

2025 ICF Canoe Slalom World Ranking Competition (Oshu Open)

**1 - 3 August, 2025
Oshu, Iwate, Japan**

**Bulletin Ver.2
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1. Greeting

We are truly honored to welcome so many athletes, coaches, and officials from across Japan and around the world to Oshu City for the *ICF Canoe Slalom World Ranking Competition – Oshu Open*. On behalf of our citizens, I extend a heartfelt welcome to you all.

Oshu is a city blessed with abundant water, lush natural surroundings, and some of the clearest starry skies in Japan. It is also a place of deep historical and cultural significance — the birthplace of the "Hiraizumi Culture," now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Many notable figures have called Oshu home, including the visionary statesman Shinpei Goto, affectionately known as "Oburoshiki." In recent years, Oshu has also gained recognition as the hometown of Major League Baseball star Shohei Ohtani, who continues to inspire with his record-breaking achievements.

Our city is also widely celebrated for its agricultural excellence. We produce top-ranked "Hitomebore" rice, the renowned "Maezawa Beef," "Esashi Apples," and traditional crafts such as "Nambu Ironware" and "Iwayado Chests," each carrying a legacy of quality and craftsmanship.

We sincerely hope you will take this opportunity to experience the many charms of Oshu during your stay — and that this visit will be the first of many.

Oshu City is actively promoting itself as the "Town of Canoeing." The Oshu Isawa Canoe Slalom Course, a JOC-certified sports training facility, provides ideal conditions year-round thanks to water flow control from the Isawa Dam. As part of the "Lake Oshu Area Utilization and Development Initiative," we are currently renovating the Lake Oshu Communication Center to serve as both a hub for outdoor tourism and a training base for canoeing athletes.

We will continue our efforts to enhance canoeing infrastructure, showcase the beauty of the Lake Oshu area to the world, and welcome more visitors to our city. This competition brings together top athletes from around the globe and promises thrilling, high-level performances. We look forward to seeing the results of your hard work and dedication on display throughout this meaningful event.

In closing, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all those who have contributed to the organization and success of this competition.

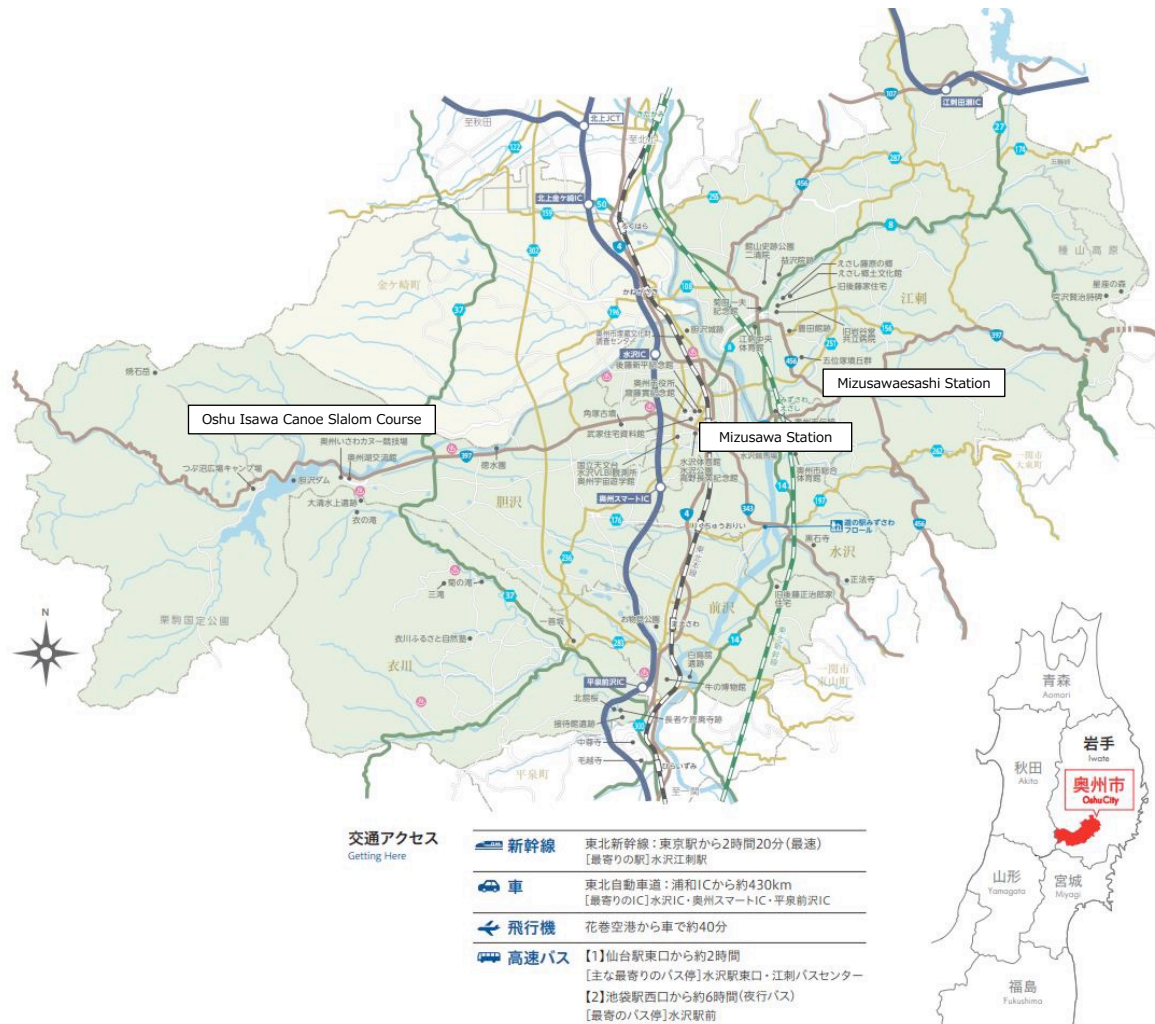


Jun Kuranari
Mayor of Oshu City



2. Introduction

This bulletin provides essential information and guidelines for participants of the 2025 ICF Canoe Slalom World Ranking Race, which will be held at the Isawa River Slalom Course in Oshu City, Iwate Prefecture, Japan.



3. Venue Information

The **Isawa River Canoe Competition Area**, located immediately downstream of Isawa Dam, was completed in 2015 and hosted the canoe events of the 71st National Sports Festival in 2016.

Note: Smoking is strictly prohibited anywhere within the venue.

Competition Course	
Length (start to finish line)	240m
Drop	4.0m
Flow	18 m ³ /s
Water regulation	Natural river

[Access]

By car

1. 22 km (approx. 30 min) from Mizusawa IC on the Tohoku Expressway
2. 25 km (approx. 35 min) from Hiraizumi-Maesawa IC on the Tohoku Expressway
3. 150 km (approx. 2 hrs) from Sendai Airport

By public transport

1. Sendai Airport → Sendai Station: 25 min on the Sendai Airport Access Line
2. Sendai Station → Mizusawa-Esashi Station: 45 min on the Tohoku Shinkansen
3. Tokyo Station → Mizusawa-Esashi Station: 2 hrs 30 min on the Tohoku Shinkansen
4. Mizusawa-Esashi Station → Mizusawa Station: 15 min by bus
5. Mizusawa Station → Venue: 40 min by bus

[Accommodation and Meals]

Himekayu – a hot-spring lodge approximately 5 minutes by car from the venue

52-7 Amasawa, Wakayagi, Isawa-ku, Oshu, Iwate Prefecture

Tel: +81-97-49-2006 | Fax: +81-97-49-2007





Aerial photo of the course

4. Competition schedule (Provisional)

Day 1 – Friday 1 August [Official Training]		
Start	Finish	Activity
13:00	16:00	Equipment Control
12:00	16:00	Slalom Official Practice (Each group one hour: Group A•B•C•D)
Day 2 – Saturday 2 August		
Start	Finish	Activity
9:00	10:00	Equipment Control
10:00	10:30	Opening ceremony
10:30	11:00	Team Leaders Meeting
11:30	13:10	Wild water (only for Japanese)
13:45		Slalom Course Preparation
15:45		Demonstration (Partial) & Course Approval
Day 3 – Sunday 3 August		
Start	Finish	Activity
7:30		Athlete & Team Official Venue Registration Opens
7:30	7:50	Equipment Control (only buoyancy jacket)
8:45		Forerun
9:00		Heat - Starts at 1-minute intervals



12:00		Final - Starts at 1-minute intervals
14:00		Clean the river
14:30		Award Ceremony and Closing Ceremony

5. Competition Format

The ICF Ranking Race final will feature 12 boats per category (MK1, MC1, WK1, WC1).

6. Entry Process and Payment Method

All entries and accreditations must be submitted via the ICF online system (SDP):

<https://icf.msl.es/icf/main.jsp>.

- **Numerical entry** (total head count) deadline: **1 July 2025**
- **Nominal entry** (names of all athletes & officials) deadline: **8 July 2025**

Entry fee: JPY 8,000 per athlete (covers official training, heats and final).

Payment: Japanese-yen cash only at the venue – credit cards or other methods cannot be accepted.

7. Accommodation

Participants are requested to make their own accommodation arrangements.

8. Airport Transfer (Boat Transport Only)

A boat-only shuttle will operate between **Narita (NRT)** and **Haneda (HND)** Airports and the venue on the designated arrival and departure days.

Number of boats	Round-trip Fare (JPY)
boats: 1 to 4	90,000 JPY
boats: 5 to 8	180,000 JPY
boats: 9 to 12	270,000 JPY

"Round trip" refers to boat transportation between Narita or Haneda Airport and the competition venue on the official arrival and departure days.

Please indicate your requirement and the number of boats when submitting your entry.

Contact Information: To be confirmed



9. VISA Requirements

All visitors to Japan must hold a valid visa. For current requirements, consult the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: https://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/index.html.

Processing may take **five working days or longer**.

If you require an invitation letter or supporting documentation, email the Organising Committee: **info@canoe.or.jp**

10. Equipment Control

The Equipment Control area will be available for self-inspection.

Buoyancy aids **must** be formally checked before competition.

Failure to comply with post-race inspections will result in **disqualification (DSQ-R)**.

11. Water Rescue

Rescue personnel will be on duty along the course **during official competition hours only**.

Athletes are responsible for their own safety during training sessions.

12. Athletes Services

The Host Organising Committee (HOC) will provide the following services for participating athletes and team officials:

- Team Tents and Boat Storage
- Beverages
- Technical Video Services
- Boat Repair Facility
- Medical Services
- The official training on the white water and access to the flat water.

13. Doping Control

Testing will be conducted in accordance with ICF Anti-Doping Regulations and WADA standards.



14. Victory Ceremony Protocol

Victory and closing ceremonies will take place at the venue immediately after the final event on **Sunday, 3 August 2025**.

Athletes must attend wearing official team tracksuits and footwear.

15. Official Communication

Official announcements will be made via a dedicated WhatsApp group (launch date and link TBC).

