



2015 ICF
CANOE SLALOM
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
EVENT PREVIEWS



Women's KI

16 September - Heats

19 September - Semifinals / Finals

- Jessica Fox (AUS) hopes to retain her 2014 world title and become the third woman to win the KI at back-to-back world championships.
- The only women who have won successive world titles in the KI are Ludmilla Polesna (TCH) in 1961-1963 and in 1967-1969 and Corinna Kuhnle (AUT) in 2010-2011.
- Kuhnle can become the second woman to win at least three KI world titles after Polesna (4 titles). Stepanka Hilgertová (CZE) can also achieve this feat as she was victorious in 1999 and 2003.
- Kuhnle can give Austria its sixth gold medal in this event at the world championships, most of all countries if East Germany, West Germany and Germany are calculated separately as well as Czech Republic and Czechoslovakia.
- Hilgertová can equal Polesna on a record five total medals at the world championships in this event. She last claimed a medal in 2007, finishing third.
- Reigning European champion Maialen Chourraut (ESP) can give Spain its first gold medal in this event. Spain have won one silver medal (2009, Chourraut) and one bronze medal (2011, Chourraut) in women's KI at the world championships.
- No woman has yet won the world title as well as the European title in the same year in the KI.
- Emilie Fer (FRA) can win her second world title as reigning Olympic champion as she won the world title in 2013. She can become the second woman to win two world titles as reigning Olympic champion in the KI following Stepanka Hilgertová (CZE).
- Hilgertová won the Olympic title in 1996 followed by a world title in 1999 and she won the Olympic title in 2000 followed by a world title in 2003.

Men's K1

18 September - Heats

20 September - Semifinals / Finals

- Reigning champion Boris Neveu (FRA) can become the first athlete to claim the world title in men's K1 in back-to-back editions since Fabien Lefevre (FRA) in 2002-2003.
- Reigning European champion Neveu also claimed silver in this event in 2009 and needs one more podium finish to join Siegbert Horn (GDR), Eberhard Gläser (GDR) and Scott Shipley (USA) in third place on the all-time medal list. Only Lefevre (4) and Richard Fox (GBR, 6) have collected more medals in men's K1 at the world championships.
- Daniele Molmenti (ITA) is one of only three athletes who have won gold in men's K1 at both the Olympic Games and the world championships. Molmenti claimed the world title in this event in 2010, before adding Olympic gold at the Lee Valley White Water Centre in 2012.
- Jiri Prskavec (CZE), 2013 and 2014 European champion, is hoping to become the second world champion from Czech Republic (incl. Czechoslovakia) in men's K1 after Vavrinec Hradilek (CZE), who claimed gold in this event in 2013.
- Olympic silver medallist (2012) Hradilek can become the second athlete to complete the medal set in this event after Lefevre. Hradilek has already claimed gold (2013) and silver (2010).
- Hannes Aigner (GER), who claimed bronze in this event at the London 2012 Olympic Games, is aiming to become the first world champion from Germany in men's K1 since Fabian Dörfler (GER) in 2005.



GABČÍKOVŮ
WATERWORKS

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Men's C1

17 September - Heats

20 September - Semifinals / Finals

- Michal Martikán (SVK) is aiming to claim a record-equalling fifth world title in men's C1. He is now on four gold medals in this event at the world championships (1997, 2002, 2003, 2007), only trailing Jon Lugbill's (USA) five.
- With 10 medals (G4-S3-B3) Martikán already is the most decorated athlete in this event at the world championships. David Hearn (USA) is next with seven medals (G2-S5). Martikán will be 36 years and 125 days old on the day of the final. He can become the oldest medallist in men's C1 at the world championships since Hearn in 1995. Hearn was 36 years and 139 days old when he claimed gold in this event in Nottingham 20 years ago.
- Coming in these championships, Martikán has won 11 gold medals in total at the world championships (all events), which is only topped by Lugbill's 12.
- Matej Benuš (SVK), who claimed the 2015 overall world cup title, can become the second multi-medallist in men's C1 from Slovakia after Martikán. Benuš took bronze in this event in 2011. Sideris Tasiadis (GER), who took silver in men's C1 at the London 2012 Olympic Games, is hoping to become the first world champion from Germany in this event since Martin Lang (GER) in 1993.
- Benjamin Savsek (SLO), silver medallist in 2014 and bronze medallist in 2013, can hand Slovenia its first ever world title in men's C1.
- Savsek can become the fourth athlete to complete the medal set in this event after Martikán, Manfred Schubert (GDR) and Robin Bell (AUS). Savsek has already claimed silver (2014) and bronze (2013).

Women's C1

17 September - Heats

20 September - Semifinals / Finals

- Reigning world champion Jessica Fox (AUS) is hoping to add a third gold medal in women's C1 to her trophy cabinet. Fox claimed the world title in the last two editions (2013, 2014), after grabbing bronze on her debut in 2010.
- Fox can become the second woman to win (at least) three consecutive world titles in the same event after her mother Myriam Fox-Jerusalmi (FRA), who took gold in women's K1 team in 1989, 1991, 1993 and 1995.
- Coming in these championships, Fox has won five gold medals in total at the world championships (all events), which is only topped by Stepanka Hilgertová (CZE, 6) and Fox-Jerusalmi (8).
- Reigning European champion Kimberley Woods (GBR) can become the first athlete to claim the world title in women's C1 in front of a home crowd.
- Only Katerina Macova (SVK) has ever grabbed a medal in this event in front of a home crowd - bronze at the Bratislava 2011 World Championships.
- Nuria Vilarrubla (ESP), who grabbed gold in women's C1 at the 2015 U23 World Championships, can become the second athlete after Fox to claim the world title in this event on both senior and U23 level.
- Ana Satila (BRA), gold medallist in women's C1 at the 2015 Pan American Games, can become the first medallist from South America in any Canoe Slalom event.



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2 KAYAK SLALOM

Women's K1 Team

19 September - Finals

- Stepanka Hilgertová (CZE) is poised to become the second person to win 10 medals in a single event at the world championships.
- Hilgertová has won nine medals in the Women's K1 Team, four gold, four silver and one bronze. Only Michal Martikán (SVK) has won more medals in a specific event.
- Coming into these world championships, Martikán has won 10 medals in the Men's C1, claiming four gold, three silver and three bronze medals.
- Hilgertová won gold with the team in 2013 before finishing sixth last year.
- Aged 45 years and 158 days, she already is record holder as oldest medallist at the world championships, when she won gold in this event in 2013. She will be 47 years and 162 days old on the day of the finals.
- Coming into these world championships, she has won 13 total medals (G6-S5-B2 all events), three more than any other woman.
- Last year's winners France can become the first team to win this event in back-to-back world championships since Czech Republic were victorious in 2003 and 2005.
- France need one more gold medal in this event to win their 10th world title in the Women's K1 Team, becoming the first nation to reach this total.
- France have only won the C2 Men's Team at least 10 times at the world championships as they have won it 11 times coming into these world championships.
- In the last two editions of this event six different nations were on the podium as Czech Republic (gold), Germany (silver) and Slovenia (bronze) claimed medals in 2013 and France (gold), Austria (silver) and Slovakia (bronze) took the medals last year.

Men's KI Team

20 September - Finals

- France, Great Britain and Germany all have a chance to win a record seventh gold medal in men's KI team.
- Together with East Germany, the three countries are currently tied on six gold medals in this event.
- France won the title in 2014 - ahead of Czech Republic (silver) and Great Britain (bronze) - and can win the title in back-to-back years for the second time in team history, after 2005 and 2006.
- The last team to win the title in consecutive editions was Germany in 2010 and 2011.
- France lead the total medal table with 18 medals: G6-S6-B6. West Germany follow with 14 medals: G4-S4-B6.
- Boris Neveu (FRA), Sébastien Combet (FRA) and Mathieu Biazizzo (FRA) will again make up France's team. Neveu can join Alexander Grimm (GER) and Thomas Becker (GER) on three gold medals in men's KI team. Only Richard Fox (GBR) has won more (5).
- Neveu can also win a record sixth medal of any colour in this event, G2-S2-B1. He currently shares the record of five with Fox, Becker, Fabien Lefevre (USA) and Daniele Molmenti (ITA).
- Molmenti also has a chance to win his sixth medal in men's KI team, G1-S2-B2.
- German Grimm is looking for his fourth gold medal in this event, while team mate Hannes Aigner (GER) can win his third gold medal in men's KI team.
- Germany most recently won the title in 2011 but have failed to finish on the podium ever since. They ended in seventh place in 2013 and in 16th place in 2014.
- Great Britain are looking to win their first men's KI team title since 1997. Ever since, they have racked up one silver (2009) and one bronze (2014) medal.
- Silver medallist in 2014, Czech Republic are aiming to win their second gold medal in men's KI team, after 2009. This excludes medals won as Czechoslovakia.

Women's CI Team

20 September - Finals

- The women's CI team event will be staged for the fourth time. Australia won the first two editions in 2011 and 2013, while Czech Republic claimed victory in 2014.
- Katerina Hoskova (CZE), Monika Jancova (CZE) and Martina Satkova (CZE) made up Czech Republic's winning team in 2014. Satkova will not be part of the team in this edition.
- Great Britain claimed the silver medal in 2014 while France took home the bronze.
- Jessica Fox (AUS) and Rosalyn Lawrence (AUS) have won a record two gold medals each. The team mates will be looking to make it three.
- Three teams are tied on a record two medals in this event: Australia (G2), Czech Republic (G1-S1) and Germany (B2).
- China claimed the silver medal in women's CI team in its inaugural edition in 2011. Coming into the world championships, it is one of two medals China has ever won in the competition. Cen Nanqin (CHN) also won a silver medal in women's CI in 2011.
- Cen was also part of the team that won China the silver medal in this event in 2011.

Men's CI Team

20 September - Finals

- Slovakia are aiming to win the men's CI team for the sixth time in a row, as they have won every edition since 2009. Only United States ever set a longer winning streak in this event, claiming the world title seven times in succession between 1979 and 1991.
- Slovakia's team has in those last five wins always consisted of Alexander Slafkovsky (SVK), Matej Benuš (SVK) and Michal Martikán (SVK). The trio will make up Slovakia's team again this year.
- Martikán can win this event for a record eighth time as he also claimed the gold medal with Slovakia in 1997 and 2003. He could surpass Jon Lugbill (USA) who won this event seven times. Eight gold medals in one event would also be a new world championship record.
- Coming into the world championships, Martikán had won 11 gold medals (all events). Lugbill holds the record of 12.
- Team mate Slafkovsky has won this event six times, also winning in 2003.
- Slovakia can win this event for the eighth time. This excludes Czechoslovakia who won it a record nine times. United States also have seven victories.
- The last team other than Slovakia to win this event was France in 2007.
- In the last five editions, Germany were the best performing team behind Slovakia, claiming three silver medals (2010, 2011 and 2013).
- In 2014, Czech Republic (silver) and Slovenia (bronze) completed the podium.

Men's C2

16 September - Heats

19 September - Semifinals / Finals

- Luka Bozic (SLO) and Saso Taljat (SLO) are aiming to repeat their 2014 success when they won gold at the world championships in the men's C2.
- They claimed bronze as teenagers in 2009 and won gold last year. Since their world title, they have not won any major competition and only claimed one medal, bronze at the World Cup competition in Tacen (SLO) in May 2015.
- They are poised to become the fourth pair to retain their world title in this event after Dieter Friedrich and Horst Kleinert who won for East Germany in 1957 and 1959, Manfred Merkel and Günther Merkel, also competing for East Germany in 1961, 1963, 1965 and Pavol Hochschorner (SVK) and Peter Hochschorner (SVK) who won in 2007, 2009, 2010 and 2011.
- Cousins Ladislav and Peter Škantar (SVK) are the only pair to have won a medal in each of the last three world championships in this event, claiming bronze in 2011, 2013 and 2014. No other pair has won more than one medal in this span.
- Gauthier Klauss (FRA) and Matthieu Peche (FRA) are looking to give France a record equalling eighth gold medal in this event at the world championships, tying East Germany.
- The last French duo to win the world title in this event is Franck Adisson (FRA) and Wilfrid Forgues (FRA), in 1997.
- Pavol Hochschorner (SVK) and Peter Hochschorner (SVK) are hoping to win their sixth gold medal at the world championships. They are already record holders with five gold medals in this event.
- Coming in these championships, the Hochschorner brothers have won 14 medals in total at the world championships (all events), which is only topped by their compatriot Michal Martikán's 18.
- The Hochschorner twins will be 36 years and 12 days old on the day of the finals, which means they can become the oldest world champions in this event. That record currently belongs to Miroslav Simek (CZE) who was 34 years and 165 days in 1993.

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