

Competitors' Briefing

AC National Sprint Championships – Penrith, NSW

14th – 18th March 2012

Please ensure you read the briefing notes below. If you have any questions, please see the Chief Official before the competition begins, or email to jan.hall@canoe.org.au

1	This event is being conducted under the Australian Canoeing Sprint Racing Competition Rules. The ICF Sprint Racing Competition Rules therefore apply as modified by the Australian Rules and this document. The event is also conducted under the bylaws of Australian Canoeing.
2	It is the competitors' 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 Leader from the Chief Official.
3	Competitors wishing to protest on the result of an event must lodge their protest via their State/Team Manager to the Chief Official within 20 minutes of the completion of that event. The protest must be in writing and accompanied by a \$50.00 protest fee.
4	Competitors must wear an officially recognised Club, State or NCE uniform. International visitors competing must wear their ICF affiliated country or club uniform.
5	Any competitor entered in the regatta 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.
6	Substitution for a paddler who is withdrawn later than 30 minutes before the morning or afternoon session will only be permitted if the withdrawn paddler reinstatement fee has been paid. The reinstatement fee is \$100 for seniors and \$25 for juniors and veterans.
7	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 regatta in which the competitor is entered, but otherwise shall be disqualified for the remainder of the regatta. Where a competitor is disqualified under this rule and has no other races remaining in the regatta, the competitor shall not be allowed to enter the next national competition unless the prescribed reinstatement fee has been paid. The reinstatement fee is \$100 for seniors and \$25 for juniors and veterans.
8	Any competitor who withdraws from an event later than 30 minutes before the morning session or without a medical certificate will be deemed as a 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 part 7.
9	Competitors' attention is drawn to the ruling on false starts. Any competitor who makes a second false start will be disqualified from the race. The decision of the starter will be final.
10	Competitors are not permitted to paddle alongside a race in progress. Receiving external assistance is not permitted.
11	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
12	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 on the course to get to the start line and when exiting the warm-up lake, near the 750m mark.

13	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. The organising committee has lead sheet available for sale for this purpose. It must be paid for in cash - no IOU's will be accepted. The price of the lead is based on materials cost recovery only.
14	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, AC officials, approved photographers and ASDA 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.
15	Competitors must not paddle in close proximity to the starting area while a race is in the process of being started.
16	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.
17	In races up to 1000 metres, competitors must keep the whole of 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.
18	Any competitor 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 regatta. A competitor who acts in a manner unbecoming of a member of Australian Canoeing or brings Australian Canoeing or the sport of canoeing into disrepute may be subject to disciplinary proceedings.
19	Drug testing maybe carried out during the regatta by representatives from the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Agency (ASDA). 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 ASDA website at http://www.asada.gov.au/index.html .
20	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. Tents are not permitted in the grassed area in front of the Clubhouse.
21	Boat holders will be available during the regatta for held starts.
22	Food is available at the venue, and there is a shopping centre nearby.
23	Coaching or otherwise assisting from the side of the course is not permitted.
24	The island will be locked each night and a security person will be on site overnight. Boats, trailers and tents may be left overnight at the owner's risk. Other items should not be left at the venue
25	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.
26	In the case of adverse conditions the Competition Committee may require that competitors in 14 Years age group wear approved personal flotation devices.
27	All competitors in 12 Year age groups must wear approved personal flotation devices in all races. Team Leaders and coaches should ensure that these are available.
28	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.
29	Results, updated start lists, results and news stories will be published on the Australian Canoeing Website www.canoe.org.au under Events/Sprint. Results and race draws are posted on the results board at the finish tower after each race. Copies of the start list will be available from the

	secretariat at 7.30am each day at a cost of \$2.
30	<u>Competition Committee</u> TBA
31	All race entry changes, queries, protests and appeals must be submitted to the competition committee by your state or NCE Team Leader/Coach.
32	Competitors may scratch entries or change team boats in Heats and Direct Finals until 30 minutes before the start of racing each day. Competitors are not permitted to scratch from Semi-finals or subsequent Finals without the consent of the Chief Official. A doctor's certificate is generally required in such cases. Entry to other events after the scratching will only be considered on application to the Chief Official.
33	Please remember that all officials and helpers are working as volunteers at the Championships. Please treat them with respect and courtesy.
34	In cases where boats need to be changed over quickly, permission must be sought from the chief official to paddle up the course.