

BoD March 2018
Typed by HQ: April 2018
Approved by Pdt: 7 May 2018
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INTERNATIONAL CANOE FEDERATION (ICF)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD IN TOKYO, JAPAN
24-25 MARCH 2018



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<p>MINUTES BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 24-25 March Tokyo, Japan</p>

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 (absent)	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)
Helen Brownlee	Australia	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	Puerto Rico	Continental Representative America
Ahmad Donyamali	Iran	Continental Representative Asia
Branko Lovric	Croatia	Continental Representative Europe
Andrej Jelenc	Slovenia	Continental Representative Europe
Marta Felpeto Lamas	Spain	Continental Representative Europe
Ola Oluode (absent)	Nigeria	Continental Representative Africa
Maree Burnett	New Zealand	Continental Representative Oceania
John Edwards	Canada	Chair Paracanoe Committee
Jorn Cronberg	Denmark	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 (absent)	Canada	Chair Medical and Anti-Doping

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<p>Description</p> <p>1. Welcome by the ICF President and Japan Canoe Federation</p> <p>The ICF President and the Japan Canoe Federation President, Mr Narita welcomed everyone to Tokyo. Four Board Members were absent, Tony Estanguet, Joao Costa Alegre, Ola Oloude and Don McKenzie.</p> <p>Five new members were welcomed to the Board, Joao Tomasini (President of COPAC), Tim Lodge (Chair Athlete Committee), Jonne Go (Asian representative), Martha Hernandez Sanches (Americas representative) and Marta Felpeto Lamas (European representative).</p> <p>Helen Brownlee was warmly thanked and appreciation was shown by the whole Board for 30 years of service and stellar work as an ICF Board member after it was announced it would be her final Board meeting.</p> <p>2. President's report</p> <p>The number of athletes for Canoe Polo and Canoe Marathon had been confirmed for the 2021 World Games in Birmingham, USA.</p> <p>The next edition of YOG would be in Africa but the country and events were not decided as yet and would be further discussed in November 2018.</p> <p>The ICF had recently confirmed agreements with Rafting, Va'a and wave ski. This was seen as beneficial to work with these organisations under the ICF umbrella for introducing new disciplines and future possibilities in world events.</p> <p>3. Treasurer's report</p> <p>The strategy of conservative investments with Vontobel bank for the (USD) currency had resulted in healthy reserves and the ICF's current financial situation was good.</p> <p>The 2017-2018 Budget/expenses were in line with forecasts. However, some over spends and additional costs for 2017/2018 were added (Eg. YOG Buenos Aires expenses, various legal CAS cases, Hungary Development Programme) totalling 700,000 Euros.</p> <p>Vice-Presidents expenses should not be in the President's budget. Specific budget for Vice Presidents would be added for the next budget at the ICF Congress.</p> <p>4. Update on ICF Headquarter activities</p>
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Referred to the report.

Conflict of interest and the Ethics Agreement were signed by most Board members to be in line with Governance practices. It was proposed and approved that all Board members needed to sign the documents or would not be able to attend the next Board meeting.

For the next Board Meeting an introduction package would be prepared by the ICF Headquarters for the new members of the Board.

It was agreed to publish the audited accounts on the ICF website.

Currently there were 10 full time employees in Lausanne, 2 experts for development and one intern provided by the Korean NOC. The atmosphere at the Headquarters was excellent with collaboration and team work being very good. The staff were thanked for their hard work and team spirit in the office.

Concerns about the next ICF Congress, not having elections might reduce the participation levels so a new agenda would be devised including speakers and workshops during the congress.

The ICF would experiment with live drones in canoe spirit in 2018 events. The experience in 2017 using drones in canoe slalom resulted in some great images. There would be one drone going alongside the race and one staying in front or behind the athletes. The drones have been significantly tested to avoid accidents and incidents. The potential was to improve image quality and also reduce the cost of production.

For the 2018 Canoe Sprint competitions there would be new elements to the sport presentation. After the race a celebration pontoon would be used where the winners used the pontoon to celebrate their performances with their friends and family in front of the audience.

Both LA2028 and USOC had approached the ICF regarding the state of USA Canoeing. The concern was raised that the NF was not in a state to deliver elite athlete and they have requested ICF to help to develop the sport in the country. COPAC were also requested to provide support in this area.

5. Update on Stand Up Paddling

The ICF Board approved individual entries for SUP World Championships, the list of participants would be sent to NFs to check and object to any athletes participating (Eg. in case of disciplinary or doping violation, non-payment of funds).

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Estimation of costs for the CAS case with ISA would be between 30 to 100 thousand Euros. CAS Procedure would likely start end of March with potential hearing June-July. The final answer would not be published before October or November.

6. Update on Dragonboat

A new attempt to collaborate with IDBF was initiated last year. A joint statement was made to share a vision for development of Dragonboat, to develop the sport. The ICF had proposed to hold a joint club crew World Championships in 2020.

It was agreed to go step by step with IDBF and hold a continental championships together and then unify rules, produce race officials together. IDBF and ICF agreed to continue discussions throughout 2018.

7. ICF Statutes for Congress 2018 and NF proposals

The NF proposals to the ICF Statutes were discussed and voted upon and would be presented to the next ICF Congress.

8. Qualification System Tokyo 2020

The IOC had approved the Canoe Slalom qualification system. The Paracanoe qualification system had also been approved by the IPC.

The ICF Board voted in favour of accepting the European proposal to include Canoe Olympic Qualification quotas from the European Games. The revised text would be sent to the IOC for their approval and final agreement.

9. ITO flight repayments proposal

The proposal was to have a 30 days payment deadline for ITO flight tickets after the World Championships.

The ICF Headquarters was committed to reduce the time between the flight payment and reimbursement and the issue would be kept under constant review.

10. Agreement on ICF Rules for Congress 2018

It was confirmed by the Board that rules could be changed every 2 years at each ICF Congress.

The proposed rule changes from NFs and Technical Committees were discussed by the Board and the General Rules would be presented to the next ICF Congress for decision.

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11. New structure of ICF Technical Rule books

The new format of sport discipline technical rules was presented and was subsequently approved by the Board. The new format would be completed for all disciplines and presented to the ICF Congress.

12. Age issue for change of Nationality

The changes to the ICF sporting nationality rules had been successful. They were more stricter than previous rules, however, some issues with junior athletes had arisen. A few cases of under 18 athletes moving due to their parents situation resulting in the change of the athlete's nationality not being valid and the athlete unable to compete.

The Board approved to amend this rule immediately for athletes aged 18 and under 18 to be allowed to change sporting nationality. The national federation of origin would still need to approve the transfer of sporting nationality.

13. Proposal for World Best Times

The Board approved the concept and would be added to the rule book for Canoe Sprint.

14. Proposal for new Canoe Sprint competition

A new format (city centre races and short length competitions) of canoe sprint had been looked at including prize money, invitation of the world best paddlers and TV distribution.

The ICF was targeting new event races with more flexibility and shorter duration (1.5 hours of tv) which could be more exciting for TV and spectators. The goal being to have events in city centres, attract large audiences and appeal to TV broadcasters with an easy to understand and fun concept.

The idea was welcomed and endorsed by the ICF Board of Directors.

15. Proposal for individual entries process for Masters, SUP, Ocean Racing, dragonboat, non-elite competitions

A lot of exciting sporting events were organised by private companies and the sport world was changing. To attract more participants to canoeing activities the idea was to create individual entries for specific groups or events without affecting NF's rights and major existing competitions.

The Proposal to add to all discipline rule books the Individual entries for Master category for ICF World Championships was approved by the Board. National Federations would have the right to oppose the individual entries for specific

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reasons. In addition, the ICF could charge an entry fee to those competitors as agreed by the Board.

16. New Classification Rules for Paracanoe and IPC

The Board approved the Va'a athlete classification proposal to IPC and the classification rules for 2018.

Proposal to fix the classification fee at 200 Euros was also approved by the Board.

17. Agreement to use IPC Appeal Body

IPC has an appeal service that can be used by IFs. The Price and expertise of the panel should be verified before approval to agree to use the IPC Board of Appeal Service to address Paracanoe classification appeals.

18. Canoe Slalom Competition format and schedule

2018 Worlds Championships Competition Programme

The CSLC completed a survey for the 2018 season with participating teams from which it was decided :

- For the 2018 season, remove C2 Men and C2 Men team events from all ICF competitions;
- keep C2 Mixed events.

The above proposals were approved by the Board.

2018 Worlds Championships Competition Schedule

- It was requested from the ICF Board that for the World Championships the team events could be scheduled before the individual events.
- The 2019 CSL competition rules will be updated to allow it permanently.

The proposal was approved by the Board.

Course designers for 2018 World Championships were approved by the Board.

For the 2019 Canoe Slalom & Wildwater Worlds Championships in La Seu d'Urgell (ESP) the Canoe Slalom committee proposed to:

- Remove the extreme canoe slalom events from the SEO 2019 programme;

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- Reallocate the extreme canoe slalom world championships to a 2019 CSL world cup;
- Discussion was progressing with potential HOCs. The Canoe Slalom committee would propose to the ICF ExCo their final decision.

The proposals were approved by the Board.

19. Ratification of the Amended OCA Statutes

The Board approved the amended OCA Statutes.

20. Update on YOG 2018 World Qualification Barcelona

The Spanish national trials would take place the following weekend as a test event for the Barcelona World Qualification Event.

Over 60 nations and 200 athletes would participate in Barcelona.

21. Update on YOG 2018 Buenos Aires

The venue would be closed at each end of the channel in order that water treatment through bio remediation could be completed. According to the organiser it required 50 days to reach the acceptable water quality for competition. If that process did not work they would consider reverting to chemical treatment.

22. ICF Athletes Committee update since elections in 2017

The Committee would try to use the ICF website and increase traffic on the athlete committee pages. The committee meeting in Australia was successful, key deadlines were set for committee members action. Working in collaboration with the ICF Headquarters it was highlighted that there would be an extensive database of athletes from all around the world.

23. Update on Doping

Two months ago RUSADA archive identified more athletes that had been systematically doping. The ICF having analysed the additional data found another additional 9 athletes that allegedly took illegal substances. WADA was pushing very hard and announced taking legal action against IF's who refused to act on information. However, ICF legal advice was that the ICF did not have enough evidence to make a case against the individual athletes.

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The ICF had completed 289 of tests last year on Russian athletes and for 2018 the Russian athletes would be targeted too. A Russian doping case would be announced shortly from the ICF in the next few weeks that would likely attract media attention.

23. Bids for ICF Competitions – World Championships and World Cups

World Championships Events:

2022 ICF Canoe Sprint & Paracanoe World Championships
Halifax (CAN)

2022 ICF Junior & U23 Canoe Sprint World Championships
Szeged (HUN)

2022 ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships
Augsburg (GER)

2022 ICF Junior & U23 Canoe Slalom World Championships
Ivrea (ITA)

2022 ICF Canoe Marathon World Championships
Ponte de Lima (POR)

2022 Canoe Polo World Championships
Saint-Omer (FRA)

2021 Dragon Boat World Championships (club crew)
Poznan (POL)

2022 Dragon Boat World Championships (national)
Ternopil (UKR)

2022 ICF Wildwater Canoeing Classic and Sprint World Championships
Treignac (FRA)

2020 Ocean Racing World Championships
Viana do Castelo – Esposende (POR)

2021 Ocean Racing World Championships
Lanzarote Isla de Los Volcanes (ESP)

World Cup Events

Canoe Sprint:

Racice would include Olympic qualification for Europe in 2020

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Second World Cup in Duisburg would include Paracanoe World Championships and last Olympic Qualifier places.

Canoe Slalom – 2020 World Cups:

6 candidates: Augsburg (GER), Ivrea (ITA), Liptovsky Mikulas (SVK), Pau (FRA), Prague (CZE), Tacen (SLO). Following a discussion, the Board agreed to limit to 5 stages for the 2020 ICF Canoe Slalom World Cups.

The final calendar (date and location) was pending on pre-Games training schedule for Tokyo 2020. The CSL committee would confirm the final calendar within two months and inform the ICF Executive Board.

2020 Canoe Marathon: Pitesti (ROU)

Ocean Racing World Cup decision was postponed.

2018 Canoe Freestyle world cup

Stage 1 and 2 would be organised in Sort, Spain.

24. Update on Tokyo 2020 preparations

The Prince Hotel would be the ICF official hotel for the Games. The ICF would have 40 rooms for the Games. The hotel was 20 minutes from the venues.

Canoe Slalom equipment was being homologated for the venue and would be finalised by mid 2018 ready for procurement. For Canoe Sprint the issue with wave absorption system continued to be a problem as was the albano system for the lines. Tokyo 2020 was committed to testing both systems in 2019 but this was seen as too late for the ICF.

25.Provisional approval of new National Federation members to ICF

The following new NFs were approved as provisional members by the Board:

- USA (statutes and Federation change)
- Guinea
- Dominica

26. Juries for 2018 season

Wildwater Canoeing World Championships: Luciano Buonfiglio, Tomislav Crnkovic

Junior and U23 Canoe Slalom World Championships Ivrea: Joao Tomasini, Andre Jelenc Branco Lovric

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Junior and U23 Canoe Sprint World Championships: Thomas Konietzko, Branko Lovric, Wai hung Luk, Albert Woods

Canoe Polo World Championships: Luciano Buonfiglio, Ahmad Donyamali, Andrej Jelec

Canoe Sprint World Championships in Montemor: Thomas Konietzko, Albert Woods, Joao Tomasini

Canoe Slalom World Championships Rio: Shoken Narita, Greg Smale

Dragon Boat World Championships: Thomas Konietzko, Jonne go

Canoe Marathon World Championships Branko Lovric, Thomas Konietzko

Miscellaneous

The Board was not in favour to give special status to refugees as it would likely bring complications regarding nationality of the refugee, rules, coaching and other logistical problems.

It was agreed unanimously to extend the suspension of Seif Patwa for at least one more year from all International activities. He had not replied adequately to the existing complaints against him and subsequently three more were provided to the Board.

The ICF reconfirmed that the development budget was for development of athletes and canoeing activities. The ICF would not support continental congresses with development money.

The boat issue of Plaxtex and the Philippines was discussed. The ICF would contact the company and ask for further information and try to resolve the matter.

For email voting by the Board of Directors, all proposals would be sent in one email and responses would be returned only to people concerned avoiding mass copying of the response.

The Slovenian coaching education programme for Canoe Slalom was progressing. The Canoe Slalom Committee was willing to review level 1 coaching in terms of making a formal platform.

Canoe Polo had a new sponsor from Yupin Sport. They would supply goals, shot clocks and scoreboards. In addition there would be a five year renewable ball sponsor.

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As the ball sponsor had changed five new balls would be sent to each team who were selected for the World Championships so they could practice before the event.

A referee clothes pack would also be provided during the World Championships. Yupin Sport would donate 20 complete sets of canoe polo material including boats, clothes, paddles to developing countries through the agreement. The value in kind amount was estimated at 487,000 Euros.

The BoD agreed that the ICF membership fees would be waived to NFs affected by natural disasters: Mexico, Sao Tome and Principe, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic and Sint Maarten for 2018 and 2019 only.

The ICF Board agreed that the Executive Committee prepares the budget for 2019-2020 for congress approval.

A formal request from the ICF Headquarters for holding two Board meetings per year was approved by the Board.

The next ICF Board meeting would be 23rd November 2018 In Budapest