

ECA CONGRESS

MARCH 29 2025

BUDAPEST - HUNGARY

**EUROPEAN
CANOE ASSOCIATION**



OPENNING THE CONGRES



JEAN ZOUNGRANA ECA
PRESIDENT



Dr ADAM SCHMIDT
SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR SPORT



THOMAS KONIETZKO
ICF PRESIDENT

Roll-call of delegates and establishing the quorum

1	Albania
2	Andorra
3	Armenia
4	Austria
5	Azerbaijan
6	Belarus
7	Belgium
8	Bosnia and Hercegovina
9	Bulgaria
10	Croatia
11	Cyprus
12	Czech Republic
13	Denmark
14	Estonia
15	Finland
16	France
17	Georgia
18	Germany
19	Great Britain
20	Greece
21	Hungary
22	Ireland
23	Israel

24	Italy
25	Kosovo
26	Latvia
27	Lithuania
28	Luxembourg
29	Malta
30	Moldova
31	Montenegro
32	Netherlands
33	North Macedonia
34	Norway
35	Poland
36	Portugal
37	Romania
38	Russia
39	Serbia
40	Slovakia
41	Slovenia
42	Spain
43	Sweden
44	Switzerland
45	Turkiye
46	Ukraine



APPOINTMENT OF THE SCRUTINEERS



AGENDA



AGENDA & PROGRESS OF THE CONGRESS						
				Duration	From	to
1	Accreditation of the delegates			0:45	8:00	8:45
2	Opening of the Congress		J ZOUNGRANA / Dr ADAM SCHMIDT Secretary of State of Sport / T KONIETZKO	0:30	9:00	9:30
3	Roll-call of delegates and establishing the quorum		B LOVRIC	0:10	9:30	9:40
4	Appointment of Scrutineers for the period of the Congress		B LOVRIC	0:05	9:40	9:45
5	Presentation and approval of the agenda of the Congress		B LOVRIC	0:05	9:45	9:50
6	Approval of the minutes of the extraordinary congress	Presentation & votes	B LOVRIC	0:05	9:50	9:55
7	Report by the President	Presentation	J ZOUNGRANA	0:20	9:55	10:15
8	Report by the Secretary General	Presentation	B LOVRIC	0:10	10:15	10:25
9	Sport & development report TD reports	Presentation	J STANOJEVIC	0:20	10:25	10:45
10	VIDEO – 2023/2024	Presentation	N JELENC	0:05	10:45	10:50
11	COFFEE BREAK			0:30:00	10:50	11:20
12	ECA sport Programme	Presentation & votes	J STANOJEVIC	20:00	11:20	11:40
13	ECA Financial report 2023-2024 and Report by the Auditor	Presentation & votes	B LOVRIC / E PETROVA	15:00	11:40	11:55
14	ECA Economic model	Presentation & Discussion	J ZOUNGRANA	20:00	11:55	12:15
15	Fixing the Annual Subscription Fee for the next two years (2025-2026)	Presentation & votes	J ZOUNGRANA	15:00	12:15	12:30
16	LUNCH BREAK			1:30:00	12:30	14:00

AGENDA

AGENDA & PROGRESS OF THE CONGRESS



				Duration	From	to
17	ECA developement programme	Presentation & Discussion	J ZOUNGRANA	20:00	14:00	14:20
18	Establishing the Budget for 2025/2026	Presentation & votes	J ZOUNGRANA	15:00	14:20	14:35
19	ECA Name change	Presentation & votes	J ZOUNGRANA	15:00	14:35	14:50
20	Proposals for the ECA Statutes Changes - received from NF	Presentation & votes	P KARAI	15:00	14:50	15:05
21	ECA Athletes committee	Presentation	P KARAI / J STANOJEVIC	10:00	15:05	15:15
22	Recreational and Educational Programme	Presentation & Discussion	G KOCH	0:20:00	15:15	15:35
23	Special Olympic Presentation	Presentation	MATTEO SECCHI	0:10:00	15:35	15:45
24	COFFEE BREAK			0:30:00	15:45	16:15
25	ECA BOARD ELECTIONS				16:15	16:15
26	Opening the elections	Presentation	B LOVRIC	10:00	16:15	16:25
27	List 2: Election of the ECA Board members				16:25	16:25
28	Presentation - 3 min (3min X 6 Candidates)	Presentation	6 CANDIDATES	25:00	16:25	16:50
29	votes 1	votes	B LOVRIC	15:00	16:50	17:05
30	votes 2	votes	B LOVRIC	10:00	17:05	17:15
31	List 1: Election of the ECA Vice-President				17:15	17:15
32	Presentation - 3 min	Presentation	B LOVRIC	05:00	17:15	17:20
33	votes	votes	B LOVRIC	15:00	17:20	17:35
34	List 3: Elections of the Representatives to the ICF Board				17:35	17:35
35	votes	Presentation & votes	B LOVRIC	15:00	17:35	17:50
36	CLOSING THE CONGRESS				17:50	17:55
	OFFICIAL DINNER				19:30	

VOTE



The Congress approve the agenda

1. IN FAVOUR
2. NOT IN FAVOUR
3. ABSTENTION



VOTE



The Congress approve the minutes of the Extraordinary Congress – 9 November 2024 – Antalya, Turkiye –

1. IN FAVOUR
2. NOT IN FAVOUR
3. ABSTENTION



ECA PRESIDENT REPORT

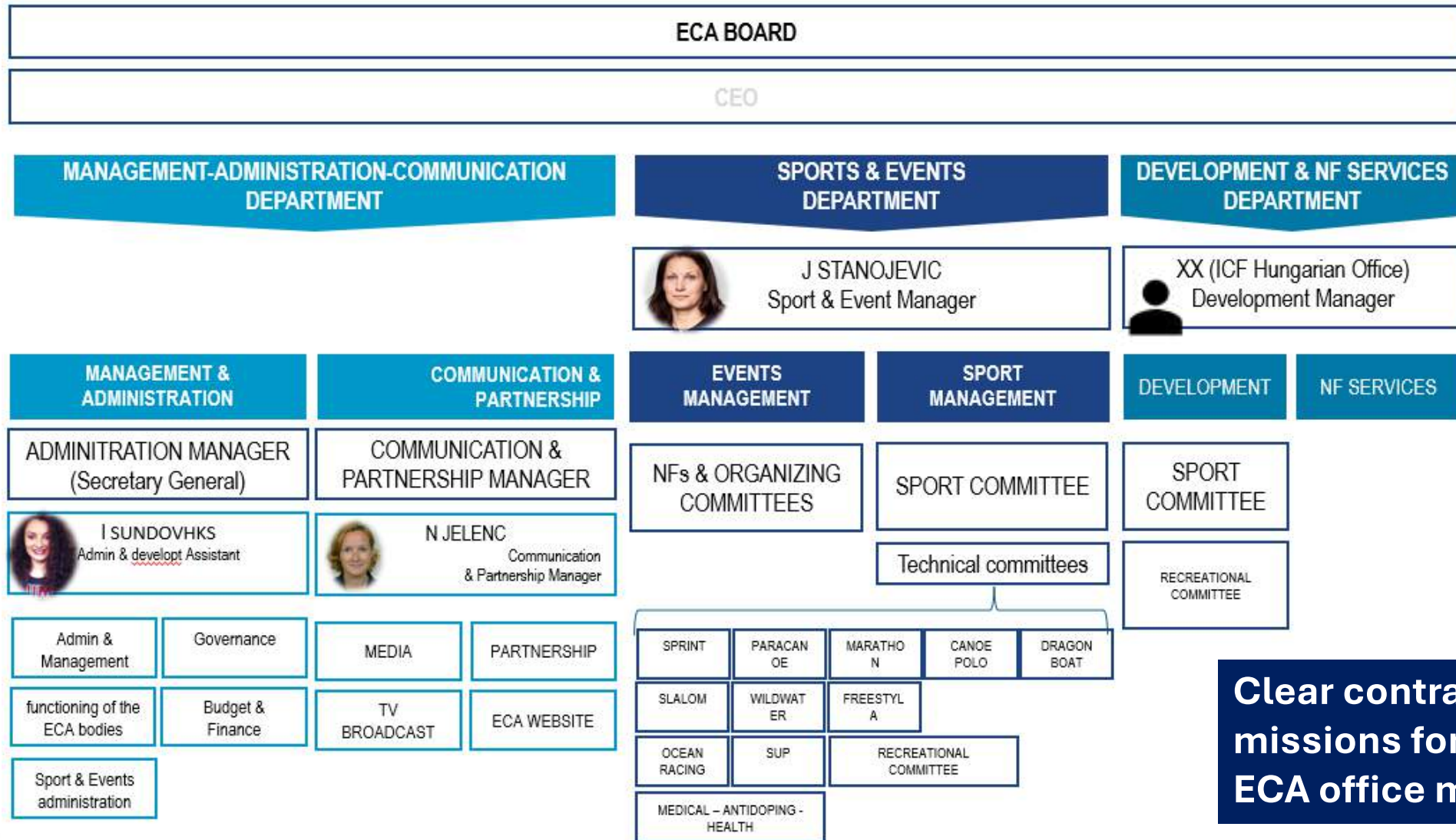
PRESIDENT REPORT



THE STARTING POINT

ECA Congress – Chania – Grèce
–2023 – New president / new
Board members / Albert Woods
Honorary life president

STEP1 - ECA ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



**Clear contracts and missions for ECA staff
ECA office meetings**

STEP 2 - ECA FUNCTIONING

IT TOOLS

- Microsoft teams
- Microsoft Office 365
- Email adress : @canoe-eca.eu

ECA FUNCTIONNING

- A modern and agile governance: online meetings and decisions (13 board meetings including 6 online)
- A transparent governance: publication of minutes, secret ballot when necessary
- Share documents & prepare Board meetings
- secure our datas

STEP 3 - ECA GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGIC PLANS

- 3 Projects
 - Governance and statutes review
 - Developement strategic plan
 - Sport programme
- The establishment of working groups (April-August 2023)
 - 20 federations
 - 95 applications

- Work in conjunction with the national federations and the Board
- Board members in charge for each working group and disciplines
- Meeting in Szeged wih the NFs
- Survey: 47 responses from 36 federations, i.e. a response rate of 76.5%.

STEP 3 - ECA GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGIC PLANS

ECA Extraordinary congress Antalya – 9 Nov 2024

- Approval of
 - The ECA new statutes
 - The Eca strategic developement plan with 5 areas: 1 ECA as a continental federation, 2 ECA member federations, 3 sport and events, 4 high performance, 5 Paddle sports for all.
- Presentation of the sport programme to be finalized by new committees



SPORT AND EVENTS

- European Games Sprint and Slalom held in Poland (2023)
- For the first time the combined European Championships in Sprint, Paracanoe, SUP and the integration of Special Olympic events for athletes with mental disabilities (2024).
- All our EC

Thank you all!

- EMC 2026 Hanover – Germany - canceled
- PARIS 2024
 - Unforgettable moments: opening ceremony,
 - New event – Kayak Cross – a real success!
 - Congratulations!

DEVELOPMENT

Training camps

- Wildwater – Switzerland -
- Slalom – North Macedonia -

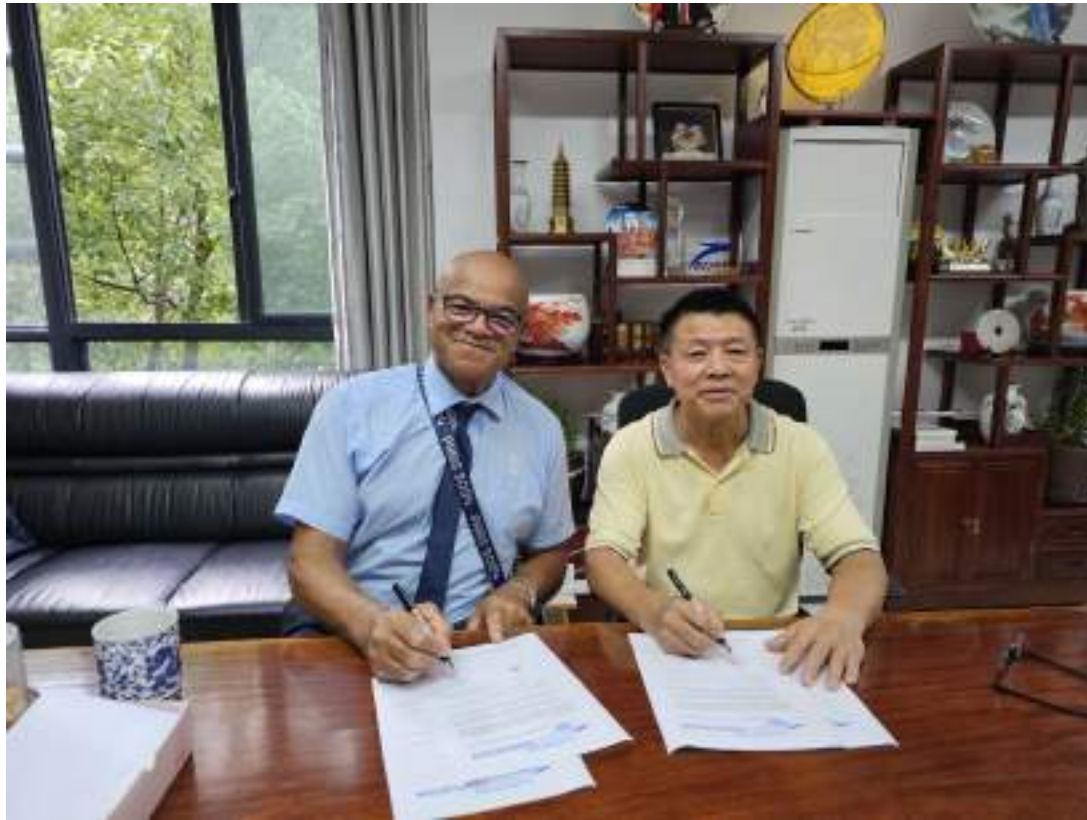


ECA HEADQUARTERS

- Contracts with Croatian federation renewed until congress 2025.
- Board decision Feb 2, Portugal – France
- Satellite office in Europe



ECA PARTNERSHIP



- A new partner with Peisheng company
- Meeting with Nelo
- In progress:
 - Contracts for 2025-2026

ECA REPRESENTATION



- EOC
- ICF EXCO & BOARD
- European championships..
- Fifteen countries and sometimes several times to some of them - Azerbaijan, Hungary, North Macedonia, Poland, Slovakia, Portugal, Germany, Great Britain, Serbia, Slovenia, Turkiye, Romania, Switzerland, Montenegro, China.

CONCLUSION

2023-24

- Structure and organize the ECA's operations
- Define a strategic plans and renew our governance with new statutes

2025-26

- Establishment of headquarters and satellite offices
- Implementation of the strategic plan
- Strengthening the ECA's economic model
- EC & European Games & LA 2028

Geopolitical situation in Europe – Ukraine – Israel





ECA SECRETARY GENERAL REPORT



SPORT REPORT & DEVELOPMENT REPORT





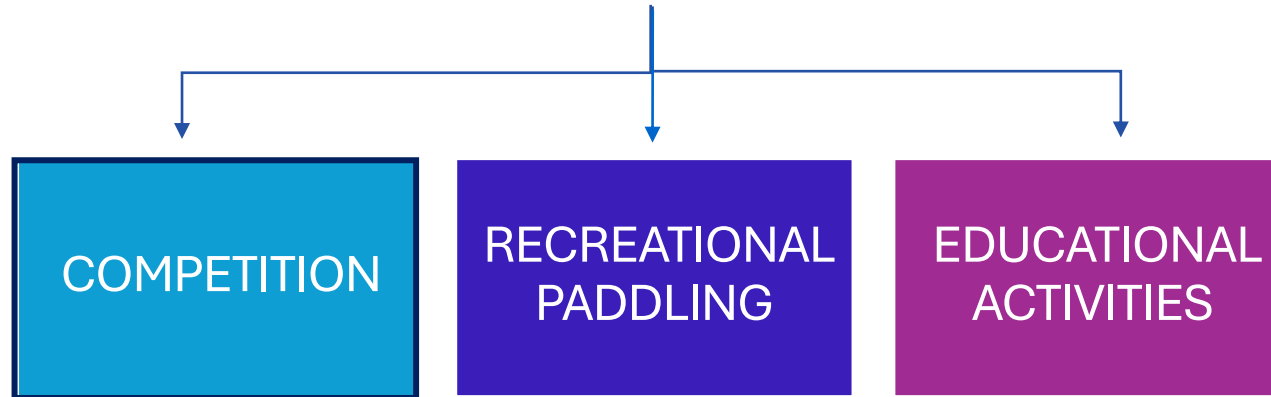
ECA

Governing body for canoeing and paddle sport in Europe



ECA

Develop and promote all aspects of paddle sport in Europe



COMPETITION

RECREATIONAL
PADDLING

EDUCATIONAL
ACTIVITIES

2023 - 2024

Sport and Development reports

COMPETITIONS & EVENTS

European Games

European Championships

Other European competitions ECA Cup

Discipline:	SENIOR WILDWATER CANOEING	SENIOR SPRINT	SENIOR SLALOM	CANOE MARATHON	JUNIOR & U23 CANOE SLALOM	SENIOR PARACANOE	JUNIOR & U23 SPRINT	CANOE POLO
2023	MKD SKOPLJE 16-20 May	POL KRAKOW 21-24 June	POL KRAKOW 29 June-2 July	CRO SLAVONSKI BROD 13-16 July	SVK BRATISLAVA 20-23 July	POR MONTEMOR-O-VELHO 27-30 July		GER BRANDENBURG 5-10 September

Discipline:	OCEAN RACING	SENIOR CANOE SLALOM	SENIOR SPRINT	SENIOR PARACANOE	STAND UP PADDLING	JUNIOR & U23 SPRINT	JUNIOR & U23 WILDWATER CANOEING	CANOE MARATHON	JUNIOR & U23 CANOE SLALOM	CANOE FREESTYLE
2024	POR AZORES ISLANDS 12-14 April	SLO TACEN 15-19 May	HUN SZEGED 12-16 June			SVK Bratislava 27-30 June	SUI Dallenwil 3-6 July	POL Poznan 22-28 July	POL KRAKOW 15-18 Aug	AUT Graz 26-29 Aug

Key achievements:

- ✓ Presence at 2023 EG with both Olympic disciplines
- ✓ First time Paracanoe and Jun&U23 combined in 2023
- ✓ Debut of Stand-Up-Paddling on European level in 2024
- ✓ Multi-discipline European Championships within 5-day program equally represented in live broadcasted sessions
- ✓ Intellectual impairment races inclusion in 2024
- ✓ Paracanoe joining Marathon Championships
- ✓ Canoe Slalom rules first introduced at ECA recognised and introduced to 2025 ICF rules
- ✓ Increasing participating numbers in Ocean Racing
- ✓ ECA Cup series introduced in WWC as part of the development of discipline

FULL DISCIPLINE REPORTS

2023-2024

SPRINT

SLALOM

PARACANOE

MARATHON

**WILDWATER
CANOEING**

CANOE POLO

**OCEAN
RACING**

FREESTYLE

DRAGON BOAT

**STAND UP
PADDLING**

Full reports can be found by clicking the tab above or at ECA website on [Congress page](#) or under each discipline documents page: <https://www.canoe-europe.org/documents>

DEVELOPMENT CAMPS

2023 – 2024

CANOE SLALOM

2023

2024

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CAMP - Skopje, MKD

Aim: Support development of the countries within The Balkan region

Participants: 2 coaches, 12 athletes from 6 different countries (BIH, ROM, GRE, TUR, SRB, MKD)

Competition results: <https://www.canoe.mk/результати-икас-2024/>

Full report is available here: <https://www.canoe-europe.org/preview-file/csl-report-tip-camp-skopje-2024-7071.pdf>



WILDWATER CANOEING

2024

WWC DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CAMP - Dallenwil, SUI

Aim: Support development of the new countries for Wildwater canoeing

Participants: 2 coaches, 15 athletes from 4 different countries (LTU, UKR, KOS, ROU)

Competition results: <https://dallenwil2024.ch/resultate>

Full report is available here: https://www.canoe-europe.org/preview-file/report_eca_dallenwil_development-7072.pdf



MEDICAL & ANTI DOPING REPORT

2023-2024

ACTIVITIES 2023-2024

'Re-badge' the medical section of the website to 'Health and Wellbeing' to make it easier for people to find information.

The main activity in 2023-2024 was producing recommendations for running events in hot weather. With the increase in extreme weather events, particularly heatwaves, occurring in Europe, it was felt to be appropriate to produce guidelines for organisers and some advice for athletes.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

✓ Production of the Extreme Heat Policy and accompanying tools for organisers, athletes and all participants.

<https://www.canoe-europe.org/preview-file/eca-extreme-heat-policy-2024-6523.pdf>

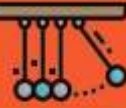
Full report can be found here:

<https://www.canoe-europe.org/preview-file/eca-discipline-report-2023-2024-medical-7070.pdf>



STAY COOL, RACE SMART

With summers getting hotter, start thinking now about how you can stay cool and perform at your best



HOW TO STAY COOL

- Stay out of the sun and look for shady places at the venue or air-conditioned rooms
- Wear lightweight, light-coloured, loose-fitting clothing
- Use a cold, wet cloth or spray water on your skin to cool down. Ice packs on the skin can also help.
- Drink ice-cold drinks
- Train at cool times of the day
- Do not hang about the race venue when you don't need to be there

ACCLIMATISE

A minimum of 10 days is required to acclimatise. You can do this before you leave home by gradually increasing the amount of training in temperatures >25c, up to 100 minutes. Try wearing clothes to make you hot when training. Keep doing this every 4 days to stay acclimatised. If possible, consult your team or doctor about how to acclimatise.

STAY HYDRATED

- Drink water or fruit juice and water before, during and after training. Drink before racing
- Avoid sports drinks high in sugar or caffeine. Too much sugar can make you more tired and too much caffeine can make you nervous, lack concentration and have difficulty sleeping
- Keep your urine very pale yellow in colour at all times
- More info: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6422510/pdf/ktmp-06-01-1516537.pdf>

IMPORTANT FACTS

TEMPERATURES >25C CAN REDUCE SPORTING PERFORMANCE, ESPECIALLY IF AIR HUMIDITY IS HIGH. AS AIR HUMIDITY GOES UP, THE TEMPERATURE AT WHICH YOU CAN SAFELY RACE OR TRAIN GOES DOWN.

YOU SWEAT TO COOL THE BODY BUT SWEAT CANNOT EVAPORATE IF THE AIR HUMIDITY IS HIGH, SO YOUR BODY TEMPERATURE WILL INCREASE, EVEN THOUGH IT MAY NOT FEEL THAT HOT OUTSIDE.

YOU DRINK WATER TO REPLACE THE FLUID YOU LOSE BY SWEATING AND BREATHING HARD. EVEN A SLIGHT AMOUNT OF DEHYDRATION REDUCES YOUR PERFORMANCE

ONCE THE AIR TEMPERATURE IS GREATER THAN SKIN TEMPERATURE OR SWEAT NO LONGER EVAPORATES BECAUSE IT IS TOO HUMID. YOUR CORE TEMPERATURE WILL RISE AND YOU CAN FEEL ILL.

FEELING TIRED, LIGHT-HEADED, HAVING DIFFICULTY CONCENTRATING OR HAVING A HEADACHE ARE SIGNS TO GET COOL AND DRINK MORE

IF YOU FEEL CONTINUE TO FEEL UNWELL, GO TO THE MEDICAL STATION IMMEDIATELY



VIDEO PRESENTATION 2023-2024

THE Coffee
BREAK TIME
for you





ECA SPORT PROGRAMME

TIMELINE



ECA COMMITTEES



SPRINT

Jovana
STANOJEVIC



PARACANOE

Robert
WEISZ



SLALOM

Colin
WOODGATE



MARATHON

Ruud
HEIJSELAAR



WILDWATER

Manuela
GAWHEN



FREESTYLE

Terry
BEST



DRAGON BOAT

Ulrike
SCKRECK



STAND UP PADDLE

Noemi
HORVATH



OCEAN RACING

Roberto
LIBERATO



CANOE POLO

Alberto
BARONI



TOURISM

Gabriele
KOCH





MEDICAL

Jane
GIBSON

SPORT PROGRAMME - GENERAL GUIDELINES

- 
- Consolidate our presence at the Olympic, Paralympic and European Games and other multi sport competitions.
 - Strengthen our international leadership.
 - Develop all our paddle sports
 - Aim for excellence in the organization and media coverage of our events.
 - Develop the number of nations and athletes in our competitions.
 - Train and promote the actors of our ecosystem - athletes, judges, officials, organizers...-
 - Strengthen cooperation between nations for performance.
 - Protect our athletes from sport deviances - doping..-
 - Reinforce the accessibility of our competitions for disabled people and develop Paracanoe.
 - Participate in the development of E-Sport.
 - Define a clear and transparent event allocation process that better associates the technical delegates.

- 
- Develop events and activities that generate partnerships, sponsors and revenues.
 - Innovate and build the paddle sport of tomorrow

- 
- Gradually introduce sustainable development criteria into the awarding of our events.
 - Athletes' ambassadors of the environment cause in Europe for our paddle sports.

THE DIAGNOSTIC OF THE DISCIPLINE

SWOT analysis

THE DEVELOPMENT OF
THE DISCIPLINE

HOW DEVELOP
GLOBALLY THE
DISCIPLINE ?

EVENTS AND
CALENDAR

HOW IMPROVE
THE QUALITY OF
OUR EVENTS AND
CALENDARS ?

RULES &
REGULATIONS

WHAT DO WE
NEED TO KEEP,
CHANGE, ADAPT
IN A SHORT,
MEDIUM, LONG
TERM, WHY AND
HOW?

VENUES &
EQUIPMENTS

HOW IMPROVE
THE QUALITY,
DIVERSITY, OF
OUR VENUES?

ATHLETES-JUDGES-
REFEREES OFFICIALS
COACHES-
VOLUNTERS-
ORGANIZERS

HOW IMPROVE
THEIR NUMBER,
THEIR SKILLS
HOW VALORIZE
THEM

SPORT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Enhance participation at European Championships in all classes and age groups
- Conduct development camps and TIP program in each discipline
- Develop new competition formats (e.g. ECA Cups regional series, multi discipline competitions, short exiting formats to showcase the sport and our stars...) with European Ranking and prize money for series winners
- Open seminars and conferences - in person and online for NFs, athletes, coaches, ITOs, organisers
- Develop brochures, technical and video material for each discipline
- Enhance sport presentation
- Enhance spectators' engagement via races
- Enhance media promotion equally representing each discipline
- Attract long term sponsor
- Be more inclusive and connect to recreational activities

DEVELOPMENT

SPORT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- More synchronised calendar and program with ICF dates and events in mind
- New formats and combined inclusive competitions
- Support masters and integrate them accordingly
- More side events for spectators engagement
- Introduce Hosting fee but give something back
- Forum for future organisers and observer program
- Define accreditation fee depending on the discipline (Olympic vs Non-Olympic)
- Race management, Timing&Scoring, GPS and other technologies for events delivery improvement
- Create ECA Results database
- Maintain and standardise high quality TV Broadcast and/or live streaming with good quality
- Update and standardise ECA TV graphics and develop better sport presentation
- Better promotion in media and story-telling during our events and beyond

EVENTS
&
CALENDAR

SPORT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Simplify and communicate our rules more efficiently
- Comply to ICF Rules as close as possible but also have ECA ones reflecting the changes we would like to introduce
- Work with ICF more on evaluation of the rules and regulations
- Adapt rules to smaller competitions/lower-level competitions
- Review rules to address environmental challenges
- Differentiate between rule and requirement
- Differentiate requirements according to the level of competition
- Create a rule to empathize a schedule of ECA competitions in the competition calendar and communicate with ICF to better set the dates of ECA competitions
- Define technical deliverables and Sport presentation plan adapted to each discipline

**RULES
&
REGULATIONS**

SPORT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Create map of all venues across Europe with status and level
- Active new venues and reactivate old ones, spread across Europe more
- Communicate with NFs to inquire what is main challenge with venues in their respective countries
- Explore more city centered venues, start and/or finish as close to the spectators/grandstands to bring sport to people
- More professional prize giving ceremonies close to city centers and people
- Achieve sustainability, accessibility and inclusiveness throughout all venues
- Equipment rental at more affordable prices through potential partnerships with equipment manufacturers tailored to each discipline.

**VENUES
&
EQUIPMENT**

SPORT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Increase number of organisers - educate new and support existing ones
- Increase number of ITOs and create educational pathway
- Increase number of coaches and create educational pathway
- Improve communication from ECA to all groups of people involved in the sport of Canoeing
- Ask feedback from all groups of people for further improvement of our work
- Create a community on social channels for better communication and promotion
- Story-telling – showcase our stars
- Recognition of people through special awards
- Finalize all ECA Technical committees, set clear duties and responsibilities for Technical Chair and committee members
- Strengthen cooperation between Technical Chairs through Sport committee

ATHLETES

JUDGES

REFEREES

OFFICIALS

COACHES

VOLUNTERS

ORGANIZERS

SPORT PROGRAMME by discipline

[SPRINT](#)

[SLALOM](#)

[PARACANOE](#)

[MARATHON](#)

[WILDWATER
CANOEING](#)

[OCEAN
RACING](#)

[CANOE
POLO](#)

[FREESTYLE](#)

[DRAGON
BOAT](#)

[STAND UP
PADDLING](#)

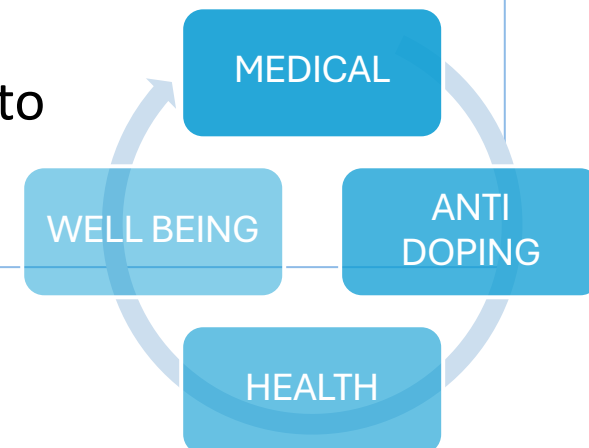
- ECA Sport program for each discipline can be accessed by clicking the name of the discipline above or on ECA website under documents for each discipline (<https://www.canoe-europe.org/documents>)

MEDICAL, ANTI-DOPING HEALTH and WELL BEING



OUR VISION

- Develop policies and guidance that promote the physical and mental wellbeing in all of our paddling community
- Audit if policies and guidance that we produce on behalf of ECA are actually followed by Host Organisers and whether athletes and others find our information useful.
- Best way to disseminate information to paddlers, coaches and organisers
- Involve the athletes in these discussions
- Commitment to having health and safety information as part of the competition bidding process
- Medical Congress every 4 years at a major European Championships to advance the role of health and wellbeing as central part of the sport.



ECA program for Medical, Anti-doping, Health and well-being can be found on ECA website in Documents or at <https://www.canoe-europe.org/Health-and-well-being>

MEDICAL, ANTIDOPING, HEALTH AND WELL BEING PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Gain information on the prevalence and incidence of injuries in athletes
- Review existing and create new policies - head injury, shoulder and back injury, etc.
- Athlete recovery and prevention of overtraining
- Create water Quality guidance for paddle sports in Europe and adapt where necessary according to EU regulations on water quality for sporting events



MEDICAL

MEDICAL, ANTIDOPING, HEALTH AND WELL BEING PROGRAM OVERVIEW

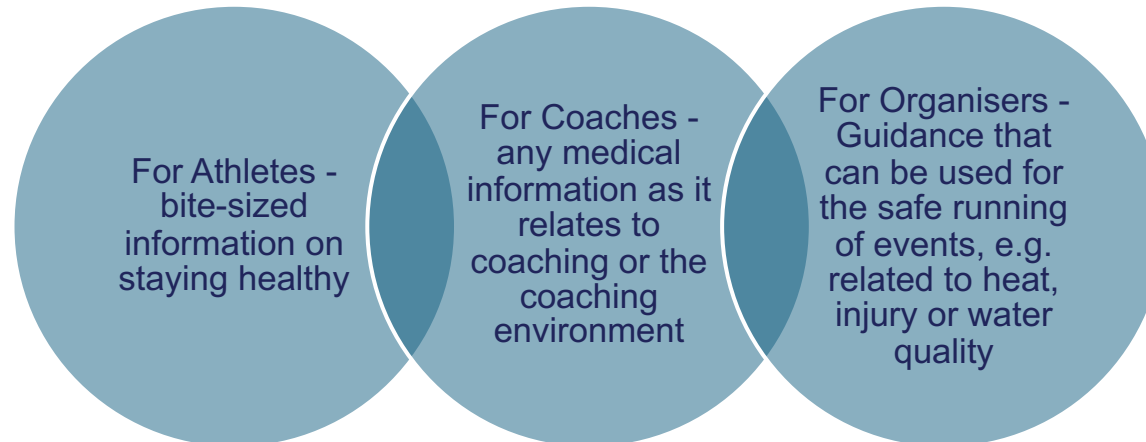
- Consolidate our anti-doping policies and information to reflect those of WADA and the ITA
- Clarification of the role of the ITA
- Clarification of the ICF in ECA's anti-doping processes
- Promote anti-doping education for athletes, coaches and all team staff
- Promote clean sport



ANTI
DOPING

MEDICAL, ANTIDOPING, HEALTH AND WELL BEING PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Review the IOC recommendations for assessing mental health and wellbeing in athletes and consider actions required by ECA.
- Signpost athletes and coaches to appropriate resources
- Educate all those involved in paddle sports about how to keep themselves safe and healthy (e.g. Heat Policy...)
- Develop the 'Health and Wellbeing' section of the website so that we can have advice for athletes, coaches and host organising committees in easy-to-use formats.



HEALTH
AND
WELL-BEING



VOTE



ECA Congress approve the Sport programme.

1. IN FAVOUR
2. NOT IN FAVOUR
3. ABSTENTION



ECA FINANCE REPORT & AUDITOR REPORT

Budget 2023-2024 realisation

	INCOME	€	
		PLANNED	REALISED
1	SPONSORSHIPS	10.000,00 €	15.000,00 €
2	MEMBERSHIP FEE	22.000,00 €	20.000,00 €
3	ICF SUPPORT	30.000,00 €	15.000,00 €
4	ICF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	14.000,00 €	0,00 €
5	INCOME FOR TV RIGHTS	15.000,00 €	31.500,00 €
6	INCOME PAYMENT FOR MEDALS	10.000,00 €	17.218,52 €
7	INCOME FOR TRAVEL COSTS OF THE OFFICIALS AT ECH	30.000,00 €	63.584,36 €
8	INCOME FOR JURY TRAVEL COSTS	6.000,00 €	467,22 €
9	BANK INTEREST	1.000,00 €	321,66 €
10	FROM THE ECH MUNICH 2022 AND EG KRAKOW 2023	220.000,00 €	192.878,75 €
11	OTHER INCOMES-REFUND FROM FFCK	2.000,00 €	5.361,08 €
12	ETURN OF DEPOSIT FROM RESERVATION BM PARIS	0,00 €	685,00 €
13	INCOME FROM CASH ACCOUNT	0,00 €	2.197,60 €
	TOTAL:	360.000,00 €	364.214,19 €

	EXPENSES:	PLANNED	REALISED
14	ECA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	130.000,00 €	36.296,78 €
15	ECA FLAGS	1.500,00 €	0,00 €
16	PINS AND PROMOTIONAL	2.000,00 €	0,00 €
17	MEDALS	20.000,00 €	0,00 €
18	RIBBONS FOR MEDALS	4.000,00 €	0,00 €
19	PRESIDENT TRAVEL EXPENSES (A:W)	5.000,00 €	3.270,88 €
20	PRESIDENT TRAVEL EXPENSES (J.Z.)	15.000,00 €	0,00 €
21	SECRETARY GENERAL TRAVEL	4.000,00 €	0,00 €
22	PRESIDENT OFFICE EXPENSES (A.W)	6.000,00 €	2.543,72 €
23	TECHNICAL INSPECTION COSTS	2.000,00 €	2.257,87 €
24	ECA WEB PAGE COSTS	4.000,00 €	2.310,30 €
25	PRESENTATION PLAQUE AND AWARDS	2.500,00 €	2.401,43 €
26	UNIFORMS / SHIRTS / T SHIRTS	7.000,00 €	0,00 €
27	ECA BOARD MEETING COSTS	11.000,00 €	9.842,18 €
28	CONGRESS EXPENSES	7.000,00 €	5.909,46 €
29	COST OF IT EQUIPMENT/TV COV.	2.000,00 €	1.629,63 €
30	TV PRODUCTION	6.000,00 €	11.403,19 €
31	TRAVEL EXP. OF THE OFFICIALS AT ECH	30.000,00 €	68.676,80 €
32	DEVELOP. MARKETING AND EXPERT SERV.	30.000,00 €	33.190,00 €
33	BANK AND TRANSFER TAXES	3.500,00 €	1.233,42 €
34	ECA ANNUAL MEETING WITH NF	4.000,00 €	0,00 €
35	EOC AND EUROPEAN GAMES COSTS	20.000,00 €	1.504,33 €
36	EMC MUNICH 2022	0,00 €	2.300,00 €
37	ESTATE VAT	10.000,00 €	16.226,64 €
38	ECA JURY COSTS	7.000,00 €	467,22 €
39	DEPOSIT RTESERVATION BM PARIS	0,00 €	685,00 €
40	MS TEAMS	0,00 €	3.740,37 €
41	CONTIGENCY FUND	10.000,00 €	0,00 €
	TOTAL	343.500,00 €	205.889,22 €

ECA HEADQUARTERS COSTS			
EXPENSES:		PLANNED	REALISED
42	TELEPHONE COSTS	1.000,00 €	975,45 €
43	STATIONERY COSTS	2.000,00 €	1.956,22 €
44	POSTAGE COSTS	1.000,00 €	687,20 €
45	COPY COSTS	1.000,00 €	657,65 €
46	OVERHEADS	2.000,00 €	1.441,94 €
47	ECA ACCOUNT MANAGING COSTS	3.600,00 €	6.619,24 €
48	ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	5.000,00 €	4.800,58 €
49	OFFICE STAFF EXPENSES	20.000,00 €	17.496,00 €
	TOTAL	35.600,00 €	34.634,28 €
	TOTAL EXPENSES+OFFICE EXPENSES	379.100,00 €	240.523,50 €

To
European Canoe Association
Kneza Mislava, 11
HR-1000 ZAGREB

Sofia, March 07th 2025



AUDITOR REPORT

During the ECA Congress in Crete on 2023, I was nominated to check the accounts of the European Canoe Association.

The examination of this accounts was done in my office in Sofia, during the beginning of March 2025.

The audit of the accounts was done with generally accepted auditing standards, which included some tests of the accounting records.

The enclosed statements of the bank state the assets, and the summary of the receipts and expenses, shown subdivided and transparent.

A control was done at random in all money traffic an all accounts, with budget realization and balance sheet.

No payments are recorded without a voucher or an invoice.

All asked informations was given correctly and completely.

Herewith I declare after executed commission, that the financial statements present fairly the assets and fund balance of the European Canoe Association at December 31 2024.

I would like to ask to the Federations presents to the Congress, to give discharge to the treasurer and to the ECA Board members.

Also my congratulations to the treasurer, for the accomplished work.

Evelina PETROVA

Auditor:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Evelina Petrova', written over a light blue diagonal line.

blvd. Vassil Levski 75

Sofia, BULGARIA

Auditor's report



VOTE



ECA Congress approve the account, the finance and Auditor's reports.

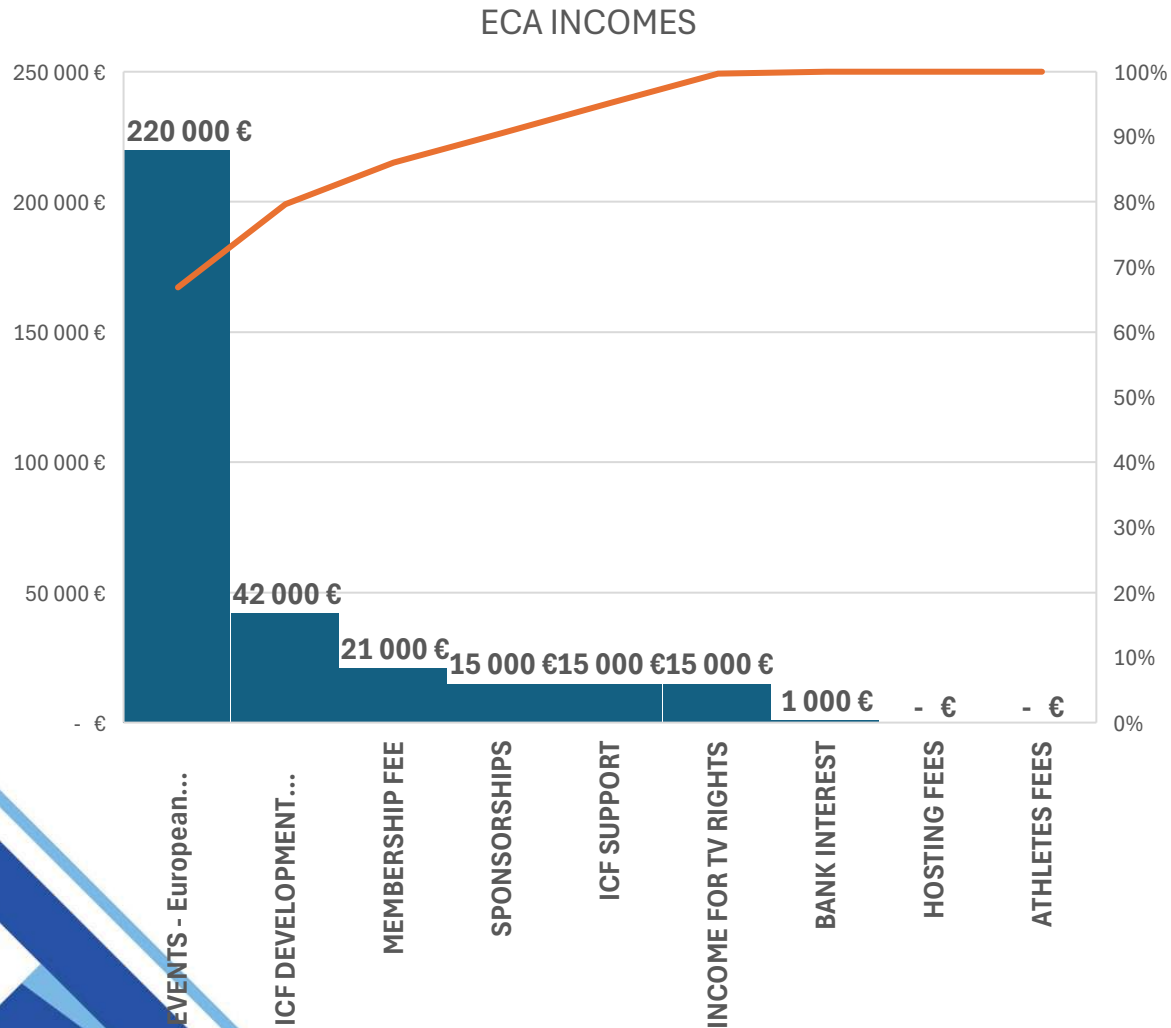
1. IN FAVOUR
2. NOT IN FAVOUR
3. ABSTENTION



ECA ECONOMIC MODEL



ECA INCOMES SITUATION



COMMENTS

- **Highest incomes:**
 - Events (EMC and EG)
- **Low incomes**
 - TV Rights – low incomes
 - ICF support & development programme
 - Bank interest
 - Weakness of sponsoring revenues
 - Membership fees
- **No incomes**
 - No hosting fees
 - No athletes fees on ECA Events

THE LEVERS



EVENTS

- Secure
- Olympic qualification during EG 2027 Istanbul
- EMC 2026 / 2030



TV RIGHTS

- D GOLDSTROM – 2025 -
- ECA strategy 2026? ICF ?



ICF SUPPORT

- ICF development fundings (42K€)
- Administrative support (15K€ currently 0,1% of ICF budget)



SPONSORING

- Increase our partnership – Eg Peisheng -
- Review contracts for 2025-2026
- Naming fees Extension of NF to ECA sponsors



BANK INTEREST

- Set up a finance committee



HOSTING FEES

- No hosting fees
- Events allocated until 2027
- Define our strategy for 2028



ATHLETES FEES

- 1€... 5€ on athletes registration fees for ECA ?



MEMBERSHIP FEES

- New membership fees for 2025-2026 according to ECA two year budget

OTHER INCOMES

- European fundings
- ...

ECA SURVEY – DEVELOPEMENT PROGRAMME

NFs participation: 47 responses from 36 federations, i.e. a response rate of 76.5%.



ECA ECONOMIC MODEL

Most of the federations are in favour of increasing the membership fees (58,8%) according to the size of the federation (74,3%)

The federations are partially in favour of The implementation of hosting fees on 2028 (43%)

The accreditation fees for the athletes (40%)

The extension of their sponsoring to the ECA (46%)

The NF's are in favour of using a naming strategy for our events (88%)

RESULTS

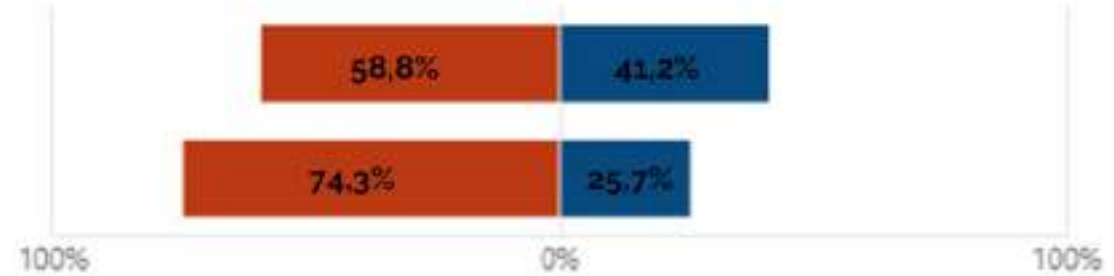
39. The economic model of the ECA rely on membership fees (€500 for 2 years). Do you think that (0 point)

[Plus de détails](#)

■ I pretty much agree ■ I don't agree

It's important to increase the membership fees to confort the ECA economic model

It's necessary to adapt the membership fees to the size of the National Federations



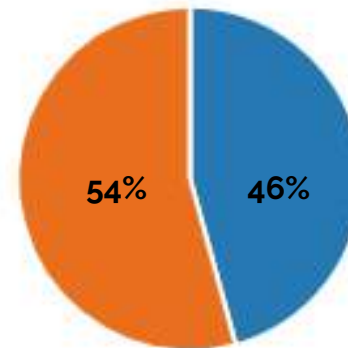
40. Do you think it would be interesting to propose to your National Federation sponsors to extend their sponsorship to the European level with the ECA in return for a financial participation which could be shared between the federation and the ECA? (0 point)

[Plus de détails](#)

Aperçus

● I pretty much agree 16

● I don't agree 19



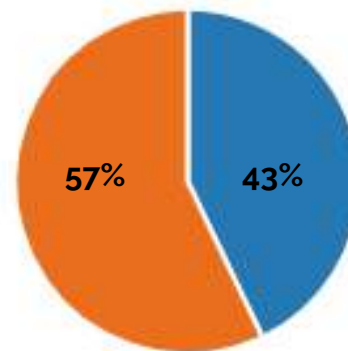
RESULTS

41. There's no hosting fees for ECA championships. To strengthen the ECA's economic model, do you think it would be desirable to implement hosting fees from 2028? (0 point)

[Plus de détails](#)

[Aperçus](#)

- I pretty much agree 15
- I don't agree 20

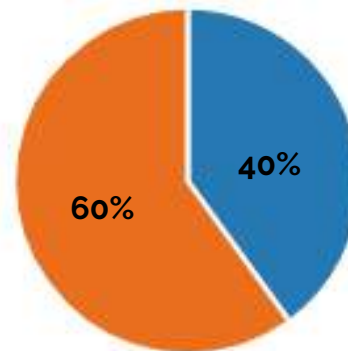


42. Do you think it is possible to request registration fees (eg: 5 euros per competition and per athlete depending on the Olympic or non-Olympic disciplines) to strengthen the ECA economic model? (0 point)

[Plus de détails](#)

[Aperçus](#)

- I pretty much agree 14
- I don't agree 21

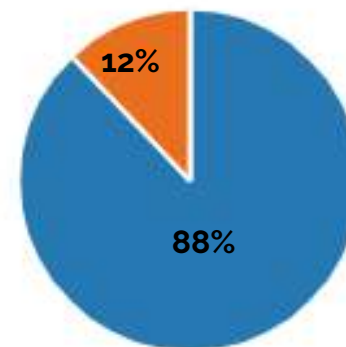


RESULTS

43. To increase revenues linked to sponsorship, what do you think about proposing to sponsors to use their brand for the name of the European championships (e.g. "Brand name" European championship) and to share the revenues generated with the organizing committees? (0 point)

[Plus de détails](#)

● I pretty much agree	29
● I don't agree	4





ECA MEMBERSHIP FEES

3 Categories

- Category 1: low membership fee
- Category 2: Medium membership fee
- Category 3; Full membership fee

Classification

Define by the board – relying on ICF classification

CLASSIFICATION	ICF FEES	ECA CURRENT FEES	PROPOSAL for 2025 – 2026 FEES
FULL	1 800 €	250 €	1 000 €
MEDIUM	300 €	250 €	250 €
LOW	120 €	250 €	100 €



VOTE



The Congress approve the membership fees 2025-2026.

1. IN FAVOUR
2. NOT IN FAVOUR
3. ABSTENTION



*Lunch
time*



ECA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

PADDLE EUROPE MAIN PROJECTS – 25/26



- Governance
 - Structure the organisation of the Board – letter of missions –
 - Appoint a CEO
 - Implementation of the new statutes (rules and regulation)
 - Participate to the ICF organisational review
 - The link with continental federations (eg: development / events)
- Finance
 - Finance committee – rôle & duties - composition
 - Paddle Europe economic model – eg: sponsoring, naming fees - hosting fees /
- Headquarters and satellite offices
- Improve our efficiency
 - IT Tools: Organize training courses on the use of Microsoft Teams for our members to improve our efficiency / AI

PADDLE EUROPE MAIN PROJECTS – 25/26



- Communication
 - Communication strategy
 - TV rights and streaming strategy / ICF Partnership
 - Paddle Europe:
 - Paddle Europe new Website
 - Continue to promote our events and NFs activities
- Partnership
 - Strategy
 - Contracts

PADDLE EUROPE MAIN PROJECTS – 25/26



- Review our bidding process
- ECA European championship 2028 calendar
- Review the contracts with the OC
- Encourage the ECA committees and OC to innovate
- Continue to set up online tools for organizers and highlight and share best practices
- Cooperation between our NFs – training camps – athletes & Coach exchanges
- Set up European training centers for high performance
- Partnership with: WRF – world rafting federation / SOEE -Special Olympics Europe.

PADDLE EUROPE MAIN PROJECTS – 25/26



- The recruitment of an employee for ICF Hungary office as proposed by ICF
- The development of joint projects: Erasmus + / Olympic Solidarity projects / Europaddle pass.
- Set up European training centers for development
- Implement European training camps / judges- referees & coach training courses /
- Set up a recreational committee and implement it's action plan:
 - Create a European calendar for recreational activities and promote it on our website
 - European label for major leisure events in Europe
 - Access to places to paddle – european water trails
 - Communication strategy to promote recreational activities on our website and share information and best practices



VOTE



The Congress approve the development programme 2025-2026.

1. IN FAVOUR
2. NOT IN FAVOUR
3. ABSTENTION



BUDGET 2025-2026

Budget 2025-2026 proposal

	INCOME	€
		PLANNED
1	SPONSORSHIPS	20.000,00 €
2	MEMBERSHIP FEE	76.800,00 €
3	ICF SUPPORT	30.000,00 €
4	ICF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	42.000,00 €
5	INCOME FOR TV RIGHTS	60.000,00 €
6	INCOME PAYMENT FOR MEDALS	20.000,00 €
7	INCOME FOR TRAVEL COSTS OF THE OFFICIALS AT ECH	60.000,00 €
8	INCOME FOR JURY TRAVEL COSTS	3.000,00 €
9	BANK INTEREST	4.000,00 €
10	OTHER INCOMES	5.000,00 €
	TOTAL:	320.800,00 €

	EXPENSES:	PLANNED
11	ECA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	60.000,00 €
12	ECA FLAGS	3.000,00 €
13	PINS AND PROMOTIONAL	2.000,00 €
14	MEDALS	25.000,00 €
15	RIBBONS FOR MEDALS	4.000,00 €
16	PRESIDENT TRAVEL EXPENSES	20.000,00 €
17	C.O. TRAVEL EXPENSES	4.000,00 €
18	TECHNICAL INSPECTION COSTS	2.000,00 €
19	ECA WEB PAGE COSTS	20.000,00 €
20	PRESENTATION PLAQUE AND AWARDS	2.500,00 €
21	UNIFORMS / SHIRTS / T SHIRTS	7.000,00 €
22	ECA BOARD MEETING COSTS	11.000,00 €
23	CONGRESS EXPENSES	7.000,00 €
24	COST OF IT EQUIPMENT	2.000,00 €
25	TV PRODUCTION	25.000,00 €
26	ITO TRAVEL EXPENSES AT ECH	60.000,00 €
27	DEVELOP. MARKETING AND EXPERT SERV.	76.000,00 €
28	BANK AND TRANSFER TAXES	6.000,00 €
29	ECA ANNUAL MEETING WITH NF	4.000,00 €
30	ESTATE VAT	5.000,00 €
31	ECA JURY COSTS	3.000,00 €
32	MS TEAMS	5.000,00 €
33	CONTIGENCY FUND	10.000,00 €
	TOTAL	363.500,00 €

ECA HEADQUARTERS COSTS		
EXPENSES:		PLANNED
34	ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	7.000,00 €
35	ECA ACCOUNT MANAGING COSTS	6.000,00 €
36	C.E.O.- PART TIME EMPLOYED	21.000,00 €
37	OFFICE STAFF EXPENSES	38.000,00 €
	TOTAL	72.000,00 €
	TOTAL EXPENSES+OFFICE EXPENSES	435.500,00 €

VOTE



The Congress approve the budget 2025-2026.

1. IN FAVOUR
2. NOT IN FAVOUR
3. ABSTENTION



ECA NAME CHANGE PADDLE EUROPE



ECA NAME CHANGE

CONTEXT

Implementation

- Administration: 2025
- Events - 2026

The ICF Congress validated the rebranding and repositioning of the ICF to Paddle Worldwide.

ECA Name

In order to move in the same direction as the ICF and have similar names, the ECA Board proposes to change the name of the ECA to “PADDLE EUROPE”.

Changing the name of ECA to “PADDLE EUROPE” requires a modification of the statutes.

ECA Statutes

The Ordinary and Special Business at the Congress:

10.10. All business transacted at a Congress shall be Ordinary Business, with the exception of the following which shall be transacted as Special Business;

10.10.2. any proposals originating from the Board or the Members to amend the Statutes

10.11. Ordinary Business shall require a Simple Majority of votes cast in order to be passed. Special Business shall require a Two Thirds Majority of votes to be passed.

THE CONTEXT

/

THE DECISIONS

- ECA Created in 1993 in Italy
- No evidence of it's registration in Italy
- Headquarters
 - in Croatia – The country of the SG in the previous statutes –
 - Decision of the Board in the new statutes
- ECA is registered as a foreign association in Croatia
- ICF name change to « World Paddling »
- Board decision to move the headquarters from Croatia to France

1

NAME CHANGE FROM ECA TO PADDLE EUROPE

2

ADOPT THE NEW STATUTES

3

REMOVE THE REGISTRATION OF ECA IN CROATIA

VOTE



MOTION1

ECA NAME CHANGE

The congress approves the name change from the "European Canoe Association (ECA)" to "Paddle Europe", recognize Paddle Europe as the legal successor of the ECA, and mandates the Board to undertake all legal and administrative steps necessary to implement this change during 2025;

1. IN FAVOUR
2. NOT IN FAVOUR
3. ABSTENTION



2/3 Majority

PADDLE EUROPE STATUTES

MINOR CHANGES

- ECA to Paddle Europe
- Name

1. NAME AND RECOGNITION

- 1.1. The name of the organisation shall be ~~the European Canoe Association~~ Paddle Europe (ECA).
- 1.2. ~~The ECAPaddle Europe~~ was established at the first ~~ECAPaddle Europe~~ Congress in Rome on 11 December 1993 under the name of European Canoe Association – ECA and was formally recognised by the International Canoe Federation (ICF) in accordance with the Resolution C.19.94, taken at the ICF Congress in Acapulco in 1994. At the congress in Budapest, Hungary on March 29, 2025, the decision was made by the congress to change the name of the ECA to Paddle Europe.
- 1.3.1.2. ~~The ECA~~ Paddle Europe was established to promote and develop canoeing and paddle sport activities throughout Europe, in line with the ideals and plans of the ICF.
- 1.3. ~~Paddle Europe~~ The ECA has the powers to operate as a Continental Federation of the ICF according to the ICF Statutes.

OTHER CHANGES

- Dissolution:
 - a non-profit organization cannot distribute revenues to its members
 - The transfer of assets to ICF

- 17.3. ~~If upon the winding up or dissolution of the ECAPaddle Europe there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property of the ECAPaddle Europe, this shall be transferred to the International Canoe Federation, distributed among the Members of the ECA in proportion to the fees paid by each of the members in the year preceding the wind up of the company.~~

VOTE



MOTION2

PADDLE EUROPE STATUTES

The congress approves the statutes of Paddle Europe.

1. IN FAVOUR
2. NOT IN FAVOUR
3. ABSTENTION



2/3 Majority

REMOVING THE ECA FROM REGISTERED ASSOCIATION IN CROATIA

- Croatian law

*“The only thing possible under the Associations Act is for a foreign association to **make a decision at a session of the highest body of the Association to delete the Association from the Register of Foreign Associations in the Republic of Croatia** and for you, as the person authorized to represent the foreign association in the Republic of Croatia, to **submit to this City Office, within 60 days from the date of making that decision, a request for entry of changes in the Register of Foreign Associations in the Republic of Croatia, consisting of two forms number 5 - request for entry of changes in the Register of Foreign Associations in the Republic of Croatia and minutes from the session of the body of the foreign association on deletion of the association from the said register.**”*

VOTE



MOTION3

PADDLE EUROPE HEADQUARTERS

Following the Board's decision to move the ECA's headquarters in accordance with Article 3.1 of the statutes, the Congress approves the removal of the ECA from the register of foreign associations in the Republic of Croatia. It mandates the Board to implement this decision during 2025.

1. IN FAVOUR
2. NOT IN FAVOUR
3. ABSTENTION



Simple Majority



STATUTES CHANGE PROPOSAL

STATUTES CHANGES

ECA CURRENT STATUTES

- 15.3 - The Chair of each Technical Committee must be nominated by their Member NF and shall be appointed by the Board.

CHANGE PROPOSAL

The Chair of each Technical Committee must be nominated by their Member NF and shall be chosen by the member federations during the congress and confirmed by the newly elected Board.

BOARD INSTRUCTION FOR CONGRESS

- The appointing of the chair has been made by secret ballot to ensure the fair conditions of the appointment.
- The differences between ICF and ECA statutes
 - **ICF**: Within the ICF the chair of the committee have a political role: The chair of the Olympic and Paralympic disciplines are member of the executive committee and the Board of Directors and have the right to vote. The chair of the committee the non-olympic disciplines are members of the ICF Board and have the right to vote.
 - **ECA**: Within the ECA the chairs of the committees have a technical role, they are not member of the Board.

BOARD INSTRUCTION FOR CONGRESS

Proposal from Belgium

- **The Chair of each Technical Committee must be nominated by their Member NF and shall be chosen by the member federations during the congress and confirmed by the newly elected Board.**

Questions and consequences to consider

- Based on the proposal a committee chair can be appointed/elected only every two years. In the event of resignation or creation of a new committee, the ECA Board would have to wait for the following congress to appoint the chairman of the committee
- The appointments/elections would be made at the March congress for a sports season that begins in January and would not facilitate the preparation of competitions with committees that change during the season.
- The Board notes a legal uncertainty in the event of non-confirmation of the appointment by the new Board.

Board Decision February 01 2025

The Board is not in favour of the statute change.



VOTE



Decision of the congress concerning the proposal for a change of statutes.

1. IN FAVOUR
2. NOT IN FAVOUR
3. ABSTENTION



ATHLETES COMMITTEE

ATHLETES COMMITTEE – IOC GUIDE



Athletes' Commission: Structure for success

In order to be successful, an Athletes' Commission needs to be seen as a credible part of the decision-making process. It must be fully supported by the top leadership of your organisation and supported by the administration.

To ensure a credible, balanced and effective Athletes' Commission, the IOC recommends the following structure:

Balanced composition

- Male and female athletes
- Sports and/or disciplines
- Regions or countries
- Active and recently retired athletes

Size

- Minimum of five members
- Majority of elected members

Term

- Minimum of four-year terms for members
- Staggered elections to ensure continuous transfer of knowledge between members

Vote

- The Athletes' Commission Chair has a vote within the organisation's highest decision-making body, such as the Executive Board or Council

ATHLETES COMMITTEE



ECA STATUTES

- 11.22. The Athlete Representative shall be approved by the Congress.
- 11.23. S/he will be nominated by the athletes, in processes which shall be determined and agreed by the Board.
- 11.24. The Athlete Representative shall serve for a maximum term of one four (4) year period.
- 11.25. The responsibilities of the Athlete Representative shall be detailed within a role description but shall include:
 - 11.25.1. to liaise with athletes involved in each discipline and share views within the ECA as required
 - 11.25.2. to serve as a member of the Board of Directors
 - 11.25.3. to assist the President and to represent the ECA at ECA events, championships and on other occasions as requested by the President.

BOARD DECISION

DEFINE

- The role of the athletes committee
- The role of the chair
- The composition:
 - 2 representatives (1 male + 1 female) for the Canoe Sprint, Canoe Slalom and Paralympic disciplines (altogether 6 members);
 - 2 representatives (1 male + 1 female) for the non-Olympic disciplines.

A national federation cannot have more than one member within the athletes committee but can propose one male and one female candidate for each position – slalom – Sprint – paracanoe – non-Olympic disciplines.

ATHLETES COMMITTEE ELECTIONS/APPOINTMENT



OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC DISCIPLINES

Elections by the athletes during the following competitions:

SLALOM: Vaires – FRA - May 14-18, 2025 – 2 representatives, one male one female

SPRINT: Racice – ROU - June 19-22, 2025 – 2 representatives, one male one female

PARACANOE: Racice – ROU - June 19-22, 2025 – 2 representatives, one male one female

NON OLYMPIC DISCIPLINES

The athletes are appointed by the athletes committee and approved by the Board. 2 representatives, one male one female from 2 different non-Olympic disciplines.

ATHLETES COMMITTEE CHAIR

The athletes committee chair is elected by the members of the athletes committee among its members.

In case of a tie:

For the election of the athlete's representatives, the Olympic, the World and the European titles won by the athletes will be taken into account.

For the election of the chair of the athletes committee, the process is repeated until majority achieved.

CALENDAR



ECA ordinary congress Presentati on	Call for applicati on for all disciplin es	SLALOM	SPRINT & PARACANO E	Athletes committ ee proposals for non- olympic disciplin es	Board approval non-olympic disciplines representati ves	Athletes Chair election by the athletes committ ee	Congress Approval
		Vaires	Racice				
		FRA	ROU				
29 mars 2025	April 2025	May 14-18	June 19-22	July	September	Septemb er	March/A pril 2027
		Elections Slalom representati ves	Elections Sprint and paracanoe representati ves				



RECREATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME

Recreational Sport as an indispensable part of European Paddle Sports

Introduction

- Paddle sports in Europe are diverse, ranging from high-performance sports to recreational activities.
- Recreational sport plays a crucial role in health, social cohesion, and sustainable tourism.



Recreational Sport as an indispensable part of European Paddle Sports

Broad Social Relevance

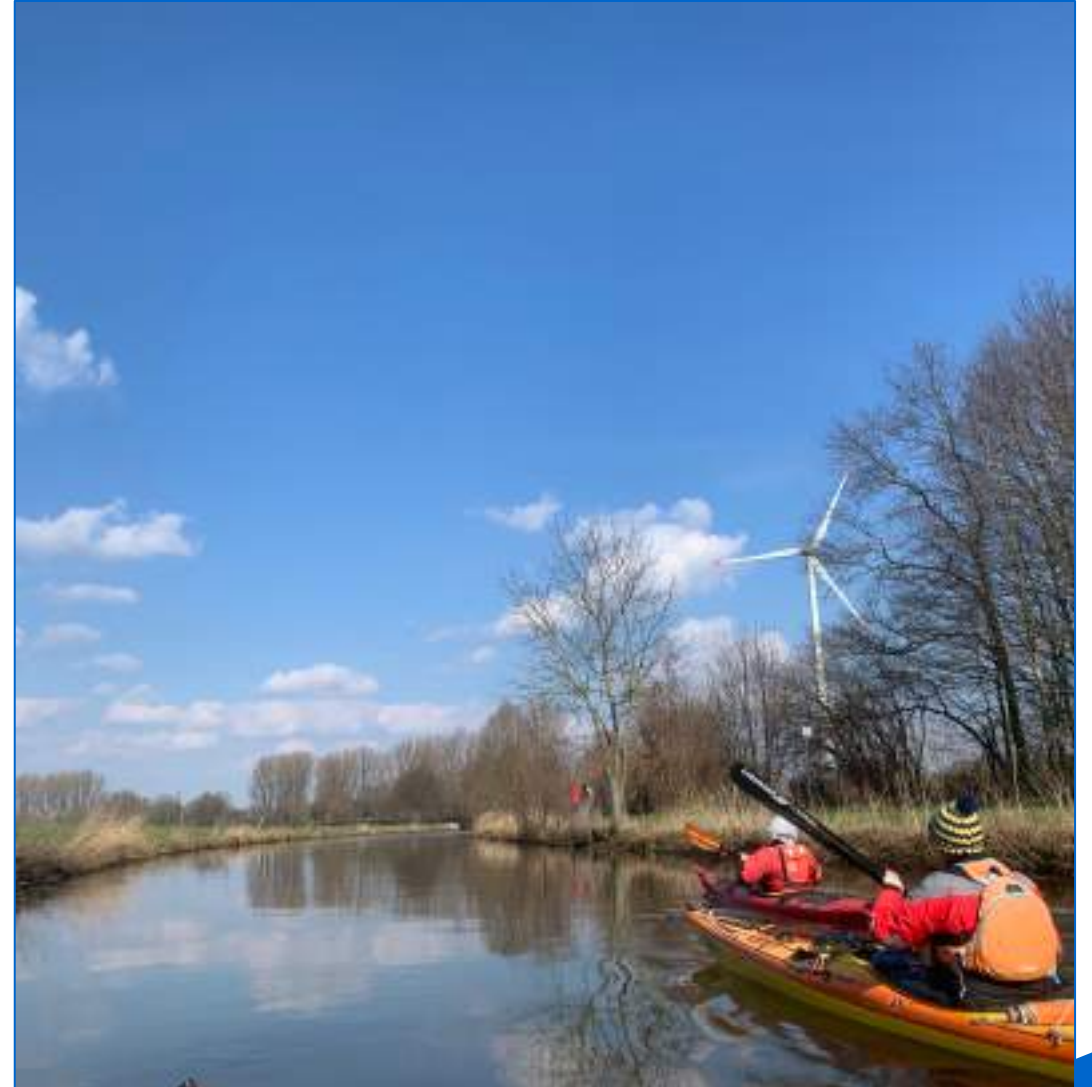
- Canoeing as a family activity and individual challenge.
- Millions engage in non-competitive paddling.
- The ECA should integrate recreational sports to promote standards.



Recreational Sport as an indispensable part of European Paddle Sports

Sustainability & Environmental Protection

- Canoeing is directly connected to nature.
- Paddlers are affected by water quality and conservation laws.
- ECA can help develop eco-friendly paddling guidelines.



Recreational Sport as an indispensable part of European Paddle Sports

European Networking & Tourism

- Recreational paddling is cross-border.
- -Waterway regulations vary across countries.
- -The ECA can support harmonized safety and infrastructure policies.



Recreational Sport as an indispensable part of European Paddle Sports

Synergy with Competitive Sport

- Competitive sport follows structured rules, while recreational sport is decentralized
- Better integration can develop safety and training standards
- Strengthening both recreational and competitive canoeing



Recreational Sport as an indispensable part of European Paddle Sports

Promoting Inclusion & Diversity

- Recreational sport is often the first step into paddling
- It benefits people with disabilities, older athletes, and disadvantaged groups
- ECA can create programs to promote accessibility



Recreational Sport as an indispensable part of European Paddle Sports

Conclusion: A Strong Voice for Recreational Sport

- Recreational sport must have official representation in the ECA
- Integrating it will help expand the ECA's reach and attract new audiences
- Recreational sport is at the heart of paddling for millions of people





ECA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FRAME





5 AREAS

1

THE ECA

Develop the ECA as a continental federation.

2

MEMBER FEDERATIONS

Develop globally and structure the paddle sports within our federations.

3

COMPETITIONS & EVENTS

Provide quality competitions and events and expand our audience.

4

HIGH PERFORMANCE

Supporting federations, athletes and coaches towards high performance.

5

PADDLE SPORTS FOR ALL

Develop paddle sports for all.

5- PADDLE SPORTS FOR ALL



OUR VISION

Paddle sports accessible to all in Europe through our national federations.

OUR PRIORITY

Develop paddle sports for all



WHY

- Big interest in paddle sport
- variety of our paddle sports
- The strong development of outdoor activities
- Gender gap
- Lack of accessibility
- Need of good safety knowledge and skills

WHAT

1. Develop paddle sports for all.
2. Strengthen paddler training and safety knowledge
3. Knowledgebase about access to the water / restrictions in all NFs
4. Develop a recreational events calendar and strengthen communication on recreational, health and well-being activities



5- PADDLE SPORTS FOR ALL

OUR PRIORITY

Develop paddle sports for all

1- Develop paddle sports for all.

HOW

- Coordinate a European week for disabled people to create more opportunity to paddle
- Coordinate a European week for inclusion
- Reinforce gender equity in the ECA Bodies
- Promote work with young people cross-border e.g. in training camps

- Analyse membership strategy of our federations – categories, fees etc.
- Support federations in the transformation of their economic model and the development of tourism activities.
- Promote exchanges and partnerships between clubs for recreational activities.
- Facilitate the establishment of inclusive events in our different disciplines



5- PADDLE SPORTS FOR ALL

OUR PRIORITY Develop paddle sports for all

2- Strengthen paddler training and safety knowledge.

HOW

- Harmonize personal awards and diplomas on a European scale.
- Integrate the **Euro paddle pass** tool
- An inventory of European diplomas allowing you to be an instructor in paddle



- Possibility of having European diplomas valid in the European countries
- Improve safety skills and awareness of our community of paddlers - Promote the tools of our federations in terms of security, safety education and awareness programs.



5- PADDLE SPORTS FOR ALL

OUR PRIORITY Develop paddle sports for

3- Knowledgebase about Access to the water / restrictions in all NFs

HOW

- Provision of general information on access to waters for recreational paddlers by all national federations.
- Publication of information on access to waters via the ECA website.
- Linking of current information on access restrictions from the websites of the individual.

- Publication of current information for coaches working in other European countries in the context of recreational sports / club work





5- PADDLE SPORTS FOR ALL



OUR PRIORITY

Develop paddle sports for all

4- Develop a recreational events calendar and strengthen communication on recreational, tourism, health and well-being activities

HOW

- Calendar of European-scale recreational events for all our activities and disciplines
- Possibility of creating a European label for major international leisure/recreational events

- Reinforce the link between competition and recreational activities
- Develop all our disciplines and activities – Kayak, Seakayak, Open Canoe, SUP, Rafting etc..





THE COMMITTEE

THE COMMITTEE

- Name: **Recreational Paddling Committee**
- The composition: **5 members** / from different NFs / Gender equity / Skills: recreational, places to paddle, education, digitalisation..
- The call for application
 - Content: the committee's duties
 - Calendar: after the congress



ACTION PLAN



ACTION PLAN CONTENT 2025-2026

1. Paddle sports for all
 - **Eg Inclusion:** share good practices of the NFs web site social medias (female practice, disabled people...)
2. safety knowledge and environmental awareness
 - **Eg Euro paddle pass:** start contact to the epp-coregroup
 - Eg tools of our federations in terms of security/safety education and environmental awareness programs.
3. Places to paddle: **Eg information hub** - collect and publish information from the NFs about access to the water
4. Develop a **recreational events calendar** and strengthen communication on recreational,(tourism,) health and well-being activities.
 - Eg Study the possibility of creating a **European label for major international leisure/recreational events**

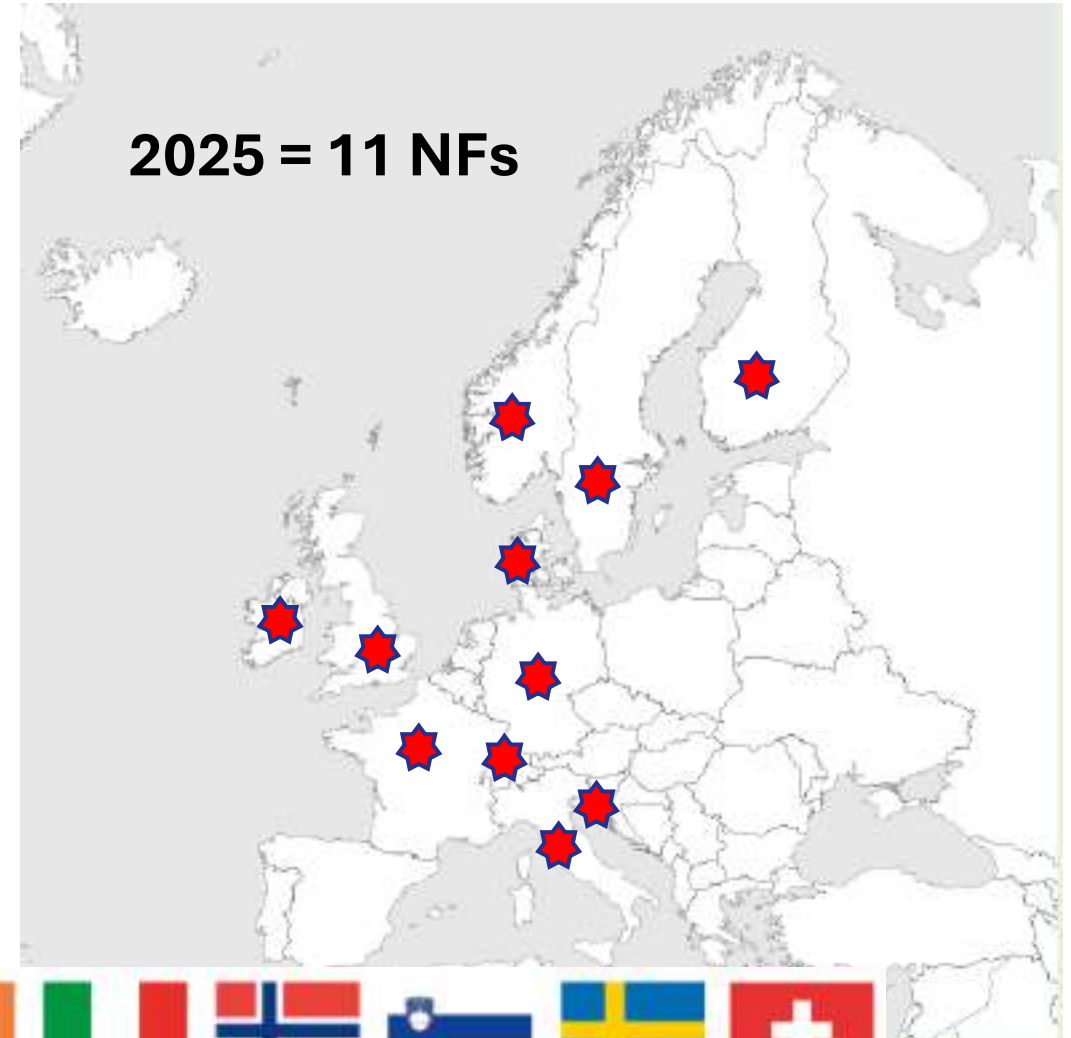
Eg: The Euro paddle pass

more information:
www.europaddlepass.eu

What is the EPP?

In **2004**, the canoeing associations from France, Ireland, England, Denmark, Sweden and Slovenia agreed to **develop standardized guidelines for canoeing training within Europe**

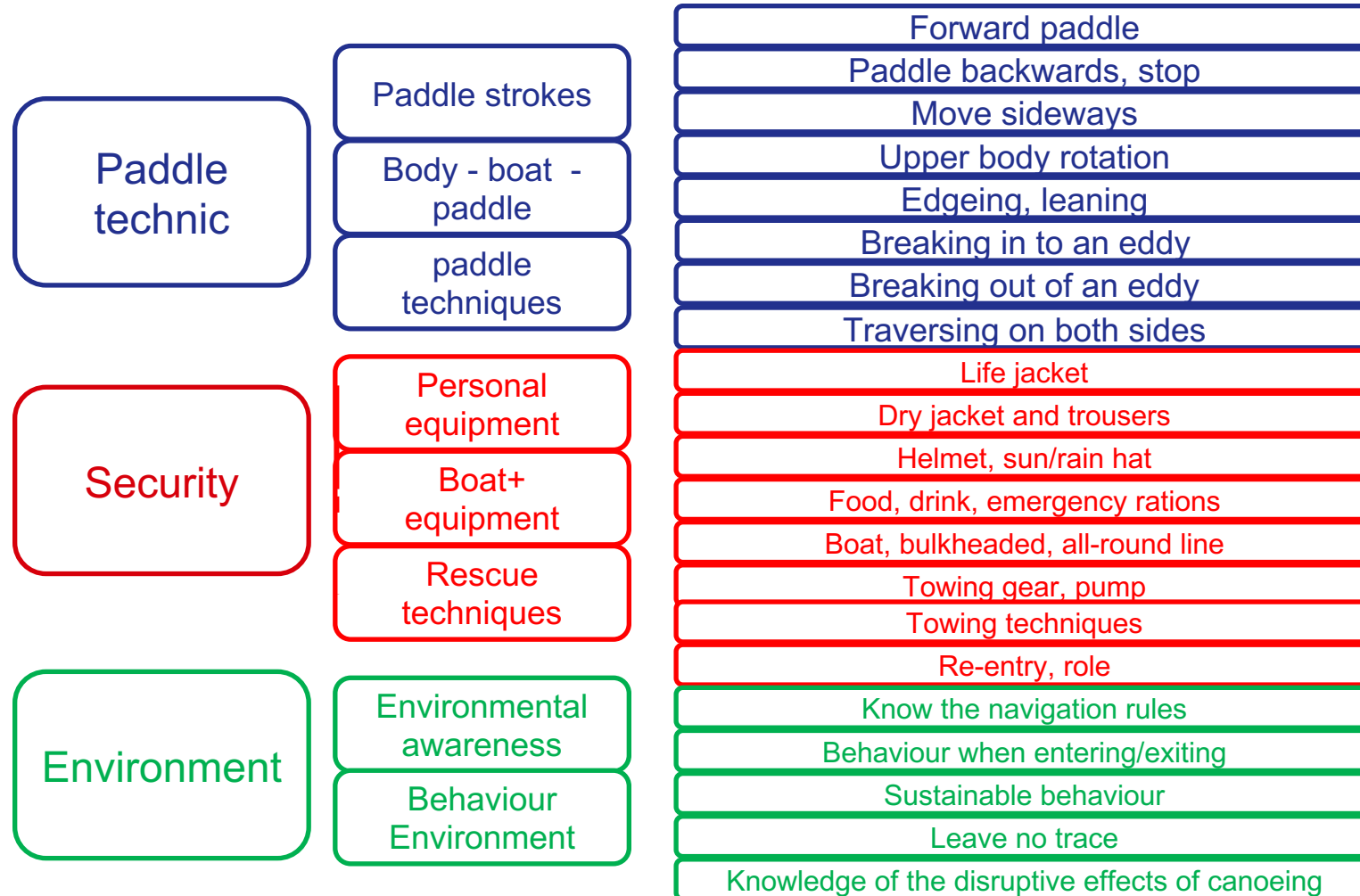
A **framework** was created to standardize individual paddling skills and make them comparable. This framework was called the “Euro Paddle Pass” (EPP).



The Euro paddle pass

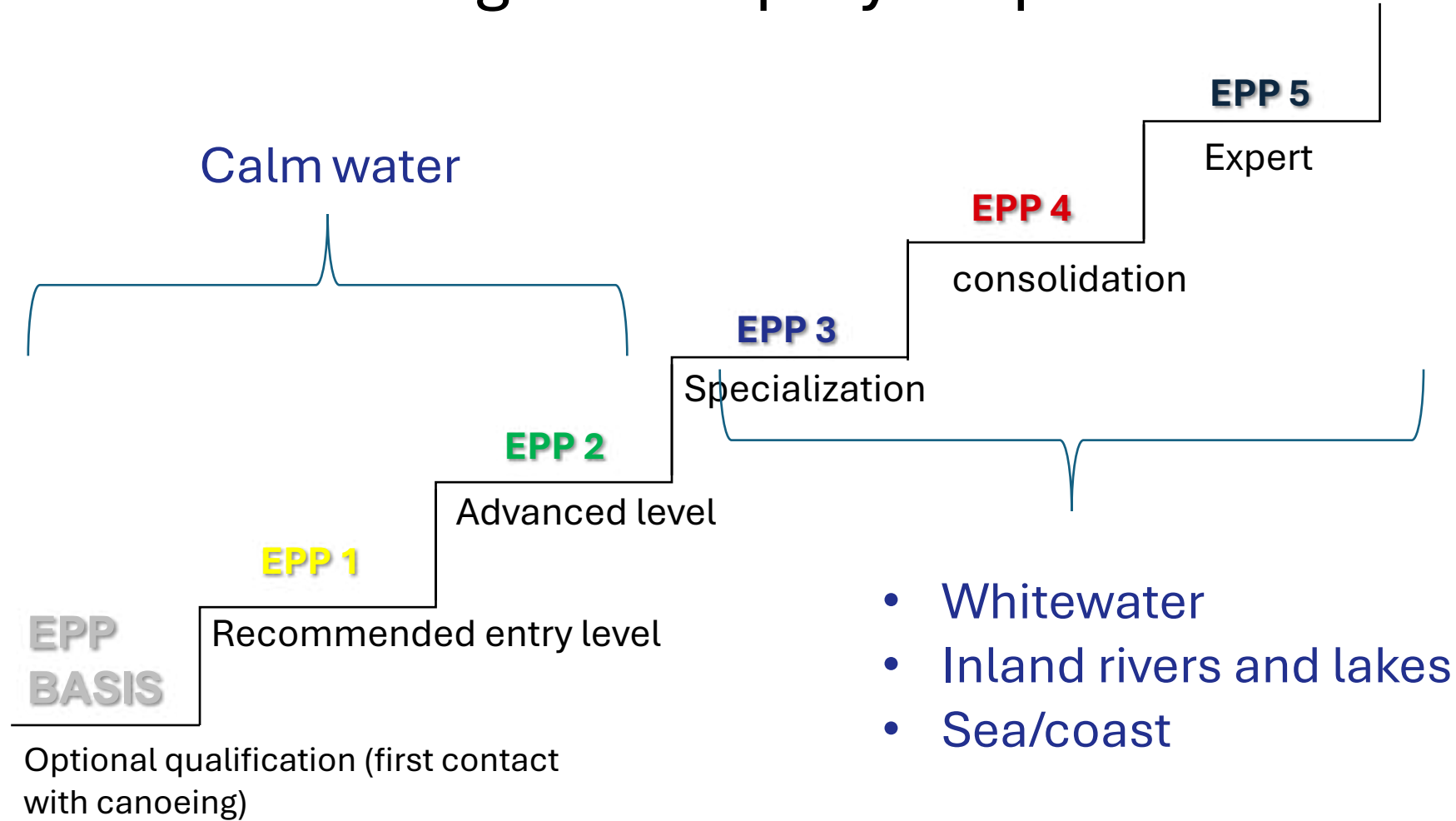
Learning objectives of the framework:

- -Core learning objectives
- -Examples, without completeness



The Euro paddle pass

EPP training as a step-by-step structure



The Euro paddle pass

Significance of EPP for European NFs:

- 1. Uniform standards**
- 2. Promoting cooperation**
- 3. Mobility and recognition**
- 4. Strengthening the image of the sport Sustainability and innovation**

Overall, the EPP helps to put canoeing and paddle sports on a sustainable footing - it ensures greater professionalism, promotes cross-border exchange and strengthens the position of European canoeing associations in an increasingly international environment.



**Thank you
for your attention!**

Gabriele Koch
gkoch@canoe-eca.eu



SPECIAL OLYMPICS EUROPE

Special Olympics Europe/Eurasia sport opportunity for people with IDD

...

"paddling for all"

Matteo Secchi, Sports Manager



Special Olympics





SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD GAMES
HILTON HEAD ISLAND ATHLETE HEADED TO GERMANY FOR KAYAKING

NEW ON

WJCL
22 abc

Special Olympics & Paralympic



Two separate organizations recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), both focus on sport for athletes with a disability and are run by international non-profit organizations.

Differ in three main areas:

- 1) the disability categories of the athletes that they work with,
- 2) the criteria and philosophy under which athletes participate
- 3) the structure of their respective organizations.



***Special
Olympics***



ORGANIZATION MISSIONS

SPECIAL OLYMPICS (specialolympics.org)

The mission of Special Olympics is to provide **year-round sports training and athletic competition** in a variety of Olympic-type sports **for children and adults with intellectual disabilities**, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.



VIRTUS (virtus.sport)

To drive the development of **elite sport** worldwide for **athletes with an intellectual impairment**.

(Virtus, About Us, 2022, *Virtus.sport*, 07 September 2022,
<https://www.virtus.sport/about-virtus>)



PARALYMPIC (paralympic.org)

To lead the Paralympic Movement, oversee the **delivery of the Paralympic Games** and support members to **enable Para athletes to achieve sporting excellence**.

(About the International Paralympic Committee, 2022, *paralympic.org*, 07 September 2022,
<https://www.paralympic.org/ipc/who-we-are>)



ORGANIZATION FOOTPRINTS

SPECIAL OLYMPICS	VIRTUS	PARALYMPIC (IPC)
<p>251 Accredited Special Olympics programs across 201 countries and jurisdictions, with over 19,900 local clubs and sub-programs.</p> <p>Over 3,724,760 athletes and Unified partners registered in Special Olympics, as of 2021 across 30+ summer and winter sports, participated in 33,742 competitions across globe.</p>	<p>Virtus (formerly INAS) 500,000 athletes from more than 90 nations across the world.</p> <p>In 2020, the Virtus sports programme included 15 annual events across both summer and winter sports with more than 7,000 athletes registered to compete at an international level.</p> <p>(Virtus, About Us, 2022, Virtus.sport, 07 September 2022, https://www.virtus.sport/about-virtus)</p>	<p>The IPC's primary responsibilities are to support our 200 plus members develop Para sport and advocate social inclusion, ensure the successful delivery and organisation of the Paralympic Games and act as the international federation for 10 Para sports.</p> <p>(About the International Paralympic Committee, 2022, paralympic.org, 07 September 2022, https://www.paralympic.org/ipc/who-we-are)</p>



The mission

*Special
Olympics*



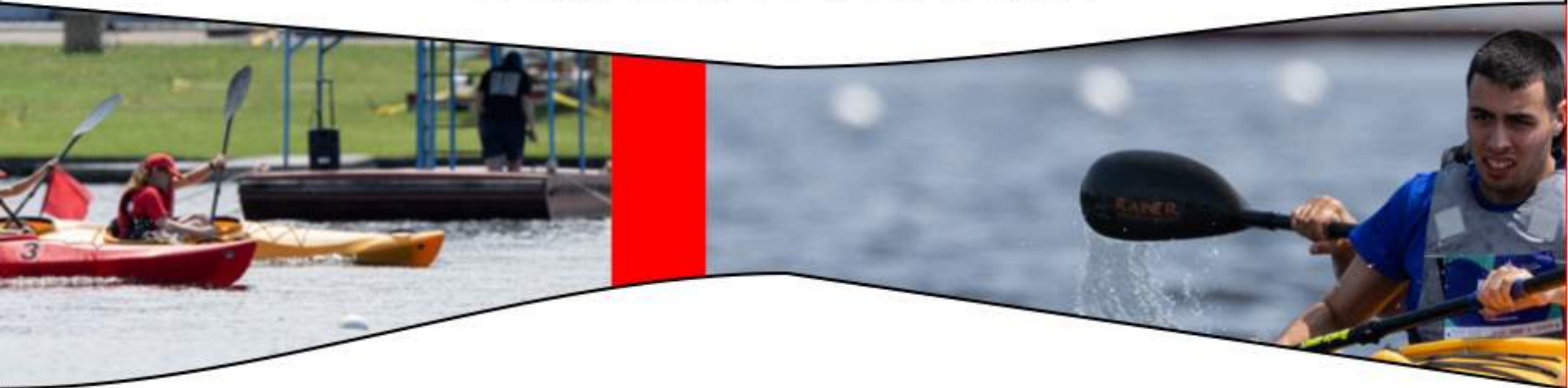
of Special Olympics is to provide **year-round sports training and athletic competition** in a **variety of Olympic-type sports** for **children and adults with intellectual disabilities** giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.



- Centered on athlete.
- Emphasizes benefits to athlete from proper training, fair competition and interaction within the community;
- Winning not emphasized at all costs.
- Emphasizes importance of participation, effort, and personal achievement.



Unified Sports, a model of inclusion



Special Olympics Unified Sport is an inclusive sport program that brings athletes with and without intellectual disabilities **TOGETHER** for competition.

News > ICF strengthens partnership with Special Olympics



ICFMEDIA
21 JUNE 2022

SHARE



The International Canoe Federation and the Special Olympics have signed a memorandum of understanding to consolidate a partnership which has been in place for almost two decades.

ICF President Thomas Kometzko and executive board member John Edwards joined Special Olympics Chief of Sport and Competition, Lou Laura, to sign the MOU in Berlin on Tuesday during the Special Olympics German National Games, a test event for next year's Special Olympics World Games in the German capital.

Canoeing made its first appearance at a Special Olympics World Games in Ireland in 2003, and has been a proud partner at every Games since. Mr Edwards said today's MOU will help strengthen the partnership, and open doors for more paddlers around the world to take part.

"There are thousands of paddling clubs throughout the world," Mr Edwards said.

"This agreement will be an encouragement to each one of those clubs to become inclusive community centres of paddling for all members of their community."





SOEE numbers



1,127 Athletes
152 Coaches

172 Unified Athletes
337 Unified Partners

**Special
Olympics**



- Coach development
- Unified model
- Gender Equity
- Research

- Global
- Regional
- National
- Local

Development

Partnership



Communication

Competition

- Resources
- Media

- National & Local
- Regional
- Global
- Technical



Looking forward to our cooperation

SOEE Sport Team:

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Mirek Krogulec mkrogulec@specialolympics.org

SOEE Kayaking Advisors

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- Michael Fahy (IRE) mickfahy.mf@gmail.com
- Emmanouil Angelakis (GRE) aggelakism@yahoo.gr
- Verena Stalder-Eckert (DEU) vstaldereckert@web.de



**Special
Olympics**



THE Coffee
BREAK TIME
for you



The background features decorative diagonal stripes in two shades of blue (dark and light) in the corners, creating a geometric pattern. The stripes are parallel and intersect to form triangular shapes.

ECA ELECTIONS

ELECTION OF ECA BOARD MEMBERS



6 CANDIDATES
5 POSITIONS

For the election of the ECA Board members: **5 members for 4 years mandate (at least 1 male and 1 female)**

Four candidates with the most votes will be elected for a four-year term, while the candidate with the fifth most votes will be elected for a two-year term, until 2027 congress, in accordance with the term of the resigning Board member.



Vitor FELIX (POR)



Christian JACOBSEN (DEN)



Peter KARAI (HUN)



Eva LINDMARK (SWE)



Greg SMALE (GBR)



Stein VERLINDEN (BEL)

ELECTION OF THE VICE PRESIDENT



- Candidate



Moira ASTON (IRL)
CEO Canoe Ireland

ELECTIONS ECA REPRESENTATIVES ICF BOARD



2 POSITIONS

The Congress will have to elect two (2) representatives including a minimum of 1 (one) female

CLOSING THE
CONGRESS

THANK YOU!



EUROPEAN CANOE ASSOCIATION

