



GENERAL INFORMATION ON PARACANOEING DEVELOPMENT AND EVENTS

Introduction

The ICF, together with the International Va'a Federation (IVF) launched the Paracanoeing (formerly PaddleAbility) development programme to expand the sport of canoeing to the worldwide community of persons with a disability in 2009.

This canoeing discipline gives opportunities to people with various disabilities at club, regional, national and international levels to enrich the lives of all paddlers through this program.

The ICF and IVF have been providing strong efforts for supporting Paracanoeing and their athlete's participation in a number of international events for 2010.

Special support will be given for the participation in the World Championships and in the 1st World Cup in Vichy (FRA) in 2010; ie. boat and lodging/boarding support. (More details of these programmes will be released separately)

The principal target is the inclusion of Paracanoeing Events in the Paralympic Games in 2016!

Achievements of 2009

- Classification system of the disabilities developed
- 20 Classifiers from 7 Federations (2 Continents) trained.
- Kayak – canoe standards determined
- International Va'a Federation and ICF agree to work cooperatively to promote Paracanoe
- Dartmouth HOC site accessibility achievements
- 7 Federations competed in 2009 World Sprint Canoe Championships in Dartmouth

GOALS for 2010

Achieve 25 Federations participating in the Paracanoe events at the 2010 World Canoe Sprint Championships in POZNAN



If the ICF is successful at achieving this goal, canoeing will have passed the most important step for achieving inclusion in the Paralympics 2016. Inclusion in the 2016 Games will increase the level of financial support for Paracanoeing throughout the world.

RACING INFORMATION FOR THE 2010 WORLD CANOE SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIPS

At the World Championships in Poznan 2010 there will be four 200 meter singles events:

MEN	WOMEN
K-1 (kayak)	K-1 (kayak)
V-1(canoe)	V-1(canoe)

- a) Races will be organized for the three categories within each event
- b) The categories: 'LTA', 'TA' and 'A' category athletes may enter each event.
- c) Medals/Awards will be given for each category within each event.
- d) Minimum 6 competing national federation required for each category in order for it to be a valid World Championship. This permits a maximum number of athletes/categories while not increasing the number of events on the program
- e) One athlete per country may enter each event.

BOAT STANDARDS

General Notes:

1. Modifications are permitted for stability if the boat is made slower. (ie. stabilizing pontoons)
2. Adaptation equipment is not regulated. It is included as part of the weight of the boat if it is securely attached.

K-1

Maximum Length	520 cm
Minimum Width	50 cm (measured 10cm from the bottom of the hull)
Minimum Weight	16 kg.

K-2

Maximum Length	650 cm
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Minimum Width	47 cm (measured 10cm from the bottom of the hull)
Minimum Weight	18 kg.

V-1

Length	Min. 640 cm – max. 800cm
Minimum Width	40 cm
Minimum Weight	10 kg.
Height	40 cm

Ama (outrigger pontoon)

Maximum Length	Min 200cm – max 275 cm
Minimum Width	12 cm
Minimum Height	12 cm.

V-2

Maximum Length	Min 800cm – max 900cm
Minimum Width	40 cm
Minimum Weight	20 kg.
Height	40 cm

Ama (outrigger pontoon)

Maximum Length	Min 275cm – max 445cm
Minimum Width	12 cm
Minimum Height	12 cm.

Va'a Notes:

- Rudders are not permitted
- The Ama is attached on the left side.

CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

SPORT CLASSIFICATIONS

ICF recognizes three (3) sport classes for PaddleAbility: **LTA, TA, A.**

The International Va'a Federation (IVF) recognizes six (6) sport classes. The following classifications blend the two classification systems.

NOTE: Minor refinements are being worked upon with a need to better align the IVF and the ICF Systems, to ensure alignment with IPC standards and to ensure appropriate specific canoeing standards



LTA (IVF 5 & 6 Point Paddler)

The LTA class is for paddlers with a disability who have functional use of their legs, trunk and arms for paddling, and who can apply force to the foot board or the seat to propel the boat. Eligible LTA paddlers may typically have a minimum disability equivalent to one of the following:

- Amputee
- Neurological Impairment equivalent to incomplete lesion at S1
- Cerebral Palsy Class 8 (CPISRA)

LTA paddlers must meet minimum disability requirements:

LTA - The minimum physical disability is a full loss of three fingers on one hand, or at least a tarsal metatarsal amputation of the foot, or the loss of ten points on one limb or fifteen points across two limbs when assessed using the Functional Classification Test as set out in the *Classification Application Form for Physical Disabilities* and the *ICF Classifiers Instructors Manual*.

TA (IVF 4 Point Paddler)

The TA class is for paddlers who have functional use of the trunk and arms. They are unable to apply continuous and controlled force to the footboard or seat to propel the boat due to significantly weakened function of the lower limbs.

Eligible TA paddlers may typically have a minimum disability equivalent to at least one of the following:

- Bilateral around knee amputation, or significantly impaired quadriceps, or
- Neurological impairment equivalent to a complete lesion at L3 level, or an incomplete lesion at L1, or
- Combination of the above such as one leg with around knee amputation and one leg with significant quadriceps impairment; or
- Classification by the international sports federation for paddlers with cerebral palsy (CPISRA) as eligible to be in CP Class 5.

A (IVF 1 – 3 Point Paddler)

The A class is for paddlers who have no trunk function (i.e. shoulder function only). An A class paddler is able to apply force predominantly using the arms and/or shoulders. These athletes will likely also have poor sitting balance. Eligible paddlers may typically have a minimum disability equivalent to at least one of the following:

- Cerebral Palsy Class 4 (CP-ISRA); or
- Neurological Impairment with a complete lesion at T12 level, or an incomplete lesion at T10.



OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- New name – **PARACANOEING**. This was adopted by the ICF in December, 2009. It is a better fit for all sports which intend to align with the Paralympic movement.
- A formal *Declaration of Intent* was sent by the ICF to the IPC in September, 2009
- The Intellectual Disability category has been added back into the IPC in November of 2009
- Special 'O' World Games (2011 - Athens, Greece): Canoeing (K-1) is on the program. Federations need to contact their national Special 'O' committees to gain access to the competition.

EVENTS

The events listed in the following table are proposed to be recognized as ICF events, although the focus for the 2010 Canoe Sprint World Championships is upon the singles events for the Paralympic Games application.

MEN	WOMEN
K-1	K-1
V-1	V-1
K-2, V-2	K-2, V-2
K-1 (Int. Dis.)	K-1 (Int. Dis.)

The K-2 and V-2 events offer the opportunity to combine persons within different disability categories. The K-2 offers the opportunity for individuals some lower limb ability in order to control steering. Likewise, the V-2 (with no rudder) is more suited to paddlers with no lower limb abilities.

The K-1 (Int. Dis.) is for paddlers with an intellectual disability. At this time, the IPC has added the intellectual disability category back into the Paralympic Games but more work needs to be done to determine how this will happen. Also, the Special 'O' World Games has kayaking included in its competition program and ICF needs to recognize this as an opportunity. .

CLASSIFIER TRAINING

- Additional classifiers required in all Continents
 - Pan America: Florida –April, 2010
 - Oceania: Australia – February, 2010
 - Europe/Africa: France, Vichy – May ,2010
 - Asia: Fall, 2010, site to be determined



- Database to be developed & maintained at ICF HQ.

ATHLETE CLASSIFICATION

- Database to be developed & maintained at ICF HQ.

SAFETY

- Safety Protocol established. Needs to be published.
- Training of Safety Personnel to be developed and piloted.
- PFD (life jacket) use policy to be developed.

PRIVACY ISSUES

- Privacy Protocol policy to be developed.

PARACANOEING: 2011 and Beyond

2011 ParaCanoeing Events at World Sprint Canoe

Championships. Need to continue with 4 events and ensuring participation of federations in Vichy.

2012 ParaCanoeing World Championship to be organized in

conjunction with World Cup. Potential to use the full 8 event program when the pressure of the WCH program is not present.

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