



INTERNATIONAL CANOE FEDERATION

CANOE MARATHON
COMPETITION RULES

2015

Taking effect from 1 January, 2015

INTRODUCTION

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

LANGUAGE

The English written language is the only acceptable language for all official communications relating to these Competition Rules and the conduct of all Canoe Marathon 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
ICF	International Canoe Federation
CAMC	Canoe Marathon Committee
[GR]	General Rule <i>(to be changed only by the ICF Congress)</i>
[TR]	Technical Rule <i>(may be changed by the ICF Board of Directors)</i>
COMPETITIONS	World Championships, World Cups, and international competitions
CATEGORIES	Kayak Men, Kayak Women, Canadian Canoe Men, Canadian Canoe Women
CLASSES	K1 Men, K2 Men, K4 Men, K1 Women, K2 Women, K4 Women, C1 Men, C2 Men, C1 Women, C2 Women
EVENTS	Each class in each age groups

CHAPTER I - GENERAL REGULATIONS

1 DEFINITION OF CANOE MARATHON [GR]

In Canoe Marathon the competitor races over a designated long distance course on water not subject to prescribed standards. The competitor must take the water as it is found and be prepared, if it is necessary, to carry his or her canoe around an impassable obstacle, or between two waterways.

2 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS [GR]

2.1 All competitions announced as international shall be held in accordance with the regulations of the ICF.

2.2 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 controlled by at least one accredited official in possession of a valid international official card.

2.3 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.

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

3 COMPETITORS [GR]

3.1 Only members of clubs or associations 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 A competitor may take part on behalf of the Federation in a foreign country in which he/she is domiciled, if he/she obtains the authorisation of his/her Federation of origin. This authorisation has to be sent before 30th November prior to the year concerned to the ICF Headquarters with a copy to the Chair of the ICF Canoe Marathon Committee. The same procedure applies, should the competitor change back his/her starting right to the federation of origin.

3.3.2 If he/she has lived for 2 years or more in this foreign country, the approval of his/her Federation is no longer required. ~~This rule does not apply in the case of a competitor who leaves his/her country of origin to marry in another country. He/she can, in this case, compete for his/her new Federation without awaiting the delay of 2 years.~~

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

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

The first year an Under 23 competitor can compete is the year in which his/her 15th birthday falls, and the last year he/she may compete as a junior is the year in which his/her 23rd birthday falls.

3.5 A 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 35-39 age group in the year of his or her 35th birthday. In K2, C2 or K4 events the age of the youngest competitor will control the category in which a crew can compete. Age group categories will commence from age 35-39 and increase upwards in 5-year age brackets.

3.6 Each National Federation shall ensure that their competitors are in a good state of health and fitness which allows them to compete at a level commensurate with the competition level of the particular event and ensure each competitor, team official and the National Federation carries appropriate health, accident and property insurance covering their

persons, equipment and property.

4 CLASSES

[GR]

Canoe Marathon races may be run in the following classes:

Men:	K-1, K-2, K-4, C-1, C-2
Women:	K-1, K-2, K-4, C-1, C-2
Mixed:	K-2, C-2

5 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION CALENDAR

[GR]

**INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION CALENDAR
is different to the
ICF COMPETITION CALENDAR (ICF events only)**

5.1 Only a National Federation may apply for an event to be entered in the International Competition Calendar.

Only members of the ICF may apply for of events to the Calendar.

5.1.1 An application will be made using a form established by the ICF and published on the ICF website.

5.1.2 By the 1st of January the year before, the calendar of ICF Competitions (WCh and WCup) will be published. The deadline for applications for international events will be the 1st of March the year before (2 months after the publication of the ICF Competition Calendar).

5.2 The Competition Commission will approve the complete calendar of competitions. Once approved the Calendar will be final.

CHAPTER II - CLASSES AND BUILDING RULES

6 LIMITATIONS

[TR]

K1	K2	K4	C1	C2	
520cm	650cm	1100cm	520cm	650cm	Max. length
8kg	12kg	30kg	10kg	14kg	Min. weight

Trademarks [GR]

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.

7 CONSTRUCTION

[TR]

a) Kayaks

All kinds of building materials are permitted. Sections and longitudinal lines of the hull shall not be concave (only horizontally and vertically). Steering rudders are allowed. The maximum

thickness of the rudder blade must not exceed 10 mm in the case of K-1 and K-2 if the rudder blade forms an extension to the length of the kayak.

b) *Canoes*

All kind of building materials are permitted. Sections and longitudinal lines of the hull shall not be concave (only horizontally and vertically). The canoe must be built symmetrically upon the axis of its length.

Steering rudders or any guiding apparatus directing the course of the canoe are not allowed. A keel, if any, must be straight, shall extend over the whole length of the canoe and shall not project more than 30 mm, below the hull.

The C1 and C2 may be entirely open. The minimum length of the opening shall be 280cm and the edge of the side of the craft (gunwale) can extend maximum 5cm into the craft along the whole defined opening. The boat can have maximum three strengthening bars with a width of maximum 7 cm each. Removable spray decks may be used.

c) *Bailers*

Manually operated pumps may be fitted in both canoes and kayaks. Bailers which interrupt the line of the hull are not permitted. Electrically operated pumps may only be used when the race organisers require it on safety grounds. Automatic or pump bailers may be fitted in both kayaks and canoes.

d) No foreign substance may be added to boats which give competitors an unfair advantage. The use of hull lubricants is not permitted

8 MEASURING

[TR]

The length of a kayak or canoe shall be measured between the extremes of the stem and stern. Stern bands or other protection of the stem or stern, if any, are to be included. Any rudder forming a continuation of the length of a kayak is not included in the measurement. The weight of a kayak or canoe shall be measured when the boat has been emptied of excess water and may include buoyancy, seats, footrests, steering gear and fixed pumps, but excluding paddles, spray decks and drink containers.

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CHAPTER III - ORGANISATION OF THE COMPETITIONS

9 OFFICIALS

[GR/TR]

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

Chief Official
Safety Officer
Chief Course Umpire
Competition Manager
Competition Secretary
Starter(s)
Aligner
Course Umpires
Finishing Line Judge(s)
Timekeeper(s)
Boat Scrutineer
Raft Marshall
Announcer
Sport Presentation Officer

9.2 If circumstances permit, one person may function in two of the above positions. The top management of the Competition shall be in the hands of the Competition Committee which shall consist of:

Chief Official
Safety Officer
Chief Course Umpire

9.3 The *Competition Committee* shall:

- a) Organise the competition and supervise its arrangements;
- b) 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;
- c) Hear any protests that may be made and settle any disputes that may arise;
- d) Decide on matters concerning disqualifications in

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cases where the regulations have been broken during the competition. The decision of the Committee shall be based on the ICF Canoe Marathon 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);

- e) 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.

9.3.1 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.

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

10 DUTIES OF OFFICIALS

[TR]

10.1 The *Chief Official*, who is also the Chair of the Competition Committee, shall decide all matters arising during the actual contest, which are not dealt with in these rules.

10.2 The *Competition Manager* is responsible for the preparation and running of the competition.

10.3 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.

10.4 The *Starter* decides all questions concerning the start of the races, and alone is responsible for decisions as to false starts and he or she must see to it that the starting gun or pistol is in working order. The starter must order the competitors to their places and carry out the start in accordance with the Canoe Marathon

Rules. The language used shall be English. The starter's decision is final.

10.5 The *Aligner* is responsible for bringing the boats to the starting line with the least possible delay. The language used shall be English.

10.6 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 Chief Official, 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 officers to supervise the control points along the course.

10.7 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.

10.8 The *Timekeepers* are responsible for recording the times. Before each race the Chief Timekeeper shall establish that the watches or other time-keeping equipment are working satisfactorily.

10.9 The *Boat Scrutineer*

Prior to World Championships, World Cups, World Games and Continental Championships the event organiser shall provide a weighing machine in a suitable place so that team may check the weight of their boats. It is the responsibility of the Teams to either use this facility or not as they wish. After the race the Scrutineer will check the dimensions, equipment and weight of the boats to ensure they comply with the ICF Marathon Rules. Should any not comply then they shall be referred to the Competition Committee for disqualification.

10.10 The *Raft Marshall*

a) Confirms that the boat and equipment and clothing of the competitor/s complies with the requirements

of the competition regulations and confirmed at the team leaders meeting.

b) When satisfied dispatches the boats to the starting place as set down in the competition regulations and confirmed by the team leaders meeting.

10.11 The *Safety Officer* is responsible for advising the Competition Committee on the safety measures necessary, and for seeing that these are taken.

10.12 The *Announcer*, on the instructions of the Competition Organizer, 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.

10.13 The *Sports Presentation Officer* shall be responsible for arranging the following when appropriate;

- a) Commentary
- b) Sound facilities
- c) TV and livestream
- d) Web service
- e) Public announcement of results in co-ordination with the results team
- f) Spectator facilities
- g) Marketing of the event
- h) Media facilities

10.14 In World Championships, all officials must be recognised International Canoe Marathon Officials with valid certificate.

11 INTERNATIONAL CANOE MARATHON OFFICIALS [GR]

11.1 Examination:

11.1.1 Examination Organization

- Officials Examination is organised at every World Championships if there is sufficient interest.
- In case out-of-World Championships examinations, only Continental Associations or National Federations are entitled to apply to hold an examination. This is done together with the application for the Competition Calendar using a form established by the

ICF and published on the ICF website.
Application deadlines are the same as for the International Competition Calendar. The Examination Calendar is published on the same date as the International Competition Calendar.

11.1.2 Examination Candidates

Only National Federations are entitled to nominate candidates for examination at least 30 days before the examination.

The applications must be sent to the ICF Headquarters on the special form designed by the ICF and published on the ICF website. ICF Headquarters is forming a database and forwarding the list of names to the Respectful Committee Chair.

11.1.3 Examination Procedure

A sub-committee consisting of two members, appointed by the ICF Technical Committee Chair, will hold this examination.

The examination will be carried out in English language for officials who wish to be considered as officials for ICF Competitions and will be based on the knowledge of the ICF Statutes, the ICF Competition Rules and practical experience.

If people take the examination in one of the other official languages, they may not be considered to officiate at ICF Competitions.

11.1.4 Officials' Cards

After completion of the examination the Respective Chair completes the ICF Official Examination Report and sends it to the ICF Headquarters, where the Official's cards for those who passed the exam are issued and sent to the National Federations.

11.1.5 Validity and Renewals

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.

11.2 Financial Responsibility

National Federations are financially responsible for their Officials (before and after the examination).

For every candidate applied for the examination, a National Federation will be charged 20 €. Total Invoice will be sent to a National Federation in the period between 30 October and 30 November for the current year.

If a National Federation is applying for an examination

out of World Championships, the Federation concerned will cover the examination organisation costs including living and travelling expenses of the examiners.

11.3 Nomination and Appointment of the Officials for ICF Events

11.3.1 Only National Federations are entitled to nominate Officials for ICF Events.

11.3.2 The deadline for submitting proposals is the 1st of January in the year of the event.

11.3.3 The nominations are submitted to the Respective Technical Committee Chair (with a copy to the ICF Headquarters). The Chair will present a list of Officials to the Competition Commission for their approval by the 1st of March.

12 INVITATIONS

[GR]

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

- a) Time and place of the competition
- b) Situation and plan 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) Amount of fees
- g) Address to which entries should be sent
- h) Last date for receiving entries. This date shall not be earlier than 14 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.

13 ENTRIES

[GR]

13.1 Entries for an international competition can be made only through the National Federation and in accordance with the regulations given in the invitation.

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) For competitions designated as the ICF Championships similar details regarding reserves if any. For other events on the ICF Calendar it is not necessary to specify the names of reserves on the written entry.

13.1.1 In addition to nominated crews, participating Federations are allowed to enter unlimited number of substitutes in every race.

13.2 All entries should be in writing (letter, fax, email etc.). Where verbal communication is used, it must also be confirmed in writing by the given deadline (midnight on the due date). In the eventuality of conflicting information, the information with letterhead and/or signature will take precedence.

13.3 When making their entries federations must give the colours of the clothing worn by the competitors, and these colours must not be changed during the competition.

14 ACCEPTANCE OF ENTRIES AND PROGRAMME [TR]

- a) Applications for entry must be acknowledged within 48 hours of receipt.
- b) For events other than Championships a team leaders meeting shall be held commencing not later than three (3) hours before the first event starts and not sooner than 30 hours before the first event starts, to determine amongst other things the final entry details.
- c) After the meeting the definitive programme shall be completed and made available at the course giving names and nationality of competitors and the results of the draw if one has been required.
- d) For Championships a team leaders meeting shall be held commencing not later than 24 hours before the first race and not sooner than 36 hours before the first race.
- e) After the meeting the definitive programme shall be

available at the course, giving names and nationality of the competitors and the revised start list.

f) Team Leader

The Team Leader will represent the team and is the main contact with the Chief Official and the organisers throughout the competition.

15 ALTERATIONS IN ENTRIES AND WITHDRAWALS [TR]

For events designated as the ICF Championships only those substitutes named on the entry are allowed to replace the nominated competitors. Notification of such alterations must be given at the team leaders meeting.

The Chief Official may in exceptional circumstances accept written replacement of named competitors by named reserves up to one hour before the start of the first race.

The Chief Official's decision as to what constitutes an exceptional circumstance is final, and not subject to appeal. The withdrawal of an entry is considered final and no renewed entry of the same crew is allowed. Entry fees cannot be refunded.

16 ALTERATIONS IN THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS [TR]

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

17 MARKING SIGNS [TR]

Flags marking portage limits shall be diagonally divided with one half in red and the other in yellow. Both starting and finishing lines shall be marked with red flags/buoys at the points where these lines intersect the outer limits of the course.

For the marking of the course at turns and other direction changes red or yellow buoys must be used. Red buoys must be passed with the buoys on the left side of the boat. Yellow buoys on the right side of the boat.

18 COURSES [TR]

- a) River courses without obstacles, or interruptions
- b) River courses with obstacles such as weirs, rocks or shallows involving obligatory or optional portages
- c) Open water courses on lakes, estuaries or the open sea
- d) Any combination of the above

Length of the courses:

Seniors - Men	Min. 20 km and no upper limit.
Seniors - Women	Min. 15 km and no upper limit.
Juniors	Min. 15 km and no upper limit.

Races may be run in one or several stages, over one or several days, the final result being based on total racing time. Turning points shall be negotiated as directed.

[Short course marathon races with or without portage may be held.](#)

19 CANOE AND PERSONAL NUMBERS [TR]

All kayaks and canoes shall carry a number which shall be attached to the kayak or canoe as instructed by the race organiser.

The personal numbers provided by the organising National Federation shall be placed on the back and if necessary on the front of the competitor as required by the organising Federation. The title or main sponsors name may be shown on the front side with the personal numbers.

20 INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPETITORS [TR]

For International events other than World Championships, World Cups, World Games and Continental Championships there should be available for each team leader, printed or written instructions

at least 5 hours before the beginning of the competition, containing the following information:

- a) Detailed information on the course and their markings
- b) Starting time(s) and procedures
- c) Starting line
- d) Finishing line
- e) Preliminary start list
- f) Obligatory safety equipment requirements.

For World Championships, World Cups, World Games and Continental Championships final information shall define all the items a) to f) above, be sent to all entered National Federations and be available on the event website at least 7 days before the event.

CHAPTER IV - RACING REGULATIONS

21 MEANS OF PROPULSION

[TR]

Kayaks shall be propelled solely by means of double-bladed paddles. Canadian canoes shall be propelled solely by means of single bladed paddles. The paddles may not be attached to the boats in any way.

22 START

[TR]

22.1 The starting line shall be marked by two red flags or two red buoys or a combination of both.

22.2 Competitors shall be at the start at the time specified in the Competition Programme. The start shall be given without reference to any absentees.

22.3 The classes shall start in descending order from fastest to slowest as determined by the Competition Committee.

22.4 The method of starting shall be one of the following and shall be decided by the Organising Committee and included in the information booklet distributed beforehand.

a) *Stationary Start*

The position of the boats at the start is such that the bows of the competing boats are on the starting line(s). The boats must be stationary. The craft may be held at the stern. Wherever possible all boats in a class shall line up at the starting line and use the stationary start. Where this is impossible or impracticable owing to lack of space, or water or weather conditions, the following alternative simultaneous starting procedures may be employed.

b) *Grid Start*

National teams equally represented in each rank of the grid with the positions being determined by the draw. National teams to take precedence over club teams.

c) *Le Mans Start*

The boats are lined up on the shore in an order

determined by the draw.

d) *Rolling Start*

Where strong currents render a stationary start difficult, a rolling start may be used, the boats being allowed to drift towards the line with a view to crossing on the signal.

e) *Interval Start*

Where a simultaneous start is impracticable or undesirable, an interval start may be used, the order being determined by a draw. A list of competitors with their starting times shall be issued to the team leaders and pinned to a notice board at the start least three (3) hours before the start of competition. It is also possible to have an interval start in groups.

22.5 In all cases paddlers shall be called to the water at least ten minutes before the scheduled start, or in the case of a Le Mans Start given a ten minute warning.

22.6 The following procedures will then apply for the respective starts:

a) *Stationary start and*

b) *Grid start*

The starter shall ensure all craft are stationary on the starting line or grid line as appropriate. When the starter is satisfied the line(s) are stationary he or she shall give the signal or "Ready" followed by a *shot, starting horn, or the word "Go"*.

If a competitor commences paddling after the word "Ready" and before the shot has been fired, 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 **30 seconds time** penalty.

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

A disqualified competitor must leave the water immediately.

c) *Le Mans start*

Competitors shall stand stationary on a starting line. The starter, when satisfied the competitors are stationary, shall say "Ready" followed by a shot or the word "Go".

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If a competitor or competitors commence running before the shot has been fired, the starter shall declare a false start and warn the offending competitors.

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

A competitor who attempts an unfair start will be warned.

A second warning will result in the imposition of a **30 seconds** time penalty.

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

In a Le Mans Start, no competitor shall tackle, block, hinder or obstruct another competitor running to his or her boat.

d) *Rolling Start*

The canoes shall form up well before the start line and drift towards the starter.

The starter shall ensure the line is as straight as possible and that no competitor will obtain any undue advantage as a result of the start.

When the starter is satisfied, he or she shall let the line drift to within 10 meters of the start line and give the signal "Ready" followed by a shot, a starting horn or the word "GO".

If a competitor commences paddling after the word "Ready" and before the shot is fired, he or she has made a false start.

An immediate time penalty of **30 seconds** shall be imposed upon the competitor making a false start.

e) *Interval Start*

Competitors shall be called into their starting position in the predetermined order. Competitors must be advised five minutes, two minutes and one minute prior to their designated start time.

The starter shall ensure that each competitor or group of competitors is stationary and level.

A competitor crossing the start line prior to the ten-second warning shall be recalled with the elapsed time taken from the designated starting time; a competitor commencing paddling between the ten-second warning and the shot or starting command shall incur an immediate **30 seconds** time penalty.

22.7 Any penalty imposed under this rule shall be

notified to the team manager 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 checkpoint.

22.8 Multi-stage races:

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

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.

If in groups, these should also take into account arrival from the previous stage, and time differences recorded. 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 utilize any of the initial or stage start methods described in this rule.

23 COURSE MARKINGS AND TURNS [TR]

Course markings including turning points shall be passed according to the course description confirmed at the Team Leaders Meeting.

24 GROUP RACING AND OVERTAKING [TR]

When a canoe or kayak is overtaking another canoe or kayak, it is the duty of the overtaking craft to keep clear of other competitors at all times.

When a canoe or kayak is racing in a group of competitors it is the duty of all the competitors in the group to keep clear of other competitors at all times. This rule also applies to any manoeuvring within the group and is applicable for all parts of the course including the portage and turns.

Competitors may only portage at points designated by the race organisers.

- a) At official compulsory or optional portage points, the limits of the section of the river to be portaged must be clearly marked by flags showing the start and end of the disembarkation area and the start and end of the embarkation area. The flags marking the portage shall be diagonally divided in red and yellow.
- b) All competitors (and their designated helpers where approved) shall disembark in the defined area, carry their craft around the portage and embark in the defined area.
- c) Any water after the end of the disembarkation area and before the start of the embarkation area is out of bounds.
- d) Organisers must aim to provide enough bank space to allow at least four K2s to be portaged simultaneously.
- e) A competitor making a portage at a point other than the designated portage area along the course must not make any forward progress unless directed by the competition committee.
- f) Where shallow water is encountered it is always permitted to disembark in the river and drag or carry the boat into deep water.
- g) Under no circumstances may a portage be used with an effect of shortening the course of the race.

26.1 A competitor may not be accompanied along the course or assisted in any way by other canoes/kayaks not entered in the event or by any vessel (e.g. runabout).

26.2 At World Championships, Continental Championships, World Games and World Cups competitions, no competitor may wash hang a competitor in another class.

26.3 A competitor may receive assistance from bank support crews, as long as it does not impede other competitors, but may not be progressed in any way. All assistance must be given from the bank, except for safety reasons. Such assistance is limited to first aid services, provisions of food, drink and clothes, replacement of faulty equipment including paddles and help with repairs.

26.4 In the event of a capsize, a competitor may receive assistance with emptying his or her boat and regaining his or her paddling position, but may not be progressed in any way.

26.5 A competitor suffering from a lower-body handicap may, by prior agreement from the Competition Committee, receive assistance at a portage, 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 canoe/kayak before the helpers carry the boat.

26.6 No exchange or substitution of boats is permitted, even with other competitors from the same team.

27 SAFETY MEASURES

[TR]

Each boat must carry sufficient buoyancy, either in the construction of the boat or fixed subsequently, to keep the boat floating level when filled with water. The scrutinisers may float test the boat if buoyancy is not apparent after a visual inspection. If the organisers so decide for safety reasons, additional buoyancy must be fitted to each boat such that it will give support to the paddlers when in the water and/or every competitor shall wear a buoyancy aid and/or other specified equipment. Such requirements shall be named on the entry form.

Any competitor failing to observe such a direction shall be refused the right to start. If they have started he or she will be disqualified.

Competitors participate at their own risk. Neither the organisers nor the ICF can be held responsible for accidents or material damage which may occur during a race.

Every official is required to observe that the safety measures are being adhered to, and prevent boats or

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competitors from starting or continuing if they fail to meet the requirements laid down in the rules.

Canoe Marathon 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.

28 FINISH

[TR]

The finishing line is reached when the bow of the canoe or kayak with the competitor/s in it has passed the line between the flags. If two or more boats reach the finishing line at the same time, they get the same classification.

29 DISQUALIFICATIONS AND PENALTIES

[GR]

a) Any Competitor who attempts to compete in 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 penalised or disqualified for the duration of the race concerned.

b) Failing to follow the correct course

Should a competitor have failed to follow the correct course of the race (for example missed a turning buoy) the competitor has broken the racing regulation and will be subject to a penalty.

If the race umpire believes the competitor has gained a small advantage: Time penalty of 15 seconds will be given.

If the competitor has gained a major advantage: Disqualification will be imposed.

Should a buoy be missed as a result of a collision in group racing during a turn this will be investigated and the boat that caused the collision will be disqualified, see below; Collision or damage. The competitor who missed the buoy due to this will not be penalized.

c) Collision or damage

Any competitor who is considered by a course umpire or race official to have been responsible for a

collision, or who damages the canoe or kayak or paddle of another competitor or unnecessarily deviates from their course may be subject to a penalty.

If it is considered that other paddlers have only had some minor disadvantage as a result of the incident the responsible competitor will get a time penalty of 30 seconds.

If it is considered that the incident has given other paddlers a major unfair disadvantage the penalty will be disqualification.

d) Boat scrutineering infringement

Should a competitor have completed a race in a kayak or canoe which is shown, upon inspection, not to fulfill the ICF classifications, he or she shall be disqualified from the race in question.

e) Accompanying infringement

It is forbidden, during a race, to be accompanied by other boats along the course. Such acts shall entail the disqualification of the competitor/s concerned.

f) Wash hanging

Wash hanging on a competitor in another class in racing at World and Continental competitions is a violation of the racing rules and will be subject to a penalty. If a competitor is observed to be wash hanging the competitor will receive a first warning and a time penalty of 30 seconds. If the competitor receives a second warning or has gained major advantage then they will be disqualified from the race.

g) Handling of penalties

Time penalties are decided by the Chief Course Umpire and are not subject to appeal.

Time penalties shall be executed in a designated area at the portage and supervised by a race official or will be added to the competitors finishing time if a time penalty stop is not used in the competition.

Disqualifications are decided by the Competition Committee and are subject to appeal.

h) All penalties or disqualifications by the Competition Committee must be confirmed in writing immediately, giving the reasons. The team leader of the competitor must acknowledge receipt on a copy of the notice of

disqualifications, with the exact time, which marks the start of the protest time.

30 PROTESTS

[GR]

30.1 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 the race.

30.2 A protest made later, within 31 days from the date when the race in question was held, is only permitted if the officials of the association making the protest can prove that the facts on which the protest is based came to their knowledge later than one hour before the start of the race.

30.2.1 A later protest shall be referred to the ICF Canoe Marathon Committee accompanied by the prescribed fee.

A protest made during a competition relating to an incident in the race must be in written form, addressed to the Competition Committee and handed to the Chief Official not later than 30 minutes after the last of the competitors involved in the incident have

- a. completed the course, or
- b. is forced to retire.

30.3 The organisers shall be permitted to commence issuing preliminary results and carry out reward ceremonies after the first three competitors of the class have completed the course.

30.4 All protests shall be made in writing and be accompanied by a fee of 50 Euros (or an equal sum in the local currency) the fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld.

Should an incident be witnessed by race officials and action is being considered there should be a public announcement as soon as possible to notify teams and spectators of this.

The decision of the Competition Committee on a Protest or reported incident should be reported to the Team Leaders concerned within 30 minutes of the protest being received or the incident being reported.

31 APPEALS

[GR]

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 25 Euros or its equivalent, which will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.

The ICF Board of Directors shall pronounce the final decision based on a recommendation by the Canoe Marathon Committee.

32 ANTI-DOPING

[GR]

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

33 INFORMATION

[GR]

After the ending of all international Canoe Marathon Competitions listed in the Competition Calendar of the ICF, two copies of the results must be air mailed to the ICF Secretary General, and one to the Chair of the ICF Canoe Marathon Committee.

CHAPTER V - SPECIAL RULES FOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

34 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 Canoe Marathon Rules. The World Championships shall be open only to National Federations of the ICF.

In the Olympic events, 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.

For the Non-Olympic events, a valid World Championships is held only if there are at least six (6) Federations in each event and there must be at least three (3) Continents starting overall in the competition. 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	K1, K2, C1 and C2
Women	K1, K2 and C1
Under 23 Men	K1, C1
Under 23 Women	K1
Junior Men	K1, K2, C1 and C2
Junior Women	K1, K2 and C1

Entries shall be limited to two (2) boats per nation per class, World Championships shall be held over **Three days**, for each age group (seniors, juniors). These days may overlap such the overall number of days is kept to maximum **4 days**. Each race shall be completed in one stage, i.e. non-stop.

35 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

[TR]

The program of events shall be arranged by the Canoe Marathon Committee in a schedule which will allow for the separation of the classes when necessary to facilitate fair racing and minimize interference between classes. The exact order and time schedule may vary at different World Championships depending on specific circumstances. There will only be one race for each age group on any particular day of the competition.

36 THE COURSE

[TR]

The course for a World Championship shall be of a type within the normal and general experience of the federations organizing Canoe Marathon competitions. The course must be in lap format with the start, finish and portage in the same area. The recommended number of laps is 8 for senior men, 7 for senior women, canoe senior men, U23 kayak men, 6 laps for canoe senior women, U23 women, canoe U23 men, junior kayak men, and 5 laps for kayak and canoe junior women, canoe junior men.

The exact number of laps and the number of portages may vary if required because of specific circumstance at the event.

The recommended distance should be such that the winner of each class shall record a time of approximately two hours fifteen minutes for seniors.

The junior distance will be controlled by the number of laps described above.

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

37 INVITATIONS, ENTRIES AND PROGRAMME

[GR]

37.1 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.

37.2 Entries

38.2.1 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

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

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

37.2.2 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

37.2.2.1 In crew boats 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 (except for Dragon Boat Racing).

37.2.3 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).

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

38 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.

39 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 9 with the addition of a Chief Medical Officer.

40 APPEALS [GR]

40.1 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.

40.2 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.

40.3 An appeal must be accompanied by a fee of (or

equivalent to) 25 Euros. The fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.

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

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

40.6 The decision of the Jury is final.

40.7 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)

41 CHECK-UP ON BOATS

[TR]

The boat controllers will check boats by means of the usual equipment. At the end of the race the first four boats will be checked again.

42 AWARDS

[GR]

42.1 The Championships medals shall be given according to the Olympic protocol. The medals shall be given in three values, gilded, silvered 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.

Only medals, to the exclusion of other prizes, are to be presented at the official ceremony. Other prizes may be presented on an occasion other than this ceremony.

To maintain the dignity and solemnity of the presentation ceremony the competitor receiving medals must wear training suits or national uniform.

42.2 **Five** cups will be awarded as follows:

- One for Kayak Men
- One for Kayak Women
- One for Canoe Men
- One for Canoe Women
- One for "Over-All" winning Federation (only Seniors)

Cups will be awarded to the Federation according to the point system defined by the Canoe Marathon Committee.

In case of a tie the Federation with the highest individual position will win the cup in that event.

43 ANTI-DOPING

[GR]

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

44 RESULTS AND REPORTS

[GR]

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

APPENDIX I: STANDING BYELAWS TO THE PREPARATION AND ORGANISATION OF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

I - APPLICATION

1. Application will be made electronically. Two types of application will be available:

- a) First Time Applicant - the venue with no World Cup or World Championships (ICF Competitions) in the last 5 years. Prior to making an application for the organisation of World Championships, the National Federation is obliged to arrange for a Technical Delegate of the ICF, i.e., the Chair of the appropriate ICF Standing Committee or deputy to inspect the proposed venue and the facilities described in the application. The report of this delegate shall be submitted, together with the application, to the ICF Secretary General for submission to the ICF Executive Committee for their decision.
- b) ICF Certification Applicant - the venue with World Cup or World Championships (ICF Competitions) in the last 5 years.

Both forms are containing questions, which will allow or not allow electronic application.

Application deadline: before 1st January five (5) years before the year of the planned event.

2. A National Federation applying for World Champion-
ships shall submit a bidding file in electronic format plus one paper copy to the ICF Secretary General before 1st January four (4) years before the year of the planned event.

The bidding file shall contain the following details:

- a) Proposed date - in accordance with the ICF Skeleton Calendar, with the possibility of alterations in justified cases
- b) Provisional Competition Schedule
- c) Provisional Budget (according to the ICF template)
- d) Plans and illustrations of the course (with the checkmarks of all the facilities)

- e) Public transportation (the means of transportation; the nearest airport, railway or bus station - distance from the course)
- f) Accommodation (number of the hotels with the distance from the course, the capacity, the maximum prices, clear definition of categories, price difference in percentage between categories)
- g) Transportation (between the hotels and the course out and during the competition)
- h) Marketing plan (how the Applicant will advertise and promote the Event, national and international promotion)
- i) TV/Media requirements (list of possible broadcasters, description of TV Coverage, number and position of cameras)
- j) Motivation and Legacy: why the Applicant wants to organise the event and how will this affect canoeing sport in his city, region or country
- k) Description of Innovations which the Applicant wishes to introduce at the World Championships
- l) ICF Letter of Agreement signed by the Applicant which is a formal undertaking to adhere to all ICF regulations for organising a World Championships
- m) Guarantee letters (City Council, NOC or State Government etc. - anything that proves the higher instance support of the Event)
- n) Applicants for Senior World Championships Olympic Disciplines: Copy of the bank transfer of € 15.000 as a guarantee, which will be given back to the Applicant in case the application is refused or after the event is successfully finished.

II - PRESENTATION TO THE ICF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The minimum requirement for applicants is to submit a written presentation to the ICF Board of Directors. Audio-visual presentations of no more than 10 minutes may be used to supplement this written presentation if the applicant feels it is necessary.

III - ALLOCATION

- a) All applicants must have signed their part of a Letter of Agreement with the ICF before the ICF Board of Directors awards the World Championships.
- b) The ICF Board of Directors will allocate an Event only four (4) years in advance. Allocations will be decided only for one year (for example - in the year 2007, only events for 2011 will be decided).

IV - PREPARATION

1. The Agreement between the ICF and the organising National Federation must be signed within 90 days after the allocation of the World Championships.
2. Prior to the World Championships, the organising National Federation shall, at a date fixed by the ICF Standing Committee concerned, make a report on the progress of the preparations for the World Championships and arrange that the Technical Delegate of the ICF is given an opportunity to check at least once the progress of the preparations at the venue. The cost of the Delegate's travel and accommodation shall be borne by the organising National Federation.
3. The organising National Federation is responsible for accommodation with full board for the Members of the Jury and the Chief Official.
4. Each National Federation shall be provided with two (2) identity cards for access to the areas of the Competition Committee and the Jury. Only persons in possession of such an identity card are allowed to speak on behalf of their National Federation. These persons are to be named at the team leaders meeting.

V - REPORT

The organising National Federation is obligated to forward after the World Championships to the ICF the final report containing the following:

1. Paper results
2. Electronic results in PDF and excel format
3. Set of entry forms, bulletins, tickets

4. Athletes biographies in electronic format (compatible to the ICF database)
5. The list and contact details of all media accredited persons
6. Minimum of 200 high resolution photographs (pictures of winners; minimum 15cm x 15cm in 200 dpi; with the name of the photographer and caption for each photo) - ELECTRONIC FORMAT
7. An article in English about the Event (including data about participating countries, number of entries, presentation of the venue, atmosphere, results, testimonies from the athletes, coaches, public...)
8. A Transfer of Knowledge proposal - what do you recommend to the next organisers, what was good from your side, what would you like to offer to the ICF to use regarding different items (on-line entries software, VIP protocol).

In addition to the final report, the ICF Technical Delegates shall also prepare a report on the execution of the World Championships.

VI. OTHER CANOEING EVENTS

All other multi-sports Games, which incorporate canoeing events within their programme, must comply with the ICF Competition Rules.

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.

Where ICF designates a Continental Championships as an Olympic Qualification Competition an operational contract will be signed by both parties.