

REPORT OCTOBER 2010

SURVEY AND COACHING

THAILAND

NAKKHON NAYOK – MAE TANG (CHIANGMAI)



On my way to China for the Asian Games, I stopped by in Thailand. Then, it was the opportunity to visit the 2 places in Thailand where Slalom is growing: Nakhon Nayok and Mae Tang (north of Chiangmai)

A. Nakhon Nayok

The venue is still on work. Now, the course has been extended up to 500m. The river banks are made in the same way as the first construction.

- Slope: it seems to be the same as the previous course
- Boulders: the construction is focused on side boulders and no obstacle in the middle of the river. This is due to the intense rafting activity in the area. It is easier and more safe to have only side obstacles for the rafting river run.

I could not get the information about the end of the works. To turn out the place as a Slalom place, it will be necessary to fit out the banks with a gear of poles and cables in order to hang gates.



Upper part of previous venue



Extension downstream

A second place was used by the C2 selected for Asian Games 2010. Otherwise the lack of water was a problem for everyday training, this place could fit for basic training. I might suggest here the local paddlers to fit out the venue with more gates (at that time only 6 poles).



The training venue of the C2



Part of the Thai team

B. Mae Tang (Chiangmai)

This venue is set on a natural river Mae Tang, it is a natural flow. That means this place is available at its best level for training during the season from October to January.

The local paddlers set 18 gates, eddies are deep and the main stream is what anyone is looking for in terms of training venue for white-water Slalom.

I might underline that during the season the water is that good a national competition could be held easily..



The second part of the Thai team for Asian Games (K1W and K1M) was training there. I stayed for few days in order to improve the out-fitting and to give support training to these 2 paddlers. The training sessions welcomed some local junior paddlers who use to train every day after school.



Paddlers from Mae Tang