously been very expensive with regards to GPS models, but costs have been reduced because they would like to showcase it at the Olympic Games. There was no decision on who would pay the 6,000 Euros per weekend.</p>		
<p>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT</p> <p>Istvan Vaskuti Report</p> <p>Good level of competitions particularly in Africa and Asia.</p> <p>The ICF has to find a way to use the budget correctly. Revisit the organisation of events because they are very expensive and many of the organisers cannot keep up with the costs and expectations put on them.</p> <p>A recommendation and thanks to the French Federation because they helped significantly in the African Continent.</p> <p>Thanks to Csaba Szanto for his involvement and work in Africa and Asia.</p> <p>Joao Tomasini - Report</p> <p>Attended Dragon Boat World Championships and Executive Meetings.</p> <p>Pan-American Games were organised at a very high level. The first time there was Olympic qualification at a Pan-Am Games for Canoeing and went well.</p> <p>Dwight Corbin was the Technical Delegate and he did a good job in ensuring the event ran smoothly.</p>		
<p>TREASURER'S REPORT</p> <p>The ICF budget was under control however the exchange rates had impacted the 2010 – 2012 budget which needed to be managed carefully over the next year.</p>		

BoD November 2011
Typed by HQ: 10 Dec 2011
Approved by Pdt: 6 Jan 2012
Distributed by HQ: 6 Jan 2012

<p>A special thanks was given to Paula Gonzalez for her work at the ICF HQ.</p> <p>The job of the ICF Treasurer has changed significantly over the past three years and the position needed to be reassessed.</p> <p>Due to the work load and accounting processes the ICF HQ reiterated that payments would only be made at the end of every month.</p> <p>The largest problem facing the ICF was the bank exchange rates. The ICF used Dollars, Euros and Swiss Francs. In the last budget profits were made but in the current case losses were occurring. The expectation was loses for the year in excess of 300,000 Euros. The deficit did not include the ICF TV project money.</p> <p>The ICF 2011 TV figures are not as yet finalised, but there was a requirement of 500,000 Euros to be spent for the project in 2012. The decision was taken to take money from the reserves and not from the budget.</p> <p>Almost 30% of the ICF budget is allocated to the Headquarters. It was suggested that this amount should be transferred directly into the ICF's Swiss Franc account so that fluctuations in exchange rates do not affect budgets.</p> <p>It was agreed that as soon as the budget is finalised, the monies will be divided into Swiss Francs, Dollars and Euros to offset any major exchange rate fluctuations.</p> <p>A meeting with a clothing company was held during the Szeged World Championships and they will provide suits for the Board and personnel. The uniforms would be used for the Olympic Games and other official ICF functions.</p>		
<p>CANOE SPRINT – Frank Garner</p> <p>There were no problems with the World Cups in 2011 now that there is more consistency and fewer changes being made to the programme and events calendar.</p> <p>Congratulations were expressed to Szeged for being able to organise an exceptional World Championship in one year.</p> <p>The criteria for the selection of ITOs for the Olympic Games was discussed. It was emphasised that the list was not political but technical. An agreement had been made with LOCOG that 3 slots would go to the British Canoe Union. Experience and attendance at World Cups and World Championships were also factors considered.</p>		

BoD November 2011
Typed by HQ: 10 Dec 2011
Approved by Pdt: 6 Jan 2012
Distributed by HQ: 6 Jan 2012

<p>There were a total of 60 applicants, 8 women were selected.</p> <p>A contentious discussion followed about the selection process. Representatives from the African and Asian continents voiced their reservations about the process, stating that the selection process was not made clear.</p> <p>A Tunisian official had been offered the opportunity to be selected, but weeks before the Chair received an email saying he could not attend because of a job opportunity in Canada. it was deemed important that only the very best officials are officiating at the Games, which is the biggest platform for canoeing.</p> <p>It was emphasised that a clear plan, through the development programme, needs to be devised through development programme for the developing continents so that they can be included in the ITO list and the subject of ITO selection doesn't repeat itself again. It was also proposed that shadowing opportunities could be offered at future World Championships.</p> <p>The ITO List for the 2012 Olympic Games was approved.</p> <p>A few ideas for the evolution of Canoe Sprint were put forward such as a relay or knockout format. Also the possibility to change to Classic Series events, include the use of technology such as GPS which would be ready made for TV events.</p> <p>It was proposed that the number of World Championships needs to be reduced and it should be based according to the Olympic Events.</p> <p>A new World Ranking principle should be considered. A different point system where athletes can accumulate points without leaving their continent.</p> <p>It was mentioned that the ideas were good but needed to be assessed as a global strategy. Should focus on the sustainability of the sport and have to focus on the market and what drives it because of the current economic climate.</p>		
<p>CANOE SLALOM – Jean Michel Prono</p> <p>A successful season including World Cups and the ICF World Championships in Bratislava.</p> <p>The Canoe Slalom event at the All African Games was successfully carried out and the programme was adapted from the Youth Olympic Games format.</p>		

BoD November 2011
Typed by HQ: 10 Dec 2011
Approved by Pdt: 6 Jan 2012
Distributed by HQ: 6 Jan 2012

<p>Confirmation was given that Canoe Slalom will be included at the next Pan Am Games 2015, Incheon 2014 Asian Games and the next All African Games.</p> <p>Thank was expressed to Michael Noyelle for the new CSL page format on the website.</p> <p>The same list of ITOs from the previous year was carried on in 2011 to keep consistency.</p> <p>The List of ITOs for Olympic Games was approved by the ICF BoD.</p> <p>The subject to have an U23 & Junior Championships every 2 years was discussed. Also discussed was whether the Opening Ceremony should be within the event programme.</p> <p>Clarification was made on the age range of a junior paddler (15-18) except for at the Youth Olympic Games (15-16).</p> <p>The minimum buoyancy rule needed to be looked into because the manufacturers were facing a challenge. The BoD anticipated the rules for 2013 and apply the 50 newtons and CE norms for 2012 before changing the rule books for 2013. This was agreed in principle by the BoD.</p> <p>Wildwater agreed to apply the same principle for all Whitewater events.</p>		
<p>CANOE MARATHON – Jørn Cronberg</p> <p>An appeal to the BoD was made to look out for potential host of the next Marathon World Championships.</p> <p>The athletes appeals process needed to be looked at for Marathon. At the moment it stands that if the competition jury says no then the next step would be an appeal to the BoD.</p> <p>The jury should govern the competition and be the last decision maker for all competition activities. There was also a discussion over the length of time an appeal could last for.</p> <p>It was identified that there was a need for the committee to define penalties other than an automatic disqualification.</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed that the BoD would not hear competition appeals.</p> <p>The Marathon Officials list was approved.</p>		
<p>CANOE POLO – Greg Smale</p>		

BoD November 2011
Typed by HQ: 10 Dec 2011
Approved by Pdt: 6 Jan 2012
Distributed by HQ: 6 Jan 2012

<p>There have been some changes to the rule books.</p> <p>The new shot clock has worked well resulting in more goals being scored, making competitions very interesting. There is however some concern because Europe is much stronger than the other continents and the shot clock may give them an advantage.</p> <p>Thanks was expressed to Dr. Cecilia Farias for supporting Canoe Polo in the Americas. Thanks also expressed to the President of the Polish federation for taking on the Polo World Championships.</p> <p>Names of referees for competitions and substitutes were proposed and the BoD unanimously approved them.</p> <p>An attempt would be made to create an ICF Canoe Polo Masters event which the ICF BoD approved.</p> <p>Frustration was expressed about the equipment delay in Columbia, but was assured by the Continental Representatives that it had been finalised.</p> <p>It was suggested that the protocol for dress at ICF Ceremonies be clarified. ICF officials must look professional at all times, regardless of the weather conditions. The ICF Board agreed suitable attire must be worn to show respect to the athletes who must be in uniforms.</p>		
<p>OCEAN RACING – Mario Santos</p> <p>Several meetings were initiated with Federations, athletes, coaches, organizers and main role-players within the discipline.</p> <p>The dispute between the ICF Ocean Racing and the other entities seemed to be resolved.</p> <p>Received bids from many Federations from all over the world to organise the World Series.</p> <p>The prize money that athletes received must be increased and the World Series should be created in such a way that it can generate funds and attract sponsors. A proposal will be made to host World Championships by 2013 and a World ranking system would be determined</p> <p>A request was made that the discipline be included in the TIP/DP.</p>		
<p>WILDWATER CANOEING – Jens Perlwitz</p> <p>The Wildwater Officials list was approved by the BoD.</p>		

BoD November 2011
Typed by HQ: 10 Dec 2011
Approved by Pdt: 6 Jan 2012
Distributed by HQ: 6 Jan 2012

<p>DRAGON BOAT – Francois Ryffel</p> <p>The Italian Federation changed the site of the World Championships to Milano, and the new dates would be 30th August to 2nd September. This was done to have a better competition course, better organisation and the possibility to have TV. The new dates also fall during the holiday period so there would likely be increased participation.</p> <p>Discussions were held in regards to the venue in Ukraine for the 2013 World Championships. The decision to host the event in Kiev was approved by the ICF BoD.</p> <p>A workshop to discuss the benefits and the future of Dragon Boat was proposed to be held in Lausanne in the near future.</p> <p>There was a second occurrence of a European Championships being cancelled because the IDBF threatened the NF that if they participated they would be excluded from IDBF competitions.</p> <p>The Technical officials list for Dragon Boat was unanimously approved by the BoD.</p>		
<p>CANOE FREESTYLE – Lluís Rabaneda</p> <p>Canoe Freestyle Committee had been conducting their meetings through Skype, which had proved very successful and has saved a lot of money.</p> <p>The Committee chair attended a number of conferences and seminars on whitewater in Tennessee and Annecy.</p> <p>The Committee had primarily been involved with the planning of the World Championships in Plattling.</p> <p>New Freestyle results system was being developed.</p> <p>Japan organised a successful demonstration of Freestyle. Japan had been participating in Freestyle events since 1991. There was a possibility that if Japan were to organise a Freestyle event then as many as 12 Asian countries could participate. The same principle was being applied in the Americas.</p> <p>The Freestyles Officials list was approved by the BoD.</p>		
<p>MEDICAL COMMITTEE – Donald McKenzie</p> <p>The Anti-Doping Programme was a very good and cost effective programme.</p>		

BoD November 2011
Typed by HQ: 10 Dec 2011
Approved by Pdt: 6 Jan 2012
Distributed by HQ: 6 Jan 2012

<p>There have been two recent Canoe Sprint athlete positive tests in Duisburg and also in Szeged.</p> <p>The cost of doping controls had increased significantly. It used to be USD500 and now it is 500 Euros. Economies of scale needed to be exercised, the ICF needed to be doing more tests in order to reduce the unit cost.</p> <p>The Committee would look at how to lessen costs while maintaining a high standard of testing in the future.</p>		
<p>ATHLETES COMMITTEE – (Not present)</p> <p>The Women’s Committee Chair requested the ICF acknowledge the Athletes Committee even if they were not present.</p> <p>It was noted that discussion had been held amongst the Committee and they had agreed to meet before the end of the year.</p> <p>The current Chair of the committee had indicated that he would like to step down because he feels he cannot do the job well enough.</p> <p>It was proposed that if one of the three canoeing candidates for the IOC Athletes Committee was successful then they could chair the Committee, however the rules state that the Chair of the ICF Athletes Committee must be elected by their peers in 2013.</p>		
<p>PARACANOEING – John Edwards</p> <p>Paracanoeing had a successful year; last year in Poznan there were 28 countries and this year in Szeged there were 26. Even though there were fewer countries represented, there were more athletes, including some new Federations, including Singapore.</p> <p>The training of classifiers was conducted in Szeged, at the Asian Canoe Championships in Singapore and during the Asian Canoe Sprint Championships. Classification was clearly a big activity for the Committee.</p> <p>Request for Proposals for the Paracanoeing classifications was due December 5th and a decision would be made as to how and when to move forward with a consulting team.</p> <p>Paracanoeing was the one sport that the IPC gave a thumbs up to for its classification system and format, but issues remain that need resolving to stay within the IPC family.</p> <p>The Masters Questionnaire had gone out to all NFs, it was a project by the</p>		

BoD November 2011
Typed by HQ: 10 Dec 2011
Approved by Pdt: 6 Jan 2012
Distributed by HQ: 6 Jan 2012

<p>Committee to collect information in regards to what information is out there.</p> <p>A meeting was held with the flatwater chairs to discuss the pros and cons of hosting events together. Further analysis will be done.</p> <p>Even though Canoeing is not included in the 2018 Commonwealth Games, the Committee continues to work on its strategy because of the importance for Canoeing to be involved in multi-sport events.</p> <p>There is the need to increase the number of classifiers worldwide, so that when athletes arrive at World Championships, they are not reclassified.</p> <p>The Chair encouraged Paracanoeing within all disciplines, but said the focus had to be in Canoe Sprint to ensure that programme was a success in 2016. After the Rio Games, then resources could be provided to develop Paracanoeing in other disciplines.</p>		
<p>AFRICAN CONTINENTAL REPORT</p> <p>The CAC President has been elected to head events at the African Youth Games, which ensures the continuity of the canoeing programme.</p> <p>CAC was planning two regional Championships which would be a post Games legacy, so that the facility in Mozambique continued to be used.</p> <p>Discussions were underway with TV channels, to feature canoeing as part of their programmes in Africa. Discussions will be held with ICF HQ after the meeting.</p> <p>A request was made to the BoD to approve a budget for the upcoming programmes in Africa in 2012. The BoD highlighted that sizeable assistance in the past year had been given to Africa and other continents needed to be considered first. It was also suggested that the proposed activities could be pushed back so that they were part of the ICFs new budget in late 2012.</p>		
<p>AMERICAS CONTINENTAL REPORT</p> <p>COPAC was happy to see the inclusion of Canoe Slalom to the Pan American Games in 2015. Note: This has not been confirmed as yet by PASO.</p> <p>Lluís Carbanerra was thanked for establishing relationships with a person in Canada to lead Freestyle on the continent.</p> <p>COPAC was trying to put requirements on bids for events that promote sustainable activities and professionalise events.</p> <p>The Confederation has been working with the NFs to create action plans</p>		

BoD November 2011
Typed by HQ: 10 Dec 2011
Approved by Pdt: 6 Jan 2012
Distributed by HQ: 6 Jan 2012

<p>specific to their territory.</p> <p>It was felt COPAC required a Technical Advisor for the continent. This would be someone that would hold a non-voting position but who had an overall view of the sport.</p> <p>First time in 2011 that the Pan Am Games served as Qualifiers to the Olympic Games and this needed to be reconsidered in the future.</p>		
<p>ASIA CONTINENTAL REPORT</p> <p>A meeting was held with Singapore Airlines to discuss potentially becoming sponsors of the ICF, but the airline would like that they see the flying routes of the athletes/competitions before progressing further. ICF committed to providing some information.</p> <p>Met with Dentsu, but the project is too big for Asia Pacific and it has been forwarded to main office in Japan. ICF HQ to follow up with Dentsu as it seemed a very useful contact.</p>		
<p>EUROPE CONTINENTAL REPORT</p> <p>No additional comments made.</p>		
<p>OCEANIA CONTINENTAL REPORT</p> <p>Happy that Ellie Nichols (COK) qualified for the Olympic Games and had been given support by the BCU which Oceania was grateful for.</p> <p>Investment needed to be made into the Paracanoeing infrastructure. There was a strong support from Va'a Federation to get Paracanoeing into the Pacific Games. A letter of support from the ICF was requested.</p>		
<p>WOMEN'S COMMISSION</p> <p>Congratulations were given to women that had acquired new positions in canoeing during the course of the year.</p> <p>There were more entries at the World Championships for women in the K1 200m than in many of the men's events, this was a first.</p> <p>It was requested that NFs were encouraged to approve the Women's charter that the Board had endorsed.</p> <p>It was suggested that the date of the Women's Committee meeting should be changed to the day before the Congress. The ICF President would review the agenda.</p>		

BoD November 2011
Typed by HQ: 10 Dec 2011
Approved by Pdt: 6 Jan 2012
Distributed by HQ: 6 Jan 2012

<p>ICF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM</p> <p>The most important project of the ICF Development Programme was the Talent Identification Programme (TIP). It had proven successful over the last 3 years.</p> <p>The athlete participation at the Junior Canoe Sprint World Championships, where the German Canoe Federation provided free accommodation for the participation of 12 athletes for free also proved successful.</p> <p>The Programme was open to everybody but some continents were underrepresented and the Continental Representatives were trying to assist in creating awareness about the programme.</p> <p>Six athletes that have been in the programme for some years have qualified for the Olympic Games – this was a major success.</p> <p>The other project that the DP worked on was the Women’s Training Camp. Discounts were made available for women training camps but there were no applicants. However, 12 athletes signed up for support for the World Championships.</p> <p>Paracanoeing was also part of the Development Programme in cooperation with the Hungarian Canoe Federation, assistance was given to 11 paracanoeists from 11 countries, the same as the previous year.</p> <p>A discussion was held as to why the budget was prepared without consultation, it was suggested that the continental representatives should be involved during the budget preparation process.</p>		
<p>MISCELLANEOUS</p> <p><i>President’s Foreign Tax Inquiry</i></p> <p>The president had been told to resolve a matter with the Swiss tax authorities because the Swiss and the Spanish tax systems are different. The accountants came back with the news that the president needs to justify his expenses because he is retired and earns a specified amount. He needed to provide expense receipts in Spain as his official capacity as president. The BoD was asked to state exactly what the monies allocated to the president would be used for.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the president’s personal expenses could be categorised in the areas of maintenance, meetings, social entertaining for the sport, equipment with a total amount of 3875 Euros (<i>Office Maintenance: 500€, Post/Tel/Fax: 375€ and President Activities: 3.000€</i>) calculated to be the total expenses per month and the motion was approved.</p>		

BoD November 2011
Typed by HQ: 10 Dec 2011
Approved by Pdt: 6 Jan 2012
Distributed by HQ: 6 Jan 2012

<p><i>ICF Events</i> There has been a low application rate for ICF events in 2016 so the bids would be sent out again and include the 2013 Ocean Racing World Championships. The decision of the venues would be made in March.</p> <p><i>Signing of ICF Events Contracts</i> NFs were not signing the contracts and this put the ICF in a precarious position because it left the ICF exposed legally. The Board concluded that any NF that did not sign the contract within the 90 days limitation will have the hosting rights withdrawn.</p> <p><i>ICF Rules</i> The ICF rules needed to be looked at across the board before the next meeting in Rio.</p> <p><i>London 2012 Olympic Games Preparations</i> The ICF will make the initial accommodation deposits for BoD members but by 2012 the individual would need to pay back the ICF. The most important thing was to know who was attending the Olympic Games</p>		
<p>The next ICF Board meeting would be in Rio (BRA) 22 -24 March 2012 .</p>		


