

2011 Canoe Slalom Coaches Symposium



29/30 october 2011
London - Lee Valley (GBR)

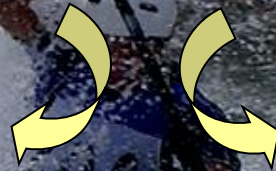
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ICF Statutes - Article 1

With the object of encouraging the development of the sport of canoeing and of strengthening the bonds of friendship that unite those who practice in it

When introducing an innovation in the Canoe Slalom discipline one has to consider two different aspects :

WHO PRACTICE IT



WHO FOLLOW IT



This discipline must be modern and encourage more young people to practice it....

...but at the same time it must be spectacular and easy to understand for the following it through the media.

Which are the aspects managed by I.C.F. that impact on who practices slalom kayaking?



- Equipment rules

- Race course rules

- The general rules

EQUIPMENT

Have we achieved the best?

What can we improve?

The equipment used in slalom kayaking is made for various water volumes, types of race courses, for the characteristics of the athletes and in agreement with the ICF Regulations.

• dimension

• weight

• form



VAJDA
CANOES & KAYAKS

caiman

galasport

...Why not consider giving more freedom of form and dimension?

...Have the best speed and manoeuvrability characteristics achieved?

...what do the boat constructors think about ?

RACE COURSE

Characteristics of the race courses and the designing philosophy

What can be improved?

- *What do we want to promote in the future ? Power , speed or technique?*
- *How could we try to stabilize the water and eddies so the water doesn't change too much?*
- *For C1 and C2 the course designer must consider the water conditions so that right or left handed athlete aren't overly favoured!*
- *The course design must be similar in all kinds of races!*
- *Would it be useful to create an official ICF (is it necessary to be an IJSL)?*



REGULATIONS

What can be changed the stimulate growth in popularity and spectacularity?

- Length of the course today

18/22 (max 25) gates, 6/7 upstreams, for a length of 250/400 meters.

To make some parts harder more gates need to be put close together, this leaves long straight parts where speed and physical power are the only important aspects.



- *Shorten the courses (60")?*
- *or add more gates, maybe upstreams?*



REGULATIONS


What can be changed ?

- Lower the poles to the waterheight

Now 20 cm are the rule.

This determines difficulties for the judges to decide if the athletes' head has gone through entirely.



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- *Why not lower the height of the poles to make the athletes go through the gate with all of their body?*

REGULATIONS

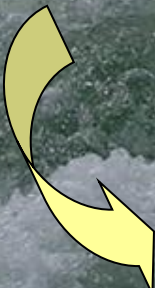
What can be changed ?

• Penalties

Today judges have a hard time seeing :

- small touches
- passage of part of the head
- Intentional pushing of a gate



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- *Simplify: isn't it penalising for an athlete to go through a gate in the wrong way and then do it the right way?*
 - *Make the athlete go through the gates with all of their body*
 - *Explore new technologies to detect penalties (ex: electronic sensors that make a sound if there are touches)*
 - *Make a touch count only one second*
 - *What about eliminating penalties?*

...what impact do they have on who follows the sport?

• Race course

• The results

• The rules



What can be changed ?

• Race Course

Design simpler courses . For example it would be easier if the gates all had only one pole?

• Spectators

Make the competitions more interesting with more information (ex: more split-times).

• Rules

Simplify the rules that regard penalties so that the spectators can understand the race better and immediately see the athletes results.

