



# **CANOE SLALOM GATES HOMOLOGATION MANUAL**

*Version 9 – Updated on March 2026*

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## I. Introduction

This manual describes the ICF homologation process concerning the gates for canoe slalom.

The homologation process is conducted by an ICF expert panel (ICF Technical committee members, ICF staff, external advisors) nominated by the ICF Secretary General.

Homologation represents a “system of evaluation” that is designed to guide development, and ensure the use of high-standard dedicated canoeing equipment is suitable for ICF competitions and venues. It is a process for certification that provides a forum for constructive discussion between ICF experts and providers. The resulting certification represents an ICF stamp of approval for usage of equipment/facilities specific to the environment intended.

The homologation process is completed in in two stages:

- Stage 1: Homologation technical file
- Stage 2: Test session on the samples sent by the providers

## II. Reason to complete an ICF homologation

The ICF regularly passes to some national or international sport stakeholders (Eg. Organising committees for Olympic Games, Continental Games, National Federations) a list of technical products and their recognized manufacturers specific to canoeing.

Through the homologation process the ICF wants to reinforce the quality control of the technical products and create a strong link with the manufacturers.

## III. HOMOLOGATION COST

The manufacturer will provide the needed samples and will pay the ICF a test fee of 800€.

This fee must be paid to the ICF by the manufacturers before the delivery of homologation results by the ICF.

## IV. Stage 1 – Homologation technical file and samples to provide

The manufacturer shall provide to the ICF the homologation technical file and some samples for the testing phase.

### A. Homologation technical file

The technical file should include the following items:

- Short introduction of the company
- General presentation of the proposed gate: history of development of the product, main strengths etc.
- List of materials used in construction of the pole and the crossbar.
- Technical scheme of a pole and the crossbar including size, weight, fixation system etc.
- If available:
  - Commercial catalog (electronic or online)
  - List of main customers and their technical appreciation of the product.
  - User manual

The Homologation technical documents should be emailed to the ICF headquarters attention at [sport@canoeicf.sport](mailto:sport@canoeicf.sport)

### B. Samples to provide

The manufacturers must provide the ICF with **3 red** poles, **3 green** poles, **2** crossbars and **2** gate panel numbers. These products must be sent to the ICF (the delivery address will be confirmed by the ICF on request to [sport@canoeicf.sport](mailto:sport@canoeicf.sport)).

## V. STAGE 2 – TEST SESSION

### A. Principles

This test session will be conducted by the ICF and the nominated expert panel. The manufacturers are not able to be present during this test session.

All results will be provided to the manufacturers without public communication.

Discussion between the ICF expert panel and the manufacturer may be requested by either party at the following times:

- By the ICF during the completion of the testing phase for additional information.
- By the manufacturer after the receipt of the homologation report.

### B. Goals

The test session has three main assessment goals:

- Measurement: each pole and each crossbar must comply to the ICF rules (see summary in appendix 1).
- Motion sensibility for a pole (targeted time to return motionless after an impact: maximum 45s with a margin of +/- 5 degrees)
- Stress test:
  - Paddle (shaft and blade) impact on a pole (1370g, 5370g, 9370g)
  - Mechanical strength of the crossbar (1370g, 5370g, 9370g)

Furthermore, the ICF will assess, based on technical information provided, feedback from customers and simulation software:

- The impact of the temperature and the temperature changes on a pole (deformation)
- The long term use on a venue

## VI. Conclusion of the homologation process

Following the completion of the two stages, the ICF experts shall deliver a report to the ICF Secretary General. Based on this report and his conclusion, the ICF Secretary General will officially inform the provider of the results of the homologation process.

## VII. Homologation form

<b>Manufacturing Company Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Phone number</b>	
<b>Contact Person name and role</b>	
<b>Contact Person email</b>	

<b>Gate Model</b>	<b>Model and/or commercial reference</b>
<b>Green pole</b>	
<b>Red pole</b>	
<b>Crossbar</b>	
<b>Gate panel number</b>	

Date:

Signature of the contact person:

## APPENDIX 1 – ICF rules and regulation for Canoe Slalom gates

### A. 2025 ICF competition rules

#### 1. Article 8.3: Gate requirements

8.3.1 - *The gates consist of two (2) suspended poles painted with green and white rings for downstream gates and red and white rings for upstream gates, with the bottom ring always white, each ring is 20 cm high.*

8.3.2 - *A black band of a minimum width of 2 cm and maximum width of 2.5 cm is placed around the base of each pole.*

8.3.3 - *The gate numbers will be displayed according to the CSLC template on the white ring, second from the bottom.*

8.3.4 - *Competition Logos and/or advertising agreed with the CSLC may be displayed on any of the rings above the bottom four (4) rings.*

8.3.5 - *The width of a gate is 1.4 meters measured between the inside edge of the poles.*

8.3.6 - *Poles must be round and 1.6 to 2 m long by 4.0 to 5.0 cm in diameter, and of sufficient weight that motion caused by wind is not excessive.*

8.3.7 - *The height of the poles above the water should be such that it provides fair and reasonable conditions for negotiation whilst simultaneously satisfying the aims of the Course Designers.*

8.3.8 - *As an indicator to the Course Designers and Chief Judge the pole height should be approximately 20 cm above the surface of the water and should not be set in motion by any surge of water.*

8.3.9 - *For ICF competitions (level 1 to 3), each pole must be individually adjustable from the bank.*

8.3.10 - *Gates must be numbered in the order of negotiation.*

8.3.11 - *The gate number panels must measure 20 cm x 20 cm (recommended) or 30 cm x 30 cm. The numbers must be inscribed on both sides of the panels using written in black on a yellow or white background. Each number and letter must measure 15 cm or 20 cm in height and 1.5 cm or 2 cm in thickness. On the side of the panel opposite the direction of correct negotiation, there is a diagonal red line from the bottom left to the top right.*

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## B. Additional ICF technical requirements for manufacturers

### 1. Crossbar

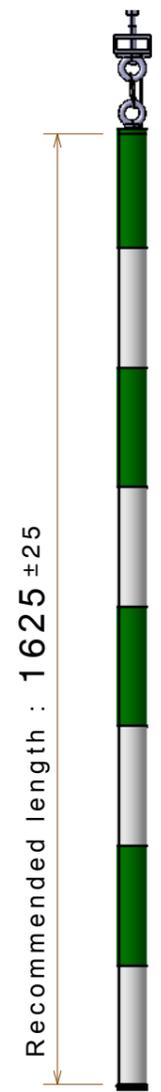
- Crossbar width: 2m maximum
- The crossbar must allow the mandatory gate width 1.4m

### 2. Pole

- **Pole weight:**
  - For ICF World Cups, ICF World Championships and Olympic Games: the weight of one pole must be 2.5 kg.
  - For other competitions and training: the ICF recommends a minimum pole weight of 1.7kg
  - The pole must be internally weighted. The additional weight must be fixed at the top of the pole to reduce the pendulum effect.

## **Appendix 2 – Gate design**

Mandatory width :  
1440 ±5 (Pole Ø40)



Logos and/or  
advertising  
positions

Gate Number panels



1400 ±5

Pole 1

Pole 2

Gate  
Numbers

All measurements in mm.

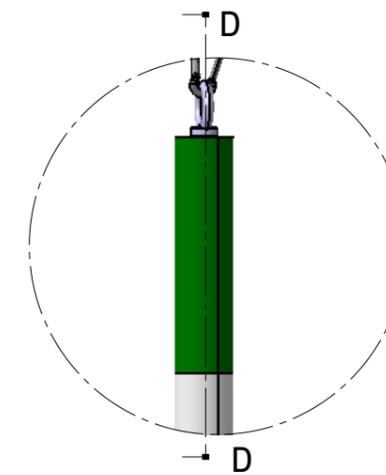
Minimum/Maximum pole weight : 1.7kg/2.5kg

Mandatory width options between interior pole 1400 +/-5mm

Number dimensions:

Gate number panel: Each number should measure at least 150mm in height and 15mm in thickness.

Pole: Each number must measure 54mm in height and 10mm in thickness

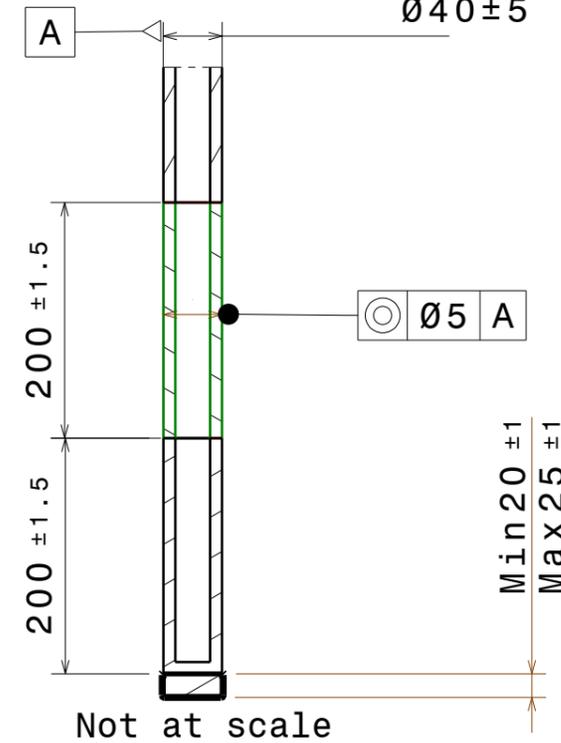


Weight  
Position  
recommandation

Scale 1:6

B

View A



DESIGNED BY: Rosset T.  
DATE: 20/03/2026  
CHECKED BY: Rosset T.  
DATE: 20/03/2026

# Slalom Gate (Green)

SIZE  
**A3**

SCALE  
**1:12**

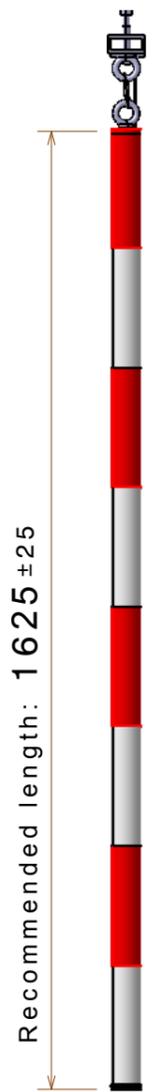
International Canoe Federation

DRAWING NUMBER  
**Version 7.4**

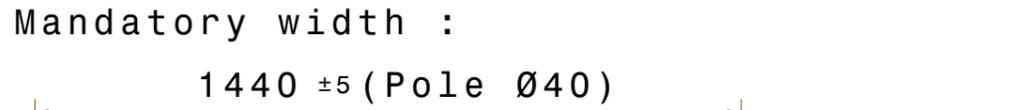
SHEET  
**1/1**

I	-
H	-
G	-
F	-
E	-
D	-
C	-
B	-
A	-

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Logos and/or advertising positions



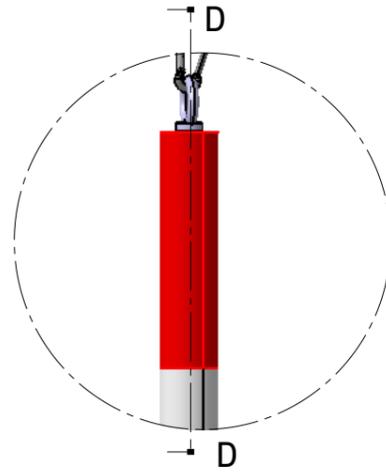
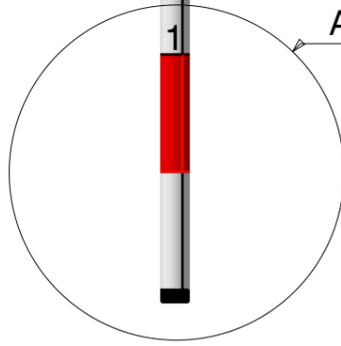
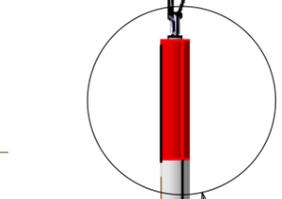
Gate Numbers panels



Pole 1

Pole 2

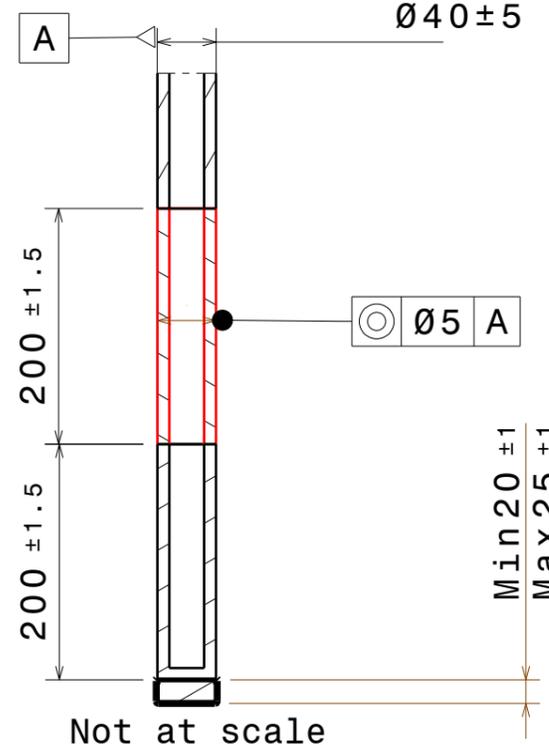
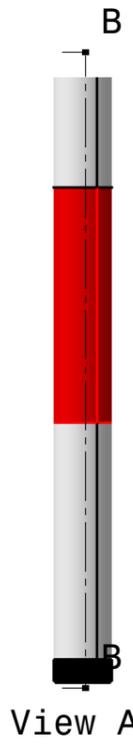
Gate Numbers



Weight Position recommendation



Scale 1:6



All measurements in mm.

Minimum/Maximum pole weight : 1.7kg/2.5kg

Mandatory width options between interior pole 1400+/-5mm

Number dimensions:

Gate number panel : Each number should measure at least 150mm in height and 15mm in thickness.

Pole: Each number must measure 54mm in height and 10mm in thickness

DESIGNED BY: Rosset T. DATE: 20/03/2026		<h1>Slalom Gate (Red)</h1>	I	-
CHECKED BY: Rosset T. DATE: 20/03/2026			H	-
SIZE <b>A3</b>		<h2>International Canoe Federation</h2>	G	-
SCALE <b>1:12</b>			Tolerance N/A	F
DRAWING NUMBER <b>Version 7.4</b>		<b>1/1</b>	E	-
SHEET			D	-
This drawing is the ICF property; it can't be reproduced or communicated without our written agreement.		C	-	
		B	-	
		A	-	