

ECA Canoe Polo European Cup - Special Rules (Revised 2017)

1. Organisation

- A. The ECA TD will choose a maximum of 3 tournaments from the host federation nominations.
- B. Selected federations will announce entry dates to European Federations at least 4 months in advance of the competition. Details of entry and location should also be posted on the ECA website.
- C. Only National Teams are allowed to enter the European Cup.
- D. Applications to host a European Cup must come from a National Federation on behalf of the organizing committee. A copy should be sent to the ECA Canoe Polo Technical Delegate (ECA TD) eca.td@canoepolo.eu, and be received by the ECA before 1st October in the year previous to the European Cup to be hosted.

2. Date of competition

- A. The series of competitions must take place during one calendar year.
- B. Dates for the competitions will be posted on the ECA website and on the ICF Canoe Polo Calendar.
- C. Competitions will be held at least 3 weeks apart.
- D. The first ECA Cup will normally be held on the first weekend of May.
- E. The Second ECA Cup will normally be held on the first weekend of June.
- F. The Third ECA Cup will normally be held on the first weekend of July.

3. National Representation

- A. Each European Federation is allowed to nominate one national team in the following categories: Women, Men, U21 Men and U21 Women.
- B. Each category of competition will count towards the overall points total if at least 5 nations are taking part.
- C. "B"-teams and non EU-Teams are allowed to enter – their results will not count towards the overall total for a nation.
- D. A European Cup can still be played with less nations taking part however their points will not count to the overall total.

4. Invitations and Entries

- A. Invitations are issued to each National Federation.
- B. Entry forms must be returned by the closing date with the appropriate entry fee for the teams who will represent their federation.
- C. All entries to the hosting federation must come from each National Federation with the appropriate Federation stamp and signed by their National Canoe Polo Chairperson.
- D. Teams not fulfilling these requirements will have their entry forms returned and will be deemed ineligible to participate.
- E. A copy of all entries must be sent to the ECA TD using the email eca.td@canoepolo.eu

5. Player Eligibility

- A. For player eligibility see ICF Rules Chapter 1 Point 3.
- B. A player may compete in more than one category in all tournaments of the European Cup.
- C. Mixed teams are not permitted.
- D. The minimum age for a competitor is 15 years.

6. Referee's

- A. Each participating federation must provide one qualified ICF Referee for each category (Men, Women, U21 Men & U21 Women) in which the federation competes.
- B. If a federation enters all four categories the minimum number of ICF qualified referee's they need to provide is reduced to 3.
- C. The Referee only needs to be ICF qualified. They do not have to be from the participating federation.
- D. A new participating federation can ask the ECA TD for an exemption on providing a referee for 2 years.
- E. At the discretion of the chief Referee teams with special circumstances can apply to use a playing referee, the referee must be ICF registered.
- F. If a federation cannot provide the required number of referees they can still participate but only if they pay a fee of 150 € per missing referee.
 - This money must be used to cover the costs of finding and using a replacement referee.
 - It can also be used to provide food and accommodation for referee's who cover the duties of missing referee's.
 - Any monies left over can be used by the ECA TD to further referee training and support within federations affiliated to the ECA.

7. Accreditation of players

- A. Players must present their passport or national identity card and insurance card at the accreditation office for each competition.
- B. Any Player who fails to do so will be declared ineligible for the competition

8. Competition Rules

- A. The competition will be played under the ICF Canoe Polo Rules, with the additional changes detailed below.
- B. Before the start of games all team's equipment will be scrutineered.
 - 1. If a team plays a match before being scrutineered and their equipment subsequently fails when checked. The results of any games played before being scrutineered will be recorded as a win to the opposition.
- C. All matches will be played with shot clocks.
- D. There will be no timeout after a goal apart from Semi-final and Final matches.
- E. Where possible Referee's should be from two different federations.
- F. Semi-finals and Finals must be played with linesmen.
- G. The Jury will consist of 3 people nominated by the organising committee. The chairman should be either an ICF Canoe Polo Committee member or ECA TD.
- H. The competition committee will consist of 3 ICF referee's in attendance at the tournament. They will be responsible for dealing with protests.
 - 1. Within 20 minutes of receiving the protest the chief referee will form the competition committee.
 - 2. Referees who were involved with the game being protested cannot be part of the committee. They may be called to give evidence.
- I. If a player or coach receives a Red card in their last game of the tournament the team will be docked 5 points. The "next game" ban will be carried over to the next ECA cup in which they attend.
- J. The European Cup winners will be the team that wins the most points in all valid European Cup tournaments.
- K. The following points will be allocated for each ECA cup:
 - a. 1st place = 25 points
 - b. 2nd place = 21 points
 - c. 3rd place = 18 Points
 - d. 4th place = 16 Points
 - e. 5th place = 15 Points and so on
- L. If there are teams with the same number of points after all ECA Cup tournaments the winner shall be decided as follows:
 - 1. Goal difference in all ECA Cup tournaments.
 - 2. Total number of goals scored in all ECA Cup tournaments.
 - 3. Honourable play (total number of Red cards).
 - 4. If the teams are still tied then an additional match must be played.

9. Entry Fee

- A. The entry fee per team (also "B" Teams and teams from out of Europe) is 150€ per tournament. This is paid directly to the tournament organiser.
- B. Teams will only be accredited once the entry fee is paid.

10. Prizes

- A. Cash prizes will be awarded for first, second and third in each category after the last tournament.
- B. 50 € from each teams entry fee and tournament will be used as prize money.
- C. The winning team of each category will receive 50% of the available prize money, the second 30% and the third 20%.
- D. During the award ceremony the national anthem of the winning federation in each class will be played.
- E. There is a challenge cup in each class. If a federation wins the competition five times in a row the trophy will stay with the federation.
- F. A winning federation must return the trophy the following year with their name and winning year engraved on an 8cm x 3cm plaque attached to the trophy.

11. Results

- A. A full set of results must be sent by Email to the ECA TD eca.td@canoepolo.eu a copy should also be published on internet/social media.
- B. The amount of prize money for each tournament must be published on internet/social media. The funds should be sent to the ECA TD (who will provide bank details on request).

12. Technical Delegate /Officials

- A. The ECA will nominate a Technical Delegate who will control the running of the competition on behalf of the ECA.
- B. Each host federation will cover the travel and accommodation cost for a technical visit and the competition.
- C. The ECA Chief Referee will nominate a referee to act as chief referee at each event. The final decision will rest with the ECA TD.
- D. A chief scrutineer must be identified for the tournament and approved by the ECA TD.

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