



**2026 ICF CANOE
SPRINT WORLD CUP
8-10 MAY 2026, SZEGED**

COMPETITION GUIDE



worldcup.szeged2026.com



**2026 ICF CANOE
SPRINT WORLD CUP**

DEAR FRIENDS, DEAR PARTICIPANTS,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you back to Szeged soon for this year's first **ICF CANOE SPRINT WORLD CUP**.

It is always a special occasion for Hungary to host an international sporting event. We are especially proud that the international canoe sprint community has been returning to the legendary Maty-ér Regatta Course year after year.

This year's World Cup will be particularly special, as it is one of the key events in the newly introduced Olympic qualification system for canoe sprint. In other words, the road to Los Angeles will pass through Szeged, with the city also set to host the 2027 World Championships as another major milestone on the journey. The stakes are therefore high, and with 64 countries having expressed their intention to participate, we are sure that everyone will give their very best. I believe we can look forward to a truly exciting competition.

The Hungarian Canoe Federation has always regarded it as a priority to welcome the world's best canoe and kayak athletes to Hungary under world-class conditions. I feel that our organising team, which has done an excellent job in recent years, together with one of the world's finest regatta courses, Maty-ér, is once again ready for this honourable task.

We warmly welcome everyone to Szeged, the City of Sunshine, from 8 to 10 May. Until then, I wish you all the very best — and to the athletes, a smooth and injury-free preparation.

Best regards,

Bálint Szakács

Chairman of the Host Organising Committee

HOST ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Chairman	SZAKÁCS Bálint
Technical Organiser	VASKUTI Máté
Event Manager	VIDA Gergely
Event Technology	SZTAICS István
Doping Control, Secretary of the OC	DOBA Alfréd
Director of Supporting Services	SZOVICS Zoltán
Head of IT Services	KÁRPÁTI Zoltán
Head of Hospitality Services	KOVÁCS Orsolya
Official Hotels Liaison	VÉKÁSSY Zsuzsanna
Master of Ceremonies	RÉDEI Zsuzsa
Head of Transportation Services	ÁBRAHÁM Csaba
Media Officer / Press Chief	KURILLA Viktor



**2026 ICF CANOE
SPRINT WORLD CUP**

TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

COMPETITION COMMITTEE

Chief Official	HARRIS Alison (NZL)
Chief Judge	PRAVAINS Maris
Deputy Chief Judge	BIELIK Martin
Competition Manager	HOSKIN Toni
Technical Organizer	MOLNÁRNÉ KRAJCSOVICZ Magdolna (HUN)

IDENTITY & EQUIPMENT CONTROLLERS

1. | MUELLER Ines (GER) – Coordinator
2. | FONTANA ESTEVE Salvador (ESP)
3. | DR. BABAK Krisztina
4. | HENDERSON David (USA)

BOAT CONTROLLERS

1. | SMIT Leopold (SLO) – Coordinator
2. | LEVKOVICH Marina (ISR)
3. | YVES MENAGER Aurore (FRA)
4. | BAUEROVA Kristyna (CZE)

STARTERS

1. | GICZY Gergo (HUN) - Coordinator
2. | GREENWOOD Louise (AUS)
3. | CHAUSHEV Borislav (BUL)

Announcer	WEIXL Mónika (HUN)
Speaker	JUHÁSZ Bálint (HUN)

ALIGNERS

1. | MUSTAFA HANAFI Noorhan (EGY)
2. | PALII Vladislava (MDA)

COURSE UMPIRES /

TURNING POINT UMPIRES

1. | TOTH Gheorghe (ROU) - Coordinator
2. | ÁBRAHÁM Réka (AUS)
3. | HOUSTON Kimberly (CAN)
4. | KOYAMA Yasuhiro (JPN)
5. | KRUSZLICZ Réka (HUN)
6. | LARSEN Per Spejder (DEN)

FINISHING LINE JUDGES

1. | ESCOLLANTE Leonora (PHI)
– Chief Finish Line Judge
2. | BEKTENOVA Indira (KAZ)
3. | ZHOU Bo (CHN)



PROGRAMME

MAY 5 [TUESDAY]

Access period starts
Accreditation opens
Official training between 8:00–13:00, 14:00–18:00

MAY 6 [WEDNESDAY]

Official training between 8:00–13:00, 14:00–18:00
14:00–15:00 - starting machine test (1000 m)
17:00–18:00 - starting machine test (500 m)

MAY 7 [THURSDAY]

Official training between 8:00–13:00, 14:00–18:00
09:00–10:00 - starting machine test (1000m)
16:00 - Online Team Leaders' meeting
17:00–18:00 - starting machine test (200m)

MAY 8-10 [FRIDAY - SUNDAY]

ICF CANOE SPRINT WORLD CUP competition days
Link to preliminary timetable: [PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE](#)
The timetable is subject to last minute changes up until the late entry / crew change deadline.

MAY 10 [SUNDAY]

Access period ends (in the evening)



**2026 ICF CANOE
SPRINT WORLD CUP**

ACCREDITATION & TEAM INFORMATION CENTRE

OPENING HOURS

May 5, Tuesday:	11:00-16:00
May 6, Wednesday:	09:00-12:30, 13:00-18:00
May 7, Thursday:	09:00-12:30, 13:00-18:00
May 8, Friday:	08:00-12:30, 13:00-17:00
May 9, Saturday:	08:00-12:30, 13:00-17:00
May 10, Sunday:	08:00-14:00

The Accreditation & Team Information Centre is located at the Regatta Course on the ground floor of the Finish Tower. Team Leaders are kindly requested to come directly to the Accreditation Centre upon arrival. After having paid their dues, they may collect their accreditation cards, along with the hotel vouchers (if booked their accommodation through the HOC).

Teams arriving before May 5 or outside the opening hours of the Accreditation Centre should contact the HOC at booking@szeged2026.com to discuss their check-in process at their designated hotels.

All participants of the event must be accredited, since no access is granted to the venue without an accreditation badge. Please be advised that you will not receive the badges until your balance with the Host Organising Committee is cleared to zero.

Acceptable methods of payment: cash (EUR), credit card (Visa, Eurocard / Mastercard)



MEALS & WATER

LUNCH

Lunch will be offered to participants who have purchased it or have a hotel reservation through the HOC. It will be available at the Regatta Course in the designated catering area between 11:00 and 14:30, after presenting the accreditation badges for scanning.

MEALS AT OFFICIAL HOTELS ON COMPETITION DAYS

Competition days	Breakfast from	Dinner
Friday - Saturday - Sunday	06:30	18:00-21:00

If you wish to have breakfast earlier, please discuss with the hotel staff the day before.

To the attention of National Teams with hotel reservations through the HOC: Please be advised that the first meal included in your daily rate is dinner at your designated hotel on the day of your arrival. The first lunch will be served the following day. Breakfast and dinner are available at your designated hotels.

DRINKING WATER

The Host Organising Committee offers bottled drinking water for accredited participants at a designated distribution point in the Athletes Area during the access period.

1. | During the accreditation process, each team receives two water tokens per team member.
2. | At the distribution points, these vouchers can be exchanged for the first bottle of water.
3. | Any additional bottles or tokens will only be provided in exchange for an empty one returned at the same point.
4. | Our staff will ensure proper selective collection of the returned bottles.
5. | Please make sure to return your token at the water distribution points or at the accreditation desk before you leave. We would appreciate it if no one kept their token after the competition.

We kindly ask all team members to actively cooperate so that the selective waste processing can be carried out efficiently. Let's be mindful of our environment!



**2026 ICF CANOE
SPRINT WORLD CUP**

AIRPORT TRANSFERS

ARRIVAL: upon entering the Arrival Hall, please search for our staff. Our team members will provide you with additional details regarding your transportation to Szeged.

DEPARTURE: an information sheet on the departure pick-up time and location will be posted on the wall next to the Accreditation Centre one or two days prior to your scheduled departure.

SHUTTLE SERVICE

A shuttle bus service will run daily between the official hotels and the Regatta Course during the access period. The schedule and walking maps will be available at the **official website of the event**, in the hotel lobbies and at the Szeged Olympic Centre as well. The shuttle service is accessible to all participants with an accreditation badge.



**2026 ICF CANOE
SPRINT WORLD CUP**

LATE ENTRY / WITHDRAWAL / CREW CHANGE

In extraordinary circumstances, an application can be submitted to the Chief Official for the acceptance of late events entries and/or withdrawals. It is at the Chief Official's discretion to accept or decline a late entry/withdrawal. Requests for late entry, withdrawal, or crew changes can be made through the following online form:

Form

Late event entries/withdrawals will incur a fee of 50 euros per boat.

Late event entries for already registered athletes will incur a fee of 50 EUR per boat.

Late entry fee payments are accepted exclusively by credit card at the competition office. Only requests submitted before the deadline will be considered. After the deadline, please contact the Chief Official directly.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT REQUESTS: May 7, 11:00.

1. | Any athlete listed in the final entry for their country is eligible to substitute in any other event.
2. | Any changes to entries must be communicated through the online form to the Chief Official at least one hour prior to the first race of the morning or afternoon session.
3. | Withdrawal of an entry is final and prohibits the same athlete or crew from participating in any other events of the competition.
4. | For crew boats, the competitors' names must be listed in the order they will race in the boat. The name at the top must correspond to the competitor positioned at the front of the boat.

PROTEST FORM



If a protest is to be submitted, the **ICF PROTEST FORM** must be completed in written form. Submission via the online form is strongly encouraged, as it ensures automatic forwarding to the Competition Committee and secure storage for official review. Paper forms are available in the tower. Please ensure that all information provided is accurate. A protest fee of €75 is required at the time of submission.

BOAT STORAGE AND PARKING

Boat racks are provided either in the boathouse or at the tent in the Athletes' Area. You are requested to take your trailers to the designated trailer parking area located on the Southern dam. Each team gets **ONE** parking sticker, further parking stickers can be added for **50 EUR/car**.

For accreditation purposes, we provide temporary parking near the Accreditation Centre.

BOAT NUMBERS AND PERSONAL NUMBERS

Bib numbers will not be distributed in person. The digital bib number of every athlete will be their ICF number. The boat numbers can be collected one hour before the competition at the designated place in the Athletes Area. The team leader must leave a deposit (€50) upon collecting the start number for the first time. The deposit will be refunded at the end of the competition when the team leader has returned all.



**2026 ICF CANOE
SPRINT WORLD CUP**

ATHLETE NAME AND COUNTRY CODE STICKERS

Each athlete's name sticker must be applied on all boats for ICF Canoe Sprint competitions. For canoes and kayaks to be presented in a standard manner, name stickers must be positioned at the same point on every boat. The country code sticker will be applied on all boats and at the same place for each ICF Canoe Sprint competition and will be checked at the Identity and Equipment Control. **It is the participating National Federations' responsibility to provide the stickers to their athletes.**

Please use **Athlete Sticker** and **Country Sticker** templates provided by the ICF with the correct sizes and font.

Athletes' name stickers have been modified in 2022 to match the re-formatted TV graphics. The last name is now placed after the initial of the first name.

For the official guideline, please click on the [link](#).

ID AND EQUIPMENT CONTROL

Athletes can embark only from the designated place before the competition where their boats, equipment, clothes (uniforms and uniformity), personal numbers, boat numbers and accreditation cards will be checked.

UNIFORMS AND UNIFORMITY

If two (2) boats from the same country compete in the same race, they must wear the same uniforms submitted with Nominal entries. In a crew boat all athletes must compete in the same team uniform and, if under-shirts are worn, they must all be the same colour. In a K2 and K4 all spray decks must be the same colours. The front athlete in K2 or K4 may compete without a spray deck.

Teams shall upload a picture of their uniform before the entry deadline in SDP to the relevant section. A detailed guideline on the procedure will be sent to the team leaders by ICF.



FLASH INTERVIEW

The following instructions apply only to Final A races; all the others must follow the normal boat control procedure.

All FINAL „A” medalists (1-3) must disembark immediately after finishing the race on the portage pontoon located next to the medal ceremony stand. There will be a display on the bank towards the finish tower which will show the lane number of the top 3 ranked boats. It will help the athletes to decide which disembarkation pontoon they have to paddle to. The top 3 ranked boats must turn right back and paddle to the portage pontoon, all the others must return to the Athletes’ Area. If “**PhotoFinish**” text appears on the display the athletes must wait until the finishing judges decide on the top 3 finishers. The result will appear on the display once the judges deem it to be official.

Disembarkation on the portage pontoon:

Short interviews will be recorded right after disembarkation where trainers/family members can greet the medalists at first hand. Right after the athletes can walk away passing the fans sitting on the grandstand. ITO’s will weigh the boats during this time.



2026 ICF CANOE
SPRINT WORLD CUP

SECOND (POST-RACE) BOAT CONTROL

After the race some boats will be called for a second boat control. After the race the athletes must disembark onto the designated pontoon where their boat will go under control. Please do not forget to control the weight of your boat before the race at the self-boat control spot.

DOPING CONTROL

Athletes will be randomly selected for doping control conforming to the relevant regulations.

For the ICF World Championships, ICF World Cups and ICF Ranking Races and Continental Championships, every athlete, coach and support personnel must pass the relevant anti-doping online course on the Anti-Doping Education Learning platform (ADEL) corresponding to their role before the first day of the competition in accordance with 2023 ICF Anti-Doping Rules.

Athletes entered in any ICF competition or continental championships must complete the ICF's anti-doping education programme or equivalent before competing or risk being denied entry to the competition. For more information, please click on the [link](#).

PRE-START PROCEDURE

Only athletes for the next race start will be allowed to enter the indicated starting areas 200-300m, 500-600m, and 1000-1100m. They will be called to the starting area 4-5 minutes before the start. Once the boats enter the starting area they are forbidden to turn around and they need to paddle a straight line towards their assigned start boats.

Aligners will be placed at the beginning of the starting area – 300m, 600m, or 1100m to control the boats' flow.

Please advise athletes to follow the instructions from aligners, and do not enter the starting area if they are not called and they are not part of the following race.

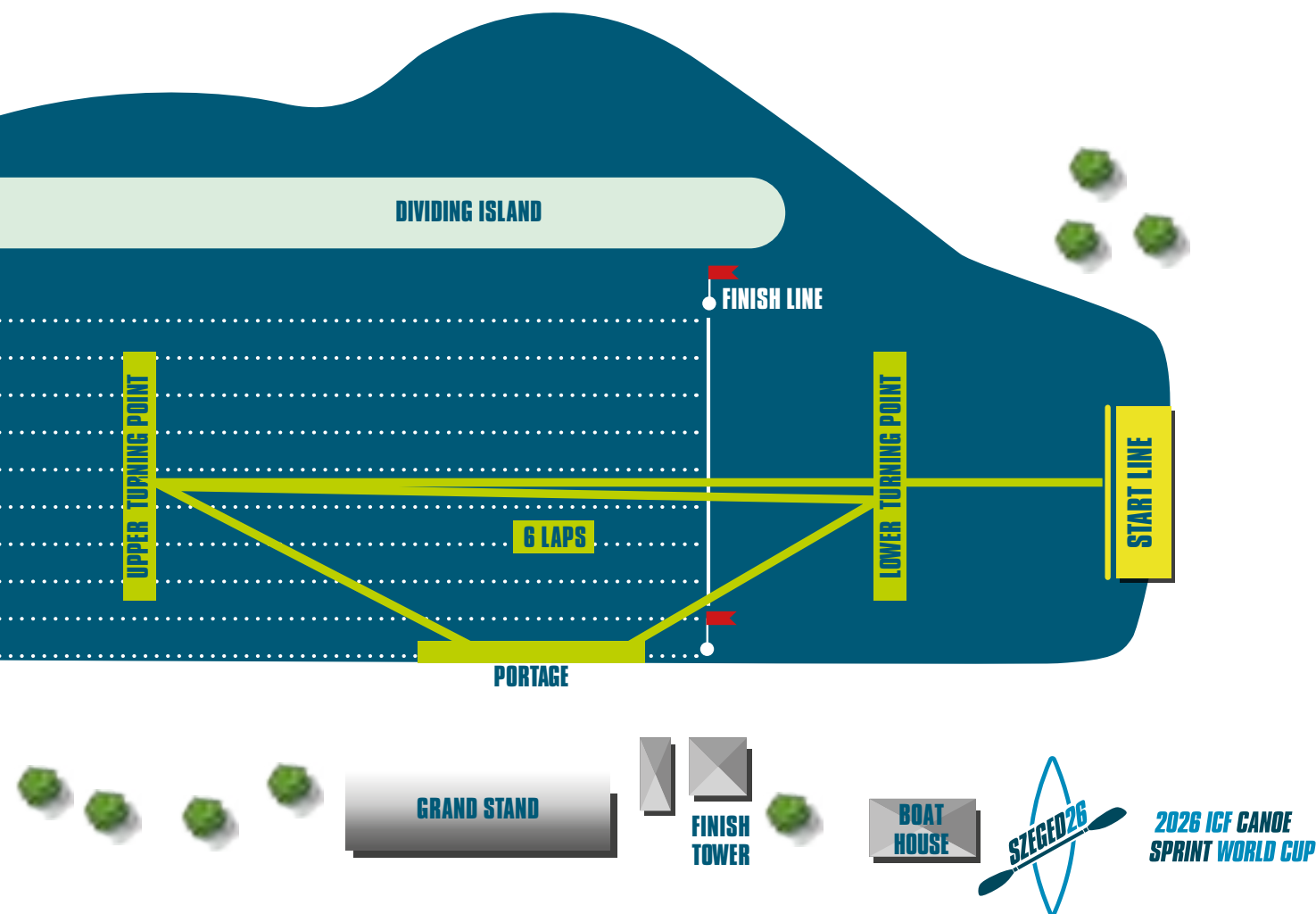


**2026 ICF CANOE
SPRINT WORLD CUP**

5.000 M EVENTS

The 5000 m events will run with portages. The races will start at the southern end of the course. It will consist of 6 laps (1 long and 5 shorter ones). The turning points (one large donut shaped buoy) are the same in each lap. The distance from the start - southern end of the course - to the first turning point will make the first lap a long lap. The long lap is followed by five shorter laps. There will be 5 portages, the first one in the long lap, after the 1st turning point and then four more in the shorter laps. There is no portage in the last shorter lap, after the 11th turning point. All athletes need to do all portages. **Athletes who have been lapped will end their race the next time they cross the finish line. A Course Umpire will wave a red flag and instruct them to leave the course.** Disembarkation, portage and embarkation will all be on a 96 meters long low pontoon. All competitors must disembark in the area defined by flags diagonally divided in red and yellow, carry their craft along the portage and embark in the area defined by flags diagonally divided in red and yellow.

Rules are based on canoe sprint rules. Only boats with specifications set out in the Canoe Sprint Competition Rules can be used. Handles are allowed, but pumps are not permitted.



TRAFFIC REGULATION DURING RACE DAYS

There is one-way traffic on the water. Athletes are requested to use the channel behind the dividing island to paddle up to the start. The Regatta Course can be reached through the cuts above the 500m, 1000m starts. From there traffic goes in the direction of the Finish Tower. It is absolutely forbidden to use motorboats during the official training, coaches, however, are permitted to follow the athletes by bikes on the service path along the course.

SAFETY REGULATIONS ON WATER

The OC provides lifeguard service on the water during the official training sessions and on race days one hour before the start of the first race. OC cannot guarantee to guard the whole water surface of the venue so please stay paddle on the guarded areas.

Guarded areas during official training sessions:

- race course between 1300m and the finish line
- water surface in front of the boathouse up to the bridge

Guarded areas during race days:

- race course between 1300m and the finish line
- water surface in front of the boathouse
- channel behind the dividing isle up to 1100m

Please keep in mind: The OC does not take responsibility for any accidents in areas outside supervision and outside the official training time.

CYCLING AT THE VENUE

Coaches are allowed to follow the races by bike on the dividing island, which can be accessed by the connecting bridge. Please note that the HOC does not provide bike rental services.



**2026 ICF CANOE
SPRINT WORLD CUP**

TEAM LEADERS' MEETING & COMMUNICATION

The Team Leaders' meeting will take place online on Thursday, May 7 at 16:00. Link to the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us>. All Team Leaders are invited to join the CSP World Cup Szeged TL WhatsApp group by scanning the QR code or click on this [link](#). The Competition Committee and the HOC will share all essential information to the teams through this group.



MEDAL AWARDING CEREMONIES

All athletes (wearing their national outfit) are requested to be present at the Finish Tower 10 minutes prior to the officially scheduled victory ceremony at the latest. We have a very tight schedule therefore we kindly ask you to be aware of this request. Victory ceremonies will start at their officially scheduled time sharp. In case an athlete arrives late to the meeting point, ceremony will start on time without him/her. The Team Leader of the winning nation is also kindly requested to arrive at the medal awarding ceremony meeting point 10 minutes before the scheduled start to present the flowers during the event. Please note that caps, sunglasses, and flags are not permitted on the podium.

MEDICAL CARE

A medical centre will operate at the Regatta Course with ambulance, first aid and doctor on duty. Hospital and clinic assistance provided for free for the official participants of the World Cup. The costs of the above-mentioned services are to be covered by your medical insurance policy, the Host Organising Committee is not responsible for covering your expenses in connection with hospital treatment, dental treatment or any other medical treatment.



**2026 ICF CANOE
SPRINT WORLD CUP**

MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE CITY

AMBULANCE:

Ambulance central
emergency number: **112**

GENERAL PRACTITIONER (GP) ON DUTY:

GP health care on duty for adults:
15-17. Kossuth Lajos sgrt., Szeged,
6722 (from the Szilágyi u.)

GP health care on duty for children:
14-15., Korányi fasor Szeged, 6722

Telephone: 1830

Emergency hours: 4 pm – 08.00 am /
8.00 am – 8.00 pm (weekends)

24-HOUR PHARMACY:

Vasas-Szent Péter Pharmacy
Address: 62. Kossuth Lajos sgrt.,
Szeged, 6724

Opening hours: 0-24

Telephone: + 36 62/558-150

MEDICAL EMERGENCY SERVICES:

Medical Emergency
Service Department

Address: Szeged, Semmelweis u. 6,
6725

Opening hours: 0-24

Telephone: +36 62/342-477

EMERGENCY DENTAL CARE:

Dental Clinic

Tisza L. krt. 64-66. Tisza L. krt., Szeged

Opening hours: 7 am – 5 pm, Saturdays
and Sundays: 7 am – 1 pm

Telephone: +36 62/545-283

Dentha Implant Centre & Dentistry
(Private Medical Clinic)

Osztrovszky u. 12., 6721 Szeged

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday: 8 am – 9 pm,
Saturdays and Sundays: CLOSED

Telephone: +36 30/206-9532



**2026 ICF CANOE
SPRINT WORLD CUP**



2026 ICF CANOE SPRINT WORLD CUP

MVM

TEPPENZ

Gránit Bank

MIZSE



Szeged Szeged Megyei Jogú Város

Nemzeti Sportfejlesztési és Módszertani Intézet

SPORTOLÓ NEMZET

HMI SPORTÉRT FELELŐS ÁLLAMTITKÁRSÁG