



international **canoe** federation

XXXII ICF ORDINARY CONGRESS

MINUTES

ITALIAN NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE
(CONI)
ROME, ITALY
28-29 NOVEMBER 2008



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Opening of the Congress

The ICF President, Mr Ulrich Feldhoff, opened the XXXII ICF Ordinary Congress 2008 and welcomed all the National Federation delegates, the ICF Board of Directors, and guests. The CONI President, Mr. Petrucci, was warmly welcomed and asked to make a welcome speech to the delegates.

Mr Feldhoff then commemorated the friends of canoeing who had tragically passed away since the last ICF Congress. Special mention was given to the Hungarian Olympic Champion who died whilst training for the 2008 Olympics, Mr Gyorgy Kolonics and to ICF's Honorary President Mr Sergio Orsi who passed away in 2008. A minutes silence was held in remembrance of those that had passed away.

2. Roll-call of the delegates and establishing of the quorum

The President announced that a quorum had been achieved in accordance with the ICF Statutes. The Verification Committee consisting of Mr. Simon Toulson, Ms. Halina Pikula and Mr. Victor Ruiz confirmed that there were 86 countries that had registered for the Congress.

Three countries had submitted their registration late to the Congress. The Congress voted to allow the three countries to vote in the Congress as an exception, not to be repeated in the future.

This meant 89 countries were eligible to be present at the Congress. Five new Federations would be approved to join the ICF which gave a total of 94 voting members. In addition a possible maximum of 18 proxy votes were approved to make a total of 112 eligible votes.

Another four proxy votes received after the registration deadline and votes where the NF had not paid their membership fees were not accepted for the Congress.

Roll Calls were completed before every voting session to obtain the simple majority and 2/3 majority.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the 2007 ICF Congress, Hong Kong

The Minutes of the 2007 ICF Congress were approved

4. Appointment of scrutinisers for the period of the Congress

The President proposed and the Congress accepted the Scrutinisers for the voting as being:

Mr Paul Owen (GBR)
Mr Jens Karl (GER)
Mr Antonio MENEZES DA TRINDADE (STP)
Ms Daniela SEBASTIANI (ITA)

5. Reports

a) President

Delegates were instructed to refer to the President's report provided in the Congress Delegate Kit. A question was raised regarding why the ICF had been given more money from the IOC for the Olympic Games. The President responded that this was because the TV shares for International Federations and National Olympic Committees had substantially increased and the ICF had benefitted as all Federations had.

b) Secretary General

The Secretary General updated the Congress on the Headquarters' achievements since his arrival in January 2008. His report was provided in the Delegate's Kit. The Secretary General also showed the ICF's promotional video and the new ICF Logo to the Congress. The Congress was asked for questions or comments to the Secretary General. A question regarding the upcoming Youth Olympic Games was asked. Information on the Qualification Systems would be provided



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by the ICF in the coming weeks to the National Federations.

c) Vice Presidents

Delegates were instructed to refer to the Vice President's report provided in the Congress Delegate Kit and were asked for questions or comments. No questions or comments received.

d) Continental Association Representatives

Delegates were instructed to refer to the Continental Association reports provided in the Congress Delegate Kit and were asked for questions or comments. No questions or comments were raised.

e) Chairs of the Standing Committees including Working Groups and Commissions

Delegates were instructed to refer to the Committee Chairs' reports provided in the Congress Delegate Kit:

- Chair of the Canoe Sprint Committee (Mr Istvan Vaskuti)
- Chair of the Canoe Slalom Committee (Jean-Michel Prono)
- Chair of the Canoe Wildwater Committee (Mr Jens Perlwitz)
- Chair of the Canoe Marathon Committee (Mr Jorn Cronberg)
- Chair of the Canoe Polo Committee (Mr Greg Smale)
- Chair of the Dragon Boat Committee (Mr François Ryffel)

A question was asked from the Congress if the 2010 Canoe Marathon World Championships had been swapped from Singapore to Spain. This was confirmed by the Chair because the Youth Olympic Games Singapore wanted to postpone hosting until 2011.

The Canoe Sailing Committee Chair, Mr. Ben Fuller, had resigned and no Chair had come forward. The ICF Board of Directors could nominate someone to lead this commission in the future.

Women and Canoeing highlighted that exhibition events had been added for the C1 class at the next Canoe Sprint World Championships in 2009 and hopefully further development would occur for women in canoeing.

For Paddleability, it was confirmed that for the Canoe Sprint World Championships in Canada 2009, the events for the disabled would be full World Championship medals and NFs would gain national ranking points for these competitions.

6. Treasurer's report on financial matters and approval

Francesco Conforti presented to the Congress and Delegates were instructed to refer to the financial report provided in the Delegate's Kit. All financial matters and books had been transferred to the ICF Headquarters. The President asked if there were any questions or comments.

- The impact of the world economic crisis on the ICF's financial situation was raised. Conforti replied that the ICF decided to invest in Euros and US Dollars, he worked with the Euro for about a year before working again with the US Dollar while it was low. The ICF had not been affected from the world's financial crisis to date.
- Only 25% of the total budget was spent on books why had the whole budget not been used?

Conforti replied that it depended on the projects that the ICF initiated and that it was not a requirement to use all ICF funds in the budget.

The treasurer's report was approved by the Congress.



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7. Auditors' report and approval

The ICF had appointed a professional auditor from Switzerland, Fidurev. The Auditor read his report to the Congress and duly approved the accounts of the ICF.

8. Debrief of Development Project 2006-2008

Delegates were asked to refer to their Delegates Kit. The President asked for questions or comments. No questions or comments were received.

9. Debrief of the Games of the XXIX Olympiad Beijing 2008

The Secretary General debriefed the Congress on the 2008 Olympic Games followed by the respective Chairs from the Olympic disciplines. It was the largest and most successful Olympic Games ever and a big success for Canoeing.

Canoeing ranked a very respectable and solid 16th in television coverage around the world in comparison with other Olympic Sports. 50 countries competed in Canoe Sprint 29 countries competed in Canoe Slalom.

Both Chairs commented that their discipline had been successful and no major problems had been encountered in the operations of the sport during the Games.

Benjamin Boukpeti, Canoe Slalom, celebrating his countries first ever Olympic Medal in any sport, received the third highest amount of media coverage for an athlete at the Games behind Michael Phelps and Usain Bolt.

A question was raised regarding the principle of only one boat per nation qualifying in Slalom which limited the chances of NFs to qualify and also risked Government financial support. At this point little could be done to amend this other than to lobby the IOC for more quota places for the Games.

10. Discussions and resolution on the proposals submitted by National Federations, the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors

The ICF Secretary General took the Roll Call, 85 votes were eligible. Simple majority needed was 43 votes and for a 2/3 majority 57 votes.

Mr Albert Woods was asked to Chair item 10 on the Agenda. The proposals would be blocked together where common themes existed asking that the principle be approved and therefore the associated rules would be approved. Statutes required 2/3 majority and the General rules required a simple majority.

a) ICF Statutes changes

Article 1.3 – Name Principals and Recognition
– Motion not accepted

Art. 1.5c – Motion accepted

Art. 1.5d – Motion accepted

Article 2.4 – Purpose
– Motion accepted

Article 5.4 – Emblem and Flag
– Motion accepted

Article 8.1 and 8.2 - Eligibility
– Motion not accepted

Article 16.1 - Delegates
– Motion accepted

Article 19 - Agenda
– Motion accepted

Article 20.3 – Submission of Proposals to the Congress
– Motion accepted

Article 23.1 and 23.2 - Voting
– Motion not accepted



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Article 26.2 – ICF Board of Directors

– Motion accepted

Article 27.3 – Election of Members to the ICF Board of Directors

– Motion accepted

Article 31d – Duties of the ICF Executive Committee

– Motion accepted

Article 32.2 – ICF Standing Committees

– Motion accepted

Article 41 – Duties of the Auditor

– Motion accepted

Article 44 - Establishment

– Motion accepted

b) Proposals concerning Competition and General Rules by disciplines

The general proposal for the age categories for the Masters competitions for all disciplines was rejected and the old rule would remain in force.

Canoe Sprint General Rules

The proposal for article 12.1 was accepted. Article 34.1 was deferred to point 11 on the Agenda.

Canoe Slalom General Rules

The proposals for articles 2.4, 11.3, 26.2.1, 37.1.1, 38.3, 39.1, 41.10.1, and 44.1.3 were all approved.

Wildwater Canoeing General Rules

The proposal for article 38.2.1 was accepted.

Canoe Marathon General Rules

The proposed changes to article 3 for junior competitors and article 35 were accepted.

Canoe Polo General Rules

The proposals for articles 13.5, 33.3, 34.4, 71, 83, 83.1, 83.2, 83.5, 83.6, 83.7, 83.8, 84, 84.1, 84.2, 84.3, 84.5, 84.6, 84.7, 84.8, 84.9, 93.1 and 111 were all accepted.

Dragon Boat

The proposal for articles 2.4, 5, 37 and 39.5 were accepted.

Canoe Freestyle

The General Rules book that were drafted for 2008 were approved for the Freestyle competitions.

Anti-Doping Rules

The ICF Anti-Doping Rules were updated to be compliant with WADA rules. The proposed changes were accepted by the Congress.

11. Modification of the Canoe Sprint World Championship and World Cup Programme

The President noted that the ExCo were not in favour of the discussion paper that was presented in the Delegates Kit. The President presented his own proposal to the Congress. The Congress did not approve either proposal.

After considerable debate Germany and Canada on behalf of the Canoe Sprint Committee presented a solution to the Congress on 29 November 2008.

Solution: 12 Olympic disciplines and 8 Non Olympic events (eg. 200m)

The least popular three events would be removed and replaced with three other events. In 2010 Relay would be added and in 2011 the 5,000 metres events would be added.



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The congress voted on the proposal.

76 votes approved the proposal
 1 vote against
 8 abstentions

**12. Report on membership applications
 Affiliation of new National Federations to
 the ICF**

New full members approved by the Congress were Ghana, Nigeria, Zambia, Azerbaijan, Montenegro, Cook Islands and Palau.

Tunisia was reconfirmed due to a change to their statutes and separation from their Rowing Federation. Libya was not accepted as a new full member as it had not submitted their statutes nor filled the requirements of the ICF.

13. Reports on preparations of major events

Documents for the Olympic Discipline World Championships were provided in the Delegates Kit. In addition, Chairs of each discipline outlined the major events that would be happening in 2009 and 2010. Chinese Taipei gave a short presentation on the World Games that will be held in 2009 and which has Dragon Boat and Canoe Polo on the sports programme.

The Wildwater Canoeing development plan was presented to the Congress. No decision was reached on the proposal at the Congress.

**14. Election of the ICF President
 (Period: until 2012 Congress)**

ICF President - Jose Perurena (ESP)

Ballot	Name	Votes
Yes	Jose Perurena (ESP)	86
Invalid		
Abstentions		6
Total		92

15. Election of the Executive Committee Members

**1st Vice President
 (Period: until 2010 Congress)
 Istvan Vaskuti (HUN)**

Ballot	Name	Votes
Yes	Albert Woods (GBR)	44
	Istvan Vaskuti (HUN)	51
Invalid		
Abstentions		
Total		95

**2nd Vice President
 (Period: until 2012 Congress)
 Richard Fox (AUS)**

Ballot	Name	Votes	2 nd Ballot
Yes	Richard Fox (AUS)	33	50
	Joao Tomasini Schwertner (BRA)	42	43
	Gina Sanchez (USA)	18	
Invalid			
Abstentions			2
Total		93	95

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ICF Treasurer (Period: until 2012 Congress) Luciano Buonfiglio (ITA)

Ballot	Name	Votes
Yes	Luciano Buonfiglio (ITA)	69
	Christian Ryser (SUI)	24
Invalid		
Abstentions		
Total		93

16. Election of the Chairs of the Standing Committees

Canoe Sprint Committee (Period: until 2012 Congress) Frank Garner (CAN)

Ballot	Name	Votes
Yes	Frank Garner (CAN)	91
Invalid		3
Abstentions		
Total		94

Canoe Slalom Committee – (Period: until 2012 Congress) Jean-Michel Prono (FRA)

Ballot	Name	Votes
Yes	Jean-Michel Prono (FRA)	88
Invalid		
Abstentions		6
Total		94

Canoe Marathon Committee (Period: until 2012 Congress) Jorn Cronberg (DEN)

Ballot	Name	Votes
Yes	Jorn Cronberg (DEN)	88
Invalid		
Abstentions		7
Total		95

Wildwater Canoeing Committee (Period: Until 2012 Congress) Jens Perlwitz (GER)

Ballot	Name	Votes
Yes	Jens Perlwitz (GER)	89
Invalid		3
Abstentions		3
Total		95

Athletes Committee (Period: until 2012 Congress) Belen Sanchez Jimenez (ESP)

Ballot	Name	Votes
Yes	Belen Sanchez Jimenez (ESP)	90
Invalid		1
Abstentions		4
Total		95

Canoeing for All Committee (Period: until 2012 Congress) John Edwards (CAN)

Ballot	Name	Votes
Yes	John Edwards (CAN)	52
	Ali Ghakamsiah (IRI)	40
Invalid		
Abstentions		3
Total		95



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17. Election/Confirmation of the Auditing Company FiduRev SA (SUI)

Ballot	Name	Votes
Yes	FiduRev SA (SUI)	unanimous
Invalid		
Abstentions		
Total		

18. Presentation of Continental Representatives by the respective Continental Association:

a) Africa (CAC)

President - Joao Manuel da Costa Alegria (STP)
Secretary General – Seifudin Patwa (KEN)

b) Americas (COPAC)

President – Charles Yatman (USA)
Secretary General – Cecilia Farias (AHO)
ICF BoD Member – Victor Ruiz (PUR)

c) Asia

President – Quanying Xin (CHN)
Secretary General – Anthony Chan (HKG)

d) Europe

President – Albert Woods (GBR)
Secretary General Branko Lovric (CRO)
ICF BoD Member – Halina Pikula (POL)
ICF BoD Member – Irina Siraeva (RUS)

e) Oceania

President – Helen Brownlee (AUS)
Secretary General – Maree Burnett (NZL)

19. Awards

The Congress voted that the following awards be bestowed on individuals related to the ICF and the world of Canoeing:

- Mr. Ulrich Feldhoff – ICF Honorary President Award
- Mr. Francesco Conforti – ICF Honorary Member Award

- Mr. Raymond Kamber – ICF Honorary Member Award

An awards ceremony was held. A special award was given to Mrs Elke Sommer for her contribution to the ICF and her role as assistant to the ICF President.

20. Establishment/Approval of the ICF Working Programme for the next two years

The Working Programme in the Delegates Kit was approved by the Congress for the next two years.

21. ICF Development Programme: Objectives and plan for 2008-2010

The ICF Development programme for 2008 to 2010 as outlined in the Delegates Kit was approved by the Congress.

22. Fixing the annual ICF Membership Fee for the next two years

The Congress agreed to keep the existing fees for the next two years.

23. Approval of the ICF Budget for the next two years (2008-2010)

The Congress unanimously approved the budget for the next two years.

24. Establishing time and place for the next Congress

Santiago De Compostela, Spain 2010 was the only candidate. The Congress approved the next Congress location subject to contract agreement with the ICF.



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25. Miscellaneous

No other matters were raised.

26. Closing of the Congress

Mr Ulrich Feldhoff expressed his gratitude to the Italian Federation for their organisation of a successful Congress. The President thanked the translators for their work in completing a difficult task and concluded that he had thoroughly enjoyed serving as the ICF's president.

The President declared the XXXII Ordinary Congress of the ICF in Rome (Italy) officially closed.