

BoD March 2019
Typed by HQ: November 2019
Approved by Pdt: November 2019
Distributed by HQ: November 2019

INTERNATIONAL CANOE FEDERATION (ICF)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD IN ANTALYA, TURKEY
22-23 NOVEMBER 2019



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MINUTES BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 22-23 November 2019 Antalya

Participants:

José Perurena	Spain	President (Executive Committee Member)
Cecilia Farias	Argentina	Vice President (Executive Committee Member)
Tony Estanguet (absent)	France	Vice President (Executive Committee Member)
Thomas Konietzko	Germany	Vice President (Executive Committee Member)
Luciano Buonfiglio	Italy	Treasurer (Executive Committee Member) not present
Simon Toulson	Great Britain	Secretary General (Executive Committee Member)
Joao Manuel Da Costa Alegre	Sao Tome and Principe	President of African Continental Confederation (Executive Committee Member)
Shoken Narita	Japan	President of Asian Continental Confederation (Executive Committee Member)
Albert Woods	Great Britain	President of European Continental Confederation (Executive Committee Member)
Joao Tomasini Schwertner	Brazil	President Pan American Continental Confederation (Executive Committee Member)
Maree Burnett	New Zealand	President of Oceanian Continental Confederation (Executive Committee Member)
Frank Garner	Canada	Chair Canoe Sprint (Executive Committee Member)
Jean-Michel Prono	France	Chair Canoe Slalom (Executive Committee Member)
Tim Lodge	Great Britain	Chair Athlete Committee
Martha Hernandez Sanches	Mexico	Continental Representative America
Victor G. Ruiz (absent)	Puerto Rico	Continental Representative America
Ahmad Donyamali	Iran	Continental Representative Asia
Branko Lovric	Croatia	Continental Representative Europe
Andrej Jelenc	Slovenia	Continental Representative Europe
Jovana Stanojevic	Serbia	Continental Representative Europe
Ola Oluode	Nigeria	Continental Representative Africa
Danielle Woodward	Australia	Continental Representative Oceania
John Edwards	Canada	Chair Paracanoe Committee
Ruud Heijselaar	Netherlands	Chair Canoe Marathon
Tomislav Crnkovic	Croatia	Chair Wildwater Canoeing
Mario Santos	Portugal	Chair Ocean Racing Committee
Greg Smale	Great Britain	Chair Canoe Polo
Lluís Rabaneda i Caselles	Spain	Chair Canoe Freestyle
Dr LUK Wai Hung	Hong Kong	Chair Dragon Boat
Donald McKenzie	Canada	Chair Medical and Anti-Doping

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1. Welcome by the ICF President

- A Minute of silence was held in respect for Jorn Cronberg who sadly passed away this year
- Introduction of Ruud Heijsselaar (Marathon Interim Chairman), Jovana Stanojevic (European representative), Sebastian Cuatrin (New ICF Development Manager)

2. President report

He reviewed the main ICF events of 2019. Other topics:

- CAS SUP case – hard to anticipate what would be the outcome of the case.
- According to discussion with Sec Gen of ANOC, ocean racing could be added to the program in the future. The idea was to have Beach Games every two years.
- IOC programme commission – discussion about the YOG. The quality of the water in the city in Senegal was not good enough. The venue has to be outside the city in Saly.

Canoe has consolidated its position in the 2025 World Games in Chengdu (China), with canoe polo, marathon and dragonboat on the program.

3. Treasurer report

Overall the ICF had a good financial situation and was operating within the current budget limits.

The money given by the Hungarian National Federation had to be shown differently so as not to block current spending. It was clarified in the notes of the financial report showing the expenditure at the point of time but it would not affect the spending of the specific budget. It was noted that National Federation's were unaware that the prize money would be based on world ranking and not World cup Ranking for Canoe Slalom – A notice would be sent to NFs.

The ICF was investigating to buy an office in MSI and explained that it would be an strategic investment. If it moved forward, the Board would be asked to approved the sale.

4. Update of ICF Headquarters

The TV broadcasting figures for canoe in 2019 had been a great success, along with a massive increase in social media and digital viewers:

- Eurosport contract led to a 7 million viewers across the World Cups. By far the larger audience on one channel the ICF reached in 2019.
- All World Cups, Sprint qualification competition, Supercup, and Extreme Slalom World Championships would be broadcasted on Eurosport in 2020.
- EBU contract for the next 4 year was on course to be negotiated.
- There were 20 Major National broadcasters for ICF Sprint World Championships, 14 or 15 for Slalom, which was the largest TV interest the ICF ever had.

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- There was a verbal agreement from L'Equipe (France) to cover all Olympic Disciplines for the next four years which was a first ever in France.
- The ICF conducted an experiment by streaming ICF events into China by adding dedicated Chinese commentary. The result was surprisingly positive with very high audience on streaming platform. ICF was discussing agreements with CCTV.

A discussion was held over the difficulty to have a broadcaster to be interested in non-Olympic sport and distribution of International feeds. Several attempts to get broadcasters interested had failed. ICF to consider including non-Olympic disciplines into highlight packages that are already distributed.

ICF currently had several conflicts with other federations that required resolution:

- Stand-up Paddling: CAS decision is expected to be announce in January.
- Rafting become an observer status in GAISF – ICF was working with GAISF to avoid any potential CAS case.
- IDBF – Ongoing situation.
- Lifesaving - with the name of surfski being debated.

5. Update on ACA Situation

The ICF worked very hard to engage everybody involved in the USA. ICF met with the new chief executive. However, the same issue/struggles exist.

The issue is that for LA 2028, the ICF did not have a Federation in the country that was working hard in strengthening Canoeing with the Organising Committee.

Some good athletes have been identified to do well in the future, but unfortunately they have been managed by parents/volunteers and not the federation.

In conclusion, ACA remains a very difficult situation for ICF.

→ The next step would be to ask the chair of ACA about the current situation.

6. Future of Canoe Sprint (Chris Keevill)

A PowerPoint Presentation on *Brand Workshop* was presented.

Among other topics, the presentation showed how the ICF could reinforce its branding, including a recommendation of renaming the federation to World Paddling.

7. Update on Stand Up Paddling

ICF delivered an excellent professionally run and well received SUP World Championships

- A key element was the support from the ICF staff
- There was interest for organizing 2020/2021 World Championships from Portugal, Germany, Hungary, France, Canada, South Korea

SUP organisation for events needed to improve as it did not meet the standards of ICF yet (e.g. safety, start systems, timing system).

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8. Update on Dragonboat

Dragonboat Chair Dr.Luk and Vice-President Thomas Konietzko explained the following:

- IDBF considers cooperation with ICF only if ICF recognize the IDBF – which was not agreed by ICF
- ICF rules would be adapted to be closer to IDBF rules
- ICF Dragonboat had been included in the 2022 Asian Games, and dragonboat sports presentation would happen during the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games

9. Update on Tokyo 2020 preparations

The ICF had held two very good Test Event for both events. Concern existed for the weather for the Olympic Games 2020 with the welfare of all involved the upmost priority.

It was highlighted that the heat stress during the Olympic Games, especially for the ITOs was a concern and proposed to prepare some recommendations for safety during heat stress. A questionnaire would be sent to all ITOs to get their medical history for being prepared if any medical issue arose.

10.Under 21 vs U23 discussion

Following last ICF Congress, an analysis on the age group had been completed, including a questionnaire to Federations. The ICF Sport commission also discussed the matter:

- An athlete survey was being prepared
- Slalom Committee could consider if they would change the age groups
- Further investigation into the U15 category to be done, taking into consideration the liability issues of the ICF

11.YOG 2022 Senegal update

All International Federations have to support this event and almost all costs will be their responsibility. The Canoeing competition format was still being discussed with the IOC.

There was some discussion about the new boat design for the YOG. It was confirmed that the IOC ruled that existing boats in the market needed to be used.

12.Paracanoe Development

Paracanoe activities in terms of development focused on athletes and on classification. The current paracanoe budget was shown and the future spending was outlined. IPC AGITOS foundation had agreed to support the Paracanoe development as well for 2020-2021.

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13. ICF Safeguarding update

A presentation from Kirsty Burrow from the IOC, occurred before the Board meeting, about safeguarding of athlete and the recommended structure for IFs for prevention. Ongoing work would be completed on the Safeguarding guidelines for the ICF.

14. Development programme update

The tasks of the new development manager Sebastian Cuattrin was explained and the structure of the development programme was shown.

The Development strategy was presented including some new projects: i.e. Continental TIP, Training GPS equipment for TIP athletes, objectives for the TIP athletes and integration of development strategy for all disciplines.

15. Approval of Canoe Sprint 2020 Event Programmes

Clarification required over the discrepancy in ICF rules about determining the age of a Master Crew category. → The review must be to standardise so that the age category is the youngest age of athlete in the boat.

VOTE: on Non Olympic events – achieve gender equality with the addition of Women C4 200m and Women K4 200m → **ICF Board Approved.**

VOTE: on Non Olympic world championships – Olympians not allowed → **ICF Board Approved.**

VOTE: on Junior and U23 Championships events – Move MC-1 200m to 500m, addition of WC4 500m, added mixed events → **ICF Board Approved.**

VOTE: on World Cup events – 5000m in world cup in both world cups → **ICF Board Approved.**

VOTE: on World Cup events program, including 5000m → **ICF Board Approved.**

VOTE: World Master events: including the following points:

- *K1 and C1 events age groups are every 5 years starting from 35.*
 - *K2 and C2 events age groups every 10 years starting from 35.*
 - *K4 and C4 events age groups every 20 years starting from 35.*
 - *Age of the youngest athlete in team boats determines the age category.*
 - *Limit of 6 events per athlete.*
 - *Different progression system than normal ICF Canoe sprint.*
- **ICF Board Approved as provisional rule for 2020**

16. Equipment Homologation Process

Presentation dedicated to canoe Slalom was held regarding the homologation process for the venues, obstacle system and equipment, and its objective to ensure safety, quality and respect of the ICF rules.

The guidelines and list of criteria for venues were being drafted and planned to be available later in 2020.

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17. Timing and scoring provider Freestyle

Presented the objective of having a unique timing and scoring provider for Freestyle, and the process for selecting such provider. **ICF Board Approved.**

18. Miscellaneous

World Master Games 2021 – point of the situation (ACC President Mr Narita)

- Dates: May 15th to May 31st 2021
- Seven disciplines for canoeing in 5 different venues
- Organizing committee asked for a specific age category: 30-35, as a lot of people from this age group intended to participate. → The age group are set by the Master Game organisation and not the ICF.

One Technical delegate for canoeing should be nominated for the Masters Games.

Community platform

A presentation of the Community platform project was done. The ICF identified this platform as a potential source of income. Significant investment would be necessary for the project, including staffing (maybe 4-5 additional people), and that the potential outcome was unsure yet.

At the next March Board Meeting, the ICF would present better clarity on the finance, business model along with a risk assessment of the project so the Board could make an informed decision relating to the project.

Miscellaneous topics:

- The ICF had received a promise for Chinese boat donation: It was approved as long as the boats were not copies of existing ICF partner design/boats.
- Chile federation has cancelled the Pan-American Olympic Qualifier event the replacement would be Brazil on the same dates.

Congress 2020

- Congress will happen during the 1st week of December 2020
- Exact dates to be confirmed later
- Venue visit is planned in the next months by the ICF

19. Next Board meeting

- 5-7 March 2019 – next ICF Board meeting Barcelona, Spain