



DEVELOPMENT

ČESKÉ BUDĚJOVICE

REPORT OF THE PROJECT



INTRODUCTION

For the Senior World Championships in České Budějovice (CZE), the ICF once again implemented the Development Program for emerging nations. Two coaches were therefore appointed: Andrea Abbiati from the Italian national team and Matyáš Olsak from the Czech Republic, working with a total of seven athletes. The program proved to be essential in securing the validity of the title, as without Wally Youssouf Ndiaye, the Seneg athlete, the requirement of three continents needed to validate the title would not have been met.

PARTICIPANTS



Seven athletes from two continents, Europe and Africa, took part in the project. Only one athlete had previous experience in wildwater canoeing, while the other six came from different disciplines: sprint, slalom, and marathon. All of them showed great adaptability in the rapids of the course, managing to reach race day with solid preparation.

PARTICIPANTS

Name	Surname	Nationality	Year of Birth
Jacek	Branski	Poland	2002
Jakub	Dyda	Poland	2002
Claudiu	Babos	Romania	1972
Maria	Lisovska	Ukraine	2005
Annette	Baum	Estonia	2000
Wally Youssouf	Ndiaye	Senegal	2003
Bohdan	Malovanyi	Ukraine	2004

VENUE

This race was held as a sprint (250 m, approximately 50 seconds) on the slalom course in České Vrbné, located near the Vltava River.

There were opportunities to train in the lower parts of the artificial course or on flat water to get accustomed to the boats. The sprint course itself wasn't particularly challenging for the athletes, but their runs still had their ups and downs.

The camp began on September 13th, when the first athlete arrived. Last four athletes arrived on the 17th. We always started on flat water with the athletes from a sprint background, which in this case included our first two arrivals. They performed excellently, so we soon moved on to training on the race course.

We had only a few capsizes during training, and thanks to the rescuers, there was minimal damage to the boats. We focused primarily on the K1 category due to the late arrival of most athletes. However, two athletes still managed to start in the C1 category for the first time and successfully finished the race



ACCOMMODATION

Most athletes and coaches stayed in the camping area next to the race course, so accessibility was not an issue. The Polish team stayed at a nearby hotel.

Meals were provided at the Hospoda na Kanále bistro, located right at the venue, and included breakfast, lunch, and dinner. During the race days, we also purchased some fruit and snacks as refreshments between runs.





EQUIPMENTS

All paddlers had their own kayak paddles and equipment, so only boats, C1 paddles, and airbags were borrowed. The boats were provided by the clubs SK Vltava Český Krumlov and Synthesia Pardubice, who also supplied the C1 paddles. The Ukrainian team borrowed boats from Kick the Waves, and we also used some new development boats. The organizing club in Pardubice also offered a boat repair station, but it was used only a few times, as there weren't many damages to the boats. 't many damages to the boats.



RESULTS

K1 Woman:

- 32 Annette Baum
- 34 Lisovska Mariia

K1 Man:

- 36 Branski Jacek
- 46 Ndiaye Youssouf Wally
- 49 Dyda Jackub
- 50 Babos Molnar Claudiu
- 53 Malovanyi Bohdan

C1 Woman:

- 18 Annette Baum

TEAM BUILDING



● ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

To strengthen the cohesion of the group, we organized some visits together.

The first, with Claudiu, Wally, and Annette, was to the town of Český Krumlov, a splendid medieval center and UNESCO World Heritage Site.

● CASTLE OF HLUBOKÁ NAD VLTAVOU

The second, with Annette and Claudiu, took us to the castle near the camp, a fascinating and evocative place, also renowned for its wonderful gardens.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Development program for these World Championships was both a great adventure and a great success. Thanks to this initiative, it was possible to validate the title, with an increasing number of nations taking part. Many of the young athletes tested themselves in a new discipline, for which several of them proved to have a natural talent. Everyone showed remarkable adaptability and impressive skills on wild water. Moreover, many expressed their intention to take part again in competitions of this kind, involving other members of their teams as well a promising sign for the continuity of their participation.



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