



INTERNATIONAL CANOE FEDERATION

**CANOE
OCEAN RACING
COMPETITION RULES**

2017

Taking effect from 1 January, 2017

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to provide the rules that govern the way of running ICF Canoe Ocean Racing competitions.

As regards whatever issue not specifically covered in the present Rules and in case of controversy of interpretation, the ICF Canoe Marathon Rules will apply.

LANGUAGE

The English written language is the only acceptable language for all official communications relating to these Competition Rules and the conduct of all Surfski ICF competitions.

For the sake of consistency, British spelling, punctuation and grammatical conventions have been used throughout.

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

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List of Abbreviations

COMPETITOR	Male or female competitor
FEDERATION	National Federation of the ICF
ICF	International Canoe Federation
ORC	Ocean Racing Committee
CATEGORIES	Surfski single (SSS-1), Surfski double (SS-2) Stand Up Paddling (SUP)
CLASSES	Men, Women
EVENTS	Each class in each age group
[GR]	General Rule (can only be changed by the ICF Congress)
[TR]	Technical Rule (can only be changed by ICF Board of Directors)

CHAPTER I - GENERAL REGULATIONS

1 DEFINITION OF CANOE OCEAN RACING [GR]

In Canoe Ocean Racing the competitor races over a designated course on open water or the open sea. The Events are reserved for craft as defined in Chapter II. The competitor must take the water as it is found, with an emphasis on testing competitor's abilities to use challenging water conditions to their advantage.

2 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION [GR]

2.1 All international competitions shall be held in accordance with the regulations of the ICF. Competitions arranged by the National Federations or their clubs are considered international if competitors of a foreign country are invited to participate. These competitions must be attended by at least one official approved by the National Federation.

2.2 Canoeing competitions in Continental and Regional Multisport Games and Championships shall be organised under the ICF Rules and Regulations for World Championships for that discipline.

2.3 The organisation and programme of the canoeing competitions in Multisport Games on a global level must be approved by the ICF and for continental level by the Continental Canoeing Associations.

3 COMPETITORS [GR]

3.1 Only members affiliated with an ICF National Federation have the right to participate in an international competition.

3.2 A competitor is always allowed to take part individually in an international competition, but must in each case obtain special permission from his/her National Federation.

3.3.1 An athlete that has competed internationally at any level in the last 3 years requires authorisation from

the ICF and the national federation of the original country in order to change sporting nationality.

3.3.2 For an athlete to be eligible for a change of sporting nationality they must have lived in that country for the last two years.

3.3.3 The request of the change of nationality must be made to the ICF no later than 30 November the year before the competitor wants to compete.

3.3.4 For the Olympic Games the Olympic Charter rules will be applied for nationality issues. For athletes to be eligible for the Olympic and Paralympic Games they must hold citizenship/nationality of the country that they participate for at the time of the qualification event.

3.4 A competitor may not compete for more than one Federation in any one calendar year in the sport of canoeing.

3.5 The first year, a junior competitor can compete is the year in which his 15th birthday falls and the last year he may compete, as a junior is the year in which his 18th birthday falls.

3.6 A Master competitor can compete in a Masters event in the year he or she reaches the lower limit of the age category, i.e. in the 40-44 age group in the year of his or her 40th birthday.

3.7 In SS2 the age of the youngest competitor will determine the category in which the crew can compete.

3.8 Age group categories will commence from age 35-39 and increase upwards in 5-year age brackets.

4 CLASSES

[GR]

Surfski races may be run in the following Classes:

Men: SS-1, SS-2

Women: SS-1, SS-2

Men/Women: SUP

5 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION CALENDAR

[GR]

5.1 Before the 1st July of each year, all national federations shall send to the ICF headquarters and to the Chairman of the ORC, their proposed programme of international races for the following year, for publication in the ICF Calendar.

5.2 Changes to the Calendar may be made up to 30th September after which date the Calendar will be considered complete and will be published.

CHAPTER II - CLASSES AND BUILDING RULES

6 LIMITATIONS

[TR]

6.1 There are no length or weight limitations for surfski construction.

7 TRADEMARKS

[GR]

7.1 The guidelines for any advertising material carried on the clothing and equipment of paddlers should be as follows:

- a. The advertising of tobacco smoking and strong spirit drinks will not be accepted.
- b. The ICF and National Federation organising an ICF event should not engage in any exclusive sponsorship advertisement.
- c. National Federations participating in the World and Continental Championships should have a uniform advertising design identifying sponsors.
- d. All advertising material should be placed in such a way that it does not interfere with competitors' identification and does not affect the outcome of the race.
- e. All advertising material used should be in accordance with the IOC Athletes Code and the ICF Eligibility Rule. Any boat, accessory or article of clothing, which does not comply with the above-mentioned conditions, will be ineligible for use during the competition. Teams are responsible for their own equipment.

8 CONSTRUCTION

[TR]

8.1 All the crafts shall be boats which the competitor sits on with one watertight compartment, and Self-bailing.

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

8.3 All the crafts shall have one hard point provided near the cockpit for attaching a leash.

8.4 All openings into the hull larger than 12mm in diameter (drain and vent holes) must be fitted with a cover that is mechanically fastened in place.

9 MEASURING AND INSPECTION

[TR]

9.1 The dimensions of the surfski do not need to be measured. Inspection shall be limited to hull openings and their closure methods and the presence of hard point suitable for attaching a leash.

CHAPTER III - ORGANISATION OF THE COMPETITIONS

10 OFFICIALS

[GR]

10.1 International competitions shall be held under the supervision of the following officials:

Race Director
Technical Director
Competition Secretary
Starter(s)
Aligner
Course Umpire
Finishing Line Judge(s)
Timekeeper(s)
Boat Scrutineer
Safety Officer
Announcer
Press Official

10.2 One person may function in two or more of the above positions.

10.3 The competition will be managed by a *Competition Committee*, made up of:

Race Director
Technical Director
Safety Officer

10.4 The *Competition Committee* shall:

10.4.1 Organise the competition and supervise its arrangements;

10.4.2 In the event of inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances which make it impossible to carry out or finish the competition, 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;

10.4.3 Hear any protests that may be made and settle any disputes that may arise;

10.4.5 Decide on matters concerning disqualification in cases where the regulations have been broken during the competition. The decision of the Committee shall be based on the present Rules. Penalties in accordance with the ICF Statutes may also be imposed (i.e. disqualification for a longer period than the duration of the competition in question);

10.4.4 Before any decision is made regarding an alleged infraction of the rules, hear the opinion of the officials who are in control of the race, if it is felt to be of importance in clearing up the alleged offence;

10.4.5 The *Competition Committee* may disqualify any competitor who behaves improperly or who by his or her conduct or speech shows contempt towards the officials, other competitors or onlookers;

10.4.6 A member of the Competition Committee may not participate in a judgement connected with the disqualification of a competitor from his or her own national federation.

11 DUTIES OF OFFICIALS

[TR]

11.1 The race (chief) officials shall carry out the following duties, where applicable:

- The Race Director, who is also the Chairman of the Competition Committee, shall decide all matters arising during the actual contests, which are not dealt with in these rules.
- The Technical Director is responsible for the preparation and running of the competition.
- The Competition Secretary is responsible for recording the results and preparing lists of prize winners. He or she must keep the minutes of the proceedings of any protest meetings. He or she must provide the Press Official with all necessary information regarding the running of the event or the results.
- The Starter decides all questions concerning the start of the races, and alone is responsible for decisions as to false starts. He or she must see to it that the starting signal equipment is in working order. The starter must order the competitors to their places and carry out the start in accordance

with the Ocean Racing Rules. The language used shall be English. The starter's decision is final.

- The Aligner is responsible for bringing the boats to the starting line with the least possible delay. The language used shall be English.
- The Course Umpire shall ensure that during a race the rules are complied with. If the rules are broken, the Umpire shall report the infraction to the Race Director, who, in turn, shall refer it to the Competition Committee. The Competition Committee shall then decide whether any of the competitors concerned shall be disqualified, or not. The Course Umpire shall appoint officials to supervise the control points along the course.
- The Finishing Line Judges decide the order in which the competitors have crossed the finishing line. They shall be placed at the finishing line. If the judges differ regarding the placing of two or more of the competitors, the disagreement shall be decided by a simple majority. In the case of equal voting, the Chief Judge shall exercise a casting vote. The decision of the judges is final.
- The Timekeepers are responsible for recording the times. Before each race the Chief Timekeeper shall establish that the time-keeping equipment is working satisfactorily.
- The Boat Scrutineer shall ensure that the boats, equipment, clothing and advertising conform to the ICF Canoe Ocean Racing Rules, and shall mark them accordingly. Should any not fulfil the ICF requirement they shall be excluded from the competition.
- The Embarkation Marshall confirms that the boat and equipment have been approved by the Boat Scrutineer he/she confirms that the boat, equipment and clothing of the competitor meet the requirements of the competition regulations and, when satisfied, dispatches the boats, in the appropriate order, to the Aligner.
- The Safety Officer is responsible for advising the Competition Committee on the safety measures necessary, and for seeing that these are taken.
- The Announcer, on the instructions of the Race Director, announces the start of each race, the order of starting, and the placing of the competitors during the race. After the race is finished he or she will announce the results.

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

12 INTERNATIONAL CANOE OCEAN RACING OFFICIALS

[GR]

12.1 Recognition as an international Official for Canoe Ocean Racing is given by the ICF to those persons who have passed an appropriate examination.

12.2 Only national federations are entitled to nominate candidates for this examination, and the candidates' names must be submitted to the ICF General Secretary at least two months before the date of the examination.

12.3 The application shall be accompanied by a fee of 20 Euros, which is not refundable in the event of the candidate failing in the examination.

12.4 Applications shall not be younger than 25 years or older than 65 years.

12.5 A copy of the application form shall also be sent to the Chairman of the Ocean Racing Working Group.

12.6 A subcommittee of the ICF will arrange the examination annually, in conjunction with a major Ocean Racing event.

12.7 The examination will be conducted in one of the official languages of the ICF and will be based on the Statutes and Ocean Racing Canoeing Rules of the ICF and practical experience of Ocean Racing Canoeing.

12.8 If a National Federation wishes to hold an examination at some other time, the federation must meet the living and travel expenses of the members of the examining committee.

12.9 Candidates who have failed one examination may enrol for another, but not earlier than the following year. Successful candidates will be issued with an identity card as International Ocean Racing Officials.

12.10 The cost incurred by a candidate in connection with the examination, shall be a charge on the national federation of that candidate.

12.11 In exceptional circumstances, a national federation may supply the ICF with a list of extremely experienced organisers of Ocean Racing events, along with a description of their experience. The ICF may waive the examination requirements for approved candidates.

12.12 Validity and renewals are subject to the Technical Chairs' criteria. If the Officials' Card expires, is lost or destroyed a 20 euro fee for renewal will be charged.

13 INVITATION

[GR]

An invitation to an international competition shall contain the following information:

- a) Date, time and place of the competition.
- b) Full race instructions, including layout and map of the course.
- c) Classes and distance of races.
- d) Sequence and starting times of races.
- e) Nature of the course, water conditions and degree of difficulty.
- f) Fees.
- g) Address to which entries should be sent.
- h) Last date for receiving entries. This date shall not be earlier than 5 days before the first day of the competition. Invitations to the World Cups competitions shall be sent to all ICF members at least three (3) months prior to the respective event.

14 ENTRIES

[GR]

14.1 Entries for an international competition should be made through the national federation and in accordance with the regulations given in the invitation.

14.2 An entry shall, however, always contain the following:

- a) The name of the club or federation to which the competitor/s belong.
- b) The events in which the team proposes to compete.
- c) First name and surname of each competitor, together with the date and year of birth and his or her citizenship.
- d) In crew boats the names must be according to the position of the athlete in the boat.
- e) The colours of the athlete competition clothing.

Entries may be sent electronically and must be dispatched before midnight on the last day for receiving entries. Electronic entries must be confirmed by hard copies and in the eventuality of conflicting information; the information in the hard copy shall take precedence. When submitting their entries federations must give the colours of the clothing worn by the competitors. These colours must not be changed during the competition.

15 ACCEPTANCE OF ENTRIES AND PROGRAMME

[TR]

Applications for entries must be acknowledged within 48 hours of receipt. A team leaders / competitor's meeting shall be held commencing not later than three (3) hours and not sooner than 30 hours before the first event starts in order to determine, amongst other things, the final entry details. After the meeting the final programme should be completed and made available at the course, giving names and citizenship of competitors and the results of the draw if one has been required.

16 ALTERATION IN ENTRIES AND WITHDRAWALS

[TR]

16.1 Notification of alterations must be given at the team leaders meeting.

16.2 The Race Director may, in exceptional circumstances, accept written replacement of named competitors by named reserves up to one hour before the start of the first race.

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

16.4 The withdrawal of an entry is considered final and no renewed entry of the same crew or athlete is allowed. Entry fees cannot be refunded.

17 CHANGES IN THE SEQUENCE OF EVENT

[TR]

The sequence of races given in the invitation, and the intervals between the races as given in the racing programme, are binding on the organisers. Alterations cannot be made unless the respective team managers or national representatives at the competition, give their consent.

18 RACE MARKERS

[TR]

Race markers (start line, finishing line and other course markers) will be explained in the race instructions. It is advised that markers are easily visible and recognisable (dimensions, form, colour).

19 COURSE

[TR]

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

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

b) Length of courses

There will be no limit of the length of course for local club level or national championships. The recommended distance for Ocean Racing World Cups should be a minimum of 10 km and a maximum of 35 km. For World Championships event the distance shall be minimum 20 km and a maximum of 35km .

c) Races may be run in one or several stages, over one or several days, the final result being based on total racing time.

20 CRAFT AND PERSONAL NUMBERS

[TR]

20.1 All craft shall carry a number, which shall be attached to the craft as instructed by the race organiser. Marking must be set up in order to recognise the boats on the starting line and on the course. This procedure is for the safety and identification of the craft.

20.2 Craft should be marked on both sides with number, letters or a combination of the two, which are at least 10cm high and printed in an easily read typeface. The markings should be in a contrasting colour to that of the craft or be printed on a contrasting background.

20.3 The whole of the number must be visible on the first 50 cm of the craft.

Personal numbers may be provided by the organisers and shall, if required, be placed on the back and / or front of the competitor. The title or main sponsors name may be shown with the personal numbers.

20.4 All craft shall carry the athletes' name and the identification of the country, which are at least 10cm high and printed in an easily read typeface.

21 RACE INSTRUCTION

[TR]

The following information shall be posted or distributed to team leaders at least 5 hours before the beginning of the competition:

- a) Detailed information on the course(s) and their markings;
- b) Starting time(s) and procedures;
- c) Starting line;
- d) Finishing line;
- e) Competitor's racing number;
- f) Obligatory safety equipment requirements;
- g) Transport arrangements for boats and competitor, if being provided by the organisers.

CHAPTER IV - RACING REGULATIONS

22 MEANS OF PROPULSION

[TR]

22.1 Ocean Racing shall be propelled solely by means of one double bladed pair of paddles per occupant. The paddles may not be attached to the boats in any way while being used, except by a safety leash that is kept slack at all times while paddling.

22.2 The use of kites and sails are prohibited.

23 START

[TR]

23.1 The start line shall be clearly marked, with the marks described to the competitors in the race instructions.

23.2 The start line should be long enough to allow all competitors to line up alongside each other. When this is not possible, seeded paddlers should be allowed places in the front row, ensuring equal representation from all federations present.

23.3 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 shall be described in the race instructions.

23.4 A start with flag signal can be used if the conditions don't allow an audible signal.

23.5 Competitors shall be at the start at the time specified in the racing programme. The start shall be given without reference to any absentees.

23.6 The start will be as fair as possible, allowing all competitors an equal chance. The type of start will be selected according to prevailing conditions and local customs. Starting procedures may be, but are not limited to those described below:

a) Beach Start

The starter will call the competitors to the water's edge. Competitors will line up, in an order determined by the draw holding their craft, in ankle to thigh deep

water as instructed by the starter or his assistants. When all competitors are aligned and the sea conditions are favourable, the start signal shall be given.

b) Le Mans Start

The boats are lined up on the shore in an order determined by the draw.

c) Stationary Water Start

The competitors shall 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.

d) Rolling Water Start

Where strong wind or currents render a stationary start difficult, a rolling start may be used, the boats being allowed to drift or paddle slowly towards the start line with a view to crossing on the signal. The start line may be fixed or be between two boats that are moving, usually upwind.

e) Interval Start

Where a simultaneous start is impracticable or undesirable, an interval 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 competitors with their starting times shall be displayed on a notice board and / or issued to the team leaders at least one (1) hour before the start of competition.

23.6 In all cases paddlers shall be called to the water at least ten minutes before the scheduled start

23.7 The following procedures will apply for the respective starts:

a) Beach Start, Le Mans and Stationary Water Start

The starter shall ensure all craft are stationary behind the starting line as appropriate. When the starter is satisfied that the competitors are aligned correctly and are stationary he or she shall call "*Ready*" followed by the start signal (a *shot, horn blast, whistle blast* or the word "*Go*").

b) Rolling Start

The competitors shall move towards the start line slowly, aligned with each other as best as possible.

When the competitors are approximately 10 metres from the start line, the command "*Ready*" shall be called. When the starter is satisfied that the craft are correctly aligned and that no competitor will obtain any undue advantage as a result of the start, he or she shall give the start signal (signal (a *shot, horn blast, whistle blast* or the word "*Go*").

c) False start (beach Le Mans or stationary water start)

If a competitor moves forward after the word "*Ready*" and before the start signal, he or she has made a false start.

A competitor who attempts to start before any instruction is deemed to have made an unfair start.

A competitor who attempts a false or unfair start will be warned.

A second warning will result in the imposition of a two minute penalty.

A third warning will result in the competitor's disqualification from the event.

A disqualified competitor must leave the water immediately.

d) False start (rolling start)

If a competitor commences paddling after the word "*Ready*" and before the start signal is given, he or she has made a false start. An immediate time penalty of two minutes shall be imposed upon the competitor making a false start.

23.8 Any penalty imposed under this rule shall be notified to the team Leader of the offending competitor by the Technical Director. Whenever possible, advice of any time penalty shall also be given to the offending competitor(s) at the first available opportunity.

23.9 *Multi-stage races*

Where a race is divided into several stages, the starts of the second and subsequent stages shall be carried out individually, or in groups as determined by the organiser, and advised to the team leaders and / or competitors as appropriate.

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

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

Timing will be cumulative, and the winner being the competitor/crew having taken the shortest time over the whole course, making due allowance for any time penalties awarded by the organisers. The restart of the second or subsequent days may utilise any of the initial or stage start methods described in this rule or otherwise as is local custom.

24 TURNS

[TR]

Marks shall be rounded as described in the race instructions.

25 GROUP RACING AND SLIPSTREAMING

[TR]

25.1 When competitors are racing in a group, it is the duty of all the competitors in the group to keep clear of each other at all times. This rule applies to any manoeuvring within the group and while slipstreaming. Inadvertent contact between craft should be avoided.

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

26 COLLISION OR DAMAGE

[TR]

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

26.2 Any competitor who is considered by a course umpire or race official to have been responsible for a deliberate collision, or who deliberately damages the craft or paddle of another competitor may be disqualified.

27 CHECK POINTS

[TR]

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

28 ASSISTANCE

[TR]

28.1 A competitor may not be accompanied along the course or assisted in any way by other craft not entered in the event or by any vessel (e.g. motor boat).

28.2 Any outside help (food, coaching, and navigation) is prohibited during the competition other than at designated seconding points.

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

28.4 Private boats must not obstruct competitors during a race. If a relationship can be established between a competitor and an unofficial boat, which obstructs an opponent, the competitor will be disqualified.

28.5 In the event of capsizing during the race, a competitor may be helped by another contestant. A competitor will be disqualified only if he/she uses the safety devices set up by the organisation of the race or the assistance of another boat outside the racing committee.

28.6 A competitor suffering from a lower-body handicap may, by prior agreement from the Race Committee, receive assistance at a beach start or at a check point, from designated helpers, provided no advantage is received as a result of such assistance and provided the competitor leaves or is lifted from his or her craft before the helpers carry the boat.

28.7 No exchange or substitution of craft is permitted during a single stage race or during a stage of a multi stage race, even with other competitors from the same team. Craft may be substituted between stages in a multistage race if it can be shown that the original craft has been damaged beyond repair during a previous stage.

29 SAFETY MEASURES

[TR]

29.1 All competitors shall wear a flotation device approved by the race committee from before the start until after the finish of every event.

29.2 Each competitor will carry hydration on their person or attached to their craft, that is deemed sufficient by the safety officer for the duration of the event.

29.3 Depending on the duration of the race, the course, weather and sea conditions, the organisers can make the following equipment compulsory:

- a) a leash (approved by the organisers) attaching the competitor or paddle to their craft.
- b) whistle and signalling mirror.
- c) pyrotechnic devices such as hand or aerial flares.
- d) communication device such as a cell phone or vhf radio.
- e) navigation aids such as a compass, GPS or charts.
- f) all around white light if the race is expected to start before sunrise or continue after sunset.
- g) cable rescue; cable on the bow for towing.

29.4 Any competitor failing to observe the safety requirements shall be refused the right to start. If they have started he or she will be disqualified.

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

29.6 Ocean Racing may involve participants in dangerous situations. It is a requirement that any competitor, seeing another in real danger shall render all assistance in his or her power. Failure to do so may involve disqualification. Time bonuses based on actual delays can be awarded to any competitor providing assistance to a fellow participant.

30 FINISH

[TR]

30.1 The finish line will be between two marks described in the race instructions, either afloat, on the shore or

both. A competitor or team is deemed to have finished when the bow of their craft crosses the finish line, or the upper body of the athlete if the finish line is on shore. If two or more boats cross the finish line at the same time, they will be awarded a tie.

31 DISQUALIFICATION

[GR]

31.1 Any Competitor who attempts to win a race by any other than honourable means, or who breaks the racing regulations, or who disregards the honourable nature of the racing regulations will be disqualified for the duration of the race concerned.

31.2 Should a competitor have completed a race in a craft which is shown upon inspection, not to fulfil the ICF or other requirements as described by the organisers, he or she shall be disqualified from the race in question

31.3 Disqualification by the Competition Committee must be confirmed in writing immediately, giving the reasons. The competitor and or their team leader must acknowledge receipt on a copy of the notice, with the exact time, which marks the start of the protest time.

32 PROTEST

[GR]

32.1 A protest against the right of a crew to take part in a race shall be referred to the Chief Official not later than one hour before the start of their race.

32.2 A protest made during a competition relating to an incident in the race must be addressed to the Race Committee and handed to the Race Director not later than one hour after the last of the competitors involved in the incident have completed the course, or if forced to retire, one hour after the retirement has been reported to the organiser.

32.3 The organisers shall be permitted to commence issuing preliminary results and carry out award ceremonies after one third, or the first three, whichever is the greater, of the competitors of the class have completed the course, or their retirements notified to the organiser.

32.4 All protests shall be made in writing and 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.

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

33 APPEAL

[GR]

33.1 Competitors have the right to appeal to the ICF, through their national federations, against a decision of the Competition Committee, within 30 days from the date when the race was held. The appeal shall be accompanied by a fee of 75 Euros or its equivalent, which will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.

33.2 The ICF Board of Directors shall pronounce the final decision based on a recommendation by the Ocean Racing Working Group.

34 DOPING

[GR]

34.1 Doping as defined in the Olympic Movement Anti-Doping Code is strictly forbidden. Doping control shall be conducted in accordance with the ICF Doping control regulations under the supervision of the ICF Medical and Anti-Doping Committee.

35 INFORMATION

[GR]

35.1 After the ending of all international Surfski Racing Competitions listed in the Competition Calendar of the ICF, two copies of the results, protests and appeals must be sent to the ICF Secretary General, and one to the Chair of the Ocean Racing Committee.

36 DRAWING OF LOTS

[GR]

The drawing of lots for the starting position in each class shall be carried out under the control of an ICF official and the supervision of the president of the organising federation or his or her delegate.

Final authority at the World Championships shall rest with a Jury composed of up to five persons appointed by the ICF Board of Directors.

One of these persons shall be appointed Chair of the Jury. Subordinate to the Jury are the Chief Official and other officials.

CHAPTER V - SPECIAL RULES FOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Rules in this section, specifically for World Championship are in addition to, or to override, those in earlier sections.

38 ARRANGEMENTS

[GR]

World Championships may be arranged every year with the consent of the ICF Board of Directors, at a time and place approved by it, and in accordance with the ICF Ocean Racing Rules. The World Championships shall be open only to National Federations of the ICF.

A valid World Championships is held only if at least six (6) Federations from at least three (3) Continents start in the event. If during the event some federations drop out or do not finish, the validity of the Championships is not affected.

Championships are restricted to the following classes:

Men	SS-1/SUP
Women	SS-1/SUP
Under 23 Men	SS-1/SUP
Under 23 Women	SS-1/SUP
Junior Men	SS-1/SUP
Junior Women	SS-1/SUP

Entries shall be limited to two (2) boats per nation per class, except if countries already got more quota directly qualified from the first 30 athletes of the Ocean Racing World Cup Ranking.

World Championships shall be held over a 3 days window. The races will be held on the best downwind conditions forecast for those 3 days.

39 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

[TR]

The program of events shall be arranged by the Canoe Ocean Racing Committee (ORC) in a schedule which will allow for the separation of the SS-1 and SS-2 classes.

The exact day and time schedule may vary to suit the best conditions on the 3 day window of the Event.

The courses for a World Championship shall be from point to point predominantly with downwind conditions.

The courses for a World Championship must be selected to test the seamanship and ability of the competitors to use the water conditions to their advantage.

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

The recommended distance should be a minimum of 20 km and a maximum of 35 km, the final result being based on total racing time.

Each race shall be completed in one stage, i.e. non-stop.

Federations wishing to arrange a World Championships event must have submitted the proposed course and technical arrangements for the inspection of the ICF Ocean Racing Committee and received its approval before submitting their application to the ICF Board of Directors.

41 INVITATIONS, ENTRIES AND PROGRAMME

[GR]

Invitations

Invitations to World Championships shall be issued by the organising National Federation and shall be in accordance with the ICF Rules and regulations. Invitations shall be sent out at least (3) three months before the date of the Championships.

Entries

Entries for World Championships can only be made through the National Federation in accordance with the regulations given in the invitation.

Numerical entries: at least 45 days before the first day of the competition

Nominal entries: at least 14 days before the first day of the competition

The entries will only be accepted from members of the ICF.

Entries for all World Championships will be done on the form designed and provided by the ICF, which will be available online for each discipline. The form for each discipline is designed in agreement with the respective discipline Committee.

Entries will contain unique identity number of competitor according to following formula:

DIS NOC G ddmmyyyy 01

DIS - abbreviation of the discipline (CSP, CSL, CAM, CFR, DRB, CAP, WWC, CSA)

NOC - National Olympic Code

G - Gender: 1 for Male, 2 for Female

ddmmyyyy - Date of Birth (date, month, year)

01 - Number of athletes born on the same day in the same country

In the SS2 the names of the competitors must be in order that they race in the boat. The first name at the top must be the competitor at the front of the boat.

All entries should be made using the on-line system approved by the Technical Committee and provided by the competition organiser. In any case the entry form provided must be completed and sent through the on-line system, e-mail or typed form by fax (handwriting not accepted).

Programme

At least 1 month before the competition, the federations shall receive a provisional programme with starting times and the number of entries from each participating federation in each class. The final programme shall be available 3 days before the competition and shall contain:

- a) The starting time of each race.
- b) Names and citizenship of all competitors in each class.
- c) Full instruction on the course and training arrangements.

42 DRAWING OF LOTS

[TR]

The drawing of lots for the starting position in each class shall be carried out under the control of an ICF official and the supervision of the president of the organising federation or his or her delegate.

43 JURY AND OFFICIALS

[GR]

Final authority at the World Championships shall rest with a Jury composed of up to five persons appointed by the ICF Board of Directors.

One of these persons shall be appointed Chair of the Jury. Subordinate to the Jury are the Chief Official and other officials according to paragraph 10 with the addition of a Chief Medical Officer.

44 APPEALS

[GR]

Competitors have the right to appeal to the Jury against a decision of the Competition Committee. The appeal, in writing and with reasons, must be addressed to the Convener of the Jury and lodged, by the team manager with the Jury Convener not later than 20 minutes after the team manager has been informed, in writing, of the decision against the competitor or team, and has signed the receipt.

If the paddler involved in the disqualification is still completing the course, the time for lodging an appeal shall be extended until one hour after that paddler either completes the course or withdraws from the event.

An appeal must be accompanied by a fee of (or equivalent to) 75 Euros. The fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.

On receipt of the appeal, the Convener of the Jury shall advise the relevant team managers and indicate arrangements for hearing the appeal.

The appeal shall be heard as soon as possible. Witnesses may be called.

The decision of the Jury is final.

Final results shall 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).

45 BOATS INSPECTION

The boat controllers will check boats for the required equipment before the start. At the end of the race the first four boats will be checked again.

46 PRIZE MONEY

In order to receive an ICF World Championship an Event must have minimum prize money of 20.000 Euros.

Tax deductions are not to be added to the announced prize money payment.

The organising committee will transfer all the prize money payments to the relevant athlete's bank account, unless otherwise agreed.

47 AWARDS

[TR]

The Championships award are given in the form of medals, the medals shall symbolise, gold, silver and bronze and shall be furnished by the ICF at the expense of the organising national federation.

The medals must on no account be presented to any other persons than those who have won the championship races in each class.

The competitor's receiving medals must wear training suits or national uniform.

One cup will be awarded to the "Over-All" winning Federation.

Cups will be awarded to the Federation according to the point system defined by the Ocean Racing Committee. In case of a tie the Federation with the highest individual position will win the cup in that event.

The results of the World Championships, reports of any protests made, and other necessary documents concerning the races, must be sent to the ICF Secretary General and the Chairman of the Ocean Racing Committee by the organising National Federation not later than 30 days after the end of the Championships.

CHAPTER VI - SPECIAL RULES FOR ICF OCEAN RACING MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Article 1 The ICF OCEAN RACING MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS are restricted to the following classes:

Men SS-1

Women SS-1

Men/Women SUP

Article 2 Age Groups Events: 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84, 85-89, 90-94 ... (five year age groups as high as is necessary).

Article 3 The World Championships Rules of Chapter V shall apply to Masters with the following exceptions:

Article 4 Prize money is not a requirement.
There will be no limit for entries per country.

CHAPTER VII - SPECIAL RULES FOR ICF OCEAN RACING WORLD CUP

ARTICLE 1

The ICF Ocean Racing World Cup shall be arranged under the auspices of the International Canoe Federation.

All Federations which are affiliated to the International Canoe Federation are entitled to enter the Ocean Racing Cup events.

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

ARTICLE 2

The Ocean Racing World Cup competitions will be held every year in a maximum of 10 events that athletes could get points according to the point system.

Only an athlete best 4 races classification count in the Ocean Racing World Cup Ranking.

ARTICLE 3

Only SS-1 and SUP classes events will count for Ocean Racing World Cup ranking points. These events are mandatory at all Ocean Racing World Cup events.

Only races with at least 5 countries participating will be taken into consideration.

Every National Federation can enter as many boats in each class as they wish in the separate events of the Ocean Racing World Cup events.

Other races such as SS-2 classes may be added as demonstration races once approved by Ocean Racing Committee.

ARTICLE 4

The ICF Ocean Racing World Cup will be used to determine the best performing surf ski paddlers of the

season and to qualify the first 30 athletes of the World Cup Ranking to the World Championships.

No Ocean Racing Series event can be held during the 3 weeks preceding the World Championships.

ARTICLE 5

The Canoe Ocean Racing World Cup ranking in each event is established according to the point system.

The competitor with the highest total points is the winner of the Ocean Racing World Cup in that event.

The point system will be:

For full specifications on points system - see appendix 1.

ARTICLE 6

Organisers wishing to host one of the Events shall apply in writing to the Chair of the ICF Ocean Racing Committee and the ICF Headquarters, with the National Federation approval, before 1st November.

Upon a proposal submitted by the ICF Ocean Racing Committee, the ICF Board of Directors approves the time and place for holding the separate events of the Ocean Racing World Cup events for the upcoming years.

ARTICLE 7

The Ocean Racing World Cup events shall be conducted under the authority of a member of the ICF Ocean Racing Committee or a representative.

ARTICLE 8

Duty of the ICF's delegate:

- The delegate of the ICF supervises the competition.
- The delegate of the ICF must demand the complete programme and all updated information from the organiser 14 days prior to the invitation, in order 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 competitors and oversee the production of the current Ocean Racing event results.
- After each World Championships the delegate of the ICF must submit a report to the Chairman of the ICF Ocean Racing Committee concerning the sporting nature of the competition.

The competition officials for the Ocean Racing World Cup events will be nominated by the NF's.

ARTICLE 9

After the completion of each Event of the Ocean Racing World Cup, the organising committee shall calculate the classification of the competitors on points in accordance with the adopted system of ranking.

The classification shall be forwarded to the Chair of the ICF Ocean Racing Committee and to the ICF Headquarters immediately at the end of the event. The ICF Ocean Racing Committee shall be responsible for the final classification on points separately for men's SS-1, women's SS-1, Men/Women SUP.

ARTICLE 10

In order to receive an ICF World CUP Event, the organizing committee must guarantee minimum prize money of 2.500 Euros.

Tax deductions are not to be added to the announced prize money payment.

The organising committee will transfer all the prize money payments to the relevant athletes' bank accounts, unless otherwise agreed.

The athlete finishing in the top three places in the final ranking in each Ocean Racing World Cup event will receive a prize. The prize money may be presented with the medal.

If two or more competitors have equal points in the final ranking, they will be awarded the same position and will receive the same prizes.

The official award ceremony for the prizes of the winners in the men's SS-1/SUP and women's SS-1/SUP will take place after or during the World Championship.

Appendix I

POINTS SYSTEM AND SCORING

The point system will be from 1st to 50th, according to point's table below.

To earn points, athletes must finish within the cut-off time which will be determined by adding 1 minute/race km from winner's time in the men's event and 2 minutes/ Km in the women's event.

POINTS TABLE:

FINISH POSITION	POINTS	FINISH POSITION	POINTS
1	180	26	50
2	167	27	48
3	154	28	46
4	141	29	44
5	138	30	42
6	135	31	20
7	132	32	19
8	129	33	18
9	126	34	17
10	123	35	16
11	80	36	15
12	78	37	14
13	76	38	13
14	74	39	12
15	72	40	11
16	70	41	10
17	68	42	09
18	66	43	8
19	64	44	7
20	62	45	6
21	60	46	5
22	58	47	4
23	56	48	3
24	54	49	2
25	52	50	1

Appendix II

STANDING BYELAWS TO THE PREPARATION AND ORGANISATION OF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND WORLD CUP

1. APPLICATION

1.1. Application will be made electronically.

1.2. The forms containing questions, which will allow or not allow electronic application.

1.3. A National Federation applying for World Championships shall submit a bidding file in electronic format to the ICF Secretary General and the Chairman of the Ocean racing Committee

1.4. Before 1st January four (4) years before the year of the planned event.

1.5. The bidding file shall contain the following details:

1.5.1. Proposed date;

1.5.2. Provisional Competition Schedule

1.5.3. Provisional Budget

1.5.4. Plans and illustrations of the course

1.5.5. Public transportation (the means of transportation; the nearest airport, railway or bus station - distance from the course)

1.5.6. Accommodation (number of the hotels with the distance from the course)

1.5.7. TV/Media requirements

1.5.8. Legacy

1.5.9. Description of the added value of the event;

2. ALLOCATION

2.1. All applicants must have signed their part of a Letter of Agreement with the ICF before the ICF analyses the bid and start the inspection procedure;

2.2. After an inspection the ICF Ocean Racing Committee must confirm the bid fulfils all the requirements to be accepted as an ICF event;

3. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ICF

3.1. All rights in relation to the events are reserved to ICF.

3.2. ICF shall receive an entry and additional (if applicable) fees from the participants.

3.3. In addition it shall receive an attribution, guarantee, service and additional (if applicable) fees per event from the organiser/host .

3.4. ICF must receive all documents from the OC, defined in ICF Rules.

3.5. ICF shall not be responsible for any claim for loss, injury or damage arising from the holding of the event.

3.6. ICF EC may cancel event up to 3 months before the scheduled event, in case OC does not fulfil ICF expectation and regulations or number of registered athletes/teams are not sufficient for the Championship.

4. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMITTEE

4.1. ICF Ocean Racing Committee Chairman or a Technical Delegate appointed by the Committee prior to the start of the sports events, shall:

4.1.1. Maintain close cooperation with the representative of the OC,

4.1.2. Ensure that the ICF Rules minimum technical requirements are observed

4.1.3. Inspect the sports facilities and the equipment/materials to be used during the competition, at least 4 months prior to the event, gather exact information relating to:

4.1.3.1. The number and performance level of the participating competitors or teams,

4.1.3.2. The number and qualification of the referees from the participating delegations and the OC,

4.1.3.3. The quality of venues,

4.1.3.4. Devise a system for the appointment of referees and other sport officials,

4.1.3.5. Determine the sports competition system and timetable,

4.1.4. The day prior to the start of the event, the technical delegate shall:

4.1.4.1. Convene a technical meeting to which they shall invite responsible for the technical part of the event:

4.1.4.1.1. Appointed referees, referee observers (if nominated), OC representative and other sport officials (if needed),

4.1.4.1.2. Shall submit a written report to the ICF Office immediately after the inspection visit and the event.

5. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

5.1. The member NF of the organising country may delegate its duties to an OC, which must work in conjunction with the NF .

5.2. The President of NF or his/her representative must be a member of the OC. The NF shall nevertheless be directly responsible to ICF.

5.3. The OC must ensure that all NF are kept fully informed of all the necessary technical and other arrangements.

5.4. That includes the maintenance of an appropriate website, with recommended updates as it is determined in the Guidelines for ICF.

5.5. The OC shall publish the contact data of the event office (phone, fax, email) that would be operational within 2 months after attribution of the event. The contact phone and email must be handled by a person with fluent command of English.

5.6. The OC shall be responsible for insurance against all claims for loss, injury to individuals or damage to goods arising from the holding of the event.

5.7. The OC will collect a participation fee per person

5.8. The OC will be responsible for providing the following:

5.8.1. Accommodation agreed on by the ICF on the occasion of the attribution of the event.

5.8.2. The appropriate transportation ICF representatives from their arrival to their departure from the designated pick-up points (at minimum international airport, bus and train station); access to individual means of transport for must be ensured at any time during the event;

5.8.3. The facilities, materials and equipment, officially recognized by the appropriate and approved by the ICF, necessary for the smooth running of the event.

5.8.4. The necessary referees and other sport officials for the effective running of the competitions, according to the respective regulations of ICF except where the Technical Rules determine otherwise.

5.8.5. All the necessary accreditation cards, using the ICF accreditation system;

5.8.6. Necessary and efficient information (software) system to keep the participants duly informed of the programme, the results of the event and other relevant information about competition;

5.8.7. Adequate medical assistance, hygiene, catering, doping control (optionally, if agreed by ICF in advance),

- 5.8.8. Security and safety assistance, opening, closing and awards ceremonies during the period of the event;
- 5.8.9. Volunteer office, media officer and sports officer, who will cooperate with ICF office from the attribution of the event until its conclusion;
- 5.8.10. Sufficient number of offices, office equipment and supplies, mobile communication system for ICF representatives activities;
- 5.8.11 All other requirements determined in ICF regulations.
- 5.9. The OC shall cover:
 - 5.9.1 The costs of travel, accommodation and full board prior to the event for the inspection visit (once, at least four (4) months before the event);
 - 5.9.2 The costs of all travels, accommodation and full board at the time of the event for the representative(s) of ICF (Chair of the ORC),
 - 5.9.3 The costs of internal travels, accommodation and full board at the time of the event of:
 - 5.9.3.1 The ICF Jury members,
 - 5.9.3.2 The ICF official (if nominated)
 - 5.9.3.3 the ICF staff (if nominated max 3 persons).
 - 5.9.4 The OC must report to the ICF ORC Chairman on organisational progress as each 6 months prior to the event;
 - 5.9.5 The OC shall be responsible to have appropriate insurance in case of cancelation of the event.
- 5.10. The OC is obligated to forward after the event to the ICF the final report containing the following:
 - 5.10.1. Electronic results in PDF and excel format
 - 5.10.2. Set of entry forms, bulletins
 - 5.10.3. Athletes biographies in electronic format (compatible to the ICF database) The list and contact details of all media accredited persons
 - 5.10.4. Minimum of 200 high resolution photographs (pictures of winners; minimum 15cm x 15cm in
 - 5.10.5. 200 dpi; with the name of the photographer and caption for each photo) - ELECTRONIC FORMAT

6. OTHER CANOEING EVENTS

- 6.1. All other multi-sports Games, which incorporate canoeing events within their programme, must comply with the ICF Competition Rules.
- 6.2. Eventual changes in the ICF Competition Rules are subject to the agreement of the ICF Executive Committee in consultation with the Chair of the

appropriate ICF Standing Committee. Continental Associations may have different Competition Rules, subject to the agreement of the ICF Executive Committee in consultation with the Chair of the appropriate ICF Standing Committee.