

# BCU SPRINT RACING COMPETITION RULES - 2009

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## Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide the Rules that govern:

- a) Sprint Racing (named Canoe Sprint by the International Canoe Federation)
- b) The conduct of that Racing

It follows as closely as possible the wording and sequence the International Canoe Federation Canoe Sprint Competition Rules taking effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009. However, it also contains some additional regulations or changes to those rules as determined from time to time by the BCU Sprint Racing Committee.

The following words, acronyms and abbreviations are referred to in this document:

**BCU** **British Canoe Union** (the Governing Body for Canoeing in Great Britain)

**BOA** **British Olympic Association** (the National Olympic Committee for Great Britain)

**ICF** **International Canoe Federation**

**IOC** **International Olympic Committee**

**NOC** **National Olympic Committee**

**SRS** **Sprint Racing Section of the BCU** (responsible to the BCU for the control of Sprint Racing competitions in canoes and kayaks over distances up to and including 5000 metres)

**SRC** **Sprint Racing Committee** (elected by the Sprint Racing Section to carry out the objectives of the Section on a day-to-day basis).

**RC** **Regatta Committee** (a sub-committee of the SRC responsible for organising and conducting National Championships and other competitions on behalf of the BCU)

## Aims and Definition of Sprint Racing

The aim of a canoe race competition is for people to race each other in kayaks and canoes over a clearly defined unobstructed course in the shortest possible time according to the rules. The course should be as flat and still as can be obtained. Although the course length may be any distance up to and including 5,000 metres and competition organised for any craft, the official events and distances recognised by the BCU and ICF are the following:

For men and women: K1, K2, K4, C1, C2, C4 200, 500 and 1000 metres

K1, K2, K4, C1, C2 5000 metres but only 2500 for some Junior events

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### Part I - GENERAL REGULATIONS

There are three levels of competition: - International, National Status and Club.

#### 1. International Competitions

- 1.1 The ICF has ruled that all International Competitions must take place in accordance with the ICF Canoe Sprint Competition Rules. All competitions organised by either the BCU or a BCU Club are considered international if competitors of a foreign country are invited to participate.
- 1.2 These competitions must be supervised or managed by at least one accredited official in possession of a valid ICF Flatwater Racing Official card.

#### 1.3 Foreign Nationals

- 1.3.1 No member of a foreign Federation or club may compete or be invited to compete in an open or national competition within the United Kingdom without permission from the SRC.
- 1.3.2 Only the members of clubs or associations affiliated with an ICF Member Federation have the right to participate in an international competition.
- 1.3.3 A competitor is always allowed to take part individually in an international competition but must in each case obtain special permission from his/her national federation.
- 1.3.4 A competitor may take part on behalf of the BCU provided they are domiciled in the UK, if he/she obtains the authorisation of his/her Federation of origin. This authorisation has to be sent before 30<sup>th</sup> November prior to the year concerned to the ICF Headquarters with a copy to the Chairman of the ICF Canoe Sprint Committee.
- 1.3.5 If he/she has lived for 2 (two) years or more in the UK, the approval of his/her Federation of origin is no longer required.
- 1.3.6 A competitor may not compete for more than one Federation in any calendar year in the sport of canoeing. This rule does not apply in the case of a competitor who leaves his/her country of origin to marry and live in another country. He/she can, in this case compete for his/her new Federation without awaiting the delay of 2 years.

#### 2. National Status Competitions

- 2.1 All competitions announced as National Status competitions shall be held in accordance with the Sprint Racing Competition Rules of the BCU.
- 2.2 National Status Competitions are those at which promotions within the National Divisions take place.
- 2.3 National Status Competitions are organised on behalf of the BCU.
- 2.4 All competitors at National Status Competitions must be registered with the RC and must be BCU members or, if racing in a Junior "D" class, a member of a club which has a registered youth section and is affiliated to the BCU.
- 2.5 Organisers of National Status Competitions shall declare that the competition is being held under BCU rules.

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- 2.6 National Status Competitions require a permit from the SRC. Application for a Regatta permit shall be directed to the Secretary of the SRC. Such a permit shall require:
- Observance of the BCU Sprint Racing Competition Rules.
  - Inclusion the words "Under BCU Rules" on all printed matter issued in connection with the competition.
  - Compliance with Part III Rule 13.5 regarding Regatta Officials.
- 2.7 National Status Competitions will be included in the official BCU Calendar of events.
- 2.8 Within 14 days of the close of a competition a completed regatta programme with results and signed by the Competition Secretary shall be sent to the Secretary of the SRC.

## 3. Club Regattas

- BCU members are allowed to participate with non BCU members.
- No promotions will be made at Club Regattas. Performance will not affect National Ranking.
- The Rules and Classes may be altered to suit Club requirements.
- Organisers of Club Regattas may advertise their events in the Racing Hand Book on payment of the appropriate fee.
- Organisers are asked to encourage all who take part to become BCU members. Where fees are charged, BCU members should be charged a reduced fee.
- To ensure uniformity, organisers are asked to follow the BCU Sprint Racing Competition Rules as far as possible.
- Organisers are asked to make it clear in all literature what the events and rules will be.
- A booklet 'Organising a Club Regatta' will be available.

## 4. Competing outside of the United Kingdom

No Club or member of a Club or individual member of the BCU may compete outside the United Kingdom without permission from the SRC. See Rules 1.3.2 to 1.3.6, which are also the rules of the ICF and apply to all Member Federations.

## 5. Membership of more than one club or change of club

When a competitor is a member of two or more clubs he shall, by March 1st have declared the name of the club in whose colours he will race that year in individual events. A person joining a second club after March 1st must continue to race for his first club. A competitor who has changed his club is not permitted to race for his new club, unless prior consent of his old club has been obtained. The consent shall not be withheld in the case of a change of residence from one area to another.

## 6. Athlete Eligibility and Sponsorships

The rules of the International Canoe Federation or the National Olympic Committee shall apply to all matters relating to Amateur Status. At present there are no regulations specific to Amateur Status other than as broadly listed in 6.2.

### 6.1 Foreign Teams

Foreign Teams may receive compensation/assistance authorised by the BCU to cover financial expense to participate in an UK competition. Under no circumstances shall any payment exceed the sum of actual expenditure.

### 6.2 A Canoeist/Competitor may not:

- In the practice of sport and in the opinion of the BCU manifestly contravene the spirit of fair play in the exercise of sport, particularly by the use of doping or violence.
- Have allowed his person, name, picture or sport performance to be used for advertising, except when the BCU or its Committees enter into a contract for sponsorship or equipment. All payments must be made to the BCU and not to the individual. (See also 6.6.2)
- Participate in any competition on condition of a financial consideration.

### 6.3 A Canoeist/Competitor may:

Accept, during a period of preparation and/or actual competition which shall be limited by the rules of the BCU and its Committees:

- Assistance administered through the BOA or the BCU World Class Performance Programme: living expenses, insurance cover in respect of accidents, illness and disability; personal property, sports equipment and clothing; cost of medical treatment, physiotherapy and authorised coaches.

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- b) Compensation authorised by his or her NOC or the BCU World Class Performance Programme, in the case of necessity, to cover financial loss resulting from his or her absence from work or basic occupation in the Olympic Games and sports competition or other canoeing activities. In no circumstances shall payment made under this provision exceed the sum which the competitor would have earned in the same period. The compensation may be paid with the approval of the BCU or the BOA at their discretion.
  - c) Accept prizes won in competition or other canoeing activities, within the rules established by the BCU and its Committees and the ICF.
- 6.4 In all cases which are not covered by the above regulations (6.2 and 6.3), the corresponding rules of the ICF or the BOA shall apply.
- 6.5 Procedures To Be Undertaken By Those Seeking, Obtaining, and Disbursing Sponsorships, Sports Scholarships and Awards.**
- 6.5.1 Details of all personal sponsorship arrangements, sports sponsorships and other awards, offered to or negotiated by individuals or organisations, must be submitted by beneficiaries to the BCU Committee responsible for administering the particular activity, for registration and approval. When doubt exists regarding the appropriate Committee to whom information should be furnished, BCU Headquarters will arrange for the necessary action to be undertaken.
- 6.5.2 A central registry of all personal sponsorship arrangements will be maintained by the BCU Headquarters, and will be available for inspection by authorised officers of the BCU.
- 6.5.3 The term "personal sponsorship arrangements negotiated by beneficiaries" shall include: Payments made to athletes selected through the UK Sport Performance Matrix and administrated by the BCU Performance Director. Sponsorship provided by individuals (not family), commercial, industrial, and public authorities, National and Regional Sports Aid Foundations, Local Authorities, Trust Funds, Educational Institutions and agencies, Clubs and other miscellaneous supportive groups.
- 6.6 Advertising on Boats and Equipment**
- 6.6.1 Advertising of any tobacco, tobacco related products or strong spirit drinks on boats or equipment is not permitted by the BCU.
- 6.6.2 The IOC and the Olympic Charter regulate use of athlete images during the period of the Olympic Games. Except as permitted by the IOC Executive Board, no competitor who participates in the Olympic Games may allow his person, name, picture or sports performance to be used for advertising during the Olympic Games except where:
- a) The NOC of the athlete has given its express prior written consent to each such use, and
  - b) That, in any event, such use is not in relation to the athlete's performance at such Games.
- 7. Classification of Paddlers**
- 7.1 **Junior:** A Junior is a competitor under 18 years of age at the beginning of the current calendar year. A Junior will have junior racing status unless promoted to senior racing status. Each Junior status competitor will be nominated to compete in one of the Junior classes as laid down from time to time by the SRC. Juniors who have Senior status may race in the appropriate Junior class for National Championship events.
- 7.2 **Senior:** A Senior is a competitor who is over 18 years of age at the beginning of the calendar year, and will have Senior racing status. Each Senior status competitor will be nominated to compete in one of the Senior Classes as laid down from time to time by the SRC.
- 7.3 **Master (Veteran):** The first year a Master can compete is the year that his (her) thirty-fifth (35<sup>th</sup>) birthday falls in provided that he is not already nominated to compete in Mens A
- 7.4 **Promotions:** Entry to and promotion between classes will be at the discretion of the SRC and will be based on results gained in competition at regatta venues nominated by the SRC. A competitor may, at the discretion of the SRC, be permitted to revert to a lower class at the end of a regatta season.
- 7.5 **Mixed Events:** Mixed events where male and female competitors take part in the same boat are permitted.
- 7.6 **Status:** Status in Kayaks has no bearing on status in Canadian Canoes and the converse i.e. a premier Senior Class competitor in Canadian Canoes may be a lower Senior Class in Kayak.
- 7.7 **Special Rules for Kayak and Canadian Fours:** Senior status competitors may not compete in fours events of a lower senior class than that for which they are nominated as individuals. Senior Class competitors may be members of fours crews competing in higher senior classes than their own without losing their individual Senior Class status. a win in a fours event does not affect the status of the members of the crew.

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## 8. National Championship Entries:

Entries for these events shall be restricted to British Nationals who are members of the BCU. Aliens resident in Great Britain for at least two years may be permitted to enter for a National Championship event. There is no time restriction in the case of men/women competitors who conform to the conditions contained in Rule 1.3.6.

## Part II - CLASSES AND BUILDING REGULATIONS

## 9. Limitations

| K1                                 | K2  | K4   | C1  | C2  | C4  |            |
|------------------------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| 520                                | 650 | 1100 | 520 | 650 | 900 | max.length |
| 12                                 | 18  | 30   | 16  | 20  | 30  | min.weight |
| Measurements in cm - Weights in kg |     |      |     |     |     |            |

## 10. Trademarks

Boats, accessories and clothing may carry trademarks, advertising symbols and written text. All advertising material should be placed in such a way that it does not interfere with competitors' identification and does not affect the outcome of the race.

The advertising of tobacco smoking and strong spirit drinks will not be accepted.

**N.B.** These rules do not apply to the Olympic Games where there are specific limitations. See 7.5 of the ICF Canoe Sprint Competition Rules.

Any boat, accessory, or article of clothing, which does not comply with the above conditions, will be ineligible for use during a competition. Teams and competitors are responsible for their own equipment.

## 11. Construction

The boat must be constructed so that it remains buoyant when filled with water.

### 11.1 The Hull

Section and longitudinal lines of the hull of the kayak and canoe shall not be concave (only horizontal and vertical).

### 11.2 The Deck

The deck construction may not be higher on any horizontal point than the highest point of the front edge of the first cockpit.

11.3 No foreign substance may be added to boats which give competitors an unfair advantage.

11.3.1 No part of the boat (including the seat and the footrest) may have moving parts which can be used to help propel the boat in a way which would give competitors an unfair advantage (existing moving seat systems already in use are accepted).

11.4 It is forbidden for the boat or the competitor to be equipped with any device which would give the competitor any advantage in any way during competition.

### **Kayaks**

11.5 Boats may have one rudder. Over-stern rudders may not be thicker than 10mm for K1 and K2, or 12mm for a K4.

The boat to be designed as to be a sit-in (Kayak type) not a sit-on (Surf Ski type).

### **Canoes**

11.6 The canoe must be built symmetrically upon the axis of its length.

Steering rudders or any guiding apparatus directing the course of the canoe is banned. A keel, if any, must be straight, shall extend over the whole length of the canoe and not project more than 30mm below the hull.

The C1 and C2 may be entirely open. The minimum length of the opening shall be 280cm and the edge of the side of the craft (gunwale) can extend maximum 5cm into the craft along the whole defined opening. The boat can have maximum three strengthening bars with a width of 7cm each.

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The C4 canoe may be entirely open. The minimum length of the opening shall be 390cm and the edge of the side of the craft (gunwale) can extend maximum 6cm into the craft along the defined opening. The boat can have maximum four strengthening bars with a width of maximum 7cm each.

- 11.7 The competitors are responsible to ensure the boats conform to the technical requirements for the competitions.

## ***Innovations***

- 11.8 Significant innovations in equipment including, but not limited to, boats, related equipment and clothing, must meet the requirements and conditions contained in 8.7 of the ICF Canoe Sprint Racing Rules.

## **12. Boat Control**

- 12.1 The length of a kayak or a canoe shall be measured between the extremes of the stem and the stern. Stem-bands or other projections of the stem or stern, if any, are to be included. Any rudder forming a continuation of the length of a kayak is not to be included in the measurement.

- 12.2 No alterations in canoes and kayaks are permitted after the measuring and weighing and before the competition has taken place.

### ***Before Weighing the Boat:***

- 12.3 All loose outfit shall be removed. Permanent knee rests attached in a definitive way to the floorboard and buoyancy attachments consisting of water absorbing material must be absolutely dry at the first weighing prior to the race. Three or more boats according to the decision of the Competition Committee and on a random system shall be recontrolled immediately after the race.

## **Part III - ORGANISATION OF COMPETITIONS**

### **13. Officials**

#### **13.1 Duties of the Organising Committee**

An Organising Committee is responsible for the preparation and running of the competition. The Organising Committee shall, in particular:

1. Fix the date and the programme of the regatta in agreement with the SRC.
2. Draw up and distribute the advance programme including the date and time of the team leaders' meeting.
3. Make available a stretch of water and technical equipment conforming to the present Competition Racing Rules.

#### **13.2 Competition Committee**

The competition is to be managed by a Competition Committee consisting of:

- 1) Chief Official
- 2) Chief Judge
- 3) Deputy Chief Judge

For status competitions two members of the competition committee must be registered Regatta Officials of the BCU Sprint Racing Committee.

For an international regatta two members of the Competition Committee must be in possession of a valid International Canoe Sprint Official card.

#### **13.3 The Competition Committee must:**

- a) Organise and supervise the competition.
- b) In the event of inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances which make it impossible to carry out the competition, postpone the competition and decide on another time when it may be held.
- c) Hear any protests that may be made and settle any disputes that may arise.
- d) Decide matters concerning disqualification in cases where the regulations are broken during a race.
- e) Should a competitor be injured during a heat, the Committee may allow him to participate in another heat.
- f) The decision of the Committee shall be based on the BCU Sprint Racing Competition Rules.
- g) Penalties in accordance with the BCU Rules or the SRC Disciplinary Regulations may also be imposed i.e. disqualification for a longer period than the duration of the competition in question.

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- h) Before any decision is made regarding any infraction of the rules, hear the opinion of the Umpire who controlled the race in which the infraction was said to have occurred. The Committee is to seek the opinion of other officials supervising the race, if it is felt to be of importance in clearing up the alleged offence.
- 13.4 If its nature and extent demand, each competition shall be held under the supervision of the following officials:

|                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Chief Official      | Aligner(s)              |
| Chief Judge         | Starter(s)              |
| Deputy Chief Judge  | Course Umpire(s)        |
| Competition Manager | Turning Point Umpire(s) |
| Boat Controllers    | Finish Line Judge(s)    |
| Announcer           | Media Officer           |

If circumstances permit, one person may function in two of the above positions.

- 13.5 The Chief Official, Chief Judge, Competition Manager, Starter, Umpires, should, if possible, be registered BCU Officials.
- 13.6 Unauthorised persons must not enter any official's area unless the Competition Committee or the Jury send for officials or team officials in order to solve problems.
- 13.7 **The Competition Jury:**
- Final authority for National Championship Competitions shall rest with a Jury composed of a Chairman and four members.
  - The members of the Jury shall be appointed by a quorum of the SRC prior to the commencement of the competition. (In the event of a quorum not being present, the Chairman, Vice Chairman, or another official of the SRC and two Committee members may appoint the Jury).
  - The Chairman of the Jury will be the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the SRC or an elected SRC member.
  - Subordinate to this Jury are the Chief Official and other officials shown in Rule 13.2.
  - A protest made during the competition must be handed to the Competition Committee not later than 20 minutes after publication of the results.
  - An appeal against a decision of the Competition Committee must be addressed to the Chairman of the Jury and handed in not later than 20 minutes after the Team Leader has been informed, in writing by the Chairman of the Competition Committee, of the decision against the competitor or crew and has signed the receipt.
  - The decision of the Jury is final.

## 13.8 Duties of Officials

- 13.8.1 **The Chief Official**, who is also the Chairman of the Competition Committee, decides all matters arising during the actual contest, which is not dealt with in these rules. *With the confirmation of the Competition Committee, he may disqualify any competitor who behaves improperly or who, by his conduct or speech, shows contempt towards the competition officials, other competitors or onlookers (see Rule 31.7). All officials are responsible to the Chief Official.*
- 13.8.2 **The Chief Judge** cooperates with the Chief Official and he/she substitutes for the Chief Official in case of necessity.
- 13.8.3 **The Deputy Chief Judge** will closely cooperate with the Chief Official and the Competition Manager and will handle the administrative tasks of the competition. He will collect the notes from the Team Leaders of the participating teams/clubs on the changes before the beginning of the Team Leaders' meeting and put them in order according to the races. At the meeting, he/she will record all changes announced by the Chief Official in his own programme. If necessary, he/she will check the personal identification documents of the competitors and their age. He will collect the forms necessary for the administration and any other means necessary for the secretariat. In case of computer data processing, he/she will keep in contact with the responsible IT person. During the competition he/she will check the results race by race and will prepare the list of the boats qualified in the next round.

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He will formulate the decisions of the Competition Committee passed on the subject-matter of any protest and will arrange to have it recorded in the minutes. He/she is responsible for the accuracy of the minutes. To perform the written tasks the Deputy Chief Judge can employ a Competition Secretary, assistants and office staff as necessary.

- 13.8.4 **The Competition Manager** will keep in constant contact with the organisers to solve any problems that may arise during the competition. He/she supervises the races and is responsible for ensuring that the programme is followed without unnecessary delay. He/she shall inform the officials concerned punctually before a new race starts. He/she has to deal also with the good function of the competition administration of the races, (programme, drawings, results, technical documents, boat control, press, protests, etc.) He/she shall make certain that the announcer gives all the necessary information about the races such as the start order, the name of any competitor failing to start and the results.
- 13.8.5 **The Boat Controller/s** will only allow athletes to compete at the race, whose identification has been checked and whose boat, equipment, clothing, starting number and body number conform to the rules. They will also check for any performance enhancing foreign substance on the boat any forbidden devices mention in rule 11. The Official in charge must inform the Competition Committee in the case of missing boats. The competitors having passed the control are entered in a written report. Should any of the boats not fulfil the requirements concerning classification (rules 9 to 12), they shall be excluded from the competition. The organisers will provide for this purpose certified weighing and measuring devices. Standard checking procedures will be applied. At least three boats are to be selected at random from the participants in the races for boat control after the finish.
- 13.8.6 **The Starter** decides all questions concerning the start of the races, and is solely responsible for decisions as to false starts. His/her decision is final. He/she shall see that the starting equipment is in good working order. He/she shall communicate with the Competition Committee and after having received a signal from them that all is ready, he/she shall order the competitors to their places and carry out the start according to the Racing Rules. It is the responsibility of the Starter to be satisfied that the circumstances at the start are free from any hindrance.
- 13.8.7 **The Aligner** the duty of the aligner is to bring the boats to the starting line with the least possible delay.  
If an automatic starting system is in use the aligners will be positioned in two separate boats behind the starting line. They will have an unobstructed view inside the system's boots (starting gates).  
When all boats are aligned and completely inside the boots the aligner will raise a white flag signifying to the starter that they are in position to start. When the boats are not in the boots the aligner shall raise a red flag.  
If there is no automatic starting system the aligners may be positioned on pontoons on the water or on shore beside the course and their duties will be to check the competitor's attire and the competition number on the back and the number of the boats. When all boats are aligned he shall notify the starter by raising a white flag.
- 13.8.8 **The Course Umpire** shall see to it that during a race the rules are complied with. If the rules are broken, the Umpire shall report immediately the infraction to the Competition Committee.
- The Competition Committee shall decide whether any of the competitors concerned shall be disqualified or not. If the Umpire has a report of an infraction of the rules he/she shall show a red flag after the race and shall make a report before the Umpire's next race takes place. In such a case, the Competition Committee shall make known its decision immediately and before the result of the race is announced.
  - If there is no infraction to report, the Umpire shall show a white flag.
  - In races of 1,000 metres, the Umpire shall follow the race in a motorboat.  
In races of 200 metres, the Umpire(s) shall not follow the race. One or two Course Umpires positioned before the start line. One or two Course Umpires positioned behind the finish line.  
For the 500 metre races, either system as used for the 1000m or the 200m may be adopted for the Course Umpires to do their task. The Chief Official will decide on the most appropriate system to be used, based on his/her opinion of the course features.  
The Course Umpire can follow and judge the race also from the Finish Tower as instructed by the Chief Official.
  - He shall be completely unhampered during the race. No one except the Umpire and the driver shall be admitted to the boat reserved for him.

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- e) In long distance races with many competitors, more than one Umpire will be nominated. One of the Umpires shall, if possible, follow the leading group in the race, but without disturbing the other competitors.
  - f) In case of hindrances the Course Umpire must stop the competition passing all boats in the race and waving the red flag or using a sound signal until all boats have stopped paddling. After this all boats shall return to the start. The Course Umpire shall report immediately the infraction to the Competition Committee.
  - g) When a motorboat is not used, one or more Umpires shall be placed in such positions from which they can ensure that the rules are being complied with.
- 13.8.9 **The Turning Point Umpires**, when a race is run along a course with one or more turning points, one or more Umpires and one recorder must be stationed at every turning point, where they gain the best view of the turn.
- a) The Turning Point Umpire shall see that the competitors turn according to the rules. The recorder shall make a list of all who pass the turning point.
  - b) Immediately after the race, the Turning Point Umpire shall report to the Competition Committee as to who has turned and if any infraction of the rules has taken place.
- 13.8.10 **The Finishing Line Judges** decide the order in which the competitors passed the finishing line. The order of the boats arriving at the finishing line will be decided by Photo Finish if a Photo Finish System is used.
- The position of the competitors in the boat will be recorded with video camera at the time of arriving at the finish line. The Chief Finish Judge will decide with the recording whether the competitor was in his/her boat upon arriving or not and report it to the Competition Committee.
- When there is no Photo Finish System, the Finishing Line Judges decide the order in which the competitors have passed the finishing line. The Judges shall be placed in a position where all lanes at the finish line can be clearly seen.
- If the Judges differ regarding the placing of two or more competitors, a simple majority shall decide the dispute, in the absence of Photo Finish. In the case of equal voting, the Chief Finish Judge has the casting vote.
- When there is no Photo Finish, the Finishing Line Judges are responsible for recording the times. This shall be done by means of stopwatches or suitable electronic equipment.
- It is the responsibility of the Chief Finish Line Judge to ensure that the timing equipment is working correctly. The Chief Finish Line Judge shall divide the work amongst the timekeepers.
- At the end of each race, he shall compare the official times with the other finish line judges and immediately inform the Chief Official of them.
- Each race shall be timed by at least two watches. When the watches have not recorded the same time, the longest (worst) time shall be taken as correct. The stopwatches are to be started when the electronic or optical signal from the start is received.
- When a Photo Finish is used the result determined by the Finish Line Judges shall be compared with it, with the photo finish being decisive. Video films are not a substitute for photo finish.
- 13.8.11 **The Announcer** shall, on the instructions of the Competition Manager, announce the start of each race, the order of the starting and the position of the competitors during the race. After the race is finished, he/she will announce the results.
- 13.8.12 **The Media Officer** must supply all the necessary information to the representatives of the press, radio and television about the race and its progress. He/she is authorised therefore to ask for information from the different officials who must procure for him/her as soon as possible the copies from the official results.
- 13.8.13 It is the Officials' obligation to perform their tasks in conformity with the Racing Rules.
- Every judge will have the obligation to check whether all means and equipment necessary to perform his/her tasks are guaranteed. In the event any shortcoming is found, it must be reported to the Chief Official or Competition Manager.
- Unauthorised persons must not enter any Officials' area unless the Competition Committee or the Jury send for officials or team officials in order to solve problems.
14. **Invitations**
- An invitation to an Open Regatta shall contain the following information:
- a) Time and place of the regatta.
  - b) Situation and plan of the course.
  - c) Classes and distance of the races.
  - d) Sequence and starting times of races.
  - e) Whether the races are to be held on still or running water, up or down stream.

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- f) Amount of entry fee.
- g) Address to which entries should be sent and the final date for receiving entries. This date shall not be earlier than 14 days prior to the first day of the competition.
- h) Conditions/terms of participation

## 15. Entries

Entries for Open Regattas can only be made in accordance with the regulations given in the invitation. An entry shall, however, always contain the following information:

- a) Name and address of competitor or crew.
- b) Name of club to which competitor or crew belongs.
- c) Classes and distances in which the competitor or crew propose to compete.
- d) Similar details of reserves if any.
- e) The Racing Registration number of each competitor, member of the crew or reserves.
- f) All entries should be in writing (Letter, Fax, Email, Telegram, Telex, etc). Where verbal communication is used, it must also be confirmed in writing by the given deadline (midnight on the due date). In the event of conflicting information, the information with letterhead and/or signature will take precedence.
- g) Late entries shall not normally be accepted. The acceptance of late entries shall be at the discretion of the Competition Committee who may charge up to double the entry fee.

## 15.1 Racing Colours

When making the entries, Clubs must give the colours of the clothing worn by the competitors and these colours must not be changed during the competition. **N.B.** *Every racing club must register their racing colours with the RC (and any changes thereto). All competitors from a club must wear the correct colours at all times.*

## 16. Heats and Finals

16.1 At least three kayaks or canoes must be entered before a race can be held. If the number of entries in race up to and including 1,000 metres is so great that heats are necessary, the number of kayaks or canoes in each heat and in the final must not exceed nine (9).

16.2 The division of competitors into heats shall be determined by drawing lots.

16.3 Where the width of the course permits, eight or nine kayaks or canoes shall participate in the final if more than this number has been entered in the entire race, as follows:

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 3 to 9 entries   | Direct final.  |
| 10 to 18 entries | Two heats, three from each to final A, 4/7 (+ 8th best time if possible) to one semi-final and from the semi-final three first to final A  |
| 19 to 27 entries | 3 heats, 1 from each to final A, 2nd to 7th to the semi-finals, rest out<br>Two semi-finals three first to final A. 4th to 7th (+ 8th best time if possible) to final B  |
| over 27 entries  | Required number of heats and semi-finals. By three semi-finals first three from each of the semi-finals to final A and 4th to 6th to final B<br>By four semi-finals first 2 (+ 3rd best time if possible) to final A and 3rd and 4th (- 3rd best time) + 2 best next time to final B |

16.3.1 A "B" final will only be held when there are more than 18 boats in that particular event.

16.4 When making the draw, the difference between the number of competitors in the heats of the race shall not exceed one. If the number of competitors in the heats varies, the earlier heats shall have the largest numbers.

16.5 Any crew which has not taken part in a heat as instructed shall not be allowed to compete in the final.

16.6 The composition of a crew which has qualified for semi-finals or for the final must not be changed. Heats and the final shall be run on the same stretch of water.

16.7 For races of more than 1,000 metres, heats shall not be held, and all boats taking part shall start simultaneously.

16.8 Should the width of water not permit a simultaneous start, starts at regular intervals shall be permitted.

16.9 The procedure for selecting competitors to race in finals will be on the basis of one of two criteria: either times or positions obtained in heats. The criterion used for each event will be decided by the SRC and published in advance of the event.

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## 17. **Acceptance of Entries**

- 17.1 Confirmation that the entry has been accepted, together with notification of the result of the draw and time of events, shall be sent to the entrant on written request by him and on production by the entrant to the Competition Organiser of a "stamped addressed" envelope.
- 17.2 The Organising Committee will accept the entries in conformity with the conditions/terms of participation. Therefore the Organising Committee can reject or delete the entry of the participants who fail to observe the conditions/terms of participation.

## 18. **Team Leaders' Meeting**

At least 2 hours before the first race of the competition (12 hours for an International Competition), the team leaders' meeting is to be held. At this meeting the names of team leaders should be advised. The organisers will describe the regatta course and all other arrangements, which should be adhered to for the duration of the competition. The Chief Official will describe the competition programme and ask for any changes to the entries.

## 19. **Alterations to Entries and Withdrawals**

- 19.1 Any competitor named in the final entry or at the Team Leaders Meeting may substitute for any other in the given type of racing (kayak men, kayak ladies, canoe men). Notification of alterations in the entries must be given in written form to the Chief Official at least one hour before the first race of the morning or afternoon session.
- 19.2 The withdrawal from a race is considered final and no renewed entry of the same crew is allowed.
- 19.3 Every competitor whose entry has been confirmed by his own club, at the time of the meeting of the team leaders, called for this purpose, is obliged to take part in the due event. The refunding of entry fees for entries withdrawn not less than 24 hours before the competition is at the discretion of the Competition Committee.

## 20. **Alterations in the sequence of events**

The sequence of races given in the programme and the intervals between races as given in the racing programme are binding on the organisers. Alterations cannot be made unless the respective Team Managers at the competition give their consent.

## 21. **Courses**

### **Marking Signs**

- 21.1 For National Championships and where possible for other competitions the turning points shall be marked by at least six flags (or buoys) which shall be readily distinguishable and shall, if possible be diagonally divided with one half in red and the other half in yellow.
- 21.2 Both the start and the finishing lines shall be marked with red flags or buoys, at the points where these lines intersect the outer limits of the course.

### **Layout**

- 21.3 Before the start of the races the racing course shall be measured and marked by means of clearly visible flags mounted on buoys.
- The course at the start shall permit a clear width where possible, of at least 5 metres for each boat.
  - For National Championships the starting and finishing lines shall be at right angles to the course.
  - The finishing line shall be at least 45 metres long and be marked by two flags. The Finishing Line Judges must be placed as near to the finishing line as possible.
  - For National Championship races up to 1,000 metres, the course must be straight and in one direction.
- 21.4 For races exceeding 1,000 metres turning points are permitted. For National Championship races exceeding 1,000 metres the following conditions should be fulfilled, if possible:
- The distance between the starting line and the first flag of the first turning point (1st leg) shall be straight and at least 1,859.25 metres.
  - The distance between the last flag of the first turning point and the first flag of the second turning point (2nd leg) shall be straight and maximum 1759.25 metres.
  - The distance between the last flag of the second turning point and the first flag of the third turning point (3rd leg) shall be a maximum of 500 metres.
  - The specifications of all other stretches shall be in accordance with point "c".
  - The radius of each turn should, if possible be at least 40.5 metres.

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- f) Both the start and the end of the race shall be in front of the Finishing Tower.
  - g) The red flags of the finish line shall be placed as much to the outside possible in order to get the widest feasible finish line.
  - h) Any starting pontoons for the 500 metre races are to be removed.
- 21.5 For competitions, including the National Championships, these conditions should be complied with, unless a special dispensation for the course has been obtained from the SRC through the Secretary.

## 22. Canoe Numbers

All kayaks and canoes shall carry a vertical number plate made of non-transparent material marked with black numbers on white background (for Internationals) or yellow background indicating the lane. The numbers on the plate must measure 15 cm in height and 25 mm in thickness. The plates shall be placed on the centre line of the after deck or bar. The approximate size of the number plate shall be 18 x 20 cm.

The personal numbers provided by the organisers shall be placed on the back of the competitor only.

## 23. Instructions for Competitors

Written instructions shall be available for competitors 2 hours before the start of the competition, containing the following information:

- a) Detailed information on the courses and their markings
- b) Starting time
- c) Starting line
- d) Finishing line
- e) Competitors racing number
- f) Type of boat control

## Part IV - RACING REGULATIONS

### 24. Means of Propulsion

- 24.1 Kayaks shall be propelled solely by means of double-bladed paddles.
- 24.2 Canadian Canoes shall be propelled solely by means of single-bladed paddles.
- 24.3 The paddles may not be fixed on the boat in any way.
- 24.4 If a paddle is broken a competitor may not be provided with a new one by a supporter.

### 25. Start

- 25.1 Lots shall be drawn to determinate in the heats the lanes of boats at the start. Number one shall be on the left, then number two and so on. *When there is television coverage of an event, the lane numbering may be in the opposite direction – from right to left, so that the list of competitors and their lanes shown on the television screen match the appearance of the races to be televised.*
- 25.2 In competitions where heats are required, lots must be drawn separately for each heat.
- 25.3 Competitors shall be on the water at the starting area, not less than five minutes prior to the specified time of their race. The starting area is defined as being the area of water within 100 metres before the starting line.  
Two minutes before the defined starting time the competing boats have to take the lane determined in the programme.
- 25.4 Competitors shall be at the starting area in time to allow satisfactory preparation for the start.
- 25.5.1 The start shall be given without reference to absentees.
- 25.5.2 If the competitor does not start, and has no valid reason approved by the Competition Committee, he shall be disqualified for the whole regatta. A competitor, who arrives too late at the start, shall be considered to have voluntarily withdrawn and shall be disqualified under this rule.
- 25.6 When signalled by the Starter, the competitor will take the start position designated so that the bow of the boat is on the start line. In case of an automatic starting system the competitor will place himself/herself so that the bow of the boat is on the start line and thus in the start machine.
- 25.7 Boats must be stationary.

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- 25.8 If the Starter is not satisfied with the line-up he/she will call "STOP", and hand over to the Aligner for repositioning.
- 25.9 After the order "START WITHIN TEN SECONDS" the starting signal is a strong sound (or shot). Between the order "START WITHIN TEN SECONDS" and the starting signal competitors must not paddle. In this period paddling ahead before the starting signal is considered a false start. The boat placed on the starting line must not move before the start. Competitors must only react to the start signal and are not permitted to anticipate it. The competitors can paddle only upon hearing the starting signal.
- 25.10 In the event of a false start, the Starter must immediately give a powerful sound signal. On hearing this signal all competitors must stop paddling and follow the Starter's instructions for a new start. Before the new start, the Starter must identify the offending crew/s making the false start and give them a warning. In the event of a second false start by the same crew the boat will be disqualified from the race and must leave the starting area and the course immediately.
- 25.11 The Starter may also recall competitors for a new start in the event of any unforeseen circumstance – a malfunction of the starting equipment for example. In such a case the same powerful sound signal must be given. If a malfunction of the starting equipment was caused through a boat making a false start, as in 25.9 the crew must be given a warning, as in 25.10, even though that boat may not have crossed the start line. If the malfunction was not the cause of any competitor making a false start, no penalty shall be imposed.
- 25.12 The Starter will start the race when he/she is satisfied that everything meets with his/her approval. He/she will make a written report on any false start and forward it to the Chief Official.
- 25.13 In the long distance races the starter shall declare "START WITHIN ONE MINUTE" when he is satisfied he will give the starting signal by a shot or a short powerful sound. The Starter will start the race when he/she is satisfied that everything meets with his/her approval. He/she will make a written report on any false start and forward it to the Chief Official.

## 26. Paddling on the Course

- 26.1 In races up to 1000 metres, competitors must keep the whole of their boat within the four-metre wide central area of their lane from the start to the finish of the course. Upon any deviation, the boat must go back immediately to this central area of the lane. No boat must come nearer than five metres in any direction to the boat of another competitor – that is, gunwale to gunwale or bow to stern.
- 26.2 If a boat leaves the centre of the lane and does not return to it, the boat may be disqualified from the event.
- 26.3 A boat which leaves its allocated lane must be disqualified from the event.
- 26.4 If a race is declared null and void, no change of the composition of a crew is permitted at the new start.
- 26.5 If there is a capsized competitor or crew is eliminated from the race.
- 26.6 The Umpire has the right to interrupt a correctly started race if unforeseen hindrances arise. The course Umpires with a red flag and sound signal may effect such an interruption. Competitors must immediately stop paddling and await further instructions.
- 26.7 If a paddle is broken a competitor may not be provided with a new one by a supporter.

## 27. Pacing

- 27.1 Taking pace or receiving assistance from boats not in the race or by any other means is not permitted.
- 27.2 When a race is in progress crews not taking part in the race are strictly forbidden to proceed over whole or part of the course, even outside the marking buoys.

## 28. Long Distance Competitions

- 28.1 Races of more than 1,000 metres, competitors may deviate from their lane providing they do not impede other competitors.
- 28.2 When a race is run on a course with turning points these shall be passed to port (i.e. in an anti-clockwise direction).
- 28.3 A competitor will not be disqualified for touching a turning buoy, unless, in the opinion of the Turning Point Umpires, an advantage has been gained there from. In making a turn, the boat shall follow as closely as possible the course as marked by the buoys at the turning points.

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- 28.4 If there is a capsize the competitor or crew is eliminated from the race if he/she or they are not able to get in the boat without outside help.
- 28.5 Any competitor who is responsible for a collision or who damages the canoe or kayak or paddle of another can be disqualified and can be required to pay damages.
- 28.6 When going around a turning point, the competitor on the outer course must leave room for the competitor on the inner course if that competitor has the bow of his boat at least level with the front edge of the cockpit of the boat on the outer course. With respect to K2 and K4, this refers to the fore-cockpit. With respect to C1, it refers to the level of the competitor's body, and for C2 it refers to the level of the body of the foremost member of the crew.
- 28.7 When a canoe or kayak is overtaking another canoe or kayak in a race, it is the duty of the overtaking craft to keep clear at all times of the boat being overtaken.
- 28.8 On the other hand, the craft being overtaken must not alter its course to make difficulties for the overtaking craft.

## 29. Finish

- 29.1 The boat has finished the race when its bow crosses the finish line with all crew members in it. The Finish Line Judges will determine the result of the competition based on the order of the boats arriving according to the rules.
- 29.2 If two or more boats reach the finishing line at the same time they are awarded the same classification in the final. In the case of a dead heat finish for any position, which determines the advance to the next level of the competition the following rules will apply:
  - a) Wherever there are sufficient number of lanes available in the next level of the competitions, drawing of lots will determine to which race each boat will advance. If possible it may use also lane number 10.
  - b) Wherever there are not enough lanes available there will be a re-race between the boats involved 30 minutes after the race (and for International Competitions after the last race of the day, or half day programme)
  - c) In the case of a dead heat in the re-race, drawing of lots will determine the outcome.

## 30. Tasks of Competitors after the Race

- 30.1 The competitor must leave the course after the finish of the race and cannot disturb the next race.
- 30.2 The crews selected by the Competition Committee for boat control must immediately contact the place allocated for the post race boat control.
- 30.3 If selected for doping control, the competitor must comply with the obligations stipulated by the BCU Anti-Doping policy.
- 30.4 Before the award ceremony the top three crews of the final must be present at the location and time indicated.
- 30.5 At National Championships the competitors must wear club, team or squad Racing Colours or Tracksuit at the award ceremony, as may be stipulated by the Organising Committee or SRC.

## 31. Disqualifications

- 31.1 Any competitor who attempts to win a race by any other than honourable means, who breaks the Racing Regulations, or who disregards the honourable nature of the Racing Regulations, shall be disqualified for the duration of the race concerned.
- 31.2 Should a competitor have completed a race in a kayak or canoe which is shown upon inspection not to conform with the classifications (see Rules 9-12), he/she shall be disqualified from the race in question.
- 31.3 It is prohibited to receive external assistance during a race.
- 31.4 No crew may be accompanied along and adjacent to the racecourse by other boats while the race is in progress.
- 31.5 No crew may receive assistance by using objects thrown into the course.  
Any of the above infractions will result in the disqualification of the competitor(s) concerned.
- 31.6 All disqualifications by the Competition Committee have to be confirmed in writing immediately with the reasons. The Team Leader has to acknowledge the receipt on a copy with the exact time, which is the start of the protest time.  
Failure to deliver the copy confirmation of the disqualification to the team leader does not invalidate the disqualification.

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31.7 The Competition Committee may discipline any competitor or Official whose behaviour is detrimental to the good order and conduct of the competition. The Competition Committee may after repeated action by the offender disqualify him/her for that competition.

## 32 Protests

32.1 A protest against a crew to compete in a race shall be advised to a member of the Competition Committee not later than one hour before the start of the race. A protest made later - within 30 days from the date when the race in question was held is only permitted if the officials of the club of the competitor making the protest can prove that the facts on which the protest is based came to their knowledge later than one hour before the start of the race.

32.2 A late protest shall be referred to the SRC accompanied by the prescribed fee (see below). A protest made during the competition must be handed to the Competition Committee not later than 20 minutes after publication of the results.

32.3 A protest made during a competition must be addressed to the Competition Committee not later than 20 minutes after the Team Leader has been informed on the decision against his/her competitor or team and has signed the receipt.

32.4 All protests must be made in writing and be accompanied by a fee of £5.00 (International Competitions £15.00 or 25 Euros). The fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld. *If the protest is not upheld the fee may not be refunded, at the discretion of the Competition Committee or SRC hearing the protest.*

32.5 When a protest or a report is made against an athlete or a team, the team leader of the athlete/team in question shall be presented with the protest or report to read.

## 33 Appeals

Competitors have the right to appeal to the SRC through their club or team management against a decision of the Competition Committee, within 30 days from the date when the race was held. In the case of National Championship Competitions the appeal must be made to the Competition Jury in accordance with Rule 13.7. A fee of £15.00 shall accompany the appeal. The fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld. The BCU SRC (or Jury in the case of a National Championship) shall pronounce the final decision.

## Part V - SPECIAL RULES FOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

34. Only members of the BCU who qualify under Rule 8 may participate in National Championship events. The only exceptions to this rule are those exempted under Rule 1.3.

35. All canoes and kayaks must comply with the classes and building rules as laid down in Part II of these rules.

36. Officials: Fully in accordance with Rules 13.1 to 13.4.

37. Competition Committee: Fully in accordance with Rule 13.2 and 13.3.

38. Competition Jury: Fully in accordance with Rules 13.7, 32 and 33.

39. Marking signs: In accordance with Rule 21.

40. Courses: In accordance with Rule 21.

41. Disqualifications: In accordance with Rule 31.

42. Heats and Finals:

In the event of there being fewer than three boats in a National Championship event then no medals will be awarded. If three boats are in an event then only a Gold Medal will be awarded. If four or more boats are in an event then Gold, Silver & Bronze medals will be awarded.

# BCU SPRINT RACING COMPETITION RULES - 2009

## Notes to the BCU Sprint Racing Competition Rules

### Races Exceeding 1,000 Metres at the National Water Sports Centre Nottingham, Rules 21.4 and 21.5

Because of limitations at the National Water Sports Centre - mainly the start pontoon being fixed for the Start of two 5000 metre and one 2500 metre events - it is not possible to comply with the Rule and provide the three courses required. The 2nd leg under the Rule is 47.75 metres too long. The requirements given in the Rule are those of the ICF, which the BCU must shadow in its own Rules.

### Long Distance Courses at the National Water Sports Centre, approved by the SRC

To provide flexibility there are four turning points with the start and finish of the turns as follows:

1. 10 metres beyond the finish line
2. 450 metres from the finish line
3. 1123 metres from the finish line
4. 1796 metres from the finish line.

### International Rules Course - 1 long lap + 1 short lap

(Avoiding pontoons at 500 metres which would need to be parked as far back as possible)

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| a) Between the start line and first flag of the first turning point =  | 1902.25 metres |
| b) Between the last flag of first turn and first flag of second turn = | 1806.00        |
| c) Between last flag of second turn and first flag of third turn =     | 460.00         |
| d) Between last flag of third turn and the finish =                    | 450.00         |
| e) Three turns of 127.25 metres each =                                 | <u>381.75</u>  |
|  | <u>5000.00</u> |

### Domestic Course - 2 medium laps

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| a) Between the start line and first flag of the first turning point =  | 1229.25 metres        |
| b) Between the last flag of first turn and first flag of second turn = | 1133.00               |
| c) Between last flag of second turn and first flag of third turn =     | 1133.00               |
| d) Between last flag of third turn and the finish =                    | 1123.00               |
| e) Three turns of 127.25 metres each =                                 | <u>381.75</u>         |
|  | <u>5000.00</u> metres |

### Short Course for Juniors - 1 lap of Domestic Course - 2500 metres

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| a) Between the start line and first flag of the turning point = | 1229.25 metres        |
| b) Between the last flag of the turn and the finish =           | 1123.00               |
| c) One turn of =  | <u>127.25</u>         |
|   | <u>2479.50</u> metres |

NB With a fixed start position and by using the same turning buoys for the 5000 metre course an exact 2500 metre course cannot be obtained. It is 20.5 metres short.

# BCU SPRINT RACING COMPETITION RULES - 2009

## BRITISH CANOE UNION - SPRINT RACING SECTION DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS

*These Disciplinary Regulations adopted by the Sprint Racing Committee on the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2008 are intended for all complaints other than "Field of Play" incidents, but including any event referred on by a Protest Committee dealing with a field of play incident.*

These Regulations set out how matters referred to the Sprint Racing Committee by the Union's Investigations Officer or a Protest Committee are dealt with.

### 1. Interpretation

1.1 In these regulations the words and expressions used shall have the following meanings:

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| "the Board"                  | the board of the Union as constituted under the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Union;   |
| "the Investigations Officer" | the Investigations Officer of the Union appointed by the Chief Executive from time to time;  |
| "the Protest Committee"      | the persons appointed from time to time by the Sprint Racing Committee or an event organiser to deal with matters arising during competition;            |
| "the Executive Committee"    | the persons elected or appointed at an ACM to the Sprint Racing Committee from time to time;   |
| "Member"                     | an individual member of the Union participating in the Discipline in respect of whom a complaint has been made under Regulation 2.1 of these procedures; |
| "the Union"                  | the British Canoe Union;   |

1.2 All references to periods of a number of days, relate to the period starting the day after the date of posting or the date of receipt where documents are delivered by hand or the date of the incident or meeting and ending the day of receipt, meeting etc.

1.3 Words denoting the singular number shall include plural number and vice versa and words denoting the masculine gender shall include the feminine gender.

### 2. Disciplinary Procedure

2.1 The Executive Committee shall appoint a panel of three of its members ("the Panel") to hear and determine any complaint or matters referred to it by a Protest Committee or the Union's Investigations Officer under Regulation 6.2(a)(ii) of Part A of the Union's Dispute Resolution and Disciplinary Procedures for matters other than Doping and Child Protection Matters. The Executive Committee and the Panel shall deal with such matters in accordance with the procedure set out below.

2.2 The Panel shall ensure that as soon as practicable and within 14 days of receiving the complaint from either the Investigations Officer or a Protest Committee, a copy of the complaint has been handed personally or by recorded delivery post to the Member. Notification of the date when the Panel will meet (via e-mail, personal or conference call communications, if deemed appropriate) to consider the complaint will be set as soon as practicable and within 30 days and an invitation to provide in writing, within 14 days (or such shorter time period as the Panel thinks fit) of the notice, any rebutting facts, mitigation, explanation or submission must be sent to the Member with the copy of the complaint. No member of the Panel may consider the matter in the event that he has a conflict of interest or could not be regarded as being impartial in the matter. In such circumstances, the Panel shall, in its sole discretion, replace that member with another member of the Executive Committee and if no such member can hear the matter then that member shall be replaced with another elected member of the Union for the only purpose of considering the complaint.

# BCU SPRINT RACING COMPETITION RULES - 2009

## DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS Continued

- 2.3 At the same time the Member shall be asked whether he wishes to be present at the meeting when the complaint is being considered, in which case that Member shall be informed that they may attend to make representations and that he may be asked questions. The Member shall also be informed that if no reply is received within the period of 14 days (or such shorter time period as the Panel thinks fit) the Panel will consider the complaint in his absence on the basis of the facts and statements in their possession. The Panel may invite the person making the complaint to comment on any reply provided by the Member, and shall supply a copy of any such comments to the Member before the meeting. The Panel may in its sole discretion invite the person making the complaint to attend the meeting.
- 2.4 At the meeting the Panel shall consider the complaint and any statement made in writing or orally by the Member. If that Member has asked to be present at the meeting he must have been given not less than seven days (or such shorter time period as the Panel thinks fit) notice of the meeting and he must have been invited to attend the meeting and offered the opportunity of being accompanied by an advisor. The Panel may question either party, if present, may call upon them to supply additional evidence or may adjourn the meeting to a later date. Once the Panel has completed its consideration of the complaint, it shall provide the Member with its written decision as soon as practicable and in any event within 14 days of the date of the original meeting or any adjourned meeting.
- 2.5 On completing its considerations of the complaint, the Panel shall draw up its findings of fact and may decide:
- (a) to reject the complaint; or,
  - (b) to warn or reprimand the Member; or,
  - (c) to suspend the Member from participating in specified events or training facilities held under the Sprint Racing Committees jurisdiction either:
    - (i) for a specified period, not exceeding three months; or,
    - (ii) for a specified number of such events or facilities, not exceeding five in number, consecutively, where that number, would not have taken place within the three-month period specified above; or,
  - (d) to recommend to the Board that the Member should be suspended from participating in Sprint Racing events or training facilities for a longer period or that the Member should be suspended or expelled from the Union, or that some other specified penalty (such as suspension of funding) should be imposed by the Board.
- 2.6 Where the Panel has found against the member, it shall as soon as practicable and in any event within the 14 days of the date of its original meeting or any adjourned meeting notify that Member by recorded delivery post of its findings of fact and of its decision and the grounds for that decision or recommendation, and shall inform him of his right of appeal under Regulations 2.8 and 2.9 below, and shall send a copy of the notification to the Board.
- 2.7 Where the Panel has made recommendations to the Board under 2.5(d) above, the Board shall decide whether or not to adopt such recommendations a Board Meeting shall be convened (via e-mail, personal or conference call communications) as soon as practicable to decide on the sanction to be imposed.
- 2.8 If the Member or the person who made the original complaint disagrees with the decision of the Panel, he shall be entitled to make a new complaint pursuant to Rule 3.1 (b) of Part A of the Union's Dispute Resolution and Disciplinary Procedures for matters other than Doping and Child Protection Matters by way of a Notice. The Notice must set out in detail why the Member or the person who made the original complaint disagrees with the decision of the Panel. The Notice must be accompanied by a cheque for £100 made payable to the Union ("the Deposit"). This Deposit shall be held by the Union and re-paid to the Member or the person who made the original complaint in the event that his complaint against the Decision is upheld by an Arbitral Panel or Disciplinary Committee. Where the Member's or the person who made the original complaint is rejected by an Arbitral Panel or Disciplinary Committee or if the matter is resolved by mediation, the Deposit shall be retained by the Union.

# BCU SPRINT RACING COMPETITION RULES - 2009

## DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS Continued

- 2.9 The Investigations Officer shall consider the matter and decide if the Notice shows that there is on the face of it sufficient evidence for the case to be determined in accordance with Rule 6.1 of Part A of the Union's Dispute Resolution and Disciplinary Procedures for matters other than Doping and Child Protection Matters. If he does so decide, he shall refer the Dispute to be decided by the Disciplinary Committee or to resolve by arbitration or by mediation in accordance with Rule 6.2 of Part A of the Union's Dispute Resolution and Disciplinary Procedures for matters other than Doping and Child Protection Matters. A different person shall be appointed as the Investigation Officer to make this decision to the person who was appointed as the Investigations Officer to review the initial Complaint against the Member.

### **Clause 8.2 of the Terms of Reference of the Sprint Racing Committee**

The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint a panel of three persons to decide any matter referred to it pursuant to Rule 6.2(a)(ii) of the Union's Dispute Resolution and Disciplinary Procedures for matters other than Doping and Child Protection Matters in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations approved by the Board and adopted by the Sprint Racing Committee from time to time.

### ***In addition to the Section's Disciplinary Regulations the BCU Sprint Racing Committee adopted regulations on 1 January 2001 as follows:***

3. **Code of Ethics**  
Everyone within the BCU Sprint Racing Section is subject to the conditions and ethics as given in Section 5 of the BCU 'Coaching Code' published by the BCU UK Coaching Service, and are required to operate under the same general Sport and Recreation Code of Ethics.
4. **Regatta Officials**
- 4.1 It is vital for the honourable nature of the Sport that Officials are not subjected to any act that may compromise their position.
- 4.2 Regatta Officials must not be threatened or subjected to harassment, intimidation or abuse. No attempt should be made to persuade Regatta Officials to take an action which is dishonest or contrary to the Official's code of ethics or honourable nature of the Sprint Racing Regulations. This applies at anytime, in or out of competition. It is incumbent on each Official to report all such acts.
- 4.3 The report should be in writing and sent without delay to the Sprint Racing Committee (through the Section Secretary) who will consider the matter in accordance with the Section's Disciplinary Regulations.
- 4.4 In the event of an action taken immediately prior to or during a BCU Regatta, the Official should hand their written report to the Chief Official. The Chief Official with the Regatta Committee must take action in accordance with the Section's Disciplinary Regulations.