

= 2009 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships =

The 2009 International Canoe Federation (ICF) Canoe Sprint World Championships were held 12 ? 16 August 2009 in Dartmouth , Nova Scotia , Canada , on Lake Banook . The Canadian city was selected to host the championships in October 2003 after having done so previously in 1997 . Final preparations were made after the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing , with competition format changed for the first time since the 2001 championships . Four exhibition events for both paddleability and women 's canoe were added . Sponsorship was local within the province of Nova Scotia and the Halifax Regional Municipality . Media coverage was provided from Canada , Europe and the United States on the Internet , television and mobile phone . 669 canoeists from 68 nations participated at the championships themselves .

Germany won the most medals with 18 medals and seven golds . Men 's canoe 's overall winner was Russia with seven medals (one gold , five silver and one bronze) . In men 's kayak , the big winner was Germany with five medals (three golds , one silver and one bronze) . Hungary won medals in all nine events of women 's kayak . Athlete comments ranged from disgust over the format adjustment made to the canoe sprint program for the 2012 Summer Olympics to not being upset at all . Paddleability 's success at these championships will hopefully push for inclusion into future Paralympic level events .

= = Explanation of events = =

Canoe sprint competitions are broken up into Canadian canoe (C) , an open canoe with a single @-@ blade paddle , or in kayaks (K) , a closed canoe with a double @-@ bladed paddle . Each canoe or kayak can hold one person (1) , two people (2) , or four people (4) . For each of the specific canoes or kayaks , such as a K @-@ 1 (kayak single) , the competition distances can be 200 metres (660 ft) , 500 metres (1 @,@ 600 ft) , or 1 @,@ 000 metres (3 @,@ 300 ft) long . When a competition is listed as a C @-@ 2 500 m event as an example , it means two people are in a canoe competing at a 500 metres (1 @,@ 600 ft) distance .

= = Preliminaries to the event = =

Dartmouth was awarded the 2009 championships at an ICF Board of Directors meeting in Madrid , Spain , on 23 October 2003 .

= = = Event format changes = = =

At the 2008 ICF Congress in Rome , a new program for the championships was approved . This marked the first change in the program since the addition of the K @-@ 4 1000 m women 's event at the 2001 championships in Pozna? . Men 's C @-@ 4 500 m , men 's K @-@ 4 500 m , women 's K @-@ 4 1000 m events were replaced by C @-@ 1 4 x 200 m relay (men only) and K @-@ 1 4 x 200 m relay (both men and women) . Women 's C @-@ 1 200 m , C @-@ 1 500 m , C @-@ 2 200 m and C @-@ 2 500 m events were shown as exhibition . Paddleability exhibition events of K @-@ 1 200 m LTA (men & women) , K @-@ 2 200 m TA & A (mixed) , and C @-@ 2 200 m LTA & A (mixed) also took place (LTATA ? Legs , Trunks , and Arms or Trunks and Arms ; LTA ? Legs , Trunks , and Arms ; and TA & A ? Trunks and Arms , or Arms) . Support for women 's Canadian and the paddle ability events were confirmed at an ICF Board of Directors meeting in Lausanne , Switzerland , on 18 ? 20 March 2009 . A training camp was held for women 's canoe in conjunction with the championships .

= = = Official meetings = = =

In January 2009 , ICF Secretary General Simon Toulson visited Halifax for three days and was impressed with the history of canoeing in the area and the development of future canoeists for

Canada . Two public meetings were held in Dartmouth and Halifax on 24 and 26 March regarding the championships .

= = = Facility = = =

During the end of 2008 , Lake Banook had its canoe course upgraded by Dexter Construction Limited . Water that had been pumped out of lake ceased on 15 December 2008 , allowing the lake to rise back to its regular level by February 2009 . Cleanup , restoration and landscaping was completed in the spring of 2009 . By May 2009 , this construction included new concrete abutments at the 1 @, @ 000 metres (3 @, @ 300 ft) , 500 metres (1 @, @ 600 ft) , 200 metres (660 ft) , and finish points , debris and abutment cleanup , ten new lane wires , four new cross wires , and 800 new buoys . Starting gates were tested during the second national team trials held at the lake on 27 ? 28 June 2009 . Temporary grandstands for 20 @, @ 000 spectators per day were also constructed .

Additional changes were for environmental reasons . This included the Halifax Regional Water Commission , Conserve Nova Scotia , and Nova Scotia Environment providing water stations for athletes , spectators and volunteers to fill up reusable water bottles which were purchased on site . It eliminated 100 @, @ 000 disposable bottles and 1 @, @ 400 kilograms (3 @, @ 100 lb) of plastic waste . Dalhousie University 's residence halls used energy efficient lighting and cleaning products . The university 's cafeteria eliminated the use of trays , lessening food waste , energy consumption and daily water usage by 4 @, @ 000 litres (880 imp gal ; 1 @, @ 100 US gal) . A buy local policy and delivery truck that ran entirely on vegetable oil fuel was also used .

According to a 10 August 2009 press release , the staging area was at Birch Cove Park in Halifax . 669 from 68 countries competed at the championships with an estimated 100 @, @ 000 spectators .

= = = Sponsorships = = =

The Atlantic Lottery Corporation presented the " Women in Canoe " program that included 21 female canoeists from 12 different countries . Festival entertainment was sponsored by the Nova Scotia Gaming Corporation , including a " Concert on the Lake " by Matt Mays on 14 August that drew 10 @, @ 000 spectators . Other sponsors include Bell Aliant as presenters , silver sponsors were The Chronicle Herald of Halifax , CFRQ Q104 FM radio , CBC Sports and the Halifax Water Authority ; the bronze sponsors were NOREX , Helly Hansen , Conserve Nova Scotia , Nova Scotia environment , Mills fashion and NELO ; government sponsorship of Department of Canadian Heritage , Nova Scotia Health Promotion and Protection , and the Halifax Regional Municipality ; other supporters of Mic Mac Mall , CBS Outdoor , Metro Transit of Halifax , and Office Interiors ; and friends of Ambassadors , Priority Management , KayakPro , the Office of Aboriginal Affairs , and The Cider House Company Limited .

= = Participating nations = =

68 nations were listed on the preliminary entry list . The numbers in parentheses shown are for men and women who competed for each respective nation .

Russia had the most overall attendees with 46 while Canada topped the number of women competing with 16 .

The media guide listed 71 nations as participating , but seven nations listed did not compete (Cameroon , Dominican Republic , Montenegro , Nigeria , South Korea , Togo and Uganda) while four nations who competed were not listed (Ghana , Kyrgyzstan , Senegal and Tajikistan) .

The ICF sponsored ten athletes in a development program in Romania in early 2009 that allowed them to compete at the world championships . These countries included Algeria , Armenia , Sri Lanka , and Thailand .

= = Coverage = =

Media coverage was provided by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) Sports in Canada , Eurosport , and Universal Sports in the United States . Live results were provided onsite from the official website that was sponsored by Bell Aliant which ran 9 am to 4 : 30 pm AST on 13 August , 9 AM to 3 : 55 pm AST on 14 August , 8 : 44 am to 5 : 45 pm AST on 15 August 2009 , and 8 : 30 am to 3 : 46 pm AST on 16 August . Championship information was also available on Twitter . CBC Sports had broadcast times of 2 ? 3 PM AST on 15 August 2009 followed by late night coverage at 12 : 30 am AST on 16 August 2009 along with coverage on the web at [http : / / www.cbcsports.ca](http://www.cbcsports.ca). Universal Sports telecasted the finals for both the 15th and the 16th live and are now seen on demand on their website . A total of 30 million people from 36 countries worldwide watched the event on television .

Results were transmitted for free with mobile web application named ZAP result . This mobile widget was developed by Norex.ca.

= = Schedule = =

= = = Opening and closing ceremonies = = =

Opening ceremonies took place at 8 pm AST on 12 August . 10 @, @ 000 people watched 68 countries participate in the opening ceremonies that included Canoe ' 09 chair Chris Keevill , ICF President José Perurena , and Sport Canada minister Gary Lunn . The Concert on the Lake took place at 8 pm AST on 14 August with over 10 @, @ 000 attendees . Closing ceremonies occurred on 16 August at 4 pm AST . Medals were presented in Mi 'kmaq baskets for gold medalists , traditional European baskets for silver medalists , and in traditional African Nova Scotian baskets for bronze medalists . Mi 'kmaq is a territory in the Atlantic Provinces of Canada prior to the settlement by the French in the 17th century . The settlement was rotated between the French and British between 1627 and 1755 before the British took over the area after the French and Indian War . Africans settled in Nova Scotia during the Atlantic slave trade that ran from the 16th to 19th centuries . The closing ceremonies on 16 August included passing the ICF flag from Dartmouth to the 2010 world championship hosts in Pozna? .

= = = Festival performances = = =

Festivals for all four days started 30 minutes before the first race and ended 30 minutes after the last race each day . Live entertainment took place each of the days along with vendors , displays and exhibits . Boating safety was discussed along with interactive exhibits on canoe construction and allowing to touch live animals from around the world , including tarantulas and a 12 feet (3 @. @ 7 m) -long python .

= = = Competition schedule = = =

= = = = Men 's canoe = = = =

= = = = Men 's kayak = = = =

= = = = Women 's kayak = = = =

= = = = Women 's canoe (exhibition) = = = =

===== Paddleability (exhibition) =====

== Results ==

The preliminary draw was released on 9 August . This was updated again on 11 August .

===== Men 's =====

===== Canoe =====

Russia was the top winner with seven medals with Nikolay Lipkin winning five medals . Belarus won three gold medals . Azerbaijan won a complete set of medals in the canoe discipline while Uzbekistan won its first ever gold medal at the championships .

===== Kayak =====

Germany won five medals in the men 's kayak . Ronald Rauhe 's three medals for Germany at these championships pushed his career total to 20 , tying him with Torsten Gutsche (East Germany @-@ Germany : 1989 ? 99) . Belarus won four golds with Vadzim Makhneu and Raman Piatrushenka each winning four of those golds .

===== Women 's =====

===== Kayak =====

Hungary medaled in all nine events with Natasa Janics and Katalin Kovacs each winning five medals . Kovacs ' five medals pushed her total medal count to 35 , three behind Birgit Fischer 's 38 (East Germany @-@ Germany : 1978 ? 2005) . Bridgette Hartley 's bronze medal in the K @-@ 1 1000 m event was the first for both South Africa and Africa at the world championships . Josefa Idem 's bronze in the K @-@ 1 500 m event makes her the oldest medalist in the history of the championships .

===== Exhibition =====

===== Women 's canoe =====

Host nation Canada won all four of the exhibition events . Jenna Marks won three of these events (C @-@ 1 200 m , C @-@ 2 200 m , C @-@ 2 500 m) . Other nations with top three finishes included Brazil , Ecuador , Great Britain and the United States .

===== Paddleability =====

Italy had four top three finishes to lead all nations in this event while the United States was second with three .

== Aftermath ==

== Athlete comments ==

Australia's Wallace commented that he was upset at the ICF's decision that was made during the championships to replace the men's 500 m events (C @-@ 1 , C @-@ 2 , K @-@ 1 and K @-@ 2) at the Summer Olympics with the 200 m events (men's C @-@ 1 , K @-@ 1 and K @-@ 2 ; and women's K @-@ 1) for the upcoming Summer Olympics in London . Kovacs of Hungary stated that the addition of the women's K @-@ 1 200 m event for the 2012 Olympics will not change her training routine . Italy's Idem , who was competing in her 20th world championships , stated that she was just as " ... nervous when ... [she] ... was a 13 year old girl (1977) and ... [she was] ... the same today . " Germany's Rauhe expressed his love for Canada by " ... going on holiday now . " in the host nation .

== Paddleability's (Paracanoe's) future ==

In a 25 August 2009 ICF article , ICF Canoeing for All Committee and Canoe Kayak Canada's Domestic Development Director John Edwards thanked efforts of the paddlers involved in the paddleability events for the 2009 championships . Edwards stated that the efforts for paddleability's success are twofold . The first is for inclusion into the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Athens , Greece . Once this is recognized , the next goal is to get Special Olympic programs at a national level for inclusion into the 2016 Summer Paralympics . The second , a shorter @-@ term one , is to have 24 nations from three continents participate at next year's canoe sprint world championships in Poznań . Besides the medalists from this year's world championships being from Italy , the United States , Canada , Brazil and France , other participants included Great Britain and Portugal . The process to include paddleability into the 2016 Summer Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro , Brazil began on 1 October 2009 and approval was reached on 16 July 2010 .

== Medals Table ==

Shown for the non @-@ exhibition events only .