

# CKC AGM 2010

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By Louise Schmidt

## Rule Changes

1. Number plates will be put on the back of all sprint racing boats except for War Canoes
2. Substitutions for Nationals Entries: substitutions have traditionally been listed when entries are made the night of Divisional Qualifiers (EOD's), this rule has been changed to: Substitutions will be due two hours prior to the race in question provided the paddler(s) does not go over the 8 race rule and only 1 substitution for doubles, 2 for Fours and 6 for war canoes.
3. Photo finishes at nationals: When a close race is in question, the photo of the finish will be posted with the results whenever possible. In the past they could only be requested after an official protest was put in and paid for.
4. Sr. women's C-4 500m will now be I-C-4
5. The start procedure is being changed to reflect a change in the ICF start procedure to be: READY-SET-GO\*. (GO\* can be the gunshot or other loud sound) READY: paddlers get their boats lined up and settled....SET: paddles up in the catch or start position....GO: self explanatory!

## Other Points of Interest:

- The 2011 Pan AM Games is to be an Olympic qualifier for Canada. The host country, however, does not have an ICF standard course (no starting blocks), if they do not get them in on time there may be another regatta used as the Olympic Qualifiers in early 2012 (this will change programming for our National Team athletes)
- CKC will announce their new High performance Director in mid December (Graham Barton's position)
- A Competitive review workshop will be held Jan 29 and 30<sup>th</sup> in Ottawa. This workshop will be based on issues surrounding LTAD in canoeing, specifically looking at the 10-16 year age group and the JR and SR point system at nationals.
- A new National Team Retirement recognition award will begin at the CKC AGM
- ELCC trained (taking the course) does not mean CERTIFIED. Coaches must have their evaluations done in order to become certified. By April 2011 all coaches in any sprint program must have Canoe Kids community coach course. By April 30<sup>th</sup> 2013 all coaches in the sprint programs (including Canoe Kids) will have to be ELCC certified. Old Level 1 NCCP certified coaches must complete the ELCC evaluation and the online course "Making Ethical decisions" to become ELCC CERTIFIED. Old Level 2 coaches must take the online course "Making Ethical decisions" to become ELCC CERTIFIED. CKC is looking at building an Advanced ELCC course in 2011 to bridge the gap between ELCC and Comp Dev.
- Coaches week 2011 tentative dates are May 9-15<sup>th</sup>

- CKC is building a Canoe Kids package with an activity book and other items which the clubs can purchase from CKC to help promote the program. They will let us know when they will be available.
- 2012 Nationals on Lake Banook August 22-25 (August 12 closing ceremonies at London Olympics)

## Sunday: Club Programming Summit

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This was a very informative day filled with presentations from clubs around the country on different programs being offered and on issues that most clubs are facing today. There was a general feeling of community in the room and everyone was sharing ideas and suggestions. Although some of the topics did not directly affect our club, I think we could pull something or learn something about how we could take what others are doing and apply it to our own programs.

An example of this sharing is when Scott Seaby made a great presentation on Rideau's dragon boat program. I think a lot of clubs are rethinking how they run theirs now and may be looking into a similar model to ours in the future.

These are just some of the ideas shared at this summit:

### Coaching Issues in Canada

Peter Neidre (Coaching Coordinator for CKC) discussed the Coaching problems in Canada. This was a discussion on what issues clubs were having regarding coaching. It is noted that we do not have enough qualified Head coaches in Canada (Comp Dev Certified). He said it is both the club's responsibilities and CKC's to ensure that coaches are being offered the courses, that they are taking the appropriate courses, AND that they are also getting certified. Too many coaches take the course and think they are done. Coaches who take the ELCC course and Comp Dev also need to have an evaluator in to do their evaluation to become certified (Joel Hazzan, L.A. Schmidt and Ryan Blair are our closest ELCC evaluators). Peter has promised to work on some type of coaching payment schedule (ranges) based on: years of experience, NCCP level etc. The clubs have asked him to come up with hourly wages for coaches at all levels on a regional level to use as a guide for paying our coaches.

### Registration tool

[www.sportical.com](http://www.sportical.com) This is a program and event website which is used in British Columbia. All clubs in BC use this program and they could not speak highly enough about it. Although there is a free version, they recommend buying the \$200 annual program in order to create your own pages and program forms. This program will organize all registrations for membership, canoe kids, NCCP courses (Provincial use or if we put a program on), sign up for officials for events, sign up for volunteers for events etc etc. This just sounded like a sound idea that will reduce a huge amount of time for the registrar and event

organizers. It will also allow people to pay by credit card (minor charge to the person, not the club), money goes into an account, and by PayPal.

## Fundraising

Cheema Canoe Club in Nova Scotia: the commodore, Brenda Fair was talking about their club's budget for coaching and fundraising. I spoke to her during a break and her ideas are solid and are something we should consider. I am following up with her on some details and will share them once I have her information. One idea I think we should speak to our coaches about is doing a Paddle-a-thon. Cheema does one every year and they make \$20,000. Their club is quite a bit smaller than ours. Kids go to their neighbours and extended family (not just parents!!, we don't want to keep taking from the same pot) and they give them incentives to produce pledges (e.g. For every \$100 raised, the paddler gets a RCC hat, for every \$200 they get a t-shirt....these incentives need to be very desirable and cheap, she said this is the key...make them want to go out door to door to collect). The beauty of this is that the actual Paddle-a-thon takes very little organization and coaches can put it on. It can be a usual long Sunday paddle followed by a barbeque.

## Recruitment and Retention: two presentations on this

Chad Brooks from Maskwa CC in Halifax : Their club has just undergone a million dollar expansion and is in a similar situation to ours, only they are a year or two ahead. They are exploring their facility rental to other sports clubs (dry land for soccer teams, dry land for hockey teams etc) while the club is not being used. They have non-members on their board with little or no paddling background but who have a subject of expertise that brings a new dimension to their board. They have recently hired a club manager full time for summer and part time for winter. This has taken a huge load off both the Head Coach and the board. Chad recommends that any Canoe Club with such a facility should hire this position. They roll out Canoe Kids under the manager not the Head Coach.

Mike Robinson from Calgary CC in Alberta: This was the most inspiring talk for me. Mike was saying how traditional methods of recruitment like media, brochures, going to hockey teams and other sports are all well meaning, but often yields little results in terms of numbers. His theory is based on the "build it and they will come" model. If you create programs that are effective, meaning, they make people feel good about themselves, they will tell everyone they know. WORD OF MOUTH is the recruitment tool. This happens by athletes making their goals a reality, by making every single person who steps on the dock or sits in a boat feel like they belong to the club or program. It means developing team boats because that is where the medal power is and where more kids will find success. It means giving everyone a chance at being successful. It means happy canoe kids, it means happy masters but most of all, this cannot happen without having the right people running those programs and having the leadership in place to make it happen.

## Multi Disciplines at Canoe Club

There was lots of discussion regarding mixing dragon boat, marathon, white water, outrigger etc to traditional sprint programs. RCC has a possible opportunity to help Marathon Canoeing with an event this summer. If this is successful, members from this community may be drawn in, these two disciplines are closely related and this relationship should be explored more closely.