

Competitor Briefing

All Competitors, Coaches and Team Officials must read these event briefing notes.

COMPETITION RULES	
1	The 2015 NSW Sprint Championships will be conducted under the Australian Canoeing Canoe Sprint Racing Competition Rules. The ICF Canoe Sprint Competition Rules therefore apply as modified by the Australian Rules and this document. The event is also conducted under the bylaws of PaddleNSW.
2	It is each competitor's responsibility to know the rules of the competition. Any competitor who is unsure of any detail, or has a problem concerning the running of the Championships should seek clarification via their Team Manager or Coach from the Chief Official.
3	Competitors wishing to enter a protest on the result of an event must lodge their protest via their Team Manager/Coach to the Chief Official within 20 minutes of the completion of that event. The protest must be in writing and accompanied by a \$40.00 protest fee .
4	Competitors must wear an officially recognised Club or NCE uniform. International visitors competing must wear their ICF affiliated country or club uniform. No State or Australian team kit is permitted. If competitors do not have a club uniform, competitors may wear plain white that contains no logos or advertising.
5	It is the responsibility of all competitors to ensure that their boats meet the construction requirements of the ICF rules. Facilities are provided for competitors to check the weight of their boats before competition.
6	In all races, competitors must keep their boat within the 4m wide central area of their lane from the start to the finish of the course. Upon any deviation, the boat must go back immediately to this central area. No boat may come nearer than five metres in any direction to the boat of another competitor.
7	All Under 12 competitors must wear approved personal flotation devices [PFD's] in all races. Team Officials and Coaches should ensure that these are available. In the case of adverse conditions the Competition Committee may require that Under 14 competitors also wear a PFD, however for U14 competitors, it is at the discretion of parents as to whether their child must wear a PFD during competition.
SUBSTITUTIONS AND WITHDRAWALS	
8	All race entry changes, substitutes, scratches, queries, protests and appeals must only be submitted to the Finish Tower by your Club's Team Manager/Coach. Each Club is to advise who the authorised representative will be to the Chief Official on the day prior to competition.
9	Any competitor entered in the Championships may be substituted for any other competitor in the same category. Notification of such alterations must be given in writing to the Chief Official at least one hour before the first race of the morning or afternoon session.
10	Any submitted changes can only be made for Heats and Direct Final events in line with Note 9 above. Event scratchings and crew changes are not permitted in Semi-Finals or Finals without the consent of the Chief Official. A doctor's certificate is generally required in such cases.
11	Substitution for a paddler who is withdrawn less than 30 minutes before the morning or afternoon session will only be permitted if the withdrawn paddler reinstatement fee has been paid.
12	A competitor who either does not start in their event or arrives too late for their start, and has no valid reason approved by the Chief Official, will be deemed as 'Did Not Start' [DNS] and shall be disqualified from the entire Championships. Upon payment of the prescribed reinstatement fee the

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	competitor may continue to participate in any other races in which the competitor is entered, but otherwise shall be disqualified for the remainder of the Championships. Where a competitor is disqualified under this rule and has no other races remaining in the Championships, the competitor shall not be allowed to enter the next state event unless the prescribed reinstatement fee has been paid. The reinstatement fee is \$40 for seniors and \$20 for juniors and veterans.
13	Any competitor who withdraws from an event less than 30 minutes before the morning or afternoon sessions without a medical certificate will be deemed as 'Did Not Start' [DNS] and may only resume their scheduled race program upon payment of the regatta re-instatement fee. Non-payment of the reinstatement fee will be treated as per Note 12 above.
14	Any competitor who withdraws for medical reasons must produce a medical certificate and will not be allowed to participate in any further events during the Championships. Dependant on the nature of the medical withdrawal, a competitor may be allowed to race on Day 2 if permission is granted from the Chief Official no later than 1 hour prior to the morning session.

STARTS AND EVENTS IN PROGRESS

15	Entry to the course is via the warm-up lake behind the boatshed. Competitors are not to paddle up the course unless permission is granted from the Chief Official. All Para athletes and Under 12 & Under 14 athletes are exempt from this and may paddle up the course, being mindful of Notes 18 and 20 below.
16	Competitors must keep at least 20m clear of the start line and must not cross the start line while a race is in the process of being started.
17	Competitors' attention is drawn to the ruling on false starts. Any competitor who makes a second false start will be disqualified from the race and be asked to leave the start line. The decision of the Starter and Aligner will be final.
18	Competitors are not permitted to paddle alongside a race in progress. Receiving external assistance or coaching from the side of the course from Coaches, Team Managers and family members is not permitted.
19	Riding in front of the grandstand and team/spectator areas is prohibited for reasons of safety. Persons riding along the northern side of the course must wear a bicycle helmet in accordance with NSW Law. Cycling on the southern side of the course is prohibited without permission of the Competition Committee. Any breach of these requirements may result in the disqualification of any competitor or crew concerned.
20	Competitors in the vicinity of the course should stop their boat while a race is in progress nearby , to ensure minimum interference to those racing. This is particularly relevant when paddling up the course to get to the start line and when exiting the warm-up lake during 1000m events . Also, when paddling up the course, Competitors must not cross the start line once a race has been called forward until permission has been granted by the starter. This is so as to not interfere with the start of the race.
21	Competitors should not congregate in their boats in the vicinity of the finishing line in case they interfere with the judging or the finish of the event in progress.
22	In circumstances where boats need to be changed over quickly between events, permission must be sought from the Chief Official to paddle up the course.

ONCE A RACE HAS FINISHED AND MEDAL PRESENTATIONS

23	All races may be subject to Boat Control after the finish. If your lane number is called you must exit the water at the pontoon past the finish line and proceed through the marked transit area to boat control. Only approved Sports Science personnel, Officials & Volunteers, approved photographers and ASADA officials are permitted in the marked areas. Scales will be available for checking prior to racing. Permission to enter the area is granted by the Chief Official.
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24	<p>Drug testing maybe carried out during the Championships by representatives from the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Agency [ASADA]. Competitors are expected to cooperate fully with their requests. Any competitor unsure of his/her obligations should seek clarification from the Chief Official. For further information, please check the ASADA website at www.asada.gov.au</p> <p>It is highly recommended to bring block-out and lots of fluids, as the weather could be very hot and windy. Shade is very limited so teams should supply their own shelter.</p>
25	<p>In events where a medal presentation is to take place, athletes will receive their medals directly after their races after all boats have cleared Boat Control and results are Official. In events where presentations will not be made, Championship medals can be collected from the Finish Tower during advertised times. The details Championship Medal Policy is available on request to the Chief Official.</p>

BE A GOOD SPORT

26	<p>Any Athlete, Coach, Team Official, Volunteer or Official who displays behaviour detrimental to the good order and conduct of the competition may be disciplined or disqualified. An athlete or crew, which in the opinion of the Competition Committee deliberately does not compete to their ability in a race, to affect their progression in an event or otherwise, may be disqualified from the event or from the remainder of the Championships. Any Athlete, Coach, Team Official, Volunteer or Official who acts in a manner unbecoming of a member of PaddleNSW, Australian Canoeing their affiliated ICF country, or brings the sport of canoeing into disrepute may be subject to disciplinary proceedings.</p>
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AT THE VENUE

27	<p>The canteen at SIRC will be open on both days, providing a range of food and beverages.</p>
28	<p>The island will be locked each night. Boats, trailers and tents may be left overnight at the owner's risk. Other items should not be left at the venue. All rubbish must be disposed of appropriately.</p>
29	<p>Boat trailers and all other vehicles may only park in designated areas. Parking in the car park adjacent to the clubhouse is only by permission from SIRC Management.</p>

RESULTS AND PROGRESSIONS

30	<p>Results, progressions and updated start lists will be published online throughout the event.</p>
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OFFICIALS, VOLUNTEERS AND COMPETITION COMMITTEE

31	<p>A Competition Committee will be appointed from the Volunteers and Officials available for the Championships. The Competition Committee will rule on any protests and appeals and their decision will be final. The Competition Committee will be announced on each morning of the Championships.</p>
32	<p>Please remember that all Officials and Volunteers are giving freely of their time for your benefit and for the welfare of the sport and as such should be treated with respect and courtesy.</p>

ADVERSE WEATHER

33	<p>In the event of extreme weather [lightning storms, extreme heat etc], the Competition Committee may announce a delay to competition to allow weather cells to dissipate and if required may cancel any remaining events on either competition days of the Championships. Should the Championships be cancelled, entry fees cannot be refunded as event costs will still need to be covered. If possible a partial refund may be allocated after event expenses have been covered.</p>
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