



INTERNATIONAL VA'A FEDERATION

Race Rules Sprints

**Race Rules - Sprints
Organization & Administration Guidelines**

Revised 05/2011



I. Race Rules-Sprints

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GENERAL

1. Events

a. The events for the IVF Sprint Championships (regatta) are the following one (1), six (6), and twelve (12) person (double va'a) events. V stands for va'a - the outrigger canoes used.

1)	V1	Adaptive Women	500 Meters
2)	V1	Adaptive Men	500 Meters
3)	V1	Master 70 Women	500 Meters
4)	V1	Master 70 Men	500 Meters
5)	V1	Golden Master Women (60)	500 Meters
6)	V1	Golden Master Men (60)	500 Meters
7)	V1	Junior Women (16)	500 Meters
8)	V1	Junior Men (16)	500 Meters
9)	V1	Senior Master Women (50)	500 Meters
10)	V1	Senior Master Men (50)	500 Meters
11)	V1	Junior Women (19)	500 Meters
12)	V1	Junior Men (19)	500 Meters
13)	V1	Master Women (40)	500 Meters
14)	V1	Master Men (40)	500 Meters
15)	V1	Open Women	500 Meters
16)	V1	Open Men	500 Meters
17)	V6	Adaptive Mixed	500 Meters
18)	V6	Master 70 Women	500 Meters
19)	V6	Master 70 Men	500 Meters
20)	V6	Golden Master Women (60)	500 Meters
21)	V6	Golden Master Men (60)	500 Meters
22)	V6	Junior Women (16)	500 Meters
23)	V6	Junior Men (16)	500 Meters
24)	V6	Senior Master Women (50)	500 Meters
25)	V6	Senior Master Men (50)	500 Meters
26)	V6	Junior Women (19)	500 Meters
27)	V6	Junior Men (19)	500 Meters
28)	V6	Master Women (40)	500 Meters
29)	V6	Master Men (40)	500 Meters
30)	V6	Open Women	500 Meters
31)	V6	Open Men	500 Meters
32)	V6	Adaptive Mixed	1000 Meters
33)	V6	Master 70 Women	1000 Meters
34)	V6	Master 70 Men	1000 Meters
35)	V6	Golden Master Women (60)	1000 Meters
36)	V6	Golden Master Men (60)	1000 Meters
37)	V6	Junior Women (16)	1000 Meters
38)	V6	Junior Men (16)	1000 Meters
39)	V6	Senior Master Women (50)	1000 Meters
40)	V6	Senior Master Men (50)	1000 Meters
41)	V6	Junior Women (19)	1000 Meters
42)	V6	Junior Men (19)	1000 Meters
43)	V6	Master Women (40)	1000 Meters



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44)	V6	Master Men (40)	1000 Meters
45)	V6	Open Women	1500 Meters
46)	V6	Open Men	1500 Meters
47)	V12	Adaptive Mixed	500 Meters
48)	V12	Master 70 Women	500 Meters
49)	V12	Master 70 Men	500 Meters
50)	V12	Golden Master Women (60)	500 Meters
51)	V12	Golden Master Men (60)	500 Meters
52)	V12	Junior Women (16)	500 Meters
53)	V12	Junior Men (16)	500 Meters
54)	V12	Senior Master Women (50)	500 Meters
55)	V12	Senior Master Men (50)	500 Meters
56)	V12	Junior Women (19)	500 Meters
57)	V12	Junior Men (19)	500 Meters
58)	V12	Master Women (40)	500 Meter
59)	V12	Master Men (40)	500 Meters
60)	V12	Open Women	500 Meters
61)	V12	Open Men	500 Meters

- b. The host association (host) may select one exhibition event, to be included in the regatta. This event should be traditional, and participation may be limited by the host.

2. Adaptive Paddler Races

- a. Adaptive paddler races will have additional rules as stated in the “Adaptive Paddler Rules and Classification System”.
- b. An Adaptive Paddler Committee as stated in the above document will oversee races, coordinate with other race officials and advise the Race Director on all decisions as necessary.

3. Eligibility

- a. Each competitor must be entered by an area member of the IVF.
- b. A competitor may not paddle for more than one crew in an event.
- c. Each competitor may only participate with a team from the area of his citizenship or, in the case of a member area being only part of a nation, his residence. However a competitor who has been a new or temporary resident in another area for at least six (6) months may represent that new or temporary area if he so chooses.
- d. Competitors in adaptive paddler races must have a disability recognized by the International Paralympic Committee.
- e. Adaptive paddlers must have been assigned an IVF classification score and that score must be declared on their event entry forms. No competitor without an IVF classification score will be allowed to enter an adaptive event.

4. Gender Verification

- a. Any entrant may be asked to prove gender by any area member through the competition director.
- b. To authenticate gender, the entrant must produce both their passport and their birth certificate.
- c. Once the documents are presented, either the entrant or the questioning party may challenge the documents and call for medical verification which is to be carried out at the expense of the challenging party.



d. Medical verification will follow ICF or IOC procedures, with the medical committee and/or the Board setting the procedures on a case-by-case basis as directed by the President.

5. Age Requirements

- a. Junior (16) competitors must not reach the age of 17 before or during the calendar year in which the competition takes place and must reach the age of at least 11 during said calendar year.
- b. Junior (19) competitors must not reach the age of 20 before or during the calendar year in which the competition takes place and must reach the age of at least 14 during said calendar year.
- c. Open competitors must reach the age of at least 16 during the calendar year in which the competition takes place.
- d. Masters competitors must have reached the age of 40 by or during the calendar year in which the competition takes place.
- e. Senior Masters competitors must have reached the age of 50 by or during the calendar year in which the competition takes place.
- f. Golden Masters competitors must have reached the age of 60 by or during the calendar year in which the competition takes place.
- g. Master 70 competitors must have reached the age of 70 by or during the calendar year in which the competition takes place.

6. Anti-Doping Regulation

- a. The IVF prohibits the use of performance enhancing or illegal drugs by athletes competing in and during preparation for IVF events.
- b. Refer to the current official IVF Anti-Doping Regulations.

7. Awards

- a. The host, at its expense, shall award championship medals bearing the IVF name and logo in three values: gilded, silvered and bronzed. The medals must on no account be presented to any other persons than those who have won championship races.
- b. Only medals, the exclusion of all other prizes, are to be presented at the official ceremony. Other awards may be presented at another time.
- c. To maintain the dignity and solemnity of the presentation ceremony, the competitors receiving medals must wear appropriate clothing (team or area uniforms or traditional cultural attire).
- d. In order for an event to be an official event with medals awarded, there must be at least two different member areas competing. If there are two or more entrants from only one area entered (an unofficial event), the entrants may be allowed, at the discretion of the Competition Director, to race as an exhibition with no medals awarded.
- e. There must be at least one entry in an event that does not win a medal. Thus, if there are two (2) entries in an event that meets the criteria of 7.d. above, only a gold medal will be awarded; and if there are three (3) entries in an event that meets the criteria of 7.d. above, only gold and silver medals will be awarded.

EQUIPMENT

8. Hull Specifications

- a. All va'a are to be made from the same mould, using the same materials, with weight and dimensions to be the same. Shortly prior to a competition, officials will check the weight



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and make alterations as needed so that all va'a are of the same weight, with tolerance levels set by the equipment and course committee.

- b. If the organizing committee or competition committee determines there is a need to measure the va'a to ensure uniformity, the va'a shall be compared after taking the following measurements (with allowed differences in parentheses):
 - (1) overall hull length (2" (5.08 cm));
 - (2) midpoint width 12" – 30.48cm from bottom (1/8" (0.3175 cm));
 - (3) two widths midway between the midpoint and ends 12" (30.48 cm) from bottom (1/8" (0.3175 cm));
 - (4) two widths midway between the points of (3) above and the ends 12" (30.48 cm) from the bottom (1/8" (0.3175 cm)).

9. Va'a Accessories

All va'a accessories, including floatation tanks, seats, ama, iako, bailers and rigging shall be properly constructed and standardized. Prior to the competition, the equipment and course committee shall oversee the rigging, which shall be standardized with ama on left, and may not be altered except by an official.

10. Paddles

A paddle shall have one blade and may be of any shape or size. It may be constructed from any material.

11. Numbering

- a. All va'a must have a vertical plate on which their number shall be painted in black on a yellow background on both sides.
- b. The plates must be placed on the longitudinal axis of the decking at the bow of the va'a, and shall be approximately 18 x 20 cm - 7 x 8".

COURSE

12. Lanes and Course Markers

- a. The course will be set up as shown on the course diagram in appendix
 - 1) Straight races are marked by the flags on each side of the lane.
 - 2) Turn races shall turn around the flag marking the center of the lane. The width of the lane is from buoy to buoy. The canoe must remain within the buoy markings throughout the course of the race.
- b. The course shall be surveyed to the course diagram prior to the event for accuracy.
- c. There must be at least five (5) and no more than eight (8) lanes. Half lanes are allowed for 500 meter straight races.
- d. The course shall have lanes that are:
 - (1) 500 meters long;
 - (2) 25 to 35 meters wide for turn races with half that width allowed for straight races;
 - (3) at least 2 meters deep, but exceptions may be allowed by the Board if the course is of uniform depth;
- e. All 500 meter races are run on a straight 500 meter course. Races 1,000 meters and above may be run on either a 250 meter or 500 meter course. Turn races on a 250 meter course will start and finish at the same point.
- f. The course shall have flags that measure a minimum 70 cm by 70 cm.



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- g. Start and finish lines shall be aligned by the flags for the innermost and outermost lanes.
- h. A lane or area shall be designated so that the contestants may proceed safely to the starting line without interfering with the race course.
- i. When a race is taking place, paddlers who are not racing will not be permitted on or near the course, unless so directed by the competition director.

13. Call in and Holding Areas

- a. A check-in location, termed the call-in area, will be designated where the contestants will report to the paddler inspectors when called. No one other than the contestants may pass beyond the check-in desk, except for adaptive paddlers, who may have appropriate assistance.
- b. An area, termed the holding area, for contestants to go to after they leave the call-in area and before they enter the va'a will be designated near where the va'a are kept between races.

14. Position in Va'a

- a. Paddling, including any stationary use of the paddle in the water, is only allowed while the paddler is in a sitting position on a seat in the va'a.
- b. Support seats and footrests may be used by adaptive paddlers, but must be quickly and easily attach/detachable.

15. Starts

- a. Contestants must be present on time at the starting line, in the order stated for the day's events.
- b. Starting signals shall be given regardless of absentees.
- c. The position at the start should be such that the bow of each competing va'a is lined up in its assigned lane without movement on the starting line.
- d. Holders may be used, and may be either:
 - (1) by mechanical means, or
 - (2) with people to hold the stern of the canoe by way of a platform or from the water.
- e. The start will be controlled by the aligner, located at the side of the course, and the starter, located in a boat in the middle of the course approximately sixty meters in front of the starting line.
- f. Starting procedures must be as follows:

Immediately prior to race start time, the starter will raise a white flag signaling va'a to come to the pre-start line.

 - (1) Immediately prior to race start time, the starter will raise a white flag signaling va'a to come to the pre-start line.
 - (2) As soon as the va'a are lined up on the pre-start line, the aligner will communicate to the starter the OK to raise a red flag signaling the va'a to line up evenly on the start line.
 - (3) As soon as the va'a are lined up evenly, the aligner must communicate quietly to the starter by radio to start the race.
 - (4) Instantaneously upon radio communication, the starter will simultaneously lower the red flag and raise a green flag signaling the start of the race. An air horn or



other sound device will simultaneously be set off, but the green flag is the official start.

- (5) If the aligner is unable to line up the va'a evenly and their positioning makes it difficult to do so, he may order the white flag to be raised and begin the process again.
- (6) At the start of a race, no va'a shall have an illegal advantage. All va'a that are lined up illegally will be provided a warning by the raising of the black flag indicating an infraction exists and will be given the opportunity to line up correctly. If, after reasonable time, a va'a persists in lining up so that an illegal advantage is gained, the aligner may start the race, signaling this infraction by the raising of a black flag.
- (7) If the aligner, after communicating to the flag person to start the race, sees an unfair situation not previously noticed, a rerun must be immediately called.
- (8) If the aligner sees any reason to immediately halt the race for a rerun, he will communicate such to the course boats by radio and the waving of a red flag.

16. Interruption

- a. The competition director, the head course judge or the aligner may authorize the interruption of a race if an unforeseen problem occurs. A red flag and/or a sound signal will be used to halt the race.
- b. In case of an overturn, any outside help will result in a disqualification of the Competitor. The course officials may, at their discretion, authorize or provide outside help.

17. Turns

- a. Turns are to be made counter-clockwise, with the ama nearest to and rounding the flag.
- b. If contact is made by any part of the hull, iako or ama so that the flag touches the water, the contestant shall be disqualified.

18. Finish

- a. The finish line is crossed when the bow of the va'a passes the finish flags, or as noted in 18.b below.
- b. When finish line systems are used whereby the camera may be blocked by the finish line flags, an imaginary line one meter in front of the finish flags will be the official finish line.
- c. Any va'a finishing without its entire crew will be disqualified.
- d. Any va'a being or finishing outside its assigned lane will be disqualified.
- e. Electronic photo finish system for the recording of finish times and place is the preferred system for a sprint regatta. Canoe and lane markings should be identifiable via the pictures captured. A manual backup system for verification of the order of finish must be provided. A secondary video should be provided in the event the main system is not operating properly at any time.
- f. For timing of events, the photo finish system may be equipped with timing options. A secondary manual timing system shall be required. An acceptable timing unit such as a Seiko Printing Timer shall be used. A single recording timer ensures the start time is fixed for all competitors and the finish time is recorded in chronological order on the tape.
- g. Canoes should continue through the prestart area before turning off the course.



ENTRIES

19. General

- a. The deadlines for entry submittals, and the possibility of late entries and fees will be determined by the Board or its designee.

The number of entries allowed by each member in each event are as follows:

V1 events: 6 lanes

V6 events: 6 lanes

V12 events: 3 lanes

- b. Entries are to be submitted as directed by the Board or its designee only by the controlling authority of the membership area, except for teams or individuals that are not located in a membership area.
- c. Contestants must enter under the name of a team. The Team shall be reported on all result postings under their IVF Area, crew ranking for the event and a team name. The team name for V1 shall be the paddler's registered name. For V6 and V12 the team name is optional, and shall default to the IVF Area if left blank.
- d. A competitor may paddle for his area, sub-association and/or club.
- e. Paddlers must wear matching team uniform tops in competition. Uniform design must be consistent for all team members: short sleeve, tank top(singlet) or long sleeve must match. In a V12 event, all 12 paddlers must wear the same uniform. Clothing worn below the waist need not be uniform. Headwear is optional, but must be matching and worn by all or none.

20. Forms

- a. Entry documentation turned in by the controlling authority include: (electronic registration may be used for much of the documentation)
 - (1) Intent to Participate = number of entries in each event and total paddler count
 - (2) Roster = registration of eligible paddlers from an area with required verification documents and digital photo
 - (3) Team entry = registration of each event entry with competitors' names
 - (4) Anti-Doping Declaration
 - (5) Therapeutic Use Exemption Request (if applicable)
- b. Additional sheets and forms to be used and posted as necessary (not necessarily inclusive):
 - (1) Start List – for each race a list of contestants and their lanes
 - (2) Order of Finish – including lane and time for each contestant
 - (3) Disqualification
 - (4) Protest
 - (5) Appeals
 - (6) Intent to withdraw
 - (7) Waiver

21. Seeding

- a. All entrants must be ranked by each Area on the entry form.
- b. Entrants will be seeded into first rounds with the following goals in mind:
 - (1) The best entrants are not all placed together.
 - (2) Entrants from one Area are not all placed together.
- c. The Competition Director & Race Secretary co-chair the seeding process.



d. In determining the seeding, other information besides the Area ranking will be taken into account such as past records, reports on current abilities, and reports on injuries.

22. Drawing of Lanes

- a. Lanes shall be assigned randomly for the first round of each race and the process shall be carried out under the control of an IVF official and the supervision of the competition director.
- b. All manual processes of creating the lane draw and subsequent progressions may be replaced or enhanced by use of automated (electronic) solutions.
- c. Lanes for rounds subsequent to the first round shall be designated in the progression schedule with a predetermined formula.
- d. The race schedule for the entire regatta and the first day's lane assignments shall be posted the day prior to the start of the regatta. Subsequent lane assignment postings shall be done as early as possible. Copies shall be available for each area coordinator.

23. Replacements and Withdrawals

- a. V6 and V12 teams shall be entered with 6 and 12 paddlers respectively. No substitutes from the start list may be made without the approval of the Competition Director after the heats. Where a paddler is deemed unable to paddle for any verified medical reason, any eligible paddler from within that country roster list may replace him.
- b. A contestant may withdraw by 8 a.m. the day before the first race of the competition without penalty. If a contestant does not start, and has no valid reason approved by the competition committee, a US \$100 fine (or equivalent in the currency of the country where the competition is taking place - this applies to all dollar amounts in these rules) shall be levied. These fines shall not be refundable and no contestant from that area will be allowed to compete until the fine is paid.

24. Progression

- a. The progression of races from heats to finals shall be posted the day prior to the start of the regatta.
- b. The competition director may alter the progression schedule should unforeseen circumstances change the expected ability to finish all the races on time.

RULES INFRACTIONS

25. Disqualification

- a. The following provisions as stated in these rules are cause for automatic disqualification:
 - (1) Competing while not a member, affiliated or otherwise, of the IVF. (Section 3a)
 - (2) Competing for more than one crew in an event will disqualify both crews from the competition. (Section 3b)
 - (3) A competitor who is a citizen of or resides in an IVF member area competing in a team from another area. (Section 3c)
 - (4) Not meeting the age requirements. (Section 5)
 - (5) Using prohibited drugs. (Section 6)
 - (6) Paddling in a non-seated position. (Section 14a)
 - (7) Starting incorrectly. (Section 15)
 - (8) Not rounding the flags in a counter-clockwise direction. (Section 17a)
 - (9) Contacting the flag so that it touches the water. (Section 17b)
 - (10) Finishing without the entire crew in the va'a. (Section 18c)
 - (11) Going outside of one's lane. (Section 18d)



(12) Unsportsmanlike conduct. (Section 25b)

(13) Adaptive paddlers contestants will be disqualified if they do not meet all the requirements contained in the separate “Adaptive Paddler Rules and Classification System” document.

- b. Besides the reasons set out for disqualification in other parts of these rules, any individual who attempts to win an event by means other than those which are honest, does not respect the race rules, or who displays unsportsmanlike conduct, shall be disqualified for the entire duration of the championships.
- c. All disqualifications are to be pronounced by the competition director and shall be immediately confirmed in writing with reasons given. The area coordinator or assistant area coordinator of any disqualified contestant shall then be notified, given a copy of the disqualification form and acknowledge receipt thereof on a copy indicating the precise time, which is the start of the protest time. The disqualification shall then be publicly announced and posted.

26. Protests

- a. Protests must be filed by an area coordinator or his designee. Prior to filing a protest, area coordinators are encouraged to seek information through the infractions’ director (see section 108). Any area coordinator who is considering a protest dependent on information from the infractions’ director must inform the infractions’ director, who shall then have the area coordinator sign a disqualification inquiry form showing both the start and finish time of the inquiry with the infractions’ director.
- b. A protest to any result or disqualification may be lodged by filling out the protest form and handing it in at the information and protest booth not later than 20 minutes after: 1) the announcement and publication of the results of the race in question when there is no disqualification, 2) the area or assistant area coordinator signs a receipt of the disqualification form, or 3) after the end of the inquiry with the infractions director, which inquiry must begin within 20 minutes of 1) or 2) above.
- c. Once a protest has been received, the protest committee must notify immediately all parties involved in the protest, allowing time for other or counter protests to be received. After 20 minutes, the protest committee closes the case and starts deliberating.
- d. The decision of the protest committee, on each protest, must be confirmed in writing, giving reasons for the decision. The decision must be handed to the affected area coordinators, who must acknowledge receipt of it by signing the protest committee's copy and recording the time in case of any further appeal.
- e. All protests shall be made in writing and be accompanied by a fee of US\$25.00. The fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld.
- f. If a protest or an official decision results in a rerun, no change in the competitors is allowed.

27. Appeals

- a. An appeal against a decision of the protest committee must be addressed to the chairman of the appeals jury in writing on the appeals form and be accompanied by a fee of US\$25.00. The appeal must be handed in at the information and protest booth not later than 20 minutes after the area coordinator has been informed with a written communication of the decision against the competitor or team and has signed the receipt given. The fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.
- b. The decision of the jury may not be appealed.



28. IVF Board

The IVF Board, by a majority of all votes, may disqualify or reinstate contestants if subsequent information, such as drug tests, warrants such change. If such change involves different medal winners, the contestant who loses a medal must return it to the IVF.

DEFINITIONS

Whenever a masculine pronoun is used, it is intended to indicate either male or female persons.

Ama: The piece used to balance the va'a, also known as the outrigger.

Area or Membership Area: The area which an IVF member represents.

Board: The Board of Directors of IVF.

Competition: Same as regatta.

Competitor: An individual paddler taking part in the competition.

Contestant: A V1 paddler or a crew taking part in the competition.

Controlling Authority: The National Sport Organization representing va'a in an IVF member region.

Crew: A V6 or V12 entrant.

Event: As listed above in Section 1.a., there are 61 events defined by the number, sex, age and disability of the paddlers, and by the distance of the race.

Host: The organizing group in the membership area where the Sprints take place.

Iako: The two pieces used to attach the ama to the va'a.

Regatta: A series of coordinated races –used here to mean the IVF World Sprint Championships.

Team: The affiliation or name under which a contestant enters.



II. Organization & Administrative Guidelines

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GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

29. Sanction

- a. The International Va'a Federation (IVF) will hold its World Sprint Championships (World Sprints or Sprints) every two (2) years under its:
 - (1) Race rules,
 - (2) Organization & administration guidelines and
- b. Other regattas that wish to be sanctioned as an "IVF international regatta" may submit the rules and other information on the proposed regatta to the IVF for sanctioning approval by its Board of Directors (Board).
- c. An IVF international regatta must:
 - (1) Have competitors from at least two (2) regular members and
 - (2) Be monitored by an IVF certified official

30. Invitations

Invitations should be sent to each member at least nine (9) months before the regatta and should contain the following:

- (1) Dates and place of competition
- (2) Map of the course
- (3) Categories and racing distances
- (4) Amount of entry fees
- (5) Address(es) for registration
- (6) Deadline for receipt of entry material
- (7) Number of lanes to be allowed per membership area

31. Registration Fees

- a. Registration fees and deadlines for their being received and/or postmarked shall be set by the Board. These fees are not refundable unless unforeseen circumstances arise.
- b. Late registration fees shall be set by the Board.

Schedule for Entries and Registration:

- 6 months prior to event--On line registration will open to Area Coordinators
- 4 months prior to event --Intent to participate shall be entered by Area Coordinator; Intent fee per paddler is due at this time
- 70 days – Therapeutic Use Exemptions requests must be submitted
- 30 days – Paddler registration and entries adjusted to actual by Area Coordinator and balance of registration fees are due
- 2 weeks prior – last date to scratch entry without penalty, \$100 USD after this deadline

- Late Entry – addition of event entries begin 2 weeks prior to the event and incur a \$100 USD late fee
- Paddler fee is non-refundable after the 30 day registration deadline. Paddlers may be replaced on the member roster at no charge.
- Late Paddler Registration – addition of a paddler to the member roster after the deadline incurs a 100% late fee.

32. Identification Cards and Birth date Verification

- a. Identification cards
 - (1) One (1) ID card will be issued to each competitor to use as required.
- b. Verification of birth dates



- (1) All junior (16), junior (19) and master paddlers must furnish a copy of proof of birth date, submitted with the final entry form.
- (2) These should be deposited in the permanent IVF files for future use.
- (3) Passports or birth certificates are acceptable verification; however the competition director may allow other documents.

33. Results and Reports

The results/reports of any protests and appeals, as well as other necessary documents concerning the world sprints, must be sent to the IVF secretary general by the host association not later than 60 days after the end of the regatta.

34. Race Rules Amendments

- a. The IVF race rules and organization & administration guidelines may be amended by a majority vote of the Board, but no amendment may go into effect that is enacted less than twelve (12) months prior to a World Sprints.
- b. The explanation, interpretation & intent appendix may be amended at any IVF Board meeting or by other means of Board vote.

COMMITTEES

35. Organizing Committee

- a. The Sprints shall have an organizing committee which shall be responsible for the complete organization of the competition including, but not limited to, the planning of pre-race, race-day and post-race logistics and activities, and shall have such other duties and responsibilities as contained in these rules.
- b. The chair shall be responsible for communication with the Board.
- c. The organizing committee, in consultation with the President and approval from the Board or its designee, shall determine the schedule of race events, which shall not exceed 6 days. The overall program of all events and ceremonies shall also be approved by the Board, and must not exceed nine (9) days.
- d. The following decisions in these rules are given to the organizing committee, but must be approved by the Board:
 - (1) Inclusion of a traditional event (1b)
 - (2) Design of medals (7a)
 - (3) Producing a course diagram (12a)
 - (4) Designating turns at either 250 or 500 meters (12e)
 - (5) Appointment of the competition director and other officials (38b)
 - (6) Appointment of the competition committee and the appeals jury (36 & 37)

36. Competition Committee

- a. There shall be a competition committee, appointed by and under the direction of the competition director, which shall run the regatta, including dealing with disqualifications and protests.
- b. The committee shall consist of seven (7) members (all knowledgeable of the IVF rules) from various areas, appointed by the organizing committee with Board approval.
- c. One member of the committee, known as the infractions' director, will deal exclusively with disqualifications and protests, and appoint the protest committees of 3 from among the 6 other committee members to deal with protests as they arise.
- d. At the infractions' director's discretion, two protests may be dealt with simultaneously using six (6) members of the competition committee on two (2) protest committees.



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- e. The infractions' director shall be in charge of the personnel located at the information and protest booth, at least one of whom should be a member of the competition committee. No competition committee member who has dealt with a protest at the information and protest booth may sit on a protest committee dealing with the same protest.
- f. The purpose of the committee member in charge of the information and protest booth minimize the number of protests by assisting contestants in understanding the rules and giving area coordinators all the information necessary in order to make a decision whether or not to lodge a protest. In performing his duties he:
 - (1) shall have capable assistants helping perform his duties;
 - (2) may restrict contact, at his discretion, to area coordinators or their designees;
 - (3) shall reasonably gather all information available to the protest committee;
 - (4) shall monitor the process of an official disqualification inquiry, and reasonably call an end to the process in the interest of the timely progression of the regatta.

37. Appeals Jury

- a. An appeals jury (including a chair) of five (5) members, all of whom must be knowledgeable of the IVF race rules, will be appointed by the Board.
- b. No one may be a competitor, coach or official in the competition.
- c. No IVF member may have more than one (1) representative on the jury.
- d. In the absence of any jury member, the chair, with approval of the competition director, may appoint replacement members to deal with appeals.
- e. The appeals jury shall consider and have access to all evidence, including written reports and video, and may question officials, competitors and onlookers.

OFFICIATING

38. List of Officials

- a. Competitions are organized under the direction of the following head officials:
 - (1) Competition director
 - (2) Head paddler inspector
 - (3) Equipment manager
 - (4) Head course judge
 - (5) Head finish line judge
 - (6) Race secretary
 - (7) Appeals jury chair
- b. Head officials and other officials are to be appointed by the organizing committee.
- c. Officials may not be coaches or competitors, however the competition director may appoint coaches or competitors to observe, assist and/or advise in regards to the running of the races.

39. Competition Director

The competition director shall supervise the races and shall be responsible for the preciseness and proper progress of the program. He is in charge of the competition committee and shall involve them in all major decisions. He is responsible for naming and supervising the head officials and for all other duties as called for in these rules. He (or his infractions' director) is in charge of pronouncing all disqualifications, and seeing to it that all results are posted and announced, and that all the affected area coordinators are notified. He may delegate his authority as needed.



40. Head Paddler Inspector

The head paddler inspector shall be in charge of the call-in area, the holding area and the area where paddlers get in and out of the va'a. He shall see that the paddlers sign in correctly, are eligible, have no improper equipment and are wearing proper uniforms. He shall work closely with the announcer, race secretary and the head starter to ensure the regatta progresses in a timely manner.

41. Equipment Manager

The equipment manager will help supervise the launching of va'a; checking equipment to make sure it is properly functioning and not altered, seeing to it that bailers are in each va'a, and overseeing the repair or replacement of damaged equipment. He shall notify the competition director of any infractions or equipment problems.

42. Head Course Judge

- a. The head course judge is in charge of the officials for the course, including the aligner, the starter and officials who will be looking for infractions (including lane, turn and interference) by va'a on the race course. He shall be in charge of the course boats and placing course judges in the best locations to see infractions. The head course judge is responsible to see that the starts follow the rules, are as fair as possible for all, and proceed in a timely manner. All infractions are to be reported to the head course judge or his designee who shall pass the infraction on to the competition director.
- b. Any official, not only course judges, who sees an infraction should report the infraction to his head official who must in turn report it to the head course judge. The head course judge may solicit and pass on conflicting reports and may add his own assessment to any of these reports.

43. Head Finish Line Judge

The head finish line judge shall be in charge of the finish line officials, with the responsibility to determine the order of finish and times for all contestants. He is in charge of all finish line judges, timers and recorders and the official camera. He shall record any infractions brought to his attention and report race results to the competition director or his designee.

44. Race Secretary

The race secretary shall have overall responsibility for all paperwork involved in the competition. He shall provide all information required to media representatives in regards to the progress of the races and their results. He shall be in charge of seeding, scheduling and lane assignments. He shall be in charge of posting all schedules and results.

45. Appeal Jury Chair

The appeals jury chair shall be in charge of the appeals jury. He shall see to it that all proper information is gathered and that all points are considered. He may appoint replacement members if necessary.

OTHER PERSONNEL

46. Announcers

The announcers shall be responsible to keep both the competitors and the spectators informed. They shall make official announcements as dictated by the competition director or head officials in both English and French. They shall call the contestants to their upcoming races.



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They shall announce race results and disqualifications. They shall call events in progress if possible and give any commentary which enhances the spectator interest in the sport.

47. Area Coordinators

Area coordinators and their assistants are appointed by participating members. They are in charge of their association's paperwork (see Section 18d), must always be available to receive information from officials and are responsible for communications between the race officials and all the participants in their association.