



**Minutes of the ECA Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Vaires Sur Marne PARIS - FRANCE**  
**21<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**B. 10/2023**

#### **Present members:**

- President: Jean Zougrana
- Vice Presidents: Miroslav Haviar, Andrej Jelenc
- Secretary General: Branko Lovric
- Board Members: Manuela Gawehn, Peter Karai, Geir Kvillum, Jovana Stanojevic
- Excused: Ruud Heijsselaar

#### **ITEM 1**

#### **OPENING OF THE MEETING**

The meeting was opened by the President, Mr. Jean Zougrana, at 9:00 a.m., welcoming the present members of the Board of Directors and expressing to them the pleasure he had in welcoming them to Paris, where the Olympic and Paralympic games will take place in less than a year.

Since his election, he recalls that it was important for him firstly to learn how the ECA works, and he thanks Branko for his help, then to ensure the representation of the ECA at the international level and finally to begin the transformation of the ECA. This is what was implemented with the co-construction of the ECA strategic plan. Three programs were launched – governance, sport, development. Nearly 80 people are involved in this work and more than 20 federations represented. This was the first major step towards more shared governance, making it possible to provide the ECA with a strategic plan and new statutes. The agenda for this meeting shows that the Board still has a lot of work to do with the calendar of events, human and financial resources, IT tools of the ECA to name just a few items on today's agenda. This Board meeting here in PARIS is also an opportunity to offer a presentation of the PARIS 2024 Games with the Organizing Committee, a visit to the Olympic and Paralympic venue and the headquarters on construction of the French federation which will be delivered in 2024, before the Games, and which will be able to accommodate the headquarters of the ECA in order to offer it the necessary conditions for its development. Finally, the President thanks all the members of the Board for their commitment to the management of the ECA.

#### **PRESENTING THE AGENDA**

The secretary general presents the agenda

1	Opening of the Meeting	J ZOUNGRANA
2	2023 Slalom Competition Report	A JELENC
3	Calendar	B LOVRIC
4	Participation of BLR and RUS athletes at 2024 European Championships	J STANOJEVIC
5	2024 Host Organiser agreements & TV contracts	J STANOJEVIC
6	Denomination of the European championships	A JELENC
7	Support for Slovenia following the floods in the Tacen Slalom Venue	J ZOUNGRANA
8	Financial statement	B LOVRIC
9	Human Resources – Freelance contracts	J ZOUNGRANA
10	Informatics tools	J ZOUNGRANA
11	2028 Los Angeles Olympic Qualification System	P KARAI
12	ECA Strategic Plan	J ZOUNGRANA
13	Extraordinary congress 2024	J ZOUNGRANA
14	Ordinary congress 2025	B LOVRIC
15	PARIS 2024	CYRIL NIVEL
16	PARIS 2024 - ECA invitation strategy	J ZOUNGRANA / B LOVRIC
17	2023 Canoe Sprint Competition reports	J STANOJEVIC
18	2023 Wildwater Canoeing Competition Report	M GAWHEN
19	2024 List of events and Preliminary timetable	J STANOJEVIC
20	ICF SDP access to ECA	J STANOJEVIC
21	MDA Damaged boat (Plastex C2) in ECA CSP Jun&U23 Championships – MDA request for compensation	J STANOJEVIC
22	Reimbursement of the expenses of the officials	B LOVRIC
23	European marathon championships for masters from 2024	B LOVRIC / R HEIJSELAAR
24	Demonstration Para marathon European Championships from 2024 **	B LOVRIC / R HEIJSELAAR
25	Collaboration ECA-WRF World Rafting Federation	J ZOUNGRANA
26	European Championships - combined - all disciplines	J STANOJEVIC
27	ECA Medals	J ZOUNGRANA
28	Next ECA Board meeting date proposal	
29	Miscellaneous	

## ITEM 2

### 2023 SLALOM COMPETITION REPORT

#### **SLALOM WORKING GROUP :**

The kick off meeting was organized with the aim to agree the way how to organise the work within the group. The ECA strategic plan for sport program, which was already presented by the ECA president, was the basics for discussion.

The working group members were asked by the technical delegate for slalom to add their contribution to the creation of strategic analyses for the slalom discipline.

It was agreed that all members of the group would share their views on the future of slalom in the areas of development, slalom events improvements, ideas for calendar and competition system improvements, training of athletes, coaches, judges organizers and volunteers and also about rules development.

The deadline for submitting proposals and individual views is the end of October 2023.

From the beginning of November onwards, several meetings will be organized at which each of the individual areas will be processed.

### **EUROPEAN GAMES / EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS KOLNA, KRAKOW, POLAND 29TH JUNE TO 2ND JULY**

The chief judge report prepared by Sue Natoli and Colin Woodgate was sent to the board members

This was the third European Games, and the first time that Canoe Slalom had been included. There were additional challenges for all involved in the tensions between traditional, slalom only, practices and expectations and the additional co-ordination and resource usage for a multisport event. The competition also acted as the Continental Qualification race to assign quota places for the Paris Olympics. Continental places will be finally awarded after the 2023 World Championships, but will be based on finishing positions at this race.

29 Nations were represented

Some points from this report are highlighted by the technical delegate, notably the difficulties encountered in terms of judgment.

In connection with the problems with the results of men's K1 teams in Krakow It is suggested, in cooperation with the ICF, to open a project about technical evaluation of slalom competitions. In the present state of slalom judging It is considered as an important topic for the development of this discipline.

### **2023 ECA JUNIOR AND UNDER 23 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS BRATISLAVA SLOVAKIA, 20-23 JULY 2023**

A report prepared by Renaat WIJCKMANS and Colin WOODGATE was sent to the board members.

The European Junior and Under 23 Championships returned to Bratislava with a new organising committee. Overall the event was well organised, well attended and enjoyed by those attending.

There were no major issues. There were some difficulties that are mentioned below, but all were handled well, and only the time delays were obvious to the teams.

Communication about these issues, and their impacts, was rapid, keeping people informed minimising the magnitude of the perceived issues.

In terms of judging it was noted that the design of the Kayak Cross course and the adjustment of the gates were a problem, in particular for gate 3, the swing of which once touched sparked a protest from a nation.

The Board takes note of the report and thanks the Slovak and Polish federations and the organizing committees for their commitment to the organization of these events.

### ITEM 3 CALENDAR

An invitation for potential organizers of European championships was sent to the federations on October 1, 2023 for the allocation of the 2027 European championships in the following disciplines:

A) Senior sprint & para\* B) Junior & U23 sprint (+para?\*) C) Senior slalom\* D) Junior & U23 slalom E) Senior WW F) Marathon H) Freestyle I) Dragonboat G) Ocean Canoeing (\*subject to including of the canoe sport in the program of the European Games 2027)

An update is taken on the 2024-2025-2026 calendar

	2024	2025	2026
SENIOR SPRINT	HUN SZEGED 12-16 June	CZE Racice	POR Montemor-o-Velho* * pending inclusion of Canoe Sprint to the Multisport European Championships
SENIOR PARACANOE	HUN SZEGED 13-16 June	CZE Racice	
JUNIOR AND U23 SPRINT	SVK Bratislava	ROU Pitesti	HUN SZEGED
SENIOR CANOE SLALOM	SLO TACEN 15-19 May	NO APPLICATIONS	
JUNIOR AND U23 CANOE SLALOM	POL KRAKOW 15-18 Aug	NO APPLICATIONS	
SENIOR WILDWATER CANOEING		NO APPLICATIONS	
JUNIOR&U23 WILDWATER CANOEING	SUI Dallenwil 03-06 July		
CANOE MARATHON	POL Poznan 27-30 June	POR Crestuma	
CANOE POLO		NO APPLICATIONS	
CANOE FREESTYLE	ESP Salt-Girona*		
EUROPEAN DRAGON BOAT & CLUB-Champs		ITA Spresiano	
OCEAN RACING		POR* AZORES ISLANDS	
SUP	HUN SZEGED 13-16 June		

Freestyle: concerns remain for the 2024 European Championship in Salt Girona – Spain -.

The Board confirms its decision to award Spresiano – Italy – the organization of the EUROPEAN DRAGON BOAT & CLUB-Champs

### ITEM 4

#### PARTICIPATION OF BLR AND RUS ATHLETES AT 2024 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

A reminder is made of the position of the ECA expressed during the Board devoted to this question.

The ECA Board made the decision to follow the statement of the ICF Board from 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023: The International Canoe Federation (ICF) Board has opted to allow Russian and Belarusian athletes to return to its competitions under a neutral flag, provided they do not support the war in Ukraine and are not members of the Army sport clubs or Army directly. Also, they need to fulfil obligation to have passed three (3) or more WADA-compliant doping tests in the last 12 months.

Decision is subject to the decision of the World Championships and International competitions Host Countries Governments regulations.

For 2024, The Slovak federation, according to their government position, will not allowed the Russian and Belarussian athletes to participate to the ECA Junior and U23 Canoe Sprint European Championships organized in Bratislava. Hungarian federation will probably follow the recommendation of the ICF and accept their participation at the continental Canoe Sprint European Championships organized in Szeged, under the conditions set by the ICF for these athletes.

the members of the board express their concerns about this situation, the need to respect the conditions set and their control by the ICF, the ECA not being able to ensure this control, but also the risks of boycott of certain nations.

After discussion, the Board maintains its position for 2024.

Concerning the officials, the ECA confirm the suspension of Russian and Belarusian officials holding official positions within the Russian or Belarusian Canoe Federation or the respective NOC or NPC from participation in any ECA competitions or bodies.

## ITEM 5

### 2024 HOST ORGANISER AGREEMENTS & TV CONTRACTS

The question of contracts with the organizers is addressed and more particularly that of the responsibility by the organizers for the travel of technical delegates for site visits before competitions and officials during competitions.

It is proposed that a minimum site visit be covered by the organizer. He can request more if necessary at his expense.

Regarding officials, certain functions are combined – e.g. jury member and president – which effectively reduces the number of officials to be supported. It is proposed that this number be reduced taking into account these accumulations of functions.

Furthermore, all existing host agreements to be analysed and one common general host organisers agreement to be produced to be used for all disciplines.

Discipline specific requirements addressed as an Annex to the agreement and/or through Technical deliverables.

## ITEM 6

### DENOMINATION OF THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Slovenian Canoe Federation is hosting the 2024 European Championship Senior in TACEN.

In this context, a request was made to be able to use the “I feel Slovenia” brand used by the tourism organizations with which the federation works to organize this competition. After the discussions between the members of the Board it appears that this question must receive double approval

- on the one hand the proposed partnership must be in accordance with the values held by the ECA

- the financial conditions under which this name could be used. In fact, as part of the transformation of the ECA's economic model, the question of naming is important and can be a source of income for the ECA while allowing the organizers to promote their partners.

The Board validates the principle of this partnership subject to agreement on the financial conditions which could be proposed and which must be discussed as well as the technical conditions.

**ITEM 7**

**SUPPORT FOR SLOVENIA FOLLOWING THE FLOODS IN THE TACEN SLALOM VENUE**

The slalom venue in Tacen – Slovenia – was completely ravaged by floods in August. A meeting was then organized with the ICF, the ECA and the Slovenian Federation in order to take stock of the situation and determine the assistance to be provided to the federation. Given the state of the whitewater stadium, the ICF and the ECA have agreed to provide support to the Slovenian federation in order to equip the slalom venue with slalom gates and equipment for kayak cross.

The TACEN site will host the European junior and under-23 championships in 2024.

A specialized equipment manufacturer was asked to make a preferential offer taking into account these circumstances, which it accepted. The amount of the quote is 10,538.99 € including tax.

It is proposed that ECF and ECA share the cost of this Equipment at 50% each. This proposal was validated by the ICF executive committee.

The ECA Board validates this proposal

Andrej Jelenc General Secretary of the Slovenian Canoe Federation and member of the Board, is not taking part in the vote.

**ITEM 8**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

A financial statement is presented by the Secretary General.

**EUROPEAN CANOE ASSOCIATION  
BALANCE SHEET 1-10 2023**

<b>US\$ - PA-BA (INVESTED)</b>			
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Balance 1 January 2023	\$49.679,47		

A

Bank interest 1-4 2023 PA-BA Invested	\$101,27		
<b>BALANCE 19 October 2023</b>	<b>\$49.780,74</b>	<b>\$0,00</b>	<b>\$49.780,74</b>

B

<b>EUR PA-BA (INVESTED)</b>			
DESCRIPTION	INCOME		TOTAL
Balance 1 January 2023	188.383,39 €		
Bank interest 1-4 2023 PA-BA Invested	374,00 €		
<b>BALANCE 19 October 2023</b>	<b>188.757,39 €</b>	<b>0,00 €</b>	<b>188.757,39 €</b>

C

<b>EUR - PBZ</b>				
	DESCRIPTION	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	TOTAL
1	Balance 1 January 2023	79.001,42 €		
2	Transfer from National currency account (2,103,58 Kn)	279,19 €		
3	Deposit of cash in hand	2.197,00 €		
4	Bank interest	107,60 €		
5	Membership fee	10.250,00 €		
6	Medals and debth from NF 2022	4.872,67 €		
7	ICF support	15.000,00 €		
8	EG Krakow travel costs Officials	23.350,29 €		
9	Income from the EOC	50.000,00 €		
10	EMC Munchen 2022 income	142.878,75 €		
11	Bank transfer costs		111,50 €	
12	Web domene name		13,11 €	
13	Bank service		339,08 €	
14	ECA BM Paris dinner (to be reimbursed by FFCK)		685,00 €	
15	ECA BM Paris Radisson Hotel (to be reimbursed by FFCK)		3.141,29 €	
16	ECA Congress costs		5.909,46 €	
17	ECH Szeged Techn.Insp. (to be reimbursed by Hung. Fed in 24)		456,00 €	
18	ECH Szeged Techn.Insp. travel costs (to be reimb. by Hung. Fed in 24)		453,87 €	
19	ECA/ICF Board meeting Budapest costs		631,58 €	
20	ECA Board meeting Zagreb costs		2.177,43 €	
21	Media Officer costs (Nina Jelenc)		13.145,40 €	
22	Estate taxes for payments (Nina Jelenc; M7-web costs)		4.582,91 €	
23	Office supplies		641,36 €	
24	ECA Web hosting M7		997,04 €	
25	Financial Service 9 2023		2.410,00 €	
26	Medal engraving and plaque costs		741,35 €	
27	Refund of the officials travel costs		36.979,88 €	
28	Transfer to President account (5.000 GBP)		5.814,60 €	
29	EMC Munchen 2022 TV management costs		2.300,00 €	
30	Translation of the financial documents for the EMC Munich 2022		34,98 €	
31	Costs of SSD disks for the ECA TV archive		201,22 €	
	<b>BALANCE 19 October 2023</b>	<b>327.936,92 €</b>	<b>81.767,06 €</b>	<b>246.169,86 €</b>

D

<b>EUR € - TV IN EUROPE</b>			
DESCRIPTION	INCOME	EXPENSES	BALANCE
Balance 1 January 2023	15.697,82 €		
EXPENSES PAYMENT JOVANA 7 X 500 €		3.500,00 €	
<b>BALANCE 19 October 2023</b>	<b>15.697,82 €</b>	<b>3.500,00 €</b>	<b>12.197,82 €</b>

E

<b>EUR € - CASH IN HAND</b>			
DESCRIPTION	INCOME	EXPENSES	BALANCE
1 Balance 1 January 2023	777,35 €		
2 Transfer from National currency (30.000 Kn)	3.981,68 €		
3 Transfer to ECA Account		2.197,00 €	
<b>BALANCE 19 October 2023</b>	<b>4.759,03 €</b>	<b>2.197,00 €</b>	<b>2.562,03 €</b>

F

<b>EUR OVERALL</b>	
DESCRIPTION	INCOME
<b>BALANCE PBZ, 19 October 2023</b>	246.169,86 €
<b>BALANCE PA-BA, 19 October 2023</b>	188.757,39 €
<b>BALANCE CASH, 19 October 2023</b>	2.562,03 €
<b>BALANCE TV IN EUROPE, 19 October 2023</b>	12.197,82 €
	<b>449.687,10 €</b>

G

<b>GBP - PRESIDENT ACCOUNT- CLOSED ON 30 JUNE 2023</b>			
DESCRIPTION	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	TOTAL
1 Balance 1 January 2021	-£123,35		
2 Transfer from the ECA Office Account	£5.000,00		
3 President travel and office costs 1-6 2023.		£4.876,65	
<b>BALANCE PBZ 31 December 2022</b>	<b>£4.876,65</b>	<b>£4.876,65</b>	<b>£0,00</b>

H

To be reimbursed from NF for travel costs:	<b>11.236,43 €</b>
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#### Explanations

A-B Table A and B are showing balance on the Invested account of the ECA.

- Incomes:

C-6	Income from the debt of membership fee and costs of medals from 2022 refunded by NF in 2023
C-8	This income is agreed with the OC of the EG Krakow 2023 for covering the travel costs of the ITO's
C 9-10	Income for participation to the European Multisport Championships Munich 2022 and EG Krakow 2023
E 2	As from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2023 Croatia changed national currency to €, all values in previous currency (Kn) have been converted to € (Official rate 1€=7,5345 Kn)



G 2	Amount transferred to the GB Account for covering the President Woods Office and travel costs (Account closed by the 30 June) after the European Games Krakow 2023 where Mr. Woods was Member of the EOC Coordination Commission
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- Expenses

C 14-15	Costs of organisation of the ECA Board meeting in Paris 20-22 October 2023 that will be reimbursed by the FFCK
C 16	Organisation costs of the ECA Congress Chania 2023
C 17-18	Travel and accommodation costs of the Technical inspection of the ECA Senior sprint Championships Szeged 2024 – will be reimbursed by the OC in 2024
C 19-20	Costs of organisation of the ECA Board meeting in Zagreb January 2023 and Budapest during the ICF Board meeting
C 21	ECA Media Officer costs (Nina Jelenc)
C 22	Estate taxes for payments of the ECA Media Officer and ECA WEB Hosting (M7-Slovakia)
C 24	ECA WEB Hosting and CMS management costs (M7-Slovakia)
D 2	Payment of the ECA Sprint Technical delegate FOR organisation and coordination activities between ECA and EMC Munich 2023, OC Krakow 2023 and EOC so as for the participation to the next EMC and EG competitions.
E 3	Deposit of the cash in hand to the account
G 3	Costs of the President Woods travel and Office costs from 1 January- 30 June 2023 when the account was closed
H	This amount will be reimbursed from the NF's for the ITO's travel costs for the ECA Sprint CH in Montemor and ECA slalom CH in Bratislava

#### Bank accounts

- The president Bank Account has been closed after the European Games given the fact that the president was still involved in the organisation of the European games as member of the Coordination Committee.

#### Comments

With regard to TV rights, it is noted that the abandonment of the partnership with Eurosport led to a drop in audience numbers. This has a direct impact in certain countries - eg: Slovenia - on the possibilities of partnership which are based on audience figures.

## ITEM 9

### HUMAN RESOURCES – FREELANCE CONTRACTS

The ECA currently has part-time human resources (Ivana for administration / Nina for communication / Jovana for events).

The legal framework in which these people were employed and their missions need to be clarify.

The aim is to

- Clearly define the missions of these people and the expectations of the ECA
- Secure the personal situation of these employees
- Provide a secure legal framework through an employment contract or an agreement with a federation

The proposed calendar

- Confirm the decision taken by the Board to use these jobs until December 31, 2023, and the amount of their wages.
- Define the contractual framework for the period from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 - freelance contract or agreement with the federations -
- Define the amounts and missions for 2024: Over the period from October to November, define the missions for 2024 for each of the agents as well as the amounts
- Study partnership possibilities with the ICF
- Validate the positions by a remote Board in December
- The year 2024 being a year of transition. 2025 take advantage of the congress and the new elections to regularize certain situations (eg: position of ECA employee and elected member of the board)

The board approve the proposals and entrusts the president and the general secretary with the task of implementing these recommendations

## ITEM 10

### IT TOOLS

The ECA does not have an IT tool to develop its activities. The objective of this project is

1. To equip ECA with a tool allowing you to organize remote meetings for members of ECA bodies – Microsoft Teams -
2. To have email addresses with a domain name – canoe-eca.com (ex: jzoungrana@canoe-eca.com)
3. Benefit from office tools with Microsoft Office 365 and access to SharePoint

**The proposed quote:**

Services	Amount including tax
1. One day for an IT engineer to set up the tools	948€
2. Deposit and registration of the domain name: €10 excluding tax / month	144€
3. Creation of accounts – €4 / users per month (for 20€ people) + access to the hotline	960€
4. Microsoft Office 365 and sharepoint – 10.50€ excluding tax / users per month (for 20 people)	3024€

The FFCK IT systems manager will support the ECA in setting up these tools – creation of accounts and email addresses for members –

After discussion on the economic impact and the need to evolve and modernize the organization and administration of the ECA and its economic model, the Board approve this project.

## ITEM 11

### 2028 LOS ANGELES OLYMPIC QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

For the Board information, within the framework of the ICF, a working group was created to make proposals for the Sprint Olympic qualification system for the Los Angeles 2028 games.

After a presentation of the advantages, disadvantages and limits of the current system, reflection began on the possible consideration of a ranking of athletes in the qualification system.

The use of a ranking based on the results of the competitions would make it possible to develop the discipline on all continents, to promote these competitions and to find financial partners for competitions entering into Olympic qualifications.

The qualification system could therefore be based according to 3 hypotheses either on competitions as is currently the case, or on a hybrid mode with competitions and the international ranking of athletes or finally on the ranking of athletes alone.

The production of an international ranking poses a certain number of technical difficulties which must be taken into account: what type of competitions – world cups, world championships, continental championships, national championships etc. –, the method of calculation etc.

Slalom was able to implement such a classification and was able to share its experience on this issue.

## ITEM 12

### ECA STRATEGIC PLAN

The president made an up date of the situation and remind some key points

- March 25: ECA Congress - elections
- May 17 - Call for interest to all ECA federations to create working groups and co-construct the strategic plan – ECA received proposals of 20 nations and 95 applicants
- July 18 – technical delegates meeting were presented
  - The results of the call for applications to federations for the constitution of working groups for the ECA strategic plan
  - The method to constitute the working groups for the different disciplines, th working methods and timetable.
- Aug 26: Board Duisburg – Constitution of working groups based on proposals from technical delegates-
- Sept 14: Kick-off meeting Governance Program

- Oct 12: 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting
- Sept 15: Kick-off meeting Development Program
  - Oct 26: 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting planned
- Sept 28: Kick-off meeting Sport Program

Following this presentation, a discussion was engaged and some points highlighted

- The work has started in most of the disciplines
- For Dragon Boat, the chairman of the discipline from Russia is suspended according to ICO recommendations.
- The technical delegates sometimes forget to invite to the meetings the board member in charge of the discipline
- Few members were not informed by their federation of their nomination
- Few members of the working group were not available to attend the kick-off meeting
- The link between ECA committees and ICF committees

For the Dragon Boat, the Board decide to propose to one of the working group member, Ulrike SCHRECK (GER), to take the lead of this group with the help of Andrej Jelenc, the representant of the board in this working group.

### **ITEM 13**

#### **ECA EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS 2024**

To approve the new statutes and the strategic plan of the ECA which will be proposed by the working groups, the President recalls his proposal for an extraordinary congress of the ECA organized on the occasion of the ICF congress in November 2024 , in order to be able to have the capacity at the 2025 ECA congress to have elections on the basis of the adopted statutes and therefore an organization of bodies allowing the implementation of the ECA strategic plan.

Organizing such a congress at the same time as the ICF congress would also avoid generating additional costs for our federations which are already participating in this congress.

The current statutes of the ECA require that the request for an extraordinary congress be approved by the majority of member federations.

In this context, it is proposed that the President and the Secretary General approach the federations in order to propose the organization of this extraordinary congress.

### **ITEM 14**

#### **ECA ORDINARY CONGRESS 2025**

On August 4, 2023, a call for applications was made for the organization of the 2025 ECA congress scheduled for Saturday, 29th March or Saturday, 5th April 2025.

Applications should be sent to the ECA by October 30 2023.

The Board is informed by the Secretary General that for the moment two federations have expressed their interest: the Hungarian and Portuguese canoe federations.

## ITEM 15 & 16

### PARIS 2024

This meeting was an opportunity to meet the organizing committee for the 2024 Paris Olympic and Paralympic Games, to visit the Olympic and Paralympic venue as well as the future headquarters of the FFCK which will be delivered in May 2024.

The OCOG's presentation made it possible to present the organization of the site at the time of the games, the calendar, and to provide an update on ticketing.

This visit was an opportunity to address the question of the ECA's strategy during the PARIS 2024 games.

The FFCK headquarters, located at the entrance to the Olympic site, offers a great opportunity to organize highlights for our member federations and our partners. Furthermore, the reception of these games raises the question of the strategy to be implemented in terms of ticketing for some of our members and our partners.

This point will have to be discussed further at the next Board meeting.

## ITEM 17

### 2023 CANOE SPRINT COMPETITION REPORTS

The report of the technical delegate was sent to the board members.

#### EUROPEAN GAMES – SPRINT – KRAKOW - POLAND

The European games are a great opportunity to promote our paddle sports. This edition was organized on Krispinow Lake, Krakow Poland. All facilities were temporary, set up only for the purpose of Canoe Sprint competition. As much as it was challenging to set up all facilities required, all ECA/ICF standards were fulfilled.

Fair and just competition overall - weather conditions were very good except on one day when due to thunderstorm and lightning races were delayed; as it was a multisport format DPC Policy was in place, ECA had very much influence on the decision making process. All athletes were off water on time. Total delay was 30 min.

35 nations et 277 competitors, 161 men 116 women participated.

1 DNS, 1 DSQ, no DNF. No protests or appeals from teams to Competition Committee and/or Jury.

Some issues were highlighted :

Accommodation was provided by Krakow OC at Athletes village. All meals were served also at Athletes village. On the venue there were only refreshments for athletes. There were some difficulties in arranging accommodation for ECA Family (ECA President, ECA Secretary General, ECA Board members and ECA ITOs, communication was limited and non-existent at times. All worked well in the end.

Transport airport transfer and daily shuttle provided by Krakow OC. NO communication with transport department at all. At times there were difficulties for all groups - teams were complaining on training days as all went at the same time, but not enough buses. ITOs transfer was not confirmed or communicated at all, even though ECA TD sent the daily schedule months in advance.

VIP area very well organised but difficult access for the ECA Board members.

## ITEM 18

### 2023 WILDWATER CANOEING COMPETITION REPORT

The report of the technical delegate was sent to the board members.

## ECA WILDWATER CANOEING EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS – SKOPJE – NORTH MACEDONIA - 6.-20.05.2023

The event was organised on River Treska in Canyon Matka, approx 15km far from Skopje town which created an outstanding environment for the event.

18 nations – 122 competitors, 77 men et 45 women

*Classic race:* Start – Start position on the beginning of the Matka Sport centre. Finish line – bridge over Treska in Glumovo village. Length 3.400 m.

*Sprint race:* On semi artificial course in Matka Start same as classic race Finish line end of the Matka sport centre under bridge. Length 340m.

The difficulty of level II to III was perfect for Wildwater canoeing races and all competitors and coaches were confident with course.

The competition was well organized.

Miscellaneous notes: No Wifi access was available at the course. No protest were given, one disqualification of a team who wasn't ready at the start were announced. As classic finish was in a small village the habitants have complained to see the naked athletes if they are changing clothes - organiser would help with providing of changing tents.

CLASSIC	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze
	MK1 Classic	FRA	SLO	FRA
	WK1 Classic	BEL	GER	FRA
	MC1 Classic	FRA	FRA	GER
	WC1 Classic	ITA	FRA	ITA
	MC2 Classic	FRA	FRA	GER
	WC2 Classic	ITA	FRA	CZE
	MK1x3 Classic	SLO	BEL	CZE
	WK1x3 Classic	GER	FRA	ITA
	MC1x3 Classic	FRA	GER	CZE

SPRINT	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze
	MK1 Sprint	SLO	FRA	SLO
	WK1 Sprint	CZE	SLO	FRA
	MC1 Sprint	FRA	SLO	FRA
	WC1 Sprint	FRA	ITA	FRA
	MC2 Sprint	FRA	FRA	CZE
	WC2 Sprint	FRA	ITA	AUT
	MK1x3 Sprint	SLO	ITA	FRA
	WK1x3 Sprint	CZE	FRA	ITA
	MC1x3 Sprint	FRA	CZE	GER

The Board takes note of the report and thanks the Macedonian federation and the organizing committee for their commitment to the organization of this event.

## ECA CUP STATISTICS

	ECA Cup Venues	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024											
AUT	Wildalpen																		
BIH	Banja Luka	x		x															
CZE	Ceske Budejovice	x	x	x	x	x	x												
CZE	Roudnice	x																	
ESP	Seu D'Urgell		x																
FRA	Metz						x												
FRA	St Laurent Blagny																		
GBR	Nottingham																		
GBR	River Dee																		
GER	Augsburg		x																
GER	Fulda																		
ITA	Mezzana					x	x	x											
ITA	Valtellina		x																
MKD	Skopje	x	x	x															
SLO	Kolpa	x	x	x	x	x													
SUI	Dallenwill																		

  

WWC		NF total	K1M	K1W	C1M	C1W	C2M	C2W	To
2023	ECA Sprint Cup Senior	16	158	63	67	17	35	3	34
2022	ECA Sprint Cup Senior	14	243	88	85	27	40	5	50
2021	ECA Sprint Cup Senior	8	117	47	54	17	31	0	27
2020	ECA Sprint Cup Senior	11	80	48	47	19	23	1	22
2019	ECA Sprint Cup Senior	12	196	75	77	29	42	2	43
2018	ECA Sprint Cup Senior	13	117	48	59	18	28	0	28

  

WWC		NF total	K1M	K1W	C1M	C1W	C2M	C2W	Total
2023	ECA WWC Junior Cup	12	123	49	29	12	14	0	239
2022	ECA WWC Junior Cup	10	193	77	41	23	21	0	365
2021	ECA WWC Junior Cup	8	79	46	46	7	12	0	198
2020	ECA WWC Junior Cup	9	40	28	20	11	10	1	119
2019	ECA WWC Junior Cup	6	75	30	28	8	8	0	155
2018	ECA WWC Junior Cup	9	48	28	19	13	11	0	128

## ECA EUROPEAN WILDWATER CANOEING SPRINT CUP 2024

The calendar

ECA WWC Sprint Cup 1 02./03.03.2024 St Laurent Blangy FRA

ECA WWC Sprint Cup 2 09./10.03.2024 Fulda/Fulda GER

ECA WWC Sprint Cup 3 06./07.04.2024 Holme Pierreport/ Nottingham GBR

ECA WWC Sprint Cup 4 13./14.04.2024 Noce, Mezzana ITA

ECA WWC Sprint Cup 5 20./21.04.2024 Vrbas/Banja Luka BIH

ECA WWC Sprint Cup 6 22.-25.05.2024 Salza/Wildalpen AUT/GER

ECA WWC Sprint Cup 7 23./24.11.2024 River Dee, Llangollen GBR

## ECA JUNIORS CUP CALENDAR 2024

European Wildwater Canoeing JUNIOR Cup will be organised every year for the purpose of increasing participation and the development of the Young wildwater canoeing athletes.

ECA WWC Sprint Cup 1 02./03.03.2024 St Laurent Blangy FRA

ECA WWC Sprint Cup 2 09./10.03.2024 Fulda/Fulda GER

ECA WWC Sprint Cup 3 06./07.04.2024 Holme Pierreport/ Nottingham GBR

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ECA WWC Sprint Cup 6 22.-25.05.2024 Salza/Wildalpen AUT/GER

ECA WWC Sprint Cup 7 23./24.11.2024 River Dee, Llangollen GBR

## PARTICIPATION STATISTICS

Year	Competition	Venue	Nation	Athletes	Events
2023	Senior EC	Skopje (MKD)	18	123	18
2022	U23 EC	Banja Luka (BIH)	18	110	22
2022	Junior EC	Banja Luka (BIH)	19	115	16
2021	Senior EC	Sabero (ESP)	15	104	18
2021	U23 EC	Solkan (SLO)	15	97	22
2021	Junior EC	Solkan (SLO)	15	116	16
2019	Senior EC	Bovec (SLO)	14	104	17
2018	U23 EC	Skopje (MKD)	16	104	20
2018	Junior EC	Skopje (MKD)	16	117	18
2017	Senior EC	Skopje (MKD)	16	115	20
2016	Junior EC	Murau (AUT)	14	121	17
2015	Senior EC	Banja Luka (BIH)	13	106	17
2014	Junior EC	Banja Luka (BIH)	15	122	19
2013	Senior EC	Bovec (SLO)	12	98	18

### ITEM 19

#### 2024 LIST OF EVENTS AND PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

The question of the events and preliminary timetable during the 2024 European Sprint championships organized in Szeged is addressed. This championship also hosts the European Paracanoe Championships but also, for the first time, stand up paddle European championship within a sprint event.

The program of events requires taking into account both sporting objectives and television broadcast constraints in order to achieve the best possible audience. This may lead to wanting to isolate the SUP and Paracanoe events from other events.

The Board confirms its desire to have an inclusive approach to Paracanoeing both in the organization of the events and in the medal ceremonies. Finally she hopes that this event will also shed particular light on this new discipline within the ECA that is SUP.

The technical delegate is invited to implement this recommendation with the partners.

### ITEM 20

#### ICF SDP ACCESS TO ECA

SDP is the competition management computer system provided by the ICF and also used during the European Championships by the ECA organizers. For the use of this tool, the ECA pays a fee of 1500 euros to the ICF.

Not all technical delegates have access to this tool as an administrator, which does not facilitate their work in organizing competitions. Only the organizers have access to it. It is therefore desirable that all ECA technical delegates can have access to SDP. The general secretary is invited to contact the ICF to make the request.

#### **ITEM 21**

##### **MDA DAMAGED BOAT (PLASTEX C2) IN ECA CSP JUN&U23 CHAMPIONSHIPS – MDA REQUEST FOR COMPENSATION**

A boat, a C2 from the manufacturer Plastex, belonging to the Moldovan federation was accidentally damaged during the European sprint games. The conditions in which this accident occurred highlights multiple possible responsibilities: an ECA official, the organizers, the Moldovan federation, without it being possible to determine it precisely. It is proposed to share these costs between the different actors.

The question of insuring our events is raised and shows very different situations and very different costs depending on the country. In some countries this cost is very significant and discourages organizers.

The Secretary General is invited to contact Plastex and the Moldovan Federation in order to find a solution at the lowest cost for the ECA.

#### **ITEM 22**

##### **REIMBURSEMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE OFFICIALS**

Most of the Invoices received from the NF's for the ITO's travel costs have already been reimbursed, but some Federations have not sent full documentation with copies of the Invoices, so refunds are delayed until the documentation will be completed. Most of delays are for the ITO's travel costs for the ECA Canoe Polo Championships in Brandenburg. Federations are informed that closing date for receiving the full documentation is 1<sup>st</sup> November.

#### **ITEM 23**

##### **EUROPEAN MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR MASTERS FROM 2024**

We have in the World Championships, masters as a World Championship races and it seems better to do the same for European Championships under the same condition when we organise the World Championships.

In any case, 3 different nations must participate in each race to qualify it as a European Championship race.

Races according to the World Championships schedule.

The Board approve this proposal to organize master championships within the ECA European championships of Marathon.



## ITEM 24

### DEMONSTRATION PARA MARATHON EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS FROM 2024 \*\*

The technical delegate inform the board members that demonstrations of Paracanoe are made within the ICF World Championships in close consultation with the Paracanoe committee.

It is proposed to do the same within European championships of Marathon.

The Board approve this proposal.

## ITEM 25

### COLLABORATION ECA-WRF WORLD RAFTING FEDERATION

The ECA received a letter from the WRF to explore possibilities for cooperation in organizing events jointly as part of the implementation of the existing partnership between the ICF and the WRF.

Situation of rafting at an international level.

- 2 Federations: IRF / WRF
- IRF: accept all members – associations and clubs –
- WRF: recognized by ICF and only accept federation members

Situation of rafting in Europe

- No European federation
- Few European competitions are organized
- 7 federations members of WRF have the delegation for rafting
- 26 European nations are members of WRF
- Participation of European countries to the WC: 14 on 2021 & 18 on 2023

An exchange began between the members of the board on possible collaborations and it was agreed to organize an official meeting with the WRF. The president and the general secretary are responsible for implementing this recommendation.

## ITEM 26

### EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS - COMBINED - ALL DISCIPLINES

The organization of multi-discipline championships can be an opportunity to bring together several disciplines, create larger events, highlight certain non-Olympic disciplines, reduce costs for our federations by pooling organizations, improve the economic model of our events.

An exchange begins between the members of the board on this question. Certain sites in Europe are able to host this type of event. The site of Vaires sur Marne – France where the next Olympic Games will take place is mentioned with its two artificial rivers and its lake on the same site.

The organization of such an event requires political validation from our member federations and the removal of technical difficulties of such events. The French federations plan to organize a return of the games event in October 2024 which will combine several disciplines: Wildwater, Slalom, Marathon, Canoe Polo etc. Feedback can be provided to the Board at the end of this event.

**ITEM 27**  
**ECA MEDALS**

The design of ECA medals has not changed for a long time. The president was alerted by an athlete about the quality of the medals awarded by the ECA in comparison of other sports. Currently the medals are ordered by the ECA with a large volume - + 1000 - to reduce costs . The ECA engraves the medals for the various championships and sends them to the organizers. The cost of the medals is invoiced to the organizers. 25€ per set (Bronze+Silver+Gold). The number of medals currently in stock allows for one or two years of competition.

The definition of a new design can be an opportunity to work on a more modern design. It is proposed that a study be carried out for a new design to be proposed to the members of the board.

**ITEM 28**  
**NEXT ECA BOARD MEETING DATE PROPOSAL**

It is proposed to organize the next board meeting January 13, 2024 in Belgrade – Serbia -

**ITEM 29**  
**MISCELLANEOUS**

**UNIFORMS**

The issue of official ECA dress is addressed. Following discussions between the members of the Board, it is proposed that the FFCK within the framework of its Eshop can make proposals and put them on sale on behalf of the ECA

For this the Board must define the specifications for the FFCK: which officials (board members, technical delegates, judges and officials, volunteers at events etc. - / what type of clothing / illustrations of outfits. A document will be provided online for Board members to co-construct these specifications.

**Economic impact of the strategic plan**

A discussion began on the ECA strategic plan and their economic impact. The members of the Board agree on the necessary control of the budget and the need to find new sources of income to achieve this.

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The President Jean Zoungrana thanked all members of the Board for their inputs and contribution. There being no further business on the agenda, the meeting was closed at 6:45 p.m.

Branko Lovric  
ECA Secretary General



Jean Zoungrana  
ECA President

