

Constitution of Canoe Slalom Ireland

1 The Committee

1.1 Title

The Committee of Canoe Slalom Ireland is a Technical committee affiliated to Canoeing Ireland and is responsible for undertaking the organisation, development, promotion, administration, and support of canoe-slalom activity at every level in Ireland. To include all National and International athletes and competitions. All references throughout the constitution to “the Committee” refer to the Committee of Canoe Slalom Ireland.

1.2 Make Up of the Committee

The Committee consists of the following officers

1. Chairperson,
2. Secretary,
3. Treasurer,
4. Publicity and Marketing Officer
5. Senior Athlete Liaison Officer
6. Development Class (U23 and Junior) Officer
7. Resource Officer
8. Domestic Competition Co-ordinator
9. Northern Ireland representative

All Officers are elected at the Annual General Meeting of Canoe Slalom Ireland and the Chairperson is ratified at the ADM of Canoeing Ireland.

The committee reserves the right to co-opt two persons to fulfil specific positions or requirements should the need arise during the committee’s tenure.

1.3 Collective responsibilities of the Committee

The Committee will:

1. Set draft dates and locations for Selection to the Irish National Team by or before the end of November each year. A document that lists the finalised dates and locations should be published no later than six weeks prior to the selection race or races.
2. Establish a Draft Selection Criteria Policy for the National Irish Team by or before the end of December each year.
A draft selection policy becomes final when approved by the board of Canoeing Ireland or by any person or body authorised by the board of Canoeing Ireland to approve it. The final version of the policy should be published on the committee’s website within 10 days of its approval.

3. Produce a fixture list each year for Slalom racing
4. Develop a yearly Performance Plan for Developing classes (U23 & Juniors) Canoe Slalom Paddlers in conjunction with Canoeing Ireland for submission to the ISC (Irish Sports Council) for funding.
5. Appoint a Development Officer and Manager for Developing classes (U23 & Juniors) Canoe Slalom Paddlers from the National Canoe Slalom Committee.
6. Produce a Training Development Calendar (2 weekends per month) for Developing classes (U23 & Juniors) Canoe Slalom Paddlers.
7. Organise and promote coaching courses for coaches at varied levels in conjunction with Canoeing Ireland (ICU).
8. Promote the discipline of Canoe slalom through Open Days and such activities as "Paddlefest" .
9. Produce and publish a set of guidelines and rules for running competitions
10. Actively fundraise/ seek sponsorship and make application to Canoeing Ireland to support Developing classes (U23 & Juniors) Canoe Slalom Paddlers
11. Support Canoeing Ireland (ICU) by providing expertise in relation to developing the Olympic Selection Policy in the year prior to the Olympic year.
12. Work with Canoeing Ireland (ICU) in the development of permanent canoe slalom course(s) in Ireland.
13. Assist Clubs in the developing of Permanent Div 3/2 Canoe Slalom courses in cooperation with Canoeing Ireland throughout Ireland.
14. Work with the TDU, National Coaches and HP Athletes in the development of Coaches at club Level

1.4 Aims of the Committee

The aims of the Committee are:

1. To increase participation in canoe slalom racing throughout Ireland by developing structures and pathways for developing paddlers to be the best they can
2. To organise and support ranking and non-ranking races with established Canoe/Kayak clubs throughout Ireland.
3. To encourage the participation of a broad base of developing (U23 & junior) slalom paddlers in Ireland through the development of introductory open days and training weekends in canoe slalom.

4. To develop the pathways for developing paddlers to enable them to participate at International competitions abroad.
5. To draft the rules and make recommendations for National Slalom Races.
6. To support top international paddlers by providing a liaison between the National Canoe Slalom Committee and Canoeing Ireland (ICU)

1.5 Duties of committee members

1.5.1 Chairperson

The Chairperson will:

1. Chair all committee meetings, unless (s)he is unavailable
2. Ensure that meetings are held as often as necessary and that a minimum of 4 meetings and preferably 6 should be held in any racing year.
3. Implement policy and ensure action is taken on committee decisions.
4. Represent the committee at any meeting of the Canoeing Ireland Board at which the committee is entitled to attend or, if unavailable, request another committee member to do so.

1.5.2 Secretary

The Secretary will

1. Call meetings of the Committee
2. Take minutes and circulate them to the other committee members
3. Deal with correspondence in conjunction with the chairperson
4. Arrange the venue, date and time of meetings and notify all committee members.
5. Arrange the publication on the committee's website of the date, time and venue of an AGM or EGM at least 14 days prior to the meeting.
6. Publish changes in Slalom Canoe/Kayak Rules and Regulations on the committee website
7. The secretary will stand in for the chairperson in his or her absence.

1.5.3 Treasurer

The Treasurer will

1. Account for all monies paid to the Slalom Committee, including levies that may be collected for ranking and non-ranking events.
2. Prepare and present the financial accounts at committee meetings.
3. Prepare a Balance Sheet for the Slalom AGM and, if required, the Canoeing Ireland AGM.
4. Take responsibility for the general financial affairs of the Committee

1.5.4 Publicity and Marketing Officer

The Publicity and marketing Officer will:

1. Obtain publicity for Slalom racing via, press, Radio and T.V.
2. Prepare programmes for major events.
3. Compile Slalom news for Canoeing Ireland communications.
4. Keep all points and records of all ranking races
5. Publish end of season ranking divisional lists and notifications of national champions
6. Maintain a record of all international results for selected Irish teams
7. Distribute and collect national trophies
8. Maintain an active and regularly updated website
9. Maintain a database of active and potential participants and, working with race and event organisers, to communicate directly with clubs, club members. Individuals and interested parties in slalom racing.

1.5.5 Senior Athlete Liaison Officer

The Senior Athlete Liaison Officer will:

1. Liaise with Senior International athletes, the Committee, and NGBs.
2. Represent and support Senior International athletes as and when required.
3. Work with Senior International athletes in determining their requirements and establishing and securing available support.

4. Encourage, promote and facilitate cooperation and communication between the NGB, the Committee and Senior International athletes.
5. Continually update the Committee on the activities and progress of Senior International athletes.

1.5.6 Development Class (U23 & Junior) Officer

The Development Class Officer will:

1. Be responsible for and administer all activities relating to U23 and Junior athletes.
2. Liaise with coaching staff and volunteers in providing coaching and training activities.
3. Liaise with athletes, coaching staff and volunteers in providing access to international competition and training camps.
4. Provide support and assistance for U23 and Junior athletes competing both inside and outside of Ireland.
5. Liaise with U23 and Junior athletes the Committee and NGBs.

1.5.7 Resource Officer

The Resource Officer will:

1. Identify and develop potential avenues of support in the form of sponsorship or finance.
2. Develop partnerships with providers to reduce any costs associated with the activities of the Committee. Specific attention to be paid to the activities of the U23 and Junior squads and team.

1.5.8 Domestic Competition Co-ordinator

The Domestic Competition Co-ordinator will:

1. Liaise with clubs in developing the domestic race calendar.
2. Liaise with clubs, coaching staff, and volunteers in promoting and providing flat water Div 3 "Pop up Slalom" events.
3. Promote the race calendar throughout clubs to develop increased participation across all levels of competition. Strive to provide race opportunities at all, ie Div

- 1,2& 3, levels.
4. Work to reinstate and populate the divisions over the coming years.
5. Maintain a register of all competitors and records of race results for all competitors at all levels.

1.5.9 Northern Ireland Representative

The Northern Ireland representative will:

1. Provide a conduit between CANI & CSNI and the NCSC & CI.
2. Maintain communication between all organisations to try and ensure the best possible outcomes for all athletes involved at all levels.
3. Promote cooperation between the various organisations.
4. Assist in preventing overlaps in activities and encourage better use of available resources.
5. Assist in developing and promoting additional competitive activity by encouraging clubs to become involved with running races open to various levels of competitor.

1.6 Election of the Committee

All committee members elected or appointed as provided above, as officers or committee members are eligible for re-election or reappointment but should not serve for more than four consecutive years in any one position. Each committee member is elected for a term that runs from one AGM to the next.

2 Annual General Meetings

2.1 Notification and arrangements for general meetings

1. An annual general meeting (AGM) shall be held at least every 12 months.
2. The secretary shall notify the general slalom population of General meetings (AGM's & EGM's) at least 14 days in advance using email (if provided), the Slalom website (www.irishcanoeslalom.com), or the ICU website, via text message or any other useful or applicable means of communications.

3. Proposals should be submitted to the Slalom Committee atleast 7 days in advance of the General Meeting.
4. Proposals shall be posted on the committee website at least 5days in advance of the General meeting.
5. Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM) can be called if a minimum of 10 slalom paddlers sign the request for an EGM.
6. A minimum of 15 people will be deemed to be a quorum for a general meeting.

2.2 Voting rights at General Meetings

1. All members of the Irish Canoe Union will be entitled to vote.
2. Junior paddlers over the age of 18 (on the 1st of Jan of the year of the General Meeting) can vote at general meetings or in accordance with Canoeing Ireland rules, if in compliance with the above requirements.

2.3 Voting procedures

Decisions at general meetings will be taken by a simple majority expressed by a show of hands. The Chairperson will not vote, except that in the case of equality of votes he/she shall be entitled to a casting vote. The Returning officers, if required shall be appointed by the outgoing Chairperson, or may be agreed by the voting majority.

3 Competitions

All competitions will be run under Canoeing Ireland and/or ICF competition rules

4 Anti-doping

4.1 Performance Enhancing Substances

The use of performance enhancing substances by anyone taking part in the sport is strictly prohibited

4.2 Other Substances

Abuse of any other substance while involved in a competition that puts at risk the athlete's safety or any other participant is deemed a disciplinary offence.

4.3 Regulations

All competitors must comply with Canoeing Ireland and ISC anti-doping regulations.

5 Safety Equipment

All Developing classes (U23 & Juniors) Canoe Slalom Paddlers are required to wear buoyancy aids and helmets during training weekends/camps.

All athletes competing in competition(s) must wear buoyancy aids and helmets

6 Safety Vetting of Persons working with Juniors

All persons, such as coaches and managers or team leaders, who are working with Developing classes (Juniors) Canoe Slalom Paddlers will comply with the Canoeing Ireland (ICU) Code of Ethics and Children First Policy.

Persons are required to be vetted by Canoeing Ireland if they wish to work with Junior paddlers

7 Complaints & Appeals Process

Complaints and grievances will be dealt with in accordance with the canoeing Ireland disciplinary procedures