



# Australian Canoeing Canoe Sprint Competition Rules

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## APPLICATION

These rules should be read in conjunction with the current ICF Canoe Sprint Competition Rules and relevant AC bylaws e.g. Canoeing Competitions, Anti-Doping etc.

These rules should be applied to canoe sprint competitions within Australia.

In situations not covered by these rules, ICF Canoe Sprint Competition Rules or Australian Canoeing Bylaws, the decision of the Competition Committee at the particular event shall be final subject to appeal to the jury.

## ALTERATIONS TO RULES

Any alterations to these rules are to be endorsed by the Australian Canoe Sprint Racing Technical Committee (ACSRTC) and subject to the procedures of AC Inc.

## COPYRIGHT

These rules may be photocopied. Great care has been taken in typing and checking the rules.

## DEFINITIONS

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| AC                        | Australian Canoeing Incorporated  |
| ACSRTC                    | Australian Canoe Sprint Racing Technical Committee  |
| Competitions              | Canoe Sprint competitions within Australia.   |
| Constituted Class         | Minimum of three entries and two starters (AC Canoeing Competition Bylaw)   |
| ICF                       | International Canoe Federation  |
| Competitor                | A registered financial individual member of a State Association or Affiliated Club or directly with Australian Canoeing.  |
| International Competition | A competition designed as such in accordance with the ICF Competition Rules.  |
| Selection Event           | An event conducted for the purposes of assisting in the selection process for an Australian Team and designated as such in accordance with the AC Selection Procedures Bylaw. |

Words not defined in these Rules have the meaning ascribed to them in the Constitution and Bylaws of AC unless a contrary meaning appears from the context.

# CHAPTER ONE – COMPETITIONS AND COMPETITORS

## 1. NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

- 1.1 There are three types of Competitions that fall under the auspices of the ACSRTC.
- (a) Australian Canoe Sprint Championships
    - (i) Australian Championships are open to all competitors.
    - (ii) International competitors may participate.
    - (iii) The championships shall be conducted at venues decided by the ACSRTC in consultation with the applicable AC staff and the High Performance Director.
  - (b) Grand Prix regattas
    - (i) Grand Prix regattas are open to all competitors.
    - (ii) International competitors may participate.
    - (iii) Grand Prix regattas shall be conducted at venues decided by the ACSRTC in consultation with the applicable AC staff and the High Performance Director.
  - (c) Selection Events
    - (i) Australian Team Selection Events are events designated as such by the Board in accordance with the AC Selection Procedures Bylaw for the purpose of assisting in the selection process for an Australian Team.

## 2. COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Competitors at national and state events must be financial members of an affiliated Club and/or State organisation affiliated with Australian Canoeing Inc.
- 2.2 Competitors may be direct members of Australian Canoeing Inc.
- 2.3 Non-members may participate at club level events at their own risk. Event organisers need to follow their respective State procedures and protocols in registering non-members as participants.
- 2.4 For junior competitors, ages are taken as at 1 January in the year of the event. i.e. a child that turns 15 years on 1 April, would have been 14 years on the 1 January will compete in the 14 years for the year.
- 2.5 International competitors may compete at national competitions and need to supply written permission from their respective national federation. International competitors shall progress in events in the same manner as Australian competitors. Should an international competitor be eligible to receive medals should they place at the event.

### 3. AC CANOE SPRINT OFFICIALS

- 3.1 Levels of officials are:
- Level 1 - Entry level, necessary to officiate in most positions at national and state level.
  - Level 2 – Essential for performing management level positions at national championships.
  - ICF – Essential for officiating at International Events, World Cups and World Championships.
- 3.2 To gain Level 1 a person needs to complete:
- Introductory Level Officiating General Principles. This is completed on-line at [www.ausport.gov.au/official](http://www.ausport.gov.au/official);
  - Complete a workshop on knowledge, understanding and application of the ICF and AC Canoe Sprint Competition Rules; and
  - Complete practical applications of the ICF and AC Canoe Sprint Competition Rules.
- 3.3 Officials need to reaccredit their qualifications after 4 years of gaining accreditation. To reaccredit an official needs to present to the ACSRTC a list of the events they officiated and the roles performed.
- 3.4 It is recommended that canoe sprint competitions within Australia have present, at least one Level 1 official.

# CHAPTER TWO – ORGANISATION OF COMPETITIONS

## 4. COMPETITION INFORMATION

4.1 Information about canoe sprint competitions should include:

- Time and place;
- Classes and categories;
- Race distance/s;
- Start times;
- Entry fees; and
- Any other relevant information about the competition.

## 5. COMPETITION COMMITTEE

5.1 The Competition Committee for national events will be appointed by the ACSRTC.

5.2 The Competition Committee will be kept informed as to the progress of the organisation of the competition.

## 6. ENTRIES

6.1 Entries will be received via the advertised 'on-line' system for the event.

6.2 No further entries will be received after the advertised close of entries.

6.3 A preliminary program will be posted on the website dedicated to the competition.

6.4 A final entry list will be confirmed after the Team Leaders Meeting.

6.5 Entries for long distance (any distance over 1000m) races will ONLY be accepted during the event and up until midday on the day of the race.

## 7. TEAM LEADERS MEETING, SCRATCHINGS AND ALTERATIONS

7.1 A Team Leaders meeting will be held no later than the afternoon prior to the first day of competition, at a time and place advised in the entry information for the event. There will be NO scratching meeting.

7.2 Any alterations to the program after the Team Leaders meeting must have the approval of the Chief Official.

- 7.3 Competitors, through their team manager, may scratch individuals or change team boat compositions in heats and direct finals until ONE hour before the start of competition on each day. Notification of such alterations must be given in writing to the Chief Official.
- 7.4 Competitors are not permitted to scratch from semi-finals or finals without the consent of the Chief Official. A medical certificate may be required. Entry to other events after such alteration will only be considered upon application to the Chief Official.
- 7.5 Any instructions provided by the Competition Committee at the Team Leaders meeting or during the competition form part of these rules.

## 8. SAFETY

- 8.1 Safety is paramount at canoe sprint events. A Risk Management Plan should be produced for any type of canoe sprint competitions no matter the venue or course. See also Canoe Sprint Safety Checklist (available through Australian Canoeing web [www.canoe.org.au](http://www.canoe.org.au)).
- 8.2 Medical (first aid) and on water safety must be present at canoe sprint events before competition commences.
- 8.3 Competitors should remain hydrated during any competition and sunscreen should be applied at regular intervals.
- 8.4 All competitors aged 12 or under must wear approved personal floatation device (PFD) in all races. This may alter depending on legislation within the state of the competition.
- 8.5 Persons riding bicycles beside or in the vicinity of the course must wear an approved bicycle safety helmet.

## 9. DRUG TESTING

- 9.1 Drug testing may be conducted during canoe sprint competitions. Representatives from Australian Sports Anti-Doping Agency (ASADA) conduct testing. Competitors are expected to cooperate fully with their requests. Any competitor unsure of their obligations should seek clarification from the Chief Official. For further information at [www.asada.gov.au](http://www.asada.gov.au)

# CHAPTER THREE – RACING REGULATIONS

## 10. INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPETITORS

- 10.1 The ACSRTC may issue a Competitor Briefing document for a competition. Such document will be published on the website dedicated to the competition. Such a document becomes part of these rules.
- 10.2 Competitors are not to access the course for practice or warm up within twenty minutes of the scheduled start of competition for the day. Use of the course for practice or warm up during scheduled or non-scheduled breaks in the program is not permitted.
- 10.3 A competitor who arrives too late at the start or who otherwise does not start, and has no valid reason approved by the Chief Official, shall be disqualified from the race in question. Upon payment of the prescribed reinstatement fee the competitor may continue to participate in those other races of the competition in which the competitor is entered, but otherwise shall be disqualified for the remainder of the competition. Where a competitor is disqualified under this rule and has no other races remaining in the competition, the competitor shall not be allowed to enter a subsequent national competition unless the prescribed reinstatement fee has been paid. The fee payable will be prescribed in the Competitor Briefing document for the subsequent event.
- 10.4 A competitor who displays behaviour detrimental to the good order and conduct of the competition may be disqualified and/or disciplined. A competitor who acts in a manner or brings the sport of canoeing into disrepute may be subject to discipline proceedings as per the Australian Canoeing Inc. Constitution.
- A competitor disqualified under this rule cannot resume entry to the competition through payment of the reinstatement fee.
- 10.5 Competitors must wear an officially recognised Club or State uniform. International visitors competing should wear their country or club uniform.
- Direct members of Australian Canoeing, or international competitors who do not have their national or club uniform, are required to wear a plain white racing top with minimal branding during competition. The top may cover an existing paddling suit.
- 10.6 If a boat is required in another race, not immediately following the first race in which the boat is used, team management can obtain permission from the Competition Manager to change near the finish line and paddle up the course. The exception to this rule is for K4's only, where application for use in sequential events will be considered where it is unlikely there will be any unacceptable delay to the program and no athlete will be unduly impacted.
- The Starter will hold the start for the boat and crew unless there is an unacceptable delay to the program.
- 10.7 Competitors in the vicinity of the course are required to stop their boat while a race is in progress to reduce any interference to those racing.
- 10.8 Competitors must not congregate in their boats in the vicinity of the finish line to minimise interference to the finish line judges.



## 11. PROTESTS AND APPEALS

- 11.1 Protests please refer to the ICF Canoe Sprint Competition Rules (29). Protest fee is prescribed in the Competitor Briefing document.
- 11.2 Appeals please refer to the AC Canoeing Competition Bylaw 19.

## 12. MEDALS

- 12.1 Medals will be awarded as per the AC Canoeing Competitions Bylaw.
- 12.2 Medals at Australian Canoe Sprint Championships will only be presented to Open and Under 18 events for men and women.

All remaining medals for finals (except B and C finals) will be available for collection from event administration. For morning events, medals can be collected after the designated lunch break. For afternoon events medals can be collected in the 30 minute period after the posting of the result of the final event of the day.

For junior and masters athletes the presentation dais will be made available, outside of scheduled presentations, for presentation photo opportunities. Officials may be available to present, subject to request.