

2025 Canoe Polo Rule Change Proposals

#	Editor: NF / BoD / CAP Committee	CR/PR/SR	ART.	EXISTING WORDING	PROPOSED WORDING. All modifications must be written in bold blue	Committee/NF Comment	Committee STAND	BOARD STAND April 2024	CONGRESS November 2024
	CAP Committee	SR	7.18.5	The Referees have the power to abandon the game at any time if, in their opinion, the behaviour of the players, team-officials or other circumstances prevent it from being brought to a proper conclusion. If the game has to be abandoned the Referees must report their actions to the Chief Official."	The Referees have the power to abandon the game at any time if, in their opinion, the behaviour of the players, team-officials or other circumstances prevent it from being brought to a proper conclusion. If the game has to be abandoned the Referees must report their actions to the Chief Official and the team that causes the game to be abandoned will be disqualified from the competition.	Approved by BoD 10th January 2024 for introduction at 2024 World Championships	In Favour	Approved the rule	
	CAP Committee	SR	7.18.X	NEW	If the game being abandoned is the Grand Final (1st/2nd place) or 3rd/4th playoff the offending team will be disqualified from entering the next major championships.	Approved by BoD 10th January 2024 for introduction at 2024 World Championships	In Favour	Approved the rule	
1	CAP Committee	SR	8.11.4	NEW	A team is allowed a maximum of three (3) persons in the coaches area for games. These persons must be accredited and can comprise the Coach/es, Team Leader, any other Team Official and non-playing team athletes. The composition of these three (3) persons may change as a competition progresses but not during a particular game.	Clarifies existing practice. While teams seem to understand there is a maximum of three (3) persons - some organisers allow non-playing athletes and some do not. It is any 3 accredited persons.	In Favour	Approved the rule	
2	CAP Committee	SR	14.3.16	NEW	Referee/s who are shown as zero activity in any consecutive 4 year period will be downgraded one level. Grade A to B, B to C and C to non-qualified status.	To formalise a system to downgrade/remove referees when not active and by default to maintain the integrity of the ICF CAP Referees list.	In Favour	Approved the rule	
3	CAP Committee	SR	14.3.17	NEW	Referee/s who have achieved Grade A status will be downgraded but will stop at Grade C and not become non-qualified, unless they ask to be removed from the ICF Referees List.	Grade A referees have such knowledge of the sport they can easily refresh to the updated rules. Several have shown this is the case in recent years.	In Favour	Approved the rule	
4	CAP Committee	SR	17.1.1	A team must attempt a shot at goal within 60 seconds of gaining possession or control of the ball.	A team must attempt a shot at goal within 60 seconds of gaining possession or control of the ball. If a team, after a shot, retains possession any subsequent shot/s must be made within 30 second periods. Note: Effective from 1st January 2027.	This rule will change from the 1st January 2027 - not 2025. Due to such a change it is felt necessary to give significant notice. Some teams are regaining possession (another 60 seconds) and playing passively for a large part of this. In Germany speed polo requires a shot within 30 seconds.	In Favour	Approved the rule	
5	CAP Committee	SR	17.3.5	The shot clock signal will sound at the completion of 60 seconds indicating that the shot clock time has expired.	The shot clock signal will sound at the completion of 60/30 seconds indicating that the shot clock time has expired. Note: Effective from 1st January 2027.	Other sports using this two-stage approach include: Basketball 24 seconds - 14 seconds. Water Polo 30 seconds - 20 seconds. Handball does not, but includes a "passive play" rule which has been considered in the past for CAP but felt too vague for referees to make accurate decisions.	In Favour	Approved the rule	
6	CAP Committee	Appendix 5.	19,1	NEW	See ICF Canoe Polo Commentator Code of Conduct appendix.	As the role of commentator grows it is important that they are provided with guidelines to ensure they provide the best commentary possible on behalf of the ICF and to support Canoe Polo. Show as Appendix 5 and re-number "Under 15 age group development recommendations" as Appendix 6.	In Favour	Approved the rule	