

ICF Development Program

Slalom World Championship Penrith 2025

Slalom & Kayak Cross



History

The Penrith Whitewater Stadium was built for the 2000 Sydney Olympic games, and hosted the 2005 World Championships. It's a popular training venue for Europeans when the winter is too cold for training. The place is full of Olympic vibes, with



souvenirs from Sydney 2000 (plaques, bibs, ...) and celebrations of the success of the Fox sisters such as the new "Fox Island".

ICF Development Team

6 Athletes and 4 Coaches, from 10 National federations participated in this Camp. The coaching was provided by Kilian Foulon (FRA), Jasmine Royle (GBR), Irene Egües (ESP/NZL), and Lachlan Bassett (AUS).

The Athletes were :

- Waris Mills (RSA)
- Michelle Kuria (KEN)
- Mustafa Parlak (TUR)
- NG Wee Meng (SGP)
- Martins Plaudis (LAT)
- Angel Petrushev (MKD)



Activities

The group did as many sessions as possible on the whitewater, including a mix of Slalom and Kayak Cross sessions. The amount of sessions was obviously limited by the official training schedule and the most experienced athletes were able to add free sessions, flatwater and off-water sessions in their preparations. In terms of whitewater, we had a total of 8 Slalom sessions, 5 Kayak Cross sessions, and an extra of 3 free morning slalom sessions for the most experienced.

Outside of training, we had opportunities to do cultural and/or physical activities :

- Grand Canyon walk.
- Indigenous Paintings.
- Kangaroo Sighting
- Featherdale Wildlife Park.



Logistics

Our accommodation was located at the Castlereagh Conference Center, 4km from the course. The organisation provided us with a car and a van, and assigned a volunteer for our self-catered breakfast and lunch. Dinners were delivered at our accommodation every evening by a professional.

The organizing committee, Paddle Australia, was perfectly ready to welcome us in the best conditions to take the most out of this camp. Special mention to Jill Bassett (competition manager) who was always a step ahead on anything we needed for our group.

Thanks to the ICF and Paddle Australia, we had access to a brand new fleet of kayak cross boats. We were able to train and race in the best conditions.



Performance

Everybody from the development camp excelled in this Championship. Results were not fully satisfying for everyone but the commitment was impressive to witness. Special acknowledgement to Waris Mills who went through the Kayak Cross time trial and had the chance to fight against the best in the world in Round 1 (including the Olympic champion, Noémie Fox).



FAMILY NAME	FIRST NAME	YEAR OF BIRTH (YYYY)	GENDER	ROLE IN THE CAMP	EVENTS
Mills	Waris	2008	Woman	Athlete	Kayak;Kayak Cross
Parlak	Mustafa	2006	Man	Athlete	Canoe; Kayak Cross
Plaudis	Martins	2006	Man	Athlete	Kayak;Canoe;Kayak Cross
Petrushev	Angel	2004	Man	Athlete	Kayak;Kayak Cross;
NG	Wee Meng	2001	Man	Athlete	Canoe; Kayak Cross
Kuria	Michelle	2000	Woman	Athlete	Kayak;Kayak Cross;
Foulon	Kilian	1992	Man	ICF Head Coach	
Royle	Jasmine	1993	Woman	ICF Coach	
Egües	Irene	1997	Woman	ICF Coach	
Bassett	Lachlan	1999	Man	ICF Coach	