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National Federations

Re: Canoe Sprint World Championships Programme 2017

Lausanne, 20 April 2017

The ICF has received several queries, requests and objections related to the changes of the Canoe Sprint World Championships 2017 to be held in Racice, Czech Republic.

Firstly on behalf of the ICF President and Board of Directors I would like to apologise for the lateness of the notification of the programme for the 2017 World Championships. The ICF regrets the lateness in the publication of this information and will do all it can to avoid similar issues in the future.

This delay was due to a problem with the rule changes from the ICF Congress in 2016 and external deadlines from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) related to the Olympic Programme 2020 which affected the processes for finalizing the World Championship Programme.

As we understand there is quite a lot of confusion and interpretation regarding the situation, I will try to clarify the process and how the World Championships Programme has been finalized.

At the ICF Congress 2016 it was announced that the IOC would determine the Olympic Events in early 2017. This had a knock on effect that the World Championships Programme could not be confirmed in 2016. In addition, to this the ICF Congress agreed to change 34.1.1 and 34.1.2 giving the rights to the ICF Board of Directors to determine the Non-Olympic events on the World Championships Programme. However, as these rules only came into effect 1st January 2017 it was impossible for the ICF Board of Directors to make this decision in 2016.

As there was a substantial change to the previous rules this was viewed as being able to enforce Article 29 of the ICF Statutes where the ICF President determined the circumstances were different than at the time of the Congress. Therefore the ICF Board of Directors could make a decision as long as more than 80% voted in favour of the change.

At the ICF Board of Director's Meeting in Manchester, England in March the 2017 World Championships Programme was unanimously agreed.

In relation to the requests from several National Federations and taking into account the lateness of this decision with the potential impact on

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team selection it has been agreed to run the 2015 World Championships Programme as an exception with the new 2020 Olympic events for the 2017 World Championships in order to be fair to all teams.

The non-Olympic events of the World Championships Programme will be looked at again by the Technical Committee this year and a proposal made for 2018 World Championships later this year. We welcome comments and suggestions to the Technical Committee so that they can consider all aspects of the Programme before making their proposal to the ICF Board of Directors.

We look forward to seeing you in Racice, Czech Republic later this year.

Yours sincerely,



Simon Toulson
ICF Secretary General