



2021 ICF Canoe Polo World Championships

Rome, Italy



Updated information 8th November 2020

Update from Greg Smale, Chair of the ICF Canoe Polo Committee:

'Further to my last update I now write to inform you that the 2021 ICF Canoe Polo World Championships in Rome, Italy will not be held over the period 13-18th April 2021.'

'We have continued to work closely with the Host Organising Committee (HOC) and Italian Federation (FICK) and have had a number of meetings to review the situation but sadly it has now been decided that it is not realistic to keep planning for this date due to the global COVID19 situation and the travel restriction.'

'We are now exploring the feasibility of the World Championships being held over the period 5-10th October 2021, a time FICK and HOC feel much more confident with. This option will be the last one before a complete cancellation.'

'This decision has been very hard to make as we know it has consequences for all. Some may be relieved we are able to provide a little more clarity to athletes and their families, others I'm sure will be frustrated with this decision. We hope you understand we have to try and adjust as this global pandemic continues and canoeing in general has not had to respond and plan like this ever before'.

However, we will not finalise anything until we have sent a questionnaire to all teams regarding intention of participation for October and we plan to discuss with all continental representatives regarding the continental championships calendar.'

'It is felt that the likelihood of being able to stage the various 2021 Continental Canoe Polo Championships and their associated travel possibilities is strong and we hope these can all happen.'

'It would be wrong of me to not note perhaps the worst consequence of any further delay. The Under 21 age extension cannot be applied to an event later in the year. The ICF Board has not allowed it for other disciplines. It may be said in response to this decision 'we don't care about the consequences' – we really do! We can only sympathise with the upset to Under 21 players and once again it is Covid19, not the ICF, Italy or Host Organising Committee that has caused this situation for Canoe Polo, other canoeing disciplines and to many sporting events across the globe.'

'Team Leaders please look out for the questionnaire in the next few weeks and canvass your players regarding interest in October and to Continental Representatives we will be in contact in the near future.'

'I/we wish you and your families continued health and fitness through these testing times.'



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