

Report template for XL ICF Congress Antalya, Turkiye, November 2024

Role, Committee or Continental Association name: COPAC

Board member writing the report: Sebastián Gomez

Activities 2023-2024:

The Pan-American Canoe Federation (COPAC) has made significant progress in its initiatives and partnerships to promote canoeing in the Americas. Here are the key points discussed:

1. **Continental Olympic Qualifiers:** COPAC worked closely with the organizing committees for the Olympic qualifying events in canoe slalom and canoe sprint, held in March and April 2024. This collaboration was essential to ensure the success of the competitions.
2. **Americas Paralympic Committee:** Meetings were held to discuss the progress of paracanoe, resulting in the preparation of a formal request and a report to include paracanoe in the Lima 2027 Para Pan American Games. This initiative highlights the growing importance of paracanoeing in the region.
3. **Panam Sports:** Various meetings focused on the organization and planning of canoe sprint events for the II Junior Pan American Games, scheduled for August 2025 in Asunción, Paraguay. COPAC considers the collaboration with Panam Sports to be fundamental for the success and visibility of canoeing during the event.

These activities demonstrate COPAC's commitment to promoting canoeing and developing opportunities for athletes in both Olympic and Paralympic competitions. If you need more information or details on specific topics, feel free to ask!

Among the events we highlight:

2023	April 28-39th	COPAC Canoe Slalom and Kayak Cross Pan American Championships	Três Coroas – Brasil
	October 27-29th	Santiago 2023 - Pan American Games Canoe Slalom Championships	Los Andes – Chile
	Sep 28 / Nov 01	COPAC Paracanoe Pan American Championships	Lagoa Santa - Brasil
	November 01-04th	Santiago 2023 – Pan American Games Canoe Sprint	Concepción – Chile
	December 01-03th	COPAC Kayak Polo Pan American Championships	Tomazina – Brasil
2024	March 15-17th	COPAC Canoe Slalom and Kayak Cross Pan American Championships and American Olympic Qualifier	Rio de Janeiro – Brasil
	April 23-25th	COPAC Canoe Sprint Pan American Championships and American Olympic Qualifier	Sarasota – USA
	Oct 30 – Sep 08th	COPAC Ocean Racing Pan American Championships	Fortaleza – Brasil
	November 13-17th	COPAC Paracanoe Pan American Championships	Montevideo – Uruguay
	November 13/17th	COPAC Canoe Sprint Pan American Championships Jr and U23	Montevideo – Uruguay

Key achievements

At the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, **canoe sprint** ended its participation with an exceptional performance, achieving a total of 5 medals and 6 Olympic diplomas. The medals went to: A gold won by Katie Vincent (Canada) - C1W200m. Two silvers, Isaquias Queiroz (Brazil) - C1M1000m, also Nevin Harrison (USA) - C1W200m. And two more bronze for Yarisleidis Cirilo Duboys (Cuba) - C1W200m. / Sofia Mackenzie and Katie Vincent (Canada) - C2W200m.

In addition to the medals, 6 Olympic diplomas were won, 3 of them in kayaking with an outstanding 4th place by Argentine athlete Agustin Vernice in the emblematic men's K1 1000m race, giving his country the best placement ever in the Olympic Games. Two 8th places, one in the women's K1 500m by experienced Canadian athlete Michel Russell, and the other in the men's K2 500m, from the USA, made up of Jonas Ecker and Aaron Small, who surprised with their great performance and youth to enter the Olympic Final A.

In **canoe slalom**, during the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, Evy Leibfarth from the USA, obtained a historic bronze medal. 5th place in the same event went to Brazilian athlete Ana Satila, with 19th place by Lois Betteridge from Canada completing the continent's participation in the event.

Always moving forward

In the women's individual kayak final, Ana Satila, from Brazil, obtained her second Olympic diploma with a 4th place, which is historic for Brazil and South America. While Evy Leibfarth, from the United States, finished in 15th place, Lois Betteridge, from Canada, in 20th place and Sofia Reinoso, from Mexico, in 25th place, these results represent an advance in the women's canoe slalom.

In the men's individual kayak, Pedro Gonçalves, from Brazil, finished in 18th place and Alex Baldoni, from Canada, in 21st. In the men's individual canoe, Alex Baldoni, from Canada, finished in 15th place, Casey Eichfeld, from the USA, in 16th place and Pedro Gonçalves, from Brazil, in 18th place.

At the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games, there was a lot of success, with more medals won than ever before, and many of the athletes performing better. Of the 100 canoeing/kayaking participants, 15 were athletes from the Americas. The following countries in the Americas participated in the Paraense canoeing events: Argentina (1 man), Brazil (4 men/4 women), Canada (1 man/2 women), Chile (1 man), USA (1 man), winning a total of 07 medals.

Brazil won 1 gold/2 silver/1 bronze, Canada won 1 silver medal, Chile won 1 gold medal and the USA won 1 bronze medal.

Strategic plans for future implementation:

With the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games on the horizon, canoeing on the continent hopes to continue its growth and further improve its results in all Olympic disciplines, especially with the advantage that the next Games will be held on American soil.

Our goal is to achieve the participation of 2 to 4 new countries in the Americas at this level in the next 4 years. We will continue to work hard on our development and obtaining rankings for our athletes at upcoming Pan American events and moving towards Los Angeles 2028.