

British Canoe Union Canoe Polo

Yearbook 2005/06



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Canoe Polo Yearbook 2005/06

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<i>Wales</i>	Hywell Whitaker

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PROVISIONAL CALENDAR FOR 2005/06 NATIONAL LEAGUES SEASON

Please note that whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this calendar, it is published 9 months before some of the Tournaments and is potentially subject to change. This calendar has some obvious omissions, particularly with regard to Division 3 North and bookings at Derby Pool. This is because it is becoming increasingly more difficult to book “polo friendly” pools. If you have any details on any suitable pools - in any part of the country - please advise the chairman@canoepolo.org.uk

Please also note that bookings in italic on the calendar on page 5 are as yet unconfirmed. For the latest information on the pool calendar and other matters, please visit canoepolo.org.uk

Division 1 Open
 28th January 2006 Coventry
 18th March 2006 Leeds
 8th April 2006 Coventry
 13th/14th May 2006 Outdoor

Division 2 North Open
 15th October 2005 Leeds
 12th November 2005 Leeds
 17th December 2005 Leeds
 14th January 2006 Leeds
 11th February 2006 Leeds
 25th March 2006 Leeds
 14th May 2006 Play offs

Division 2 South Open
 15th October 2005 Coventry
 3rd December 2005 Coventry
 17th December 2005 Coventry
 14th January 2006 Coventry
 18th February 2006 Coventry
 25th March 2006 Coventry
 14th May 2006 Play offs

Division 3 North Open
 18th February 2006 York
 18th March 2006 York

Division 3 South Open
 1st October 2005 Luton
 17th December 2005 Bristol
 25th February 2006 Luton

Division 3 Central Open
 1st October 2005 Stratford
 26th November 2005 Derby
 17th December 2005 Derby
 4th February 2006 Stratford
 25th February 2006 Derby
 18th March 2006 Stratford

Division 4 North Open
 5th November 2005 York
 3rd December 2005 York
 11th February 2006 York
 11th March 2006 York
 1st April 2006 York

Division 4 South East Open
 22nd October 2005 Edmonton
 5th November 2005 Edmonton
 3rd December 2005 Edmonton
 28th January 2006 Edmonton
 11th March 2006 Edmonton
 1st April 2006 Edmonton

Division 4 South West
 8th October 2005 Bristol
 5th November 2005 Bristol
 3rd December 2005 Bristol
 28th January 2006 Bristol
 11th March 2006 Bristol
 1st April 2006 Bristol

Division 4 Central Open
 8th October 2005 Derby
 5th November 2005 Derby
 3rd December 2005 Derby
 28th January 2006 Derby
 11th March 2006 Derby
 1st April 2006 Derby

Division 1 Ladies
 21st January 2006 Coventry
 11th March 2006 Leeds
 1st April 2006 Coventry

Division 2 North Ladies
 22nd October 2005 York
 17th December 2005 York
 21st January 2006 York
 4th March 2006 York
 8th April 2006 York

Division 2 South Ladies
 5th November 2005 Luton
 19th November 2005 Edmonton
 17th December 2005 Luton
 21st January 2006 Edmonton
 4th March 2006 Luton
 8th April 2006 Edmonton

Division 1 Youth
 1st October 2005 Derby
 29th October 2005 Luton
 14th January 2006 Derby
 11th February 2006 Luton

Division 2 Youth
 22nd October 2005 Luton
 19th November 2005 Derby
 4th February 2006 Derby
 8th April 2006 Luton

POOL DATES	COVENTRY	LEEDS	YORK	LUTON	DERBY???	EDMONTON	BRISTOL	S UPON AVON	TO FIND	Other
2005	5pm - 10pm	1pm -6:00pm	5 - 10:00 PM	5 - 9:30 PM	5 - 9:30 PM	5 - 9:30 PM	6 - 10:30 PM	5.30 - 10PM	4.5 HOURS	
03 SEPT.										European Champs
10 SEPT.										Kilcock
17 SEPT.										Euro Club Champs
24 SEPT.				DIV 3 STH	DIV 1 Youth			DIV 3 CEN		
01 OCT.					DIV 4 CEN		DIV 4 SW			Setubal Cup
08 OCT.										
15 OCT.		DIV 2 NTH		DIV 2 S Youth		DIV 4 SE				
22 OCT.			DIV 2 N Women	DIV 1 Youth						
29 OCT.										
05 NOV.			DIV 4 NTH	DIV 2 S Women	DIV 4 CEN	DIV 4 SE	DIV 4 SW			
12 NOV.		DIV 2 NTH				DIV 3 S			DIV 3 NTH	
19 NOV.						DIV 2 Youth				
26 NOV.						DIV 3 CEN				
03 DEC.		DIV 2 STH	DIV 4 NTH			DIV 4 SE	DIV 4 SW		DIV 1 Youth	
10 DEC.									DIV 2 Youth	
17 DEC.		DIV 2 NTH	DIV 2 N Women	DIV 2 S Women	DIV 3 CEN		DIV 3 STH		DIV 3 NTH	
2006										
07 JAN.										
14 JAN.	DIV 2 STH	DIV 2 NTH			DIV 1 Youth					
21 JAN.	DIV 1 Women		DIV 2 N Women			DIV 2 S Women				
28 JAN.	DIV 1 Men					DIV 4 SE	DIV 4 SW			
04 FEB.								DIV 3 CEN		
11 FEB.		DIV 2 NTH	DIV 4 NTH	DIV 1 Youth						
18 FEB.			DIV 3 NTH							
25 FEB.				DIV 3 STH	DIV 3 CEN	DIV 3 STH			DIV 3 NTH	
04 MAR.	DIV 1 L		DIV 2 N Women	DIV 2 S Women					DIV 1 Youth	
11 MAR.		DIV 1 Women	DIV 4 NTH							
18 MAR.		DIV 1 Men	DIV 3 NTH							
25 MAR.		DIV 2 NTH								
01 APR.	DIV 1 Women		DIV 4 NTH	DIV 4 CEN	DIV 4 SE	DIV 4 SE	DIV 4 SW		DIV 2 Youth	
08 APR.	DIV 1 Men		DIV 2 N Women	DIV 2 S Youth						
15 APR.										Easter
22 APR.										BUSA?
29 APR.										Charleroi
06 MAY.										
13 MAY.									DIV 1 - both	PLAY OFFS
20 MAY.										
27 MAY.										Club Cham

NATIONAL COMPETITION RULES

The following rules will apply to the conduct of the Canoe Polo in the 2005/06 season. Clubs should familiarise themselves with the Rules. Questions relating to interpretation should be addressed to the National Leagues Organiser, Club Championships Organiser and/or the Canoe Polo Committee. All breaches of the rules may be considered by the Canoe Polo Committee, which may decide to apply any one of a number of sanctions, (on an individual, Team or Club), including the issue a formal warning, deduction of points or, in the most serious of cases, exclusion of a Player/Team/Club from future competitions. Clubs should also refer to the National League procedures, which have been prepared by the Canoe Polo Committee with a view to providing League Organisers with guidance in relation to the conduct of the Leagues.

Teams and Individuals are expected to adhere to both the spirit and letter of these rules and not seek to manipulate the rules for personal or team advantage.

As a rule of thumb an individual player is expected to play for only one team in each class of competition, in each season. Players playing in more than one team must very carefully check that they are not breaching one or more of these rules – in either letter or spirit.

These rules apply to the major tournaments that are run directly by the Canoe Polo Committee, namely:

1. Club Championships (1 weekend in May)
2. National Leagues (Running October to May)
3. National Championships (To be held a London Boat Show if possible, or incorporated into Club Championships if not). For the 2006 Championships the London Boat Show organisers have confirmed pool time will be available, but at the time of going to print for this yearbook, full details were not available.

SECTION ONE BCU Membership Requirements - applies to all competitions

1.1 Club Affiliation

- 1.1.1 Any Club applying to enter a Team in any Canoe Polo Committee directly organised tournament must be affiliated to the BCU, SCA, WCA or CANI.
- 1.1.2 A photocopy of the parent Club's Affiliation Card must accompany each Team's National League Re-entry/Entry Form.

1.2 Individual Membership

- 1.2.1 Other than for the exemptions in Rules 1.2.2, and 1.2.3 all players must be current individual members of the BCU, SCA, WCA or CANI. (The class of membership must permit competitive events to be entered).
- 1.2.2 Until further notice Youth players who hold a valid BCU Paddlesport Membership Card for their Club's Youth Section are eligible to play in the Youth Competitions without individual BCU membership.
- 1.2.3 Until further notice, Players in Youth Division 2 may take out Day Membership of the BCU to play in each of their Tournaments as an alternative to being comprehensive members.
- 1.2.4 Youth players will be required to submit a parental consent form, also indicating that they are taking part in an event where photography may be taken.
- 1.2.5 A player must provide a photocopy of their Federation Membership Card at the time of registering for each competition in which they wish to play.

NATIONAL LEAGUES RULES

SECTION TWO Application for National League Membership - Entry Criteria

- 2.1 Teams will be informed of tournaments that they must attend and venues by the 1st September.
- 2.2 All teams will be required to list their nominated players by the 23rd September of the year of competition – WITHOUT FAIL. No player may be a nominated player for more than one team in any class of competition. Players may not then be added to team lists, or play up for other teams without the EXPRESS permission of the National Leagues organiser or the Canoe Polo Committee, who will expect a valid reason to be given why that individual could not have been placed on the original list of nominated players.
- 2.3 Teams entering for a new season MUST consist of members of the club that held the place in the previous season. In the event of a Club or Team withdrawing from the National Leagues the Canoe Polo Committee will fill their place in whatever way they feel most contributes to the good running of the leagues.
- 2.4 Individuals will only be permitted to play in one team in each category of competition, other than for the reasons specifically stated below.
 - 2.4.1 A player Registered with a lower Division Team may 'play up' for a Team in a higher Division.
 - 2.4.2 Once a player has 'played up' in more than one tournament for a Team, he/she will not be allowed to play again for the Team in the lower Division.
 - 2.4.3 No individual may more than one additional tournament than they would have played in the Division that they were originally registered.
 - 2.4.4 A player who has previously played in a higher division than that in which he/she is registered for the current season may not play up without the express permission of the National Leagues Organiser or the BCU Polo Committee.
 - 2.4.5 Clubs with more than one Team in the same Division may, at any stage in the season, substitute one or two players from one Team to another Team in the same Division.
 - 2.4.6 Once substituted in this way a player must complete the season with the new Team.
 - 2.4.7 A player may not compete in more tournaments than the number allocated to Teams in that Division.
- 2.5 Teams must be prepared to attend all tournaments in their division other than for the reasons specifically stated below.
 - 2.5.1 University teams in Division 4 may request on their entry form to miss the first tournament of the season, to enable them to select their team from the new years intake.
 - 2.5.2 Teams with players who are playing in more than one class of competition may ask to miss a tournament when that tournament clashes with another category. For example, some Division 4 tournaments are on the same day as Youth tournaments. This will be co-ordinated by the two league organisers concerned.

2.6 New and Re-applications

- 2.6.1 Entries from Clubs/Teams wishing to join the National League for the first time, or to re-join will only be accepted on an official Entry Form, available from the National Leagues Organiser, printed in this yearbook, or down-loaded from our web-site, canoepolo.org.uk.
- 2.6.2 Entry Forms must be submitted by 30th June 2005.
- 2.6.3 The £40 Team Registration Fee, (to cover the cost of trophies, administration etc.), must accompany the Entry Form, (Ladies Div 2 is £35 and Youth £30).

- 2.6.4 One tournament fee must accompany the Entry Form. This will be carried forward to cover the fee for the final tournament of the season, but will be forfeit if the Team fails to participate in a tournament they were scheduled to attend. (The level of tournament fees for the 2005/06 season is indicated in the notes that accompany the Entry Form).
- 2.6.5 Entries received after 30th June 2004 will be required to pay a fine of £100 if there are still places available.
- 2.6.6 Any Team failing to complete the season's fixtures will be required to pay all the Pool Fees and Referees Fees and/or Fines that would have been due had they done so.
- 2.6.7 A Team applying for a League place does so on the understanding that it must be prepared to attend any of the Tournaments scheduled for the Division concerned.

2.7 Rejection of Applications

- 2.7.1 The Polo Committee may reject an application for any of the following reasons:
- Failure to send, with the Entry Form, proof of current Club Affiliation to the BCU, SCA, WCA or CANI.
 - Failure to provide a cheque to cover the League Registration Fee and one Tournament Fee with the Re-entry Form.
 - Failure to provide, with the Entry Form, evidence of the ability to provide a Referee of the required Grade.
 - Evidence of any fees remaining outstanding from a previous season from any Team within the Club concerned.
 - Failure to comply with League Rules in the previous season, (notably with regard to the provision of an appropriate Referee and non-attendance at one or more scheduled Tournaments).
 - Where the Entry/Re-entry form is received after the published closing date and all places in the League have already been filled
- 2.7.2 If the number of new applications exceeds the number of vacancies, the Polo Committee will take into account a variety of factors in deciding which Team(s) to accept. Criteria will include evidence of genuine commitment to the sport, (through participation/results in Regional Leagues, Open Tournaments, National Championships, etc.) and attendance of players/officials at refereeing/coaching courses.
- Special consideration will be given to Teams whose applications were unsuccessful in previous seasons.
- 2.7.3 Any Team wishing to return to the National League after one or more seasons' absence may be required to re-enter at the lowest level. However, the Polo Committee has the discretion to reinstate a Team at a higher level should this be possible without affecting automatic promotion and relegation (if applicable) and if such action is deemed to be in the best interests of the sport.

2.8 'One Club' Rule

- 2.8.1 A player is only eligible to register to play for one Club in each of the three categories of competition - Open, Women's, Youth - during a season. (For the avoidance of doubt, this Rule does not currently prevent a Woman from playing for a Club in a Women's League and for a different Club in an Open League, or a Youth Player playing in a Youth League for a Club and for another Club in an Open League).
- 2.8.2 A player who has not already played for the Club with which they originally registered may register to play for another Club in the same category of competition provided that 14 days notice in writing is given to the National Leagues Organiser.
- 2.8.3 Any player unable to complete a full season with the Club with which they originally registered, due to a major change in personal circumstances, may apply in writing to the Polo Committee, giving a minimum of 28 days notice, for permission to transfer to another Club. Approval will normally depend on provision of written agreement from both Clubs concerned.

SECTION THREE League Structure

- 3.1 The following categories of team are catered for within the National Leagues:-
- 3.1.1 Open Open to any team
 - 3.1.2 Women Open to any team whose members are all female
 - 3.1.3 Youth Open to any team all of whose members are not more than eighteen years of age on 1st January of the year in which the season finishes. (For the 2005/06 season players must be born on, or after, 1st May 1987).
- 3.2 Within a Division each Team will play every other Team twice during the season. (This format may only be varied with the approval of the Canoe Polo Committee).
- 3.3 Where a Division contains 10 Teams there will be six tournaments, with each team attending four.
- 3.4 Where a Division contains 8 teams there will normally be four tournaments with each team attending three.

SECTION FOUR Allocation of Points

- 4.1 Points will be awarded as follows:-
3 for a win, 2 for a draw, 1 for a loss, 0 for failing to field a team.
- 4.2 The result of a forfeited game will be deemed to be a 3-0 win for the attending team.
- 4.3 In order to decide end of season League positions, where two or more teams have gained the same points they will be ranked based on the following criteria:
- Goal difference,
 - Goals scored,
 - Results of the games between the teams concerned,

If any of the Teams concerned were credited with one or more 3-0 victories as a result of the forfeiture rule (4.2), calculations will be based on a revised League table that totally excludes all games involving the Team(s) that forfeited games.

SECTION FIVE Promotion / Relegation

- 5.1 Play offs for all Divisions will be held over one weekend as specified elsewhere in this yearbook.
- 5.1.1 Under normal circumstances teams at the play-offs may only be made up of players who have already played for that team at some point in the season.
- 5.2 For Division 4 - Open
- 5.2.1 The top two teams from each of the four divisions will play off for six places in Division 3 - on the Saturday of the weekend.
 - 5.2.2 This will play as two leagues of four, with cross overs, giving each team a minimum of 4 games.
 - 5.2.3 For Division 4 - the 9th and 10th placed teams in each Division will have to re-apply for their place in the league system and their application will be considered on merit - with any teams applying for entry to the leagues for the first time.
- 5.2 For Division 3 - Open
- 5.2.1 The top two teams from each of the three divisions will play off for four places in Division 2 - on the Saturday of the weekend.
 - 5.2.2 This will play as the six teams in a straight league, giving each team 5 games.
 - 5.2.3 For Division 4 - the 9th and 10th placed teams in each Division will be demoted to Division 4 for the following season, They will be allocated the the most suitable geographical region by the Canoe Polo Committee.

- 5.2 For Division 2/1 - Open and Ladies
- 5.2.1 The top two teams from each of the two divisions will play off against the 7th and 8th placed teams in Division 1 - on the Sunday of the weekend.
- 5.2.2 This will play as two leagues of three, with cross overs, giving each team a minimum of 3 games.
- 5.2.3 For Division 2 - the 7th and 8th placed teams in each Division will be demoted to Division 3 for the following season. They will be allocated the the most suitable geographical region by the Canoe Polo Committee.
- 5.3 Youth Leagues - The system for play-off for the Youth leagues will be determined when the number of entries/divisions have been decided. At this stage teams are encouraged to enter the leagues on the basis that there will be a National Division 1 and two, regionally split Division 2s - North and South. Should there be insufficient entries to sustain this teams will be given the opportunity of reviewing their entry. If team organisers have any questions regarding this please address them to the Chairman.
- 5.4 Any team that finds itself invited to a play-off that is not planning to enter the leagues for the following season, for whatever reason, should declare that information and give up its right to attend the play-off. In that circumstance the Canoe Polo Committee will decide if another team should be invited in their place, or if the play-offs should be restructured with fewer teams.

SECTION SIX Refereeing

6.1 Team Refereeing Commitment

- 6.1.1 For the 2005/06 season Teams will be required to provide the following minimum Grade of Referee for all Tournaments they are required to attend:

Open Division 1	Grade 1 or 1 (T)	Open Division 2	Grade 2
Open Division 3	Grade 3	Open Division 4	Grade 4
Women's Division 1	Grade 2	Women's Division 2	Grade 3
Youth Division 1	Grade 3	Youth Division 2	Grade 3

- 6.1.2 A Team's nominated Referee will normally be required to officiate over the same number of games that his/her Team is due to play at a given Tournament. (Teams will be required to officiate over more games at T-shaped pools requiring three Referees).
- 6.1.3 Nominated Referees must be prepared to officiate at any stage of the Tournament.

6.2 Substitute Referees

- 6.2.1 Anyone refereeing a game due to another team failing to provide an official will be eligible for a £5 contribution towards their expenses, (to be paid by the League Organiser/Chief Tournament Official at the end of the Tournament).

6.3 Failure to Provide a Referee

- 6.3.1 If, for whatever reason, a Team is unable to provide a Referee of the required Grade for a given Tournament, the League Organiser must be notified as soon as possible.
- 6.3.2 Any Team failing to provide a Referee will be subject to the following sanctions:
1. If at least 14 days notice is given, a fine of £50.
 2. If less than 14 days notice is given, a fine of £70.
 3. If less than 24 hours notice, or no notice, is given, a fine of £70 - in addition the Team will be reported to the Polo Committee which may, depending on the circumstances, levy an additional fine.

- 6.3.3 Teams should be aware that the Canoe Polo Committee has considered introducing a system of docking points for teams who fail to provide a suitably qualified referee, and should some of the problems of previous year persist they reserve the right to introduce such a system during the season. Should this be the case, teams will be notified in advance of any tournament where such a system is introduced.

SECTION SEVEN Tournament Organisation and Administration

7.1 Communication with Teams

- 7.1.1 Details of the tournaments a Team is required to attend should be received at least 4 weeks prior to the first tournament of the season.
- 7.1.2 Confirmation of each Tournament and final match details should be sent out at least 14 days prior to the Tournament.
- 7.1.3 Results should be sent to all Teams in a Division within 3 days of each Tournament.

7.2 Tournament Administration

- 7.2.1 Teams should hand their tournament fee, (payable by cheque to 'BCU Canoe Polo Committee'), to the Table Officials prior to the start of their first Game.
- 7.2.2 Teams should hand their Team Sheet, completed in full, to the Table Officials prior to the start of their first Game.
- 7.2.3 Any player whose BCU Membership was due for renewal subsequent to the last Tournament in which he/she played, or who has not previously registered to play for the Team in question, should present their BCU, SCA, WCA or CANI Membership Card to the Table Officials prior to the start of their first game.
- 7.2.4 A League Organiser/Chief Tournament Official may require a player to produce their BCU, SCA, WCA or CANI Membership Card at any time.
- 7.2.5 Any Team arriving late/failing to appear at a tournament must submit a full explanation, in writing, to the National Leagues Organiser and League Secretary within 48 hours.
- 7.2.6 The Game Order will not normally be changed to cater for the late arrival of a Team.

SECTION EIGHT General Sanctions

- 8.1 A Team missing a League Tournament or, if qualified to attend, the end of season play-offs, will be required to pay the Tournament Fee and Referee Fines if appropriate.
- 8.2 Ultimate responsibility for the payment of fines and fees rests with the Club named on the Team's League Entry Form.
- 8.3 In the event of any team failing to meet its financial commitments all Teams from the parent Club are liable to disqualification from all National Polo Competitions.
- 8.4 Any Team missing one Tournament may have its application for entry for the following season Any Team missing two or more Tournaments will not be accepted for entry the following season.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

SECTION NINE - Eligibility

- 9.1 All clubs entering the championships must be affiliated to the BCU, SCA, WCA or CANI.
- 9.2 Clubs are encouraged to enter as many categories of competition as possible, with the intention of collecting points towards a club ranking.
- 9.3 Teams representing one club should all be recognisably from the same club, ie the same boat colour and broadly the same buoyancy aid, vest and helmet colours.

SECTION TEN - Categories of Competition

- 10.1 There are currently three categories of competition;
 - 10.1.1 Open - open to all competitors
 - 10.1.2 Women - open all competitors who are female.
 - 10.1.3 Youth - open to all competitors who are under 18 on the 1st of May in the year of the competition - for 2005 this is born on or after 1st May 1987.
- 10.2 It is hoped to add further categories of competition in the near future, to include - Under 16s, and Veterans (age limit to be decided).
- 10.3 Clubs may enter as many teams as they wish in each category of competition.
 - 10.3.1 Individuals must play for only one team in each class of competition.
 - 10.3.2 Individuals may play in more than one class of competition, but as no allowances can be made for this at a multi-pitch venue, each of the players teams must be able to field five players at any given time.

SECTION ELEVEN - Tournament System

- 11.1 Subject to the number of entries in each category of competition, the tournament organiser in conjunction with the Canoe Polo Committee will devise a system that fairly ranks all teams within a category.
- 11.2 If there is a large number of entries received then these will be banded together to allow a good and fair weekend's competition for all attendees.
- 11.3 It is desirable that each team get a final ranking place, but it is acknowledged that it may only be possible to give approximate placings (for example 24=) for some positions.
- 11.4 The top two teams for a club in each category only will score points towards the "Top Club" ranking.
- 11.5 The points system will be as follows:
 - 11.5.1 The maximum number of points in each category will be the number of teams entering the Open class of competition.
 - 11.5.2 The First placed team in each category will score this number of points, the second one less and so on.
 - 11.5.3 The last placed team in the Open category will score one point.
 - 11.5.4 In the Women's and Youth categories, the teams will score the same number of points as the equivalently placed open team.
- 11.6 All Clubs entering the competition will be given a ranking, based on the total number of points that they accumulate.
 - 11.6.1 In the event of tie the team winning the most categories of competition will be declared the winner, in the event that this provides no outright winner the clubs will be given an "equal" ranking.

12 For the very latest information and links, please visit www.canoepolo.org.uk

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS RULES

In 2005 the National Championships were held in January at the London Boat Show. This provided an unprecedented shop window for our sport and generated unique levels of interest from diverse sources. The Canoe Polo Committee is committed to maintaining this links as far as possible, but it must be noted that it is in the nature of the venue that we do not have full control over pool times or scheduling. For 2006 the London Boat Show organisers have offered pool time to the Canoe Polo Committee, on the basis that the Championships will be held there again. However at the time of this yearbook going to press details of available pool times and what days that time will be available are still under negotiation.

The Canoe Polo Committee hopes that we will be able to keep to the format of 8 Open, 4 Ladies and 4 Youth teams, but this is entirely dependant on the amount of pool time that is made available to us. Also teams should be aware that it is very likely that some team will be required to play qualifying game on the Friday of the show, as well as the main bulk of the competition which will be held over the weekend. Unless the show falls during school holidays it is unlikely that Youth teams would be asked to compete on a weekday.

Teams will be advised of any specific rules to this competition when they are invited to attend. Should any team feel that they do not wish to accept an invitation the Canoe Polo Committee will select replacement team(s), by whatever means they feel will give the best competition, but bearing in mind the placings teams have achieved at the preceding Club and National Championships (but not exclusively so).

SECTION TWELVE - Entry Criteria

In negotiation with the London Boat Show organisation the Canoe Polo Committee will secure the maximum amount of pool time possible to stage this event. Following those negotiations:

- 12.1 Teams will be invited to attend in three categories of competition, Open, Ladies and Youth - the number of teams invited will be determined by the amount of pool time available.
- 12.2 These teams will be invited on the basis of their ranking at the preceding Club Championships.
- 12.3 Teams will be expected to attend with substantially the same team to that which they qualified with:
 - 12.3.1 Teams may add one new player to the qualifying team or
 - 12.3.2 Teams may add one or two players from another team from the same club who competed at the preceding Club Championships.
 - 12.3.3 Teams who are unable to comply with the above will be required to advise the Canoe Polo Committee, who will decide if another team should be invited in their place or if good competition is better served by allowing a "hybrid" team to take part.

SECTION THIRTEEN - Additional constraints

- 13.1 Teams at the National Championships must understand that they may be required to take part in pre-publicity, provide additional personal information - including photographs.
- 13.2 All aspects of the player and team identification rules will be rigidly enforced at the National Championships.
- 13.3 All teams from the same club will be required to be identified by the same club colours.
- 13.4 It is very likely that senior teams will be required to attend the Boat Show on at least one weekday to take part in the competition.

SECTION FOURTEEN - Competition Format

- 14.1 Teams will be informed of the competition format with their invitation. This will be determined entirely by the available pool time, but best efforts will be made to minimise teams overnight expenses etc in producing the scrutineering and playing orders.
- 14.2 There will be a "Final" in each category of competition, but it may not be possible to have final placings for all teams.

For the very latest information and links, please visit www.canoepolo.org.uk

EUROPEAN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The BCU Polo committee is currently asked to nominate two teams in the categories Men's and Ladies for the European Club Championships.

There are no rules provided by the ECA for how those teams are selected and for the 2005 Championships – assuming we receive no other guidance the Polo Committee has decided that the teams asked in the first instance will be

- 1 Winners of the National Championships held at the London Boat Show in January 2005
- 2 Winners of the National Leagues, completing in May 2005.
- 3 In the event that this system gave only one team or a team was unable or unwilling to field a team the Polo Committee would select the Club team that if felt would be the next strongest this would normally but NOT necessarily be the next placed team(s) in the National Leagues.

For the 2006 Championships and onwards teams will be selected on the basis of:

- 1 Winners of the Club Championships held in summer of the year of the championships
- 2 Winners of the National Leagues, completing in the year of the championships.
- 3 In the event that this system gave only one team or a team was unable or unwilling to field a team the Polo Committee would select the Club team that if felt would be the next strongest this would normally but NOT necessarily be the next placed team(s) in the National Leagues.

The BCU Polo committee will insist that the CLUB team that earns its qualification place as described above will send a team that EXACTLY matches the qualifying team. Teams who are unable to field an exact team will be required to advise the BCU Canoe Polo Committee (via the Chairman AND Secretary) who will then decide if that team still substantially represents the qualifying team and can take the place. If not the Polo Committee will decide which team if any to nominate in the qualifying teams place.

REGIONAL CANOE POLO COMPETITION

While the BCU Polo Committee does not have direct responsibility for the Regional Leagues it does hope that, with the help of the Regional Reps, each of the regions will hold a Regional League, aimed partly, but not solely, at developmental teams who are hoping to take a place in the National League structure, starting with Division 4, or Division 2 Ladies or Division 2 Youth.

At the present time there are no plans to extend the National League structure, and Regional Polo should be seen as the appropriate "Entry Level" for all new teams.

Very strong preference will be given in allocating Division 4 places to newly entering teams if a team can show that they have a good track record of attending and competing in their Regional league.

Regional Leagues also provide a very good opportunity for teams and individuals to practice and improve their refereeing skills. In the near future the Polo Committee hopes to create a system where all referee's courses would be linked to a regional polo tournament.

Regional Polo provides an ideal environment for players and team who might wish to take part in polo on recreational level and consequently there is no intention at the present time of formally linking a promotion/demotion between Regional and National Leagues Polo.

National League Entry / Re-entry form

2005 / 2006 season

The following notes must be read in conjunction with the full national league rules. (these may be found on the polo website – www.canoepolo.org.uk – after the 28th May 2005), and in the BCU Canoe Polo Yearbook 2005/06 edition which will be freely available to all interested parties during and after the Club Championships.

Club Affiliation – any team applying for a national league place must be affiliated to the BCU, SCA, WCA, or CANI. class of membership must permit competitive events to be entered. Youth members holding a valid BCU paddlesport membership card, may play in the youth league without individual membership. All players must provide a photocopy of their membership card at the time of registering with each national league team with which they wish to play. It is acceptable in some cases that the BCU membership card may be shown at the beginning of the first tournament attended.

One club rule – other than in exceptional circumstances. a player may only register for one club in each category of the competition – open, women, and youth – in a season.

Application Conditions: the team registration fee must accompany the entry form – one tournament fee must accompany the form – this will cover the costs for the final tournament.

Fees:-	Div 1 open	£40 registration + £85 tournament fee
	Div 2 open	£40 registration + £85 tournament fee
	Div3 open	£40 registration + £65 tournament fee
	Div 4 open	£40 registration + £65 tournament fee
	Div 1 ladies	£40 registration + £85 tournament fee
	Div 2 ladies	£35 registration + £65 tournament fee
	Youth leagues	£30 registration + £65 tournament fee

All cheques to be made payable to the "BCU Canoe Polo Committee"

Teams applying for a league place do so on the understanding that they must be prepared to attend any of the tournaments scheduled for the division concerned.

Teams are no longer required to supply specific player details with their entries but must be aware that they will be required to submit a full and comprehensive team sheet for each and every team that they have entered, along with copies of affiliation details by the 23rd of September 2005. I.e, before any National League tournament for this season has been played.

Entries not received by 30th June 2005 will only be accepted after receipt of £100 fine.

Teams must provide the following minimum grade of referee for all the tournaments, the required grades are listed on page 13 of the 2005/6 Yearbook.

Your completed form/proof of affiliation/referee qualifications should be sent to:-

Claire Turner, 24 Green Lane, Davenham, Cheshire CW9 8HU (polo_sec@hotmail.com)

Please include 2 s.a.es with your application.

BCU Canoe Polo Committee National Leagues Entry / Re-entry form

Please delete as appropriate

2005/2006 season

Club Name: Club Affiliation Number

Club Contact: Position:

Address:

..... Post Code

E-mail:

Tel No: Hme: Work: Mobile:

Club Treasurer: Tel No:

Address:

..... Post Code

Team Contact: Position:

Address:

..... Post Code

E-mail:

Tel No: Hme: Work: Mobile:

Team Name:

League Applied for (Please Circle):

Open Div1, Div2(N), Div2(S), Div3(N), Div3(C), Div3(S),
Div4(N), Div4(C), Div4(SW), Div4(SE)

Ladies: Div1, Div2(N), Div2(S), **Youth** Div1, Div2(N), Div2(S),

Please note that while the Polo Committee will try to accommodate the preferred geographical leagues for teams, the good running of the league system, and logical geographic conformity will ultimately decide which leagues contain which teams.

Referee's Name: Grade:

Referee's Name: Grade:

We the undersigned agree to abide by the National League Rules as published in the 2005-06 Yearbook, any amendments that may subsequently be made by the Canoe Polo Committee and will be responsible for the financial dealings of the team:

Club Treasurer: Date:

Manager/Captain: Date:

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NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Open

Division One

2001/02	Viking "A"
2002/03	Friends of Allonby "X"
2003/04	Meridian
2004/05	Friends of Allonby "X"

Division Two

2000/01	Friends of Allonby 'X'
2001/02	Dragon
2002/03	Avon 'A'
2003/04	Viking 'B'

North

2004/5	Pennine
--------	---------

South

Aberfan A

Division Three

North

2000/01	Selkirk
2001/02	Viking 'C'
2002/03	Peninne
2003/04	Viking 'C'

North

2003/04	White Rose
2004/05	Kingston Krakens

Central

Rammers B
Cherwell Red

South

Dragon
Meridian 'B'
Matlock 'B'
Braintree A

South

Bere Forest
St Albans C

Division Four

North

2000/01	West Lothian
2001/02	Manchester Xclusive
2002/03	White Rose
2003/04	

Central

2000/01	Cherwell Red
2001/02	St Albans
2002/03	St Albans 'C'
2003/04	Meridian C

North (B)

Matlock 'B'
Kingston Krakens

South East

Dreamers
Clapham
Clapham
Luton

South West

2000/01	Avon 'C'
2001/02	Bristol Pitbulls
2002/03	Blakedown
2003/04	Aberfan 'A'

Women

Division One

1999/2000	St. Albans
2000/01	St. Albans
2001/02	St Albans
2002/03	Friends of Allonby Xclusive
2003/04	Aberfan
2004/05	Meridian

Division Two

North

1999/2000	Pink Ladies
2000/01	St. Albans 'B'
2001/02	Derby Rammers 'A'
2002/03	Matlock
2003/04	St Albans
2004/05	Avon

South

Avon Ladies

Woodmill

Division Three

North

2001/02	Friends of Allonby Liver Birds
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South

Avon Ladies

Youth

Division One

2000/01	Friends of Allonby 'A'
2001/02	Friends of Allonby 'A'
2002/03	Friends of Allonby 'A'
2003-04	Viking
2003-04	Meridian

Division Two

North

2001/02	League did not run.
2002/03	League did not run.
2003/04	
2004/05	Blakedown

South

Blakedown
Bere Forest
Viking 'F'

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

Results are shown below for the last ten years:-

Open

1994	St. Albans	beat	Meridian
1995	Viking	beat	Wimps
1996	Viking	beat	St. Albans
1997	Bere Forest	beat	Wimps
1998	St. Albans	beat	Woodmill
1999	Woodmill	beat	Meridian
2000	Viking	beat	Bere Forest
2001	St. Albans	beat	Bere Forest
2002	Friends of Allonby 'X'	beat	St. Albans
2003	Friends of Allonby 'X'	beat	Bere Forest
2004	Friends of Allonby 'X'	beat	Meridian
2005	Meridian	beat	St Albans

Women

1994	St. Albans 'A'	beat	Mutineer
1995	Mutineers	beat	St. Albans
1996	Mutineers	beat	Dragon
1997	Mutineers	beat	South Shore
1998	Mutineers	beat	St. Albans 'A'
1999	St. Albans	beat	Team Xclusive
2000	St. Albans	beat	Friends of Allonby Xclusive
2001	St. Albans	beat	Old Speckled Hens
2002	Friends of Allonby Xclusive	beat	St. Albans
2003	Dragon Ladies	beat	Friends of Allonby Xclusive
2004	Friends of Allonby Xclusive	beat	Aberfan
2005	Meridian	beat	St. Albans

Youth

1994	Friends of Allonby	beat	Bere Forest
1995	Friends of Allonby	beat	Bere Fores
1996	St. Albans	beat	Meridian
1997	Meridian	beat	Viking
1998	Meridian 'B'	beat	Meridian 'A'
1999	St. Albans 'A'	beat	Friends of Allonby 'A'
2000	Friends of Allonby 'A'	beat	St. Albans 'A'
2001	Friends of Allonby 'A'	beat	St. Albans 'A'
2002	Friends of Allonby 'A'	beat	Viking 'G'
2003	Viking 'C'	beat	Friends of Allonby 'A'
2004	Friends of Allonby	beat	Meridian
2005	Meridian	beat	Blakedown

Regional Reports

All the Regions have the opportunity to submit reports about their activities for inclusion in this yearbook. Those who have take the opportunity appear here:

YORKSHIRE REGION

The 2004/2005 season is almost at an end. Once again we have run 3 Open Divisions (Div. 1, 2 & 3) and a Ladies Division. Because of the overwhelming response of U16's we ran a Premier Youth and 2 Novice leagues (one covering the West side of Yorkshire and the other the East.) It is hoped that a Regional Development team can be organised primarily to give encouragement to these up and coming polo players. We have quite a number of children under the age of 14 and local competitions between this age group is something we are looking at.

We are still encountering problems with pool cancellations due to refurbishment and repairs. These interfered greatly with the open leagues and the U16 league, to the extent that one of the open teams does not complete its tournaments until mid-May.

To date (due to the above pool problems) the only result to hand is the Ladies Division with Nottingham Uni coming 1st with Leeds Uni. as runners up

Once again Hatfield Water Park is the venue for the Club Championships. A new format is being used this year. This includes Division 1 down to Novice league, so if the weather is good – it should be a good weekend.

Hull is again hosting the International Canoe Polo Challenge at Prince's Quay. We are looking forward to welcoming a Ladies team from New Zealand along with all our usual friends.

Many thanks to all in the region i.e. Polo Committee, league organisers, referees and teams, who have all helped to make the season a success.

SOUTH WEST REGION

We have our own sec and treasurer (Gavin and Pete the Avon cpc officers do both jobs).

We run in the SW a regional league with three divisions and a separate cornwall league with two divisions.

We have a strong ladies section playing in the regional leagues and as Avon in the nationals. Avon ladies can field three teams alone with Caz in the Great Britain set up and Pru and Emma newly recruited to the under 21 squad.

Avon men just relegated to Div 2, Avon B just missed promotion to Div 2, Avon C and D

in div 4 next year with Bristol, Taunton, Hale, Cornish Wreckers, Bath Uni and others including teams from south wales and southern region. John (Still playing league 4 at 55yrs)

LONDON & SOUTH EAST REGION

The 2004/05 season for the London and south east region has seen many changes and developments for polo within the region.



The London Boat show at the Excel centre was the venue for this year's National Championships which has given the sport some excellent coverage in the media. The Region's own club Meridian was very successful at the event winning all three classes.

The Grand Prix series of events at Danson Park were well attended by clubs not only from within the London and South east region but guest teams from Eastern and Southern also joined in hopefully this series will continue to develop over coming years

The London and South East Junior League continues to run and this year was won by Bereforest from the southern Region.

The London International is now an established date in many international teams calendar and looks very promising for this year to be even better with more foreign teams attending then ever before.

This years event will be held on the weekend of the 20 21st of August.

Many of the regions teams have also ventured not only into the national leagues but also over into Europe attending tournaments in Belgium, France, Holland, Spain, Italy, Germany and Portugal.

WALES REGION

It has been another productive year in Wales Dragon maintained their National League Div 1 status, they also won the Welsh National league Div 1 and the SW Invitation league.

Aberfan & Dragon Ladies continue to be a force in Ladies Div 1 with some fresh faces coming through. Aberfan Men's A narrowly missed out on the play-offs last season but have recently won National League Div 2 South.

Aberfan B finished 8th in Div 3 South.

It is nice to see a number of teams from across Wales looking to enter the National league system this year. Notably Pembroke & Bridgend. On the other hand there seems to be a decline in entries for the Welsh National league. Hopefully now with a new venue at Cardiff Bay and access at Pembroke Castle pond, we will see an increase in numbers next year.

The Welsh Open was once again held at Castle Pond in Pembroke where Dragon won the Div 1 comp,

with the Kilcock team from Ireland running out winners in Div 2

Congratulations go to Sharron Derrick, Toni Harmer & Zoe Anthony from Aberfan Canoe Club on achieving Gold with the Great Britain Ladies Team. This year it was nice to see a number of youth paddlers trying out for the GB U21 squads. Congratulations to Rob Lineham & Claire Griffiths.

Over the past year a Welsh U18 & development squad has been set up. The teams entered two International competitions last year (Pembroke & the Irish Open) achieving some positive results.

Hopefully this year the selected teams can achieve greater results, and also push for places in the GB U21 squads.

BUSA 2005

The BUSA canoe polo championships are rapidly gaining a reputation as the largest competition around; this year was no disappointment with 91 teams from 28 universities entered. Entries from 5 new universities show the ever increasing popularity of our sport within the university circuit. So on the weekend of 23rd April nearly 800 people descended on Hatfield Water Park and the mayhem began. 8am Saturday and the weather looked bleak, although teams were in high spirits and officials ready despite a long night of work. Games started with the BUSA divisions, the standard of these is rapidly increasing. The 25 teams in the open division played off in 6 groups to determine which teams would compete in the crossovers the following day. The ladies division totalled 18 teams in 4 groups.

The afternoon saw the non-BUSA competitors battle it out in division 1 and 2. Division 1 is aimed at graduates who are no longer eligible to play in the BUSA league; whilst the Reed Chillcheater division 2 aims to support B teams and helps to raise the standard of future competitions. By the end of play on Saturday all the group games had been played, this meant that those teams not through to the crossover's could have an enjoyable evening! The evenings entertainment began with a delicious meal, closely followed by a few social drinks and a disco provided by the students at Loughborough Uni.

Sunday morning saw the return of the sunshine and the start of the knockout stages. From this early stage it was becoming apparent the defending champions, Nottingham, were once again going to be the team to beat. Although strong performances were put in by Cambridge and ULU, making it hard to tell who would make the final. On the ladies side of things, Sunday went straight into the quarter finals, with Newcastle,

Bath, ULU and Bristol winning their way through the semis. All the teams looked strong and with the defending champions, Liverpool, going out at this stage there was everything to play for.

In division 1, Dublin, Leeds White Rose, Bristol and Warwick oldest gits made it through to the semi-finals. Warwick oldest gits beat Bristol olds to take third position. Meanwhile in the Reed Chillcheater division, all eyes were on Liverpool B, York B, Nottingham B and Loughborough B to see who would bring home the trophy. York B won against Nottingham B taking third position. The final saw Loughborough B battle against Liverpool B to win the league. The division 1 final was an exciting game between Dublin and Leeds White Rose, with Dublin being the deserving winners after the 16 minutes of play.

The BUSA ladies division saw Newcastle Ladies win 3rd place against Bristol Ladies. ULU Ladies and Bath Ladies demonstrated a high standard of play in the final, with ULU Ladies succeeding in winning the division, and the precious BUSA points.

In the BUSA open Competition, Cambridge beat ULU in the clash for 3rd place. The final was between Nottingham and Loughborough in a closely fought match. Nottingham took home the trophy and the BUSA points.

Big thank you's go to Hatfield Water Park for hosting the event, Curly Barker and the BCU polo committee for their involvement in the event, Dave Brown and the DBXclusive team for their continued support and Loughborough Students Canoe Club for helping in the event organisation. The event will return next year over the weekend of the 22nd April, we look forward to seeing you there.

Communications

The BCU Canoe Polo Committee's website (<http://www.canoepolo.org.uk/>) has been greatly developed over the last year. The website has become the main communication method for the committee along with several email mailing list.

The site has gone from strength to strength and now host a wide variety of information; news, results, rules, competition & tournament dates, referee listings, address of pools & lakes. There are over 130 articles that have been added in the last 8 months. <http://www.canoepolo.org.uk/> is the place to find most polo related information, the site has a powerful search capability so make sure you use it.

This website has been developed so that any one can submit content for publishing. Do you have some polo related news, results or any information? Then sign up for an account on the site and submit your article. The committee can not keep track of all polo that happens in Great Britain, your help is required in keeping the site up to date.

Some statistics

138 articles
1000 visitors per week
279 people signed up to polo-news

Fantastic Photography

Thanks must go to Glenn Summerball and Agnello



Guaracino, who have furnished the site, this yearbook and Canoe Focus with some truly outstanding photographs of our sport, the likes of which have not been seen before anywhere in the world, if you have not seen their work, check out:

canoepolo.org.uk and click on the link on the top right that says "pictures"

The fastest way to stay up to date with the latest polo news is to sign up to the polo-news mailing list. To subscribe to the mailing list send a blank email to polo-news-subscribe@lists.canoepolo.org.uk

Communications are a two way process, we need your help!!

"Canoe Polo News to your Door!"

For the the very latest Canoe Polo news sign up to the polo-news mailing list. All major announcements will be made to this mailing list in addition to the web site.

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24th/25th June 2006



The Merseyside International is one of the premier events of the annual Mersey River Festival and will again provide fabulous competition in Open, Ladies and Youth Classes, subject to entries.

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Mike Moffitt
74 Burnie Avenue
Bootle
Merseyside, L20 0BW
Tel: 0151 922 0760

mike@mmoffit.freeserve.co.uk
and don't forget to visit www.foacc.com

REFEREEING

Polo refereeing is managed by a sub-committee of senior referees and an administrator, known as the Chief Referee's Sub Committee.

Reporting to the Polo Committee, the chief referees sub committee is responsible for; rule interpretation and implementation for BCU Polo events, disciplinary matters, and arrangements for referee development including the provision of formal training courses and the associated examination papers and practical assessments. The committee is also responsible for the creation and upkeep of comprehensive data and records on all trainee and qualified referees in the UK.

Referee Grades.

There are four grades of referee, 1, 2, 3, and 4, with grade 1 being the highest. There is also a 'training' grade, 1T, which is given to suitable grade 2 referees who are training to become grade 1 referees. This is to enable them to referee at division 1 level to gain experience prior to their final assessment for grade 1, this training grade is effective for up to two years. During the two year training period the 1T trainees are expected to pass the grade 1 written examination and to pass the requisite number of practical assessments.

The following table sets out the minimum grade of referee required for the different levels of competition. The table also indicates the standard of game at which practical assessments can be carried out.

Referee grade	Open division	Women's and youth division	League division at which assessment can be done*
Grade 1	1		1
Grade 1T	1		1
Grade 2	2	1	3
Grade 3	3	2	4
Grade 4	4	3	Regional/open/international

Appointment of referees.

Referees are appointed by the Chief Referees Sub-committee. For grade 3 and 4, anyone can apply for a place on a formal one day theory training course which will include a written examination, (currently in multiple choice format). Entry to the grade 2 course is normally only open to grade 3 referees. Grade 3 and 4 are combined into one course and the level of award is dependant on the marks achieved. Grade 2 is a separate course. Following successful completion of the theory course and after gaining sufficient practical experience, candidates will undergo a practical assessment carried out by a referee assessor at a suitable competition, (see the above table). On passing the practical assessment the committee will appoint the referee to the appropriate grade.

* note, assessments can be done at suitable weekend tournaments such as international tournaments, the game standard must be equal to the national league division shown in the table.

Referees are appointed to grade 1T by the Chief Referees Sub committee, on the recommendation of a grade 1 assessor. Grade 1T is only open to existing grade 2 referees who must also demonstrate the potential to become a grade 1 referee within two years. Any grade 2 referee can approach the committee to request an assessment for appointment to grade 1T, the committee and grade 1 assessors may also approach suitable candidates themselves.

Grade 1T candidates must pass the grade 1 written examination within two years and also pass practical assessments carried out over three games by at least two different assessors. When these requirements have been met, the Chief Referees Sub Committee will appoint the candidate to Grade 1.

Practical Assessment.

Assessments may only be carried out during competitive games at tournaments, not at club training sessions. The level of competition must be appropriate to the assessment being undertaken and is one level below the grade being sought (except for grade 1), for guidance see the table above. Candidates may not be assessed during games in which their own club is playing. Assessments are normally carried out over two games. If the theory course leader is also carrying out the practical assessment and a candidate is clearly of a high enough standard for grade 3 or 4 and their written examination results also indicate a high standard, then only one game may need to be assessed.

All referees must undergo a practical re-assessment every two years to maintain their qualification. This will be carried out over two games at the appropriate grade, that is, open division one for a grade 1 referee, open division two for a grade 2 referee etc.

Referee Courses.

Grade 2,3,4.

Courses are held each year for grade 2,3 and 4 referees. There are approximately 6 courses each year and they are held throughout the country. The courses are intended to be sequential. Grade 3 and 4 are combined into one course the grade awarded depends on the score achieved in the written examination. Candidates who pass at grade 3 will move on to grade 2 next, candidates who pass at grade 4 will move on to grade 3 next.

There is a limited possibility for fast tracking to grade 2 or 3. Fast track applications must be supported by a referee assessor of the appropriate grade and each case must be approved by the Chief Referee Sub Committee. Applications should be made in writing (or e-mail) to the Referee Administrator.

Courses are of one day duration and will cover the rules as appropriate to the grade followed by a written examination. Following the course successful candidates must arrange a practical assessment with an appropriate assessor.

Application for places on courses should be made to the referee administrator using the form below. The form is also available in the website www.canoepolo.org.uk

The date and location of courses is also advertised on the website. The rules are also available on the website.

Provisional course dates for 2005/2006 are,

Grade 3 and 4	October 1st	Potters Bar
Grade 3 and 4	November 27th	Scunthorpe
Grade 3 and 4	December 10th	Wales
Grade 1 and 2	May 27th 2006	Hatfield
Grade 2, 3 and 4	March 19th	Scotland
Grade 3 and 4	April 16th	Leeds

Course fees are £12:50 for grade 3 and 4, £10 for grade 1 and 2.

A referee pack consisting of a whistle, cards, paddle gauge, yearbook and cord is available for £7:50.

Grade 1

The number of grade 1/T candidates is in general too low to justify more than 1 formal course being set, however the standard required is very high. Prospective grade 1 referees will be assessed on a one to one basis by a grade 1 assessor. Grade 2 candidates who are considered to have the potential to become grade 1 referees within two years will be recommended to the Chief referee Sub Committee for appointment to grade 1T. This is an extension of grade 2, it is intended to allow the candidates to referee at division one specifically to gain experience before attempting assessment for grade 1. Grade 1T referees are expected to pass the grade 1 written examination and to pass three practical assessments by two assessors within the two year appointment. On successful completion of the above the assessors will recommend the candidate to the Chief Referee Sub Committee for appointment to Grade 1.

Grade 1 referees are expected to be active at the highest level and will normally be expected to referee internationally on a regular basis.

Note the written examination can be taken at any convenient time and place providing it is supervised by an assessor of any grade, the paper will be marked by a grade 1 assessor.

Appointment of assessors and course leaders.

Grade 2, 3 and 4.

There is no formal course for assessor and course leader training. Appropriate candidates who are identified by the committee or by other assessors/leaders or who volunteer to become leaders or assessors will be allocated a mentor who will in effect train the candidate. The mentor will preferably be at a higher grade than that sought by the candidate, but may be the same grade. It is expected that the candidate will sit in on courses or assessments and then run courses or assessments under supervision until they reach a suitable standard. Once this is achieved the candidate will run a course or a minimum of two practical assessments whilst being assessed themselves.

The assessor will be one grade higher than the level being sought by the candidate and must not be the candidates mentor. Successful candidates will be recommended to the committee for appointment, logged evidence of the training and assessment undertaken will be expected.

For grade 1 course leader and assessor candidates a mentor will be allocated. The candidates will work with the mentor developing their skills until an appropriate standard is achieved. This process will be continuously assessed by a grade 1 course leader. Once a suitable standard has been achieved the candidate will be recommended to the committee for appointment. (Note at this level it is expected that the candidate will be known to most if not all the course leaders in the country and to the committee who will be actively involved in the approval of any recommended appointment.).

Continuation of appointment.

It is not practical to fully re assess course leaders. Their continued appointment will be confirmed when their 2 yearly referee re assessment's are carried out. In order to maintain their appointment they must maintain their referee status. Leaders and assessors fulfil an essential and important role in setting and maintaining the standard of refereeing. It is important that they keep up to date with rule changes and interpretation and that they continue to strive to maintain or improve their own skills and knowledge. If the Sub Committee feel that a course leader or assessors rule interpretation or knowledge has fallen below the required standard then refresher training may be recommended or removal from the list.

Practical assessors will be re-assessed every two years normally when they have their referee re assessment.

Referees Course Attendance Form.

I, will be attending the Referees Course Grade 2, 3 or 4*
(* Delete as appropriate)

being held onat

I enclose a cheque (payable to the BCU Canoe Polo Committee) for £5 as a deposit to secure my place on the above Course.

Signature: Date:

Contact Details of Attendee:

Postal Address :

..... Post Code:

Telephone No: E-Mail Address:



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Website: <http://www.kkc.org.uk>

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has drawn up a set of International Standards 'The Code', which, for the first time, aims to ensure that the rules and regulations governing anti-doping will be the same for all athletes in all sports and in all countries. WADA have produced the 'Prohibited List' which is an International Standard indicating which substances and methods are prohibited in-competition and/or out-of-competition.

It is the Individual Athlete who must accept full responsibility for any Prohibited substance found in their system.

These International Standards have been accepted by the ICF and adopted by the BCU. Any Athlete, Athlete Support Personnel and other Personnel under the jurisdiction of the ICF or BCU accepts that they will comply with these rules, and further accept that in order to be eligible to participate or assist with any participation in any ICF or BCU event or activity, they must comply with these rules.

Two key elements of 'The Code' which will affect all athletes are:

Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUE)

Any Athlete who requires medical treatment involving a substance or method on the Prohibited List must apply for a TUE. For all athletes who fall within the Testing Pool criteria, TUE's must be submitted in advance. Retroactive TUE's may only be considered in rare cases of acute life threatening conditions.

• ***Standard TUE***

The Standard TUE form should be used for any treatment involving a substance or method on the Prohibited List that is not admissible for an Abbreviated TUE.

• ***Abbreviated TUE***

The Abbreviated TUE form should only be used for treatment involving:

- Glucocorticosteroids by non-systemic routes (applied locally)
- Beta-2 agonists (formoterol, salbutamol, and terbutaline) by Inhalation

Athlete Testing Pools

The final criteria for all athletes included within the Testing Pools has still to be agreed by the ICF, UK Sport and the BCU, however, the provisional framework is detailed below.

All athletes registered within the International/National and Domestic Testing Pools will receive written notification from the BCU of their inclusion within the testing pools. Any athlete entering any BCU competition or event, irrespective of whether they meet the testing pool criteria, may be subject to a Doping Control Test.

• ***International/National Testing Pool***

Athletes are subject to Whereabouts and TUE submissions to the ICF and UK Sport (Whereabouts information and TUE's submitted via UK Sport)

No notice, in and out-of-competition Testing

Selection Criteria:

- World Class Performance Funded Athletes
- National Team Members
- Other Athletes identified by UK Sport and/or the BCU

• ***Domestic Testing Pool***

Athletes are subject to TUE submissions to UK Sport

In-competition and Squad Testing

Selection Criteria:

- World Class Potential Funded Athletes, including:
- Talented Athlete Programme
- Elite Cymru
- National Squad Members
- Any Athlete who has registered an interest for selection to a National Team

• Domestic Events

Any Athlete who is not included within the International, National or Domestic Testing Pools is required to submit TUE's 21 days in advance for Discipline Specific Events; except in emergency situations (Subject to confirmation by UK Sport and BCU):

- Canoe Polo – Any athlete entering a designated Assessment event
- Canoe Sailing – Any athlete entering a designated Selection event
- Canoe Slalom – Any athlete entering a designated Selection event
- Freestyle – Any athlete entering a designated Selection event
- Marathon – Any athlete entering a designated Assessment event
- Racing – Any athlete entering a designated Assessment event
- Surf – Any athlete entering a designated Selection event
- Wild Water Racing – Any athlete entering a designated Selection event

Useful Resources

• Websites

- World Anti Doping Agency – www.wada-ama.org
- International Canoe Federation – www.canoeicf.com
- UK Sport – www.uk sport.gov.uk/did
- British Canoe Union – www.bcu.org.uk

• Information and Advice

- UK Sport:
- Drug Information Line – 0800 528 0004
- Confidential Fax – 0800 298 3362
- E-mail – drug-free@uksport.gov.uk
TUE@uksport.gov.uk (Applications will ONLY be accepted by e-mail if documentation is scanned in clearly)
- UK Sport, Drug-Free Sport, TUE Programme
40 Bernard Street
London, WC1N 1ST

• BCU:

- Andy Goodsell – BCU Sports Management Committee
- E-mail – andy.goodsell@bcu.org.uk

• Documents

- WADA:
- The 2005 Prohibited List – International Standard – Effective 1 January 2005
- Prohibited List 2005 – Summary of Modifications vis-à-vis 2004 Prohibited List
- The 2005 Monitoring Program
- International Standard for Testing – Version 3.0 – June 2003
- International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions – 1st January 2004
- Therapeutic Use Exemptions – Standard Application Form
- Therapeutic Use Exemptions – Abbreviated Process
- Therapeutic Use Exemptions – Q&As
- Athlete Guide – 2004

• ICF:

- The World Anti-Doping Code – International Canoe Federation – Doping Control Rules - October 2003
- UK Sport:
- The UK National Anti-Doping Policy and Rules – Draft

• BCU:

- Doping Rules of the British Canoe Union – 6 March 2004
- Athlete Acknowledgment and Agreement
- BCU & ICF Doping Control Guide
- BCU Testing Pools – Selection Criteria

Great Britain National Squads

Canoe Polo World Championships 2004 – Miyoshi, Japan

For Great Britain's Senior Men and Women the 2004 season culminated in the 6th World Championships, held in Japan.

Thirty-eight teams from 20 Nations competed in the Senior Men, Women and Under 21 Men classes. (Largely due to the prohibitively cost of travel, too few Under 21 Women entries were received whilst Great Britain felt unable to send an Under 21 Mens team).

The 20 strong Great Britain contingent – players, coaches and Manager, Andy Petrie - left the UK for Japan on Tuesday 13th July. 20 hours later they arrived at their training camp in Awara, (north of Nagoya). Here the party members not only had to adapt to the 8-hour time difference, but also the temperature - around 30°C+.

Canada, New Zealand, Australia, USA, Japan and Italy were also training at Awara. Besides general training the women played in a mini-tournament with the Australians, Canadians and New Zealanders. The

results, although wins, were far closer than one would have liked, but the games provided just the warm-up and wake-up call needed.

The men chose not to take part in a tournament but did play friendlies, against New Zealand (8-2 and 4-0 victories) and Japan (6-0).

After four days the party moved on to the World Championship venue in Miyoshi. Following accreditation and scrutineering they settled in at their hotel in Toyota City, 40 minutes from the venue.

There followed two days of training on the competition pitches and attempted to come to terms with the playing conditions. The heat was a big issue, with temperatures averaging 36°C. Some players were experiencing breathing difficulties. It felt as though one was paddling through treacle, due to the fatiguing effect the heat had on the muscles. A strong wind was also playing its part.

Men

Poor defending had let G.B. down at training tournaments in Charleroi, Essen and Mechelen. The men arrived in Japan needing to prove to both themselves and others that they could be winners. Of



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10th Welsh International CANOE POLO CHALLENGE



**6th & 7th
August 2005
Castle Pond
Pembroke**



Entries & Further Information Please Contact

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Provisional Date For 2005 5th & 6th August



their likely threats the French had looked strong all season and the Dutch were, as ever, a force. The Germans were missing some of their better players, while the Italians, as always, had great potential. In addition to the European threat Australia, 3 times World Champions, were the other main contenders.

Day One: As reigning World Champions, Great Britain's number one seeding placed them in a relatively easy first round group. They proceeded to beat Canada 10-0, Singapore 18-0 and Switzerland 9-0.

Day Two: The final group game, against Chinese Taipei (Taiwan), the strongest of the Asian nations, provided the first real test but sound defending eventually led to a 2-0 victory.

The top two teams in each of the four men's groups now formed two new groups for the second round. G.B. were drawn alongside Germany, Italy and Spain.

First up were Germany. Having played them a number of times during the season G.B. had a good understanding of their likely strategies but they played well below their best, making too many unforced errors, the result being a demoralising 6-2 defeat.

Day Three: Now Great Britain faced the Spanish and, needing a win to progress, they recorded a 2-0 victory.

The final second round game was against Italy, who had drawn 2-2 with Germany. So G.B. had to win to earn second place in the group and a semi-final place. The men now played some of their best polo of the season, coming together superbly as a team and producing moments of individual brilliance that were reflected in the 4-0 victory.

Day Four: The semi-finals were an all European affair - Great Britain against the Championship favourites and 2003 European Champions, the Dutch and Germany taking on France.

G.B. and the Netherlands had played each other on numerous occasions over the years and were very

familiar with each other's play.

With the score at two each, a foul midway through the second half and confusion on the part of the referees led to a yellow card for each team and a Goal Penalty Shot successfully taken by the Dutch. In a frantic final few minutes both teams created clear chances but despite a tremendous effort by G.B. the game ended with a 3-2 defeat.

In the second Semi-Final Germany defeated France 5-3.

Great Britain now had to pick themselves up for the Bronze medal play-off against the French; they rose to the challenge, gaining a clinical 7-4 victory, an excellent finish.

The men's final saw a battle of the big shooters The Netherlands v Germans. A close fought game saw the Dutch emerging deserved winners 5-4, (the third time lucky as they had lost to Great Britain in the final in both Brazil, (2000) and Germany (2002).



Women

The women had enjoyed their best build-up to a major Championship for many years, reaching all three finals of the preparatory International tournaments they had attended.

Seeded 5th after a disappointing 2002 World Championships, they were in a very strong first round group which included number 1 seeds Germany, Japan and the Netherlands.

Day One: The women were in at the deep end, facing the Dutch in the morning, followed by the 2002 World Champions Germany in the afternoon.

Against the Dutch, after a close first half, G.B. eventually achieved a relatively comfortable 5-3 victory. Against Germany they took control of the game from the outset, scoring within the first 30 seconds. From then on they were largely in control and again recorded a 5-3 victory.

Day Two: Singapore, a developing team attending their first World Championships, were overwhelmed

14-0. Next came Italy, a strong side who had caused some upsets during the season; G.B. had to work hard to gain a 3-0 victory.

The final game of the day was against the hosts, Japan. Although G.B. had lost to them earlier in the season, playing with relative confidence a 4-1 victory was achieved.



Day Three: G.B. first played their last group game, recording an 18-0 victory over the USA.

Top spot in their group, (followed by Germany, Japan and The Netherlands), gave Great Britain a quarterfinal game against the fourth placed team from Group B – Canada. Although the Canadians had

improved significantly since the 2002 World Championships, a 6-0 victory was recorded.

In the other knockout quarterfinals, Germany beat New Zealand, France beat the Dutch and Japan beat Australia.

Day Four: Great Britain's semi-final against Japan was a difficult game to judge; having beaten them in the first round they knew they could do it. But the possible effect that playing 'at home' and in a 'Championships' could not be under-estimated.

The vocal crowd created a volatile atmosphere. But G.B. played a disciplined, (perhaps over-cautious), game, as did their opposition. Having taken a 1-0 lead Great Britain played keep-ball. The Japanese seemed to lack the confidence to chase out and by the time they did finally do so it was too late; Great Britain were through to play Germany, the 2000 & 2002 World Champions and 2003 European Champions, (who had beaten the French 4-3), in the final.

The game started slowly, with both teams applying pressure. The Germans went one up after 6 minutes, with Great Britain responding just before half time. The second half goals being scored every couple of minutes. Within the first minute G.B. scored from the penalty spot to take a 2-1 lead. Sloppy defending resulted in Germany drawing level. Once more G.B. moved ahead only for Germany to bring the score

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EUROPEAN AND WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

The results of all European and World Championships held to date are as follows:-

Men

European Championships

1993	Germany	beat	Great Britain
1995	Great Britain	beat	France
1997	France	beat	Great Britain
1999	France	beat	Great Britain
2001	Germany	beat	Great Britain
2003	The Netherlands	beat	Germany (Great Britain 3rd)

World Championships

1994	Australia	beat	Germany (Great Britain 3rd)
1996	Australia	beat	Italy (Great Britain 5th)
1998	Australia	beat	Great Britain
2000	Great Britain	beat	The Netherlands
2002	Great Britain	beat	The Netherlands
2004	The Netherlands	beat	Germany (Great Britain 3rd)

Women

European Championships

1993	Germany	beat	Great Britain
1995	Germany	beat	Great Britain
1997	Great Britain	beat	France
1999	Germany	beat	Great Britain
2001	Great Britain	beat	Germany
2003	Germany	beat	France (Great Britain 3rd)

World Championships

1994	Australia	beat	Great Britain
1996	Great Britain	beat	Australia
1998	Australia	beat	Great Britain
2000	Germany	beat	Great Britain
2002	Germany	beat	France (Great Britain 5th)
2004	Great Britain	beat	Germany

Men's Under 21

European Championships

1999	Great Britain	beat	France
2001	France	beat	Germany (Great Britain 4th)
2003	Germany	beat	The Netherlands (Great Britain 6th)

World Championships

2002	Germany	beat	The Netherlands (Great Britain 8th)
2004	Spain	beat	Italy (Great Britain DNA)

Women's Under 21

European Championships

1999	France	beat	Great Britain
2001	Germany	beat	France (Great Britain 3rd)

World Championships

2002	Germany	beat	Poland (Great Britain 4th)
2004	Event did not run		

back to 3-3. Yet again G.B. moved ahead, a lead they retained until, with only 35 seconds remaining, Germany again drew level.

With the score tied at 4-4, the game entered 'golden goal' extra time. G.B. won the ball from the sprint. After a few quick passes there was a slight error in the German defence, giving an opening under the goal. The ball was passed in and G.B. scored the goal that made them the new World Champions.

The 2004 World Championships Teams

Men	Women
1 Alan Vessey	1 Kirsty Sutcliffe
2 Neil Parker	2 Sharron Derrick
3 Nick Archer	3 Ginny Coyles
4 Neil Edmunds	4 Philippa Grayson
5 Peter Meakin	5 Lianne Grayson
6 Dave Sanders	6 Toni Harmer
7 Stuart Moffitt	7 Andi Fear-Ross
9 Paul Hammond	8 Zoe Anthony



Men's Coach: Mike Moffitt
Women's Coaches: Diane Ratcliff and Dave Brown

Final Placings:

Men	Women
1. Netherlands	1. Great Britain
2. Germany	2. Germany
3. GB	3. France

The Future

2005 sees Canoe Polo being included for the first time in The World Games, (a multi-sort games organised under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee), with the first six 2004 World Championships teams qualifying to take part. So both our men and women are competing in Duisburg, Germany in mid July.

Eight weeks later our Senior and Under 21 Men and Women will be in Madrid, competing in the European Championships.

Then, following a couple of months respite, the Squads will commence preparations to compete in the 2006 World Championships, being hosted by The Netherlands.

BCU CANOE POLO RULES

The following are the BCU Rules, revised slightly for the start of the 2005/06 National Leagues Season, which are based on the International Canoe Federation Rules V6.00 dated January 2005. The ICF Rules have been left intact in so far as is reasonably possible to help all referees and players understand how the game is played at International level.

Changes to the Rules introduced for 2005/06 are highlighted.

The BCU will implement changes made by the ICF as soon as practically possible, but not mid season.

In accordance with tradition, the following markings will be used to indicate a change for domestic BCU competition compared with the pure ICF rules:-

- When text is UNDERLINED it will be an ICF rule which is relaxed for domestic BCU competition.
- When text is **BOLD & ITALICS** it will be a BCU addition to the ICF rules, or an interpretation for clarity of a particular rule, to be applied in all events organised by the BCU Canoe Polo Committee.

Players and Referees should be aware that all the rules (not including Bold & Italics) contained here can be enforced in International events, particularly those that are sanctioned as ICF Tournaments. Players should understand there may be zero tolerance on things like playing equipment and team identification.

Useful abbreviations / definitions

BCU	British Canoe Union
CPC	Canoe Polo Committee
DOP	Direction of Play
GPS	Goal Penalty Shot
ICF	International Canoe Federation
L&T	Leading & Trailing
Balls Out of Play	Side Line, Goal Line & Corners
Free Throw	The ball has to be passed before a direct shot at goal can be taken.
Free Shot	The player taking the throw may shoot directly at goal if they wish.
Leading Ref.	Referee in front of the main action of the game.
Trailing Ref.	Referee following behind the main action of the game.

ICF Rules Version 6.00 ~ CHAPTER 3 - GAME REGULATIONS

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45.	GOLDEN GOAL EXTRA TIME
46.	TIEBREAKER SHOOT-OUT
47.	TAKING A TIEBREAKER SHOT

London International

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Teams previously attended from France, Belgium, Holland, Spain, Italy, South Africa and the USA
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London_international@hotmail.com

ICF CPC 2005 CHAPTER III - GAME REGULATIONS

1 PLAYING AREA

[TR]

1. The playing area shall be rectangular, and have a length of thirty-five (35) metres and a width of twenty-three (23) metres. The Immediate-Surround of the playing area shall be an unobstructed area of water, with where possible a minimum width of one metre outside all boundaries.
2. The water throughout the playing area must be still water at least ninety (90) centimetres deep.
3. There must be a clear height of at least three (3) metres without obstacles, and a minimum ceiling height of five (5) metres, above the playing area.
4. There shall be a walkway on each side of the playing area kept clear for the referees.

2 PLAYING AREA BOUNDARIES AND MARKERS

[TR]

1. The longer boundaries are to be referred to as the sidelines, the shorter boundaries as the goal lines.
2. The sidelines and goal lines are to be indicated by a floating lane rope. **The Pool Side may be used for the sideline if required.** The section of the goal line four (4) metres either side of the centre of the goal frame should be free from floats so as not to interfere with the positioning of the goalkeeper.
3. Markers indicating the goal lines, half way line and points six (6) metres and four-and-half (4.5) metres from each goal line are to be placed along the sidelines, and be clearly visible to both referees and players. **The 4.5m markers are for Tie Breaker Shootout. (See Diagram L&T 3b)**
4. Markers indicating the substitute-areas are to be placed on the goal lines four metres either side of the centre of the goal frame, and be clearly visible to both referees and players. **(See Diagram L&T 3b)**

3 GOALS

[TR]

1. Goals will be located over the centre of each goal line with their lower inside edge two (2) metres above the surface of the water. The goals are to be held in such a way that they are prevented from swinging. The goal supports and nets should not interfere with any player defending or manoeuvring around the goal area, or with the flight of the ball in the area of play.
2. The goals will consist of open frames one (1) metre high by one and a half (1.5) metres wide (measured internally) hung vertically. The maximum width of a material used to construct the goal frame will be five (5) centimetres. The goals are to have nets, which allow the ball to pass freely through the goal frame but indicate clearly that a goal has been scored. The frame must be red and white striped each stripe being of 20 centimetres length. **Goals should be constructed to have a minimum depth of 30cm.**

4 THE BALL

[TR]

1. The ball shall be round and shall have an air chamber with a self-closing valve. It shall be waterproof, without external strapping or any covering of grease or similar substance.
2. The weight of the ball shall be not less than four hundred (400) grams and not more than four hundred and fifty (450) grams.
3. For games played by men, under-21 men and master men, the circumference of the ball shall not be less than sixty-eight (68) centimetres and not more than seventy-one (71) centimetres, and its pressure shall be 90-97 kPa (kilo Pascals) (13-14 pounds per square inch atmospheric).
4. For games played by women, under-21 women and master women, the circumference of the ball shall not be less than sixty-five (65) centimetres and not more than sixty-seven (67) centimetres, and its pressure shall be 83-90 kPa (kilo Pascals) (12-13 pounds per square inch atmospheric).

5 GAME OFFICIALS

[TR]

1. The game officials shall consist of two (2) referees, two (2) goal line judges, one (1) scrutineer, two (2) timekeepers and one (1) scorekeeper.
- 1.1. Depending on the degree of importance games can be controlled by teams of between three (3) and eight (8) officials. Where there are only three (3) game officials, two (2) shall be the referees who shall take on the additional duties of the goal line judges and the scrutineer and one timekeeper taking over the duties of the timekeepers and scorekeeper.

6 REFEREES

[TR]

The 1st Referee should be positioned on the same side of the playing area as the table-officials.

1. The referees shall be in absolute control of the game. Their authority over the players shall be effective during the whole time that they and the players are within the competition area.
2. All decisions of the referees on questions of fact shall be final and their interpretation of the rules shall be obeyed throughout the game. No protest or appeal can be made in relation to an interpretive decision of a referee. The referees shall not make any presumption as to the facts of any situation during the game but shall interpret what they observe to the best of their ability.
3. The referees shall whistle to start and restart the game and to declare goals, goal line **and sideline throws**, corner throws, infringements of the rules and time-outs. A referee may alter their decision provided they do so before the ball is put back into play. The referee must ensure that before the game is restarted that in their sole discretion neither team is disadvantaged. **If players have responded to the initial (changed) call, then the referee should call Time-Out to allow the players to correct their positioning.**
4. The referees shall have the power to order any delegation member from the playing area in accordance with the appropriate rule and to abandon the game should a player refuse to leave the playing area when so ordered.
5. The referees shall have the power to order the removal from the competition area any player, team-official or other person whose behaviour prevents the referees from carrying out their duties in a proper and impartial manner.
6. The referees shall have the power to abandon the game at any time if, in their opinion, the behaviour of the players, team-officials or other circumstances prevent it from being brought to a proper conclusion. If the game has to be abandoned the referees shall report their actions to the Chief Official.

This short section is added for more completeness from ICF Chapter 2 Rule 30:-

Some of the points mentioned are as follows:-

The referees shall:

Provide their own equipment; the dress of referees is an appropriate black shirt and shorts or trousers. Referees should also wear sports shoes or appropriate alternatives.

Provide written reports (one from each Referee) to the Chief Referee of all incidents resulting in a player being sent off, immediately upon completion of the game in which the incident occurred. Such report should include any request for further disciplinary action;

Referees, whilst acting in any capacity with their team, lose their Referee status. They should respect without question all decisions given by the Referees controlling the game. They should set an example of good sports behaviour for other players to follow.

7 GOAL LINE JUDGES

[TR]

1. The goal line judges shall be situated on the opposite side to the table-officials, one on each goal line.
2. The duties of the goal line judges shall be to signal by:
 - 2.1. Raising a green flag or hand when the players are correctly positioned on their respective goal lines at the start of a period;
 - 2.2. Raising a red flag or hand to indicate the ball is out of play by crossing the goal line. (Goal line-throw, corner-throw, goal);
 - 2.3. Waving a red flag or hand for an improper start or restart;
 - 2.4. Waving a red flag or hand for an improper re-entry of an excluded player or improper entry of a substitute.

For a Sent-Off player, the Time Keeper informs the Goal Line judge of the end of exclusion and then the Goal Line Judge informs the player they may re-enter the playing area subject to the conditions for Entry to the playing area and Re-Entry and Substitution.

3. Each goal line judge shall be provided by the Organising Committee with a supply of balls and when the original ball has gone outside the field of play, they shall immediately throw a new ball to the goalkeeper (for a goal throw), to the nearest player of the attacking team (for a corner throw), or as otherwise directed by the referee.

The Goal Line Judge must ensure that substitutes do not interfere with play. If in their opinion a substitute does interfere, or remains in the Subs No Waiting Area (see Diagram L&T 1) directly behind the goal, then they should draw this to the attention of the referee who will then deal with the matter with at least a Green Card.

The Goal Line Judge must ensure a player being substituted has entirely left the playing area with the whole of their kayak before the substituting player starts to enter the playing area.

8 SCRUTINEER

[TR]

1. The scrutineer will be responsible for checking the equipment of all players before and during their game. They may also check equipment at any other time during a competition.

The BCU Canoe Polo Committee, National Leagues organiser, National Leagues Secretaries or relevant Competition Organising Committee may appoint a Scrutineer for any applicable event.

9 TIMEKEEPERS

[TR]

1. The timekeepers shall be situated at the official's table.
2. The duties of the timekeepers shall be to:
 - 2.1. Record the exact periods of playing time, timeouts and the intervals between the periods;
 - 2.2. Control the periods of time-outs and to signal the period by raising a red flag, except that a referee shall signal the end of a time-out;
 - 2.3. Record the send-off times of players ordered from the playing area in accordance with the rules, together with the re-entry times of such players or their substitutes;

If a Time-Out is called, or an interval (half time or extra playing period) occurs, while a player is serving a send-off period, then the send-off period will also be stopped for the duration of the Time-Out or interval. The send-off period will continue when the play is restarted. This means a sent-off player will serve the full period in playing time.

- 2.4. Control the periods of exclusion of players and to signal the end of the period of exclusion by a visual electronic device or by raising and waving a green flag or hand;

The Timekeeper adjudicates the length of the send-off, and signals to the Goal Line Judge when the send-off period has expired.

3. A timekeeper shall signal by any means provided it is distinctive, acoustically efficient and readily understood, the end of each period independently of the referees and their signal shall take immediate effect except in the case of the simultaneous award by a referee of a goal penalty shot, in which event the goal penalty shot shall be taken in accordance with the rules;
 - 3.1. The first timekeepers shall perform the duties stated in 9.2.1 and 9.2.2 and the second timekeeper shall perform 9.2.3 and 9.2.4.

10 SCOREKEEPER

[TR]

1. The scorekeeper shall be situated at the official table.
2. The duties of the scorekeeper shall be to:
 - 2.1. Record the awarded goals and maintain the scoreboard during the game;
 - 2.2. Maintain the record of the game, including the players, the score, time-outs, green, yellow and red cards awarded against each player.

The scorekeeper should draw attention to the referee by suitable means (such as waving their hand) to indicate a player has accumulated either three (3) Green Cards (=Yellow Card) or two (2) Yellow Cards (=Red Card) indicating the one currently being issued as applicable.

11 NUMBER OF PLAYERS

[TR]

1. Each team may consist of a maximum of eight (8) players for any one game. No more than five (5) players are permitted on the playing area at any one time. Any other players at that moment are to be considered as substitutes. A team must begin each game with five (5) players, ready to start on their own goal line. If a team is reduced to two (2) players at any time the referee shall end the game and refer the matter to the competition committee who shall decide the appropriate action to be taken.

Domestically, previously the game didn't need to be abandoned when a team were reduced to 2 players.

2. The list of players names and numbers for a game must be handed to the appropriate official before the time indicated by the Competition Committee.

From ICF Chapter 2 article 21.1.3 – Up to ten (10) players may be used for each team as a squad (throughout a competition or league season), but a maximum of 8 players may be used for any game with a maximum of 5 on the playing area at any one time.

12 ANTI-DOPING

[TR]

1. Doping as defined in the Olympic Movement Anti-Doping Code is strictly forbidden. Doping control shall be conducted in accordance with the ICF Doping control regulations under the supervision of the IFC Medical Committee.

See also the section on BCU Doping Control Rules in this yearbook.

13 IDENTIFICATION

[TR]

1. All players must have kayaks with the decks of the same colour, spray decks of the same colour, outmost body covering of the same colour, helmets of the same colour and shirts of the same colour.

Spray decks should be the same colour for the top division in each class. Only the sleeve (or notably visible) areas of shirts should be the same colour. Short and long Sleeves may be mixed throughout the same team.

2. Where a solid colour(s) is used for the hull of the kayak, the kayaks of all players of the team must match this. In the case of clear hull kayaks the presence of carbon fibre or other integral materials within the construction will not be deemed as affecting the overall colour of the hull.
3. If the referee or scrutineer determines there is inadequate distinction between the teams, the first named team on the game sheet will be required to change their body identification colours.
4. The players of a team shall each be numbered from 1 to 99. This number shall be displayed on the body covering and on the helmet.

Only numbers from one (1) to fifteen (15) are permitted. This is due to the over complexity of signing goal scorers with numbers above fifteen (15).

5. The numbers will be clearly legible to the referees from anywhere on the field and must clearly individually identify each player in a team. A number at least 20 cm high must be on the back of the body. A number at least 10 cm height must be on the front of the body. Numbers at least 7.5 cm high must be on each side of the helmet. The captain of each team shall be distinguished from the rest of the team by an armband.

The colour of the number must stand out from the background colour on the body protector and helmet.

14 KAYAK (incorrectly titled in the ICF Rules)

[TR]

1. One kayak, approved by the scrutineer, per player.

For full specifications on kayaks and padding - *see Kit Specifications in this yearbook.*

Full up to date kayak specifications of Polo Kayaks are available on request from the Polo Committee or from the BCU Canoe Polo Committee's web site.

15 PADDLES

[TR]

1. One double-bladed paddle, approved by the scrutineer, per player.
For full specifications on paddles - see Kit Specifications in this yearbook.

16 PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

[TR]

1. Each player must wear one ***CE Approved*** helmet with facemask, approved by the scrutineer.
For full specifications on helmet and facemasks - see Kit Specifications in this yearbook.
2. Body protection, approved by the scrutineer, must be worn.
For full specifications on body protection - *see Kit Specifications in this yearbook.*
3. A shirt with sleeves, which at least covers the mid upper arm, must be worn. The players shall not have grease, oil or any similar substance on their arms and neck.
4. Beside the equipment and clothing listed above, personal clothing and effects, and a spray deck for the player is permitted. Extra protective equipment on the hands, forearm and elbows is permitted provided it is firm fitting, securely attached and with no sharp edges such that they do not endanger any other player. No other equipment is permitted. A player must not wear any items (such as jewellery ***including friendship bands***) that can endanger either the wearer or any other player.

The wearing of any jewellery is strictly forbidden and includes items such as rings, bracelets (including friendship/charity bands), necklaces and earrings. Non removable rings with no protruding gems may be taped up.

5. Players may not apply any greasy substances to their equipment.

17 TRADE-MARKS AND ADVERTISING SYMBOLS

[TR]

1. Boats, accessories and sportswear may carry trademarks, advertising symbols, and words.
2. 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 or game.
3. Trademarks, advertising symbols and words must be identical and in the same position on the kayaks and clothing of all players.
4. Paddles may carry trademarks, advertising-symbols and words.
5. The advertising of tobacco smoking and strong spirit drinks will not be accepted.
6. The Organising Committee of an international competition has the right to advertise during the competition on the kayaks of the players. The advertising symbols must be in a rectangular area between 40cm and 70cm from the front of the kayak. The advertising symbols must fit in a rectangular area of 30cm by 15cm. The advertisement may appear twice in the advertising area of the kayak.
7. The guidelines for any advertising material carried on the clothing and equipment of the players should be as follows:
 - 7.1. The ICF and National Federations organising an ICF competition should not engage in exclusive sponsorship advertising.
 - 7.2. Any boat, accessory, or article of sportswear, which does not comply with the above mentioned conditions will be ineligible for use during a competition. Teams are responsible for ensuring their own equipment meets these rules and regulations.

18 EXCHANGING EQUIPMENT

[TR]

1. Each player is permitted to leave the playing area and exchange any piece of equipment, at any time during the game, provided the equipment has been approved by the scrutineer. The player concerned must collect equipment being exchanged from their substitute's area.

19 SCRUTINEERING

[TR]

1. Players' equipment is subject to scrutineering before, during or after a game.
A referee must dismiss from the playing area, once aware of the infringement, any player whose equipment is in breach of the rules, either at the first break in play or direct if the equipment has become dangerous for the players.

20 PLAYING TIME

[TR]

1. Playing time shall be two (2) periods each of ten (10) minutes, unless extra periods need to be played or a tiebreaker shoot-out has to take place. The minimum playing time will be seven (7) minutes each way.
The minimum playing time will be 6 minutes each way
2. The half time interval shall normally be three (3) minutes. The minimum half time interval will be one (1) minute.
3. The teams shall change ends after each period of play.
4. The referee may call time-out during the playing time. The timekeeper will stop the clock when the referee signals for time-out and restart the clock when the referee restarts the game with a whistle.

21 TIME-OUT

[TR]

1. The referee shall use a triple whistle to stop the game for time-out.
2. Time-out must be given if a capsized player or their equipment is interfering with play.
3. Time-out should be used immediately when game regulations are dangerously breached or if field equipment needs correction or adjustment. (for example: endangering another player due to a broken paddle).

4. Time-out should be used if any injury has occurred, or a player is illegally on the field, provided this does not disadvantage the other team.
5. Time-out must be used after a goal is scored, or a goal-penalty-shot *or a Referee's Ball* is awarded or for any other incidences at the discretion of the referee.

Normally there will not be a Time-out following a goal being scored.

6. If the referee has stopped the game, not during a break in play and where neither team was at fault (e.g. referee error, faulty goals, injury) the play will be restarted with a free throw to the team that last had possession. Where time-out was given for a capsized player the opposition is given a free throw to restart.

If the referee cannot determine who had possession at the time of the whistle, the referee will restart the game with a referee's ball. Signal 8 applies.

22 CHOICE OF END

[TR]

1. The first named team on the game sheet will start on the goal line at the left-hand side of the official table unless one of the captains or the Chief Official request a toss of a coin to determine the choice of ends.

23 COMMENCEMENT OF PLAY

[TR]

The First Referee should check that the other Referee, Timekeeper, Scorekeeper and Goal-Line Controllers are in position and ready to start, and have a suitable ball.

1. At the beginning of each game, five (5) players will line up ready to start, stationary and with some part of their kayaks on their own goal line.

In a smaller than regulation sized pitch such as a swimming pool, then the players can line up with their kayaks touching the back wall rather than the goal line. In normal play, the boundary will be played to the face of the goal.

2. The referee will blow the whistle to start play and then release or throw the ball into the centre of the playing area.

Once both the Goal-Line Controllers are indicating the teams are ready to start, the 1st Referee then blows their whistle to start play. In Preparing to blow the whistle avoid indicating to the players that the whistle is about to be blown.

3. If the ball is released or thrown giving one team definite advantage, the referee shall call for the ball and shall restart the period of play.
4. Physical assistance from other players is not allowed on the player attempting for the ball. Infringement incurs a free throw. Signals 1 and 14 apply. **Start Infringement (Free Throw)**.
5. Only one player from each team may make an attempt to gain possession of the ball. Any other player that accompanies the player attempting for the ball must not be within a radius of three (3) metres from the body of the player attempting for the ball. Infringement incurs a free throw. Signals 1 and 14 apply. **Start Infringement (Free Throw)**.

24 BALL OUT OF PLAY

[TR]

The Referee is able to penalise a player who deliberately bounces the ball on an opponents boat to gain a boundary throw. This action is considered dangerous and unsporting and will be penalised with a Green Card Signals 7 and 17 apply.

1. Sideline and overhead obstacle: When any part of the ball touches the physical sideline or the vertical plane of the physical sideline, or touches any overhead obstacle, the team that was not the last to touch it with their paddle, kayak or person is awarded a sideline-throw. Signals 5 and 14 apply. **Sideline (Free Throw)**.

In the situation of a low overhead obstacle (beyond the competition organisers control), which can risk interfering with the normal flight of the ball, a sideline throw will be taken by the team who was in the process of passing/shooting at the time the ball directly hit the obstruction if it drastically changes the flight of the ball.

- 2.
- 2.1. If the physical sideline is moved out of position as a consequence of normal play, the boundary moves with it.
- 2.2. Sideline-throw. The player taking the throw must position their kayak at the point of exit of the ball or the point on the sideline nearest to the point of contact of an overhead-obstacle.
3. Goal-line: Either a goal-line or corner throw will be awarded when any part of the ball touches the vertical plane of the front of the goal frame between the corner markers, except where a ball rebounds off the goal frame (not the goal supports) into the playing area or where a goal is scored.

For venues where it is not physically possible to ensure a floating goal-line rope is directly beneath the front face of the goal, then the ball will be considered out of bounds when any part of it crosses the front vertical plane of the face of the goal.

A Floating 'goal-line rope' in this case will simply be used as an indicator for the purposes of substitution.

- 3.1. Goal line throw: When the ball goes out over the teams own goal line and has been last touched by the other team then a goal line throw will be awarded. Signals 6 and 14 apply. **Goal-Line Throw (Free Shot)**. The player taking the throw must be positioned with their kayak on the goal line.
- 3.2. Corner-throw: When the ball goes out over the teams own goal line and was last touched by their own team then a corner throw will be awarded. Signals 5 and 14 apply. **Corner Throw (Free Throw)**. The player taking the throw must be positioned with their kayak in the corner of the playing area.

If the side of the pool is being used as the sideline, then player taking the Corner Throw must position their kayak parallel to the side of the pool.

L&T=> The referee not controlling the corner thrower should be looking for illegal tackles and illegal screens under the goal or out in the general area of player at that time.

25 SCORING A GOAL

[TR]

1. A team scores a goal when the whole of the ball passes through the plane of the front of the goal frame of their opponent's goal. If a goal is not rigidly fixed, and moves the ball must go through the goal frame. The referee will indicate the number of the player scoring the goal to the scorekeeper. Signal 3 applies and time-out applies. **Signal Goal**.
2. If the ball is prevented from entering a goal by either a defender's or substitutes paddle that enters the goal from behind, then a goal is awarded. (*See 29.2 below*)

26 RESTART AFTER GOAL

[TR]

L&T=> Both Referees Stand at the Centre

Any player with their body not in the correct position will be asked to move.

If a player moves into the wrong position before the whistle is blown then a Start Infringement will be awarded against that team. (even the team who had the ball). Any further false starts can be penalised with a Green Card.

1. After a goal has been scored the team who have conceded the goal will take the restart throw. The player taking the throw must be positioned with their kayak in the centre of the playing area. The referee will blow the whistle to restart play. There is no requirement for the player to hold the ball above their head.
2. All players of both teams must start with their bodies in their own half.

27 CAPSIZED PLAYER

[TR]

1. If a player capsizes and leaves their kayak, the player may not take any further part in the play and must leave the playing area immediately, with all of their equipment. If a player who has capsized wishes to rejoin the game the player must do so according to the rules of entry to the field of play. No person may enter the playing area to assist a player with their equipment, and no-one may obstruct the referee while assisting a player. A team may be penalised during a game for any illegal outside assistance, or for any interference with the opposition that constitutes outside assistance. The referee to determine the severity of the sanction.

The calling of a Time-Out should only be carried out when a capsized player is in danger or they are interfering with play. Restart should be in favour of the team who had possession of the ball at that time.

28 ENTRY TO THE PLAYING AREA, RE-ENTRY AND SUBSTITUTION

[TR]

1. No more than the legally allowed number of players from a team may be on the playing area at any one time.
2. Substitutes must wait in their own substitutes area.

In general, substitutes are expected to sit in the side areas of the substitution area. Substitutes should consider the area within four meters either side of the centre of the goal frame as a 'No Waiting Area' (see Diagram L&T 1) to avoid any possibility of interfering with players who wish to pass around the back of the goal as a normal part of the action of the game. Substitutes who persist in remaining in this area will be issued with a Green Card. Signal 7 and 17 apply.

3. Exit and entry of players for substitution may be anywhere along the teams own goal line. The whole of the player's kayak must leave the playing area before the substitute may enter the playing area. Substitution is not allowed if any equipment for example a paddle or helmet remains on the playing area. Substitution is allowed at any time.
4. A player leaving the playing area solely as part of the action of the game is not subject to the conditions for re-entry.
5. A capsized player who has not left the playing area at their goal line may be substituted not earlier than the next break in play. All of the capsized players equipment (for example kayak and paddle) must be removed from the playing area before a substitution is allowed.

29 ILLEGAL SUBSTITUTION AND ENTRY TO THE PLAYING AREA

[TR]

1. Where more than the legally allowed number of players from a team are in the playing area at any one time the player(s) coming illegally into the playing area should be given a yellow card(s), and the team is required to play with one player less than they had before the player(s) came illegally *into the playing area* for the duration of the yellow card. If it is not clear which player(s) should exit the playing area then the teams captain must nominate a player(s). Infringement incurs a sanction. Signal 7 and 14 apply. *Time-Out & Yellow Card.*

2. In the event of a substitute placing their paddle in the playing area to prevent a goal from being scored, a goal penalty shot shall be awarded. The offending player should be penalised with a red card and the team must play with one less player on the playing area than they had prior to the offence occurring for the remaining time of the game. Infringement incurs a sanction. Signals 15, 16 and 7 apply.

30 ILLEGAL USE OF THE PADDLE

[TR]

Signals 12 and 15 apply. *Paddle Foul & Free Shot.* The following are defined as illegal use of the paddle.

1. Contacting an opponent's person.
2. Playing, or attempting to play, the ball with a paddle when the ball is within arms reach of an opponent, and that opponent is attempting to play the ball with their hand.
3. Playing or attempting to play the ball with a paddle across the bow of an opponent's kayak, within arms reach of the opponent in a normal paddling position.
This instance is to accept that to make an attempt for the ball across an opponents kayak is not dangerous out of arms reach. The player should not be using their opponents kayak for support while reaching across.
4. Placing a paddle within arms reach of an opponent who has the ball in their hand. A goalkeeper is excluded from this rule and is allowed to directly defend against a shot at goal as long as the paddle is not moved towards the opponent at the time of the shot and is not used in a deliberately dangerous manner.
5. When a player, with their paddle, attempts to restrict an opponent using their paddle.
6. Playing an opponents paddle instead of the ball.
7. Throwing a paddle.
8. Any other use of a paddle that endangers a player.
A player may not fend off any hand tackle using their paddle.

31 ILLEGAL POSSESSION

[TR]

1. Signals 11 and 15 apply. *Illegal Possession & Free Shot.* A player is in possession of the ball when they have the ball in their hand or are in a position to reach the ball with their hand, the ball being on the water and not in the air. A player balancing the ball on their paddle will also be considered to be in possession.
2. A player must dispose of the ball within five (5) seconds of gaining possession, either by passing it to another player or by performing one throw causing the ball to travel by at least one metre measured horizontally from the point of release.
3. If a player shares possession with another player or the ball moves out of arms reach whilst being tackled, the five (5) seconds shall begin again once a player has regained possession.
4. A player who capsizes to the point of the whole of their body and head going under water is considered to have lost possession if they do not have the ball in their hand(s).
5. A player may not manoeuvre their kayak with their hands or paddle whilst the ball is resting on their spray deck.

32 ILLEGAL HAND TACKLE

[TR]

Signals 10 and 15 apply. *Illegal Tackle & Free Shot.* A Hand-Tackle is a player, with one open hand, pushing an opponent's back, upper arm or side. The following hand-tackles are illegal.

1. Any hand-tackle where the tackled player does not have possession of the ball.
2. Any body contact other than an open hand to the back, upper arm or side.
3. Any hand-tackle, which endangers the tackled player.
4. A player may not fend off a tackle with the hand or forearm or with the movement of the elbow towards the hand-tackler.

33 ILLEGAL KAYAK TACKLE

[TR]

Signals 10 and 15 apply. **Illegal Tackle & Free Shot.** A kayak-tackle is a player manoeuvring their kayak against an opponent's kayak in an attempt to gain possession of the ball. The following kayak-tackles are illegal.

1. Any kayak-tackle that results in the tacklers kayak contacting the body of a player and/or endangering a player. The player's arm shall not be considered to be part of the body when any part of it is elevated away from the body.
2. Any kayak-tackle where the kayak comes in contact with the opponent's spray deck following a legal tackle will not be penalised unless the player continues to tackle into the spray deck.
3. When the ball is no longer in control of either player, they may move off each others kayak by using their hands to perform a controlled action on the opponents kayak.
4. A player in possession of the ball who fails to control the bow of their kayak and also fails to avoid contact with the body of an opponent.
5. Any hard tackle to the side of the kayak if it is at angles between eighty (80) and hundred (100) degrees and by momentary contact.
6. Tackling an opponent who is not within three (3) metres of the ball.
7. Tackling an opponent when the tackler is not competing for the ball.

34 ILLEGAL JOSTLE

[TR]

Signals 10 and 15 apply. **Illegal Tackle & Free Shot.** A jostle is a player manoeuvring their kayak against an opponent's kayak between the six (6)-metre lines and the goal line, to gain a position where neither player is attempting for the ball. The following jostling is illegal.

1. When a player is stationary or attempting to maintain a position and their body is moved by more than half a metre by sustained contact from an opponent's kayak.
2. When the contact to the opponent's kayak would be defined as a kayak-tackle.
3. A player with the whole kayak behind the goal line may not be jostled, as they are not in the six (6) - metre area.

35 ILLEGAL SCREEN

[TR]

Signals 9 and 15 apply. **Illegal Obstruction/Holding & Free Shot.** An illegal screen is when a player actively impedes the progress of an opposing player, except where:

1. Both players are competing for the ball; or
2. The opposing player is in possession of the ball; or
3. The opposing player is within three (3) metres of the ball and is the nearest player to the ball, where the ball is on the water and not in the air (**also classed as being in Control**); or
4. Both players are jostling within the six (6) metre area.
5. A player is considered to be actively impeding the progress of an opponent when their kayak is moving and/or they are attempting active paddle strokes.

36 ILLEGAL HOLDING

[TR]

Signals 9 and 15 apply **Illegal Obstruction/Holding & Free Shot.**

1. A player restricting the movement of an opposing player or gaining support or propulsion by placing their hand, arm, body or paddle on the kayak, or holding the opposing player or equipment.
2. A player using for propulsion or support, or moving out of place, any playing area equipment e.g. boundary markers, goal supports, or any surrounding object.

37 UNSPORTING BEHAVIOUR

[TR]

Signal 17 with a green card applies. The following is defined as unsporting behaviour:

1. Any infringement committed by a player during a break in play.
2. Hindering another player's attempt at righting themselves after capsizing. A player who is upside down must be allowed to get their head and both shoulders above the water before an opponent is allowed to attempt another tackle.
3. Interference with the equipment of an opponent. Such as holding or moving another player's paddle out of their reach, or deliberately preventing the player from regaining possession of the paddle.
4. Use of deliberate delaying tactics. Such as throwing the ball away, or deliberately obstructing the opposition, to delay a quick restart after an infringement.

Passive Obstruction of the Ball will not be tolerated. Either the player must move out of the way for the opponent to reach the ball or pass the ball directly to the opponent.

5. Players showing dissent.
6. Retaliation.
7. Foul or abusive language.
8. Other unsporting behaviour to a player, referee or other official or behaviour considered detrimental to the game, at the discretion of the referee.

38 DEFENCE OF GOAL

[GR]

1. The one defending player most directly under the goal, in order to defend the goal with the paddle is considered to be the goalkeeper at that time. The goalkeeper's body must be facing into the playing area and attempting to maintain a position within one (1) metre of the centre of the goal line. If two or more players are directly under the goal, the player most directly under the goal is considered the goalkeeper at that time.
2. If the goalkeeper is not in possession of the ball and is moved or unbalanced by contact from an opposing player, then that player has committed an illegal tackle. Infringement incurs a sanction. Signals 10 and 15 apply **Illegal Tackle & Free Shot.**
3. If an attacker moves the goalkeeper by pushing a defender into the goalkeeper, where none of the defenders have possession of the ball, the attacker shall be penalised. If the defender has an opportunity to avoid contact with the goalkeeper after being pushed, but does not, the attacker will not be penalised.
4. If a defender pushes the attacker onto the goalkeeper, then the attacker should not be penalised. If the attacker has an opportunity to avoid contact with the goalkeeper after being pushed, but does not, the attacker will be penalised.
5. If an attacker, in possession of the ball, whose original direction or speed would not have led to contact with the goalkeeper is pushed onto the goalkeeper by a defender, the attacker will not be penalised.
6. A goalkeeper who is not in possession of the ball, but is attempting for the ball on the water, can be tackled like any other player. If the goalkeeper does not gain possession they will not regain goalkeeper status until the attacker has shot or passed the ball. After the attacker loses possession of the ball, the attacker must not actively impede the goalkeeper's attempt to regain or maintain their position.7. Within the six (6) metre area, an attacker must not actively prevent a defender from taking the position as goalkeeper. A defender will be allowed to push an attacker with the kayak, in order to take the position of goalkeeper without penalty, unless dangerous play is used.

This does not allow the goalkeeper to make an illegal Kayak Tackle on an opponent who is stationary after the goalkeeper has taken up position.

8. As soon as a team has control of the ball they can no longer be considered to be defending and thus cannot have a player defined as a goalkeeper.

39 REFEREE'S BALL

[TR]

1. A referee's ball will be declared when two or more players of opposing teams have one or more hands firmly on the ball, so that the players share possession of the ball for five (5) seconds.
If initial contact is made directly with the ball illegal holding will only apply if either player uses the opposition for support.
2. If the referee needs to stop the game, not during a break in play and where neither team is at fault (e.g. referee error, faulty goals, injury) and the referee cannot determine who had possession at the time of the whistle, the referee will restart the game with a referee's ball.
3. A referee's ball will be taken at the nearest point on the sideline to the incident. Where a referee's ball is awarded for an incident that occurs between the six (6) metre line and the goal line, the referee's ball will be held at the nearest six (6) metre line. Signal 8 and ***Time-out applies Referees Ball & Time-Out.***
L&T=> The Leading Referee will directly administer the Referee's Ball whenever this is near a 6m area.
4. Two opposing players will line up at right angles to the sideline, on the side nearest their own goal line, near to the sideline where the situation occurred, one metre apart facing the referee. They will place their paddles on the water, but not between their kayaks and their hands on the deck of the kayak or on their paddle.
5. All other players must be at least three (3) metres away from the point between the two players participating in the referee's ball. ***Other players who tackle opponents into the three (3) meter area can be penalised with an illegal Kayak Tackle and thus avoid the need to continue with the Referee's Ball.***
6. The referee will throw the ball on the water between the players and blow the whistle to restart play. Both players must make an attempt for the ball with their hands as soon as it touches the water. The players must not play the ball before it hits the water. Infringement incurs a sanction. Signals 11 and 15 apply.

Open play resumes on the whistle which is blown at the time of throwing the ball in, so a direct shot at goal is permitted.

40 ADVANTAGE

[TR]

1. The referees can allow play to continue when the team in possession is benefited by play continuing as a result of an infringement by an opponent, if neither referee has blown the whistle. The referee should recognise the illegal-play by signalling play-on. Signals 13 and 14 apply ***Play on/Advantage and Free Throw.***
A direct shot at goal is still permitted as no foul has been called.
Referees must not play/signal advantage if a whistle has been blown for that same foul.
Wherever, call "Play-On" to the players so they do not need to stop and look around.
2. The referee can penalise any player who causes an infringement for which advantage is played at the next break in play with a yellow or red card.
In the case of a dangerous/deliberate illegal play, playing advantage should be avoided. Instead use a Send Off Card and consider a Goal Penalty Shot if the incident is considered severe enough.
3. Advantage is to be indicated if there is no infringement but players think there is an infringement and have stopped play. (For example a whistle from another playing area, crowds etc.)

41 SANCTIONS

[TR]

The referee can impose any combination of the following sanctions for illegal-play depending on the severity and/or frequency of offences being penalised. The referee may send a player off the playing area for varying periods depending on the severity and/or frequency of offence being penalised. Timing of send-offs is suspended for periods of time out or intervals of play.

1. Goal-penalty-shot. Signal 16 and time out applies.
 - 1.1. A goal-penalty-shot will be awarded for any deliberate and/or dangerous offence in the six (6) metre area where a player is fouled in the act of shooting, or passing or positioning for a near certain goal. The act of shooting begins when a player has contact with the ball, with their hand or paddle, and is clearly attempting or preparing for a shot.
 - 1.2. A goal-penalty-shot can be awarded for an offence where a player, outside the 6 metre area, is fouled in the act of shooting or passing or positioning for a near certain goal, whilst the goal is not otherwise defended if no attempt is made to avoid illegal play (deliberate) and/or an offence where paddle contact with the ball in the opponents hand or any illegal play that endangers the opposition occurs (dangerous).
 - 1.3. A Goal Penalty Shot will be awarded for a deliberate and/or dangerous infringement on a player within the six (6) metre area who is attempting to take a free-shot.
Note. This can take place in the first incidence.
2. Free shot. Signal 15 applies.
 - 2.1. A Free shot may be a direct shot at goal. General play resumes when the ball has travelled one metre horizontally or changed possession to another player of the team. A free shot will be awarded for offences where a goal-penalty-shot, free throw, corner throw, goal-line throw, ***side-line***, or a centre restart has not been awarded.
 - 2.2. Free throw. Signal 14 applies.
 - 3.1. A Free throw may not be direct at goal. General play resumes when the ball has travelled one metre horizontally or changed possession to another player of the team. A free throw will be awarded when a goal-penalty-shot or free shot has not been awarded.
4. Player sent off for the rest of the game.
Signal 17 with a red card ***and Time-Out*** applies.
 - 4.1. A red card must be awarded to a player receiving a second yellow card for any reason (***see section 10 above***).
 - 4.2. A red card should be awarded when a yellow card is disputed or has not had the desired effect of causing the player to control their play or attitude.
 - 4.3. A red card should be awarded if a personal attack on a player occurs.
 - 4.4. A red card should be awarded for repeated and continuous foul or abusive language.
 - 4.5. If a player is sent off for the rest of the game, the player cannot be replaced by a substitute.
5. Player sent off for two (2) minutes.
Signal 17 with a yellow card ***and Time-Out*** applies.
 - 5.1. A yellow card must be awarded to a player receiving a third green card for any reason (***see section 10 above***).
 - 5.2. A yellow card should be awarded for a deliberate and/or dangerous foul that prevents the scoring of a near certain goal where the referee feels that the awarding of only a free shot will not have the desired effect.
 - 5.3. A yellow card should be awarded for dangerous illegal play, that is deliberate, repeated, or where no attempt is made to avoid dangerous play.

- 5.4. A yellow card should be awarded for repeated and continuous disputing of referee's decisions.
- 5.5. A yellow card should be awarded for foul or abusive language.
- 5.6. Players sent off must obey the rules of entry to the playing area for re-entry at the completion of the send-off period.
6. Warning.
Signal 17 with a green card **and Time-Out applies (see section 10 above).**
- 6.1. A green card should be awarded for deliberate unsporting behaviour of major influence to the state of the game.
- 6.2. A green card should be awarded for unnecessary verbal communication to the referee, dangerous play and/or unsporting behaviour.
Since Green Cards are counted as a means of recording a pattern of bad behaviour of a player, Referees should ensure they are used in the same way as a Yellow and Red Card in terms of calling a Time-Out and then clearly indicating the details to the scorekeeper including player number.
- Process for Sending a Player Off with a Yellow or Red Card**
- **Use a triple whistle to attract attention and Indicate a Time-Out, Signal 7 applies.**
 - **The Timekeeper should acknowledge they have seen the Time-Out signal by raising their Red flag or arm.**
 - **Issue the Appropriate Yellow or Red Send-Off Card.**
 - **Show the card and player number (use a clenched fist to indicate 10 if required), to the Timekeeper and Scorekeeper, and wait for acknowledgement.**
 - **The Scorekeeper should record the player's team and number and the duration of the send-off.**
 - **Make sure the player leaves the Playing Area.**
 - **The Referee uses the whistle to restart play with Signal 17. The Timekeeper should restart the clock at that time.**
 - **At the end of the game the Referee (who carried out the sending off) must record the details of the send-off on the game sheet, and ensure the other Referee signs the sheet. This sheet must then be given to the Chief Referee. Normally the Tournament Organiser sends this on.**
- If a sent-off player does re-enter the field without being signalled to do so by the Goal Linesmen, then as soon as the Referee is aware of it they shall stop the game, Send-Off the player for the rest of the game (using a Red Card) and award a Free-Throw to the opposition. If the sent-off player's team has scored any goals while the player has wrongly been on the Playing Area, those goals will be disallowed.**
- Players sent off with a red card, may not take part in a Tiebreaker Shoot-Out, and their team will lose that shot, and it will be treated as a miss. Players sent off with a yellow card may take part in a Tiebreaker Shoot-Out, no matter what point of the game they were sent off.**
7. Team Warning.
Signal 17 with a green card **and Time-Out** applies. A team warning occurs when a referee awards a green card to all players on a team.
- 7.1. A team warning will be awarded for repeated infringements of a particular offence by more than one player of the same team.
- 7.2. After a team warning has been given, a yellow card will be awarded to any player of that team for any subsequent infringement for the same offence.

42 TAKING THROWS

[TR]

For a Free Throw, Free Shot, Side Line, Goal Line or Corner Throw only, the ball may cross over the boundary lines as part of the action of throwing the ball.

1. The player taking any goal line-throw, corner-throw, sideline-throw, free-throw or free-shot must hold the ball above their head, at arms length with their kayak stationary, before taking the throw. The player's initial throw must travel one metre measured horizontally from the point of release or changed possession to another player of the same team. Infringement incurs a sanction with the opposing team being awarded possession of the ball. Signal 11 and 14 applies **Illegal Possession & Free Throw.**
2. Free-throws, goal line-throws, corner-throws, restart throws and sideline-throws may not be direct at goal.
If a player taking a Free Throw (not a Free-Shot) attempts a direct shot at goal and the ball enters the goal mouth, either directly or having deflected off an opponents equipment, then a disallowed goal is signalled and a Goal-Line -Throw is to be awarded. The attempt itself at the goal from a Free Throw is not to be penalised.
3. The ball is not in play until the initial throw has travelled at least one metre measured horizontally from the point of release or changed possession to another player of the same team. A player must be allowed to take up their position to take the throw. No opponent may contact the player or their equipment until the throw is taken. The opposition must not attempt to prevent the ball from travelling one metre measured horizontally. Infringement incurs a sanction. Signals 11 and 14 **Illegal possession & Free Throw** or signals 11 and 15 **Illegal possession & Free Shot apply.** A free throw will be retaken as a free throw, and a free shot will be retaken as a free shot.
***Interfering with a Boundary Throw, Free Shot or Free Throw will be penalised with an illegal Possession foul. The Free Shot/Throw will be the same as the initial foul being taken.**
4. The player must throw the ball within five seconds of being in possession and in a position to take the throw. The five seconds for the restart applies from when any member of the team is in a position to pick up the ball and take the throw. Any dropping or fumbling of the ball will not be considered, provided the initial throw is taken within the five seconds. Infringement incurs a sanction with the opposing team awarded possession of the ball. Signals 11 and 14 **Illegal possession & Free Throw** or signals 11 and 15 **Illegal possession & Free Shot apply.** A free throw will be retaken as a free throw, and a free shot will be retaken as a free shot.*
5. Where an infringement occurs that requires the awarding of a free-shot or free-throw. The shot or throw should be taken at a point that, in the referees sole discretion, best advantages the team. The referee will indicate that the shot or throw be taken either where the infringement occurred or, where the ball was at the time of the infringement, or where the ball landed if it was in flight at the time of the infringement. However, a defence of goal infringement must be taken where the infringement occurred.
This is like in the situation of a goalkeeper being Kayak Tackled, the foul would be specifically taken where the incident occurred.
The Free-Throw can be taken anywhere further back from the place where the throw should be taken, or even a little in front of the place, provided no significant advantage is gained.
If the Referee does not agree with where the throw was taken from, play should be stopped with a triple blow of the whistle and the new position should be indicated for the throw to be taken again.
6. Where a free-shot is awarded within one (1) metre of the goal the free shot will be taken at the nearest point one (1) metre from the goal line.

43 TAKING A GOAL PENALTY-SHOT

[TR]

1. The player taking the goal penalty-shot will be stationary with their body on the six (6) metre line.
2. All other players must be in the other half of the playing area until play restarts.
Substitutes are not permitted to remain directly behind the goal (which is a no waiting area – see Diagram L&T).
3. The shot will be taken when the Leading referee blows the whistle. The five (5) second rule applies.
As a Goal-Penalty Shot is started with a whistle there is no requirement for the player to present the ball above their head.
4. Play will restart on the whistle.
5. The player taking the shot may not play the ball again until it has touched another player or another player's equipment or the goal frame.

44 COMPLETION OF PLAY

[TR]

The Winner of the game will be the team who scores the most awarded goals, in the goal in which they are designated as attacking in each given period of play.

1. The timekeeper will indicate the end of the period of playing time by the use of a loud signal. The ball is dead at the start of the signal. The referee shall use signal 2 **Completion of Half / Full Time** to confirm the timekeeper's signal.
2. If a goal penalty-shot has been awarded prior to the signal for completion of play, the goal penalty-shot must be taken before play is to be considered completed. In this situation, the ball shall after it has been thrown immediately be dead if it hits the water or the goal frame and comes back into the playing area.

45 GOLDEN GOAL EXTRA TIME

[TR]

1. Golden-goal extra-time shall, with the exclusion of Grand-finals, consist of up to two periods of three (3) minutes each; with the team scoring the first goal (**in the goal they are attacking**) deemed the winner. There shall be a one (1) minute break before the golden-goal extra-time commences and between halves, with a change of ends.
2. Golden-goal extra-time for Grand-Finals shall consist of up to two periods of ten (10) minutes each; with the team scoring the first goal (**in the goal they are attacking**) deemed the winner. There shall be a one (1) minute break before the golden-goal extra-time commences and between halves, with a change of ends.

Golden-goal extra-time can also be played with one period of unlimited playing time to the first goal, at the discretion of the competition organisers.

46 TIEBREAKER SHOOT-OUT

[TR]

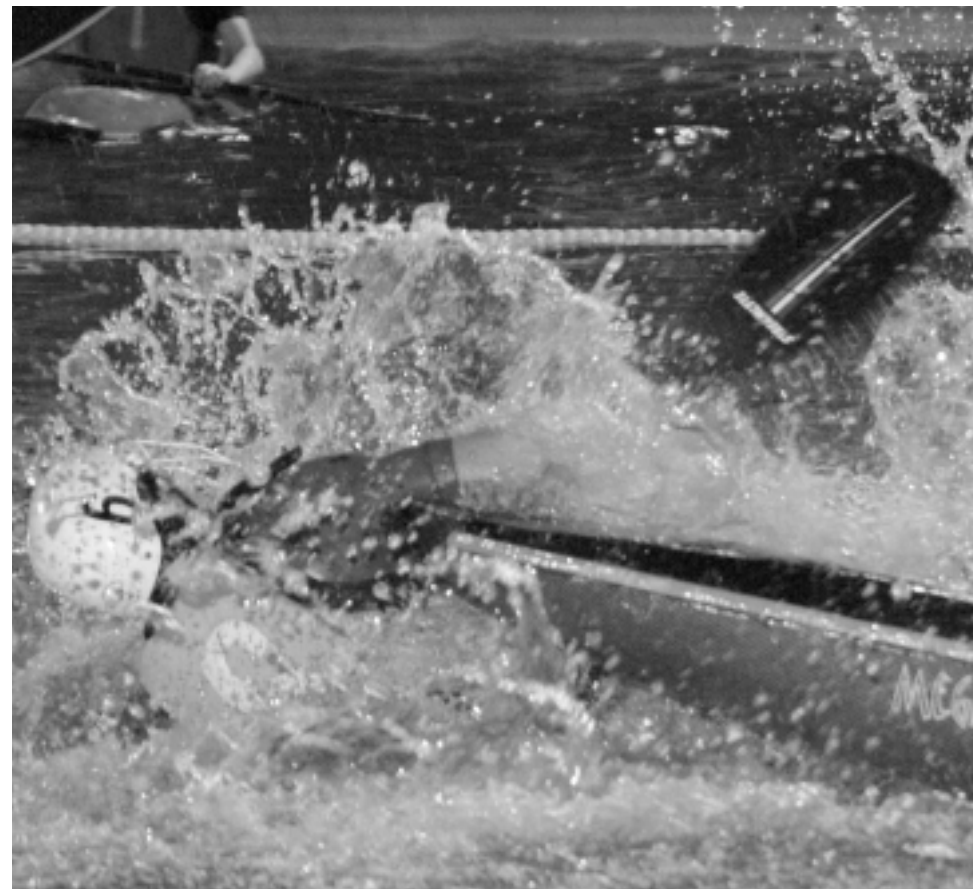
1. The captain of the team can choose which players, and their order, will participate in the tiebreaker shoot-out. Normally five (5) players will be chosen, (which may or may not include the goalkeeper) however, at the end of playing time, any player(s) who are not part of the game because of a red card send-off, will not take part in the tiebreaker shoot-out and their team will forfeit those shot(s). At the end of playing time, any player(s) who are not part of the game because of a yellow card send-off, will not take part in the tiebreaker shoot-out but their team will not forfeit those shot(s). **Yellow carded players may take part in the Tiebreaker Shoot-Out as the last shooter for their team.**
2. The participating players from each team will take tiebreaker shots alternating between teams after each shot. The referee will toss a coin and offer the choice of which team is to shoot first to the team captain that wins the toss. Both teams shoot at the same goal. Unless the Competition Committee has decided which goal should be used, the referee will decide which goal is to be used.
3. The goalkeeper not involved in defending the goal will position themselves beside the side line nearest the second referee in between shots unless they are taking a shot personally.

4. If, after each team has had five (5) tiebreaker shots, one team has scored a greater number of goals, then that team will be the winning team.
5. If, after each team has had five (5) tiebreaker shots, the score is still equal then the teams will take alternate tiebreaker shots, in the same order as the previous round, until, with an equal number of tiebreaker shots, one team has scored more goals.

47 TAKING A TIEBREAKER SHOT

[TR]

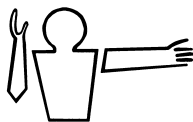
1. The player taking the tiebreaker shot will be stationary with their body four meters and fifty centimetres (4.5m) from the goal line.
2. One player from the defending team may position themselves, in order to defend the goal with the paddle ("the Goalkeeper"). The goalkeeper's body must be facing into the playing area and attempting to maintain a position within one meter of the centre of the goal line (**along the goal line**). The goalkeeper must not leave this position during the period of the tiebreaker shot.
3. All other players must wait in the other half of the playing area until the completion of the tiebreaker shot.
4. The shot will be taken when the **Leading** referee blows the whistle. The five (5) second rule applies.
5. The player must take a direct shot at goal. **Only one shot is possible.**



APPENDIX-REFEREE HAND SIGNALS

1. START / INFRINGEMENT

Arm forward and bent upwards with palm open and facing sideways head level.



2. COMPLETION OF HALF / FULL TIME

Arms crossed in front of chest. Palms out.



3. GOAL

Arms extended, palms together. Point to centre of field.



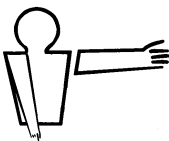
4. DISALLOWED GOAL

Repeated crossing of arms at thigh level. Palms open.



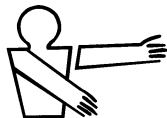
5. SIDELINE THROW / CORNER

Point at sideline. Other arm showing direction of play.



6. GOAL LINE THROW

Point open hand, arm extended along goal line. Other arm showing direction of play.



7. TIME OUT

Form "T" with hands above head.



8. REFEREE'S BALL

Arms extended forward at shoulder level, fists clenched, thumbs up.



9. OBSTRUCTION / HOLDING

Hold one arm up in the air fist clenched for the period of 2 seconds, and then point at the position where the free shot has to be taken. Other arm showing direction of play.



10. ILLEGAL TACKLE

Hold clenched fist against hip for the period of 2 seconds, and then point at the position where the free shot has to be taken.

Other arm showing direction of play.



11. 5 SECONDS / POSSESSION

Hold hand up at side at head level, palm forward. Spread all fingers for the period of 2 seconds, and then point at the position where the free shot has to be taken.

Other arm showing direction of play.



12. ILLEGAL USE OF PADDLE

The side of the other hand repeatedly chops the upper arm showing direction of play for the period of 2 seconds, and then point at the position where the free shot has to be taken.



13. PLAY ON / ADVANTAGE

One arm elbow bent, hand pushing back and forth across the body at hip level at least three (3) times.

Other arm showing direction of play.



14. FREE THROW

Arm extended, palm open, pointing in direction of play parallel to side of field. Other arm showing offence signal (1, 5, 6, 11 or 13).



15. FREE SHOT

Arm extended, index finger pointing at goal in direction of attack.

Other arm showing offence signal (9, 10, 11 or 12).



16. GOAL PENALTY SHOT

Both arms extended, index fingers together and pointing at goal.



17. SHOWING CARDS

Green card	-	warning
Yellow card	-	2 minutes send off
Red card	-	send off for the rest of game

Hold card above head. Other arm pointing to player. If necessary, indicate number of player with fingers. Use clenched fist to indicate ten where a number 10 or larger is required.



Referees Courses

The following Referees Courses are already planned to be held during the next twelve months:-

Grade 3 and 4	October 1st	Potters Bar
Grade 3 and 4	November 27th	Scunthorpe
Grade 3 and 4	December 10th	Wales
Grade 1 and 2	May 27th 2006	Hatfield
Grade 2, 3 and 4	March 19th	Scotland
Grade 3 and 4	April 16th	Leeds

Other dates may be added, please check on canoepolo.org.uk

To make a firm booking on one of these Courses please complete and forward the Attendance Form on Page 27 of this Yearbook.

(please feel free to photocopy the Form)

OR

For further details please contact Paul Beverley, Refereeing Administrator, email : refereeing-administrator@canoepolo.org.uk

REFEREE GUIDELINES

GENERAL

1. Referees should officiate games in an unbiased and impartial manner.
2. Referees should respect without question all decisions given by the Referees controlling the game. They should set an example of good sportsmanship for other players to follow.
3. Referees should not publicly criticise the performance and decisions of a Referee officiating a game.

REFEREE RESTRAINT

4. Keep any verbal instructions to a minimum. If a player requests an explanation of a foul, simply maintain the signal. Do not allow yourself to enter arguments with players, either during or after the game.
5. If players dispute a decision, in general stick with the decision unless the opposite Referee also disagrees. (See section on Send-Off's in reference to continuous/ repeated disputation of decisions).
6. If a goal or goal-penalty decision is in doubt the Referees should consult. When consulting in a doubtful situation they should be cautious about being influenced by players reactions as these may be feigns to sway the Referees.

DUTIES OF REFEREES

7. During the game the Referee shall have full control of the game, from the entry of teams onto the Playing Area until they leave the Playing Area after completion of the game. In this regard, they shall enforce the Game Regulations, and ensure the Competition and Players Personal Equipment are maintained during the game, and shall ensure the competition rules are upheld as they apply to the game.
8. The Referees controlling a game are empowered to order spectators, coaches and other persons not actually playing in the game to leave the competition area.
9. The Referees controlling a game are empowered to bring charges before the BCU Canoe Polo Committee or other appropriate competition committee against persons not actually playing in the game.
10. The First Referee for a game shall ensure the game report sheet is correctly completed including any Send Off Forms.

REFEREE CO-ORDINATION

11. The Referee calling an infringement should blow the whistle loudly and immediately the infringement occurs (after deciding whether to play advantage or not - see below). The hand signal should be indicated quickly and clearly after the whistle. The signal must be clear and held until play has restarted.
12. Both Referees should check that the other Referee agrees with their decision. If the two Referees give different decisions each should be prepared to change their call if they are not totally certain of the call. Defer to the other Referee if they are indicating a more serious offence.
13. If one Referee has called an infringement that has not been seen by the other, then the other should indicate the same signal.
14. Where either Referee changes the direction of their signals after giving a positive signal to which the players have responded, a triple blast on the whistle should be used to gain every bodies attention (including the Time Keeper's), indicating a Time-Out, Signal 7 and the new Signal. Both Referees must ensure the teams have time to correct their consequent positioning before the restart occurs. The whistle is then blown to restart the game again.

15. If at any time the two Referees continue to disagree they shall stop the game to consult and if still in disagreement, the First Referee shall make the necessary decision.

16. The Referees should, at the completion of the game, discuss any disputed or contentious decisions.

CONTROLLING THE FIELD OF PLAY USING THE LEADING & TRAILING METHOD

(see Diagram L&T 1)

- a) The First Referee shall take that side of the Playing area from which they can ensure the score is correctly recorded. They will usually be the same side as the Time/Score Keepers Table.
- b) Each Referee is normally mainly responsible for that half of the field to their right (when facing the centre) and should move along the side of the field so as to be able to closely observe play in that area.
- c) In general, the Referee should move no further to his/her left than 2/3rds of the way from their right hand end line. The aim should be to achieve a “leading” and “trailing” system of controlling the game. The “Leading” Referee should keep up with the play and closely watch the main action in front of the goal. The “Trailing” Referee should be able to view all players on the Playing Area.
- d) Either Referee may call an infringement anywhere on the field, but in most situations should defer to the nearer Referee unless an obvious infringement has not been pulled-up.
- e) Each Referee shall make decisions relating to the side-line nearest to them.
- f) The Referee should quickly move directly to the goal-line on their right, when play is in that vicinity, to be in a position to give decisions on corners and goal-line throws at that end.
- g) The Referees shall normally control the corner and side-line restarts on their side of the Playing Area, and goal-line restarts to their right.
- h) The Referee controlling that side-line should have control over the 1 metre restart condition.
- i) “T” shaped pools (see Diagram L&T 2). In some pools it is necessary to have three referees, where there is a diving pit or similar. In this instance the first referee should take the long side line, that runs the length of the playing area. The two second referees take the short sides, each covering the appropriate goal line. This means that the first referee switches from being the leading to trailing referee in the middle area of the pitch. Each referee should be prepared to call fouls at any point on the playing area.

Controlling Goal Penalty Shots or a Tie-Breaker Shot (see Diagram L&T 3a/b)

- The Leading Referee should move to the 6 metre (for Goal Penalty Shot) or 4.5 metre (for Tiebreaker Shot) mark and be responsible for controlling the taking of the shot.
- The Trailing Referee should take up a position to control the other players.
- When all the other players are correctly positioned, the Trailing Referee will raise their Hand.
- If the Leading Referee has the ball, it should be thrown to the shooter when all the other players are in the correct position as directed by the Trailing Referee.
- Leading Referee can then blow the whistle (so long as the shooter is correctly positioned) for the shot to be taken.
- In the case of a Tiebreaker Shoot-Out, the Leading Referee also controls the position of the goal keeper and signals the result of the shot. Signals 3 or 4 apply.

Diagram L&T 1

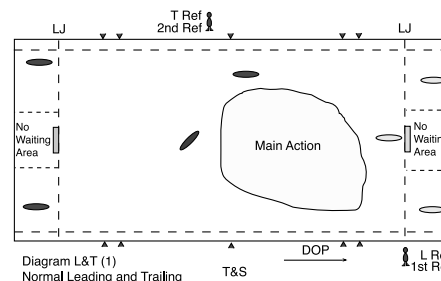


Diagram L&T 2

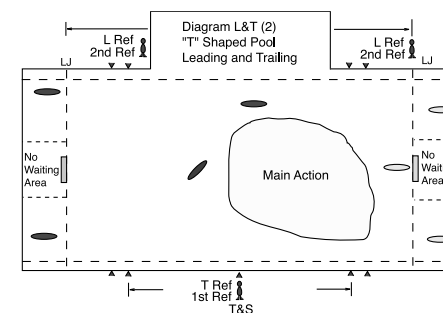


Diagram L&T 3a

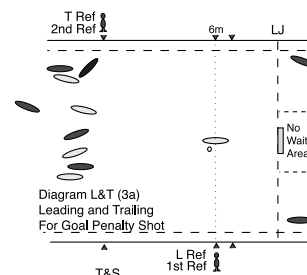
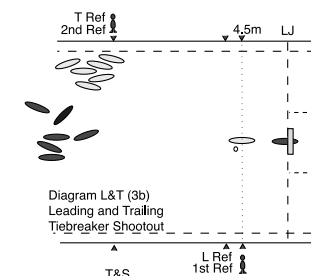


Diagram L&T 3b



Legend for Diagrams

L Ref – Leading Referee

Ref – Trailing Referee

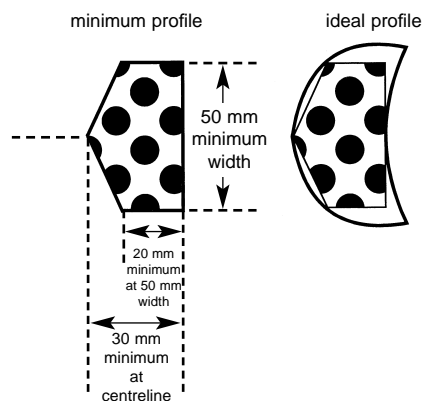
T&S – Timekeeper & Scorekeeper

LJ – Line Judge

KIT SPECIFICATIONS

1. PADDING

- 1.1 Soft shock absorbing padding at least 30 mm thick at the horizontal centreline and 50 mm wide must be firmly attached to cover the edges of the front and rear of the kayak at the ends for at least 100 mm from the ends.
- 1.2 Soft shock absorbing material must be homogeneous (e.g.: foam, soft rubber). If it relies on a composite construction for its minimum thickness and shock absorbing property, then the essential shock absorbing property of the padding must not be lost under compression. The characteristics should be measured at the temperatures that will prevail during the competition.
- 1.3 Thickness must be a minimum of 30 mm when uncompressed. The padding must be compressible (by the scrutineer's or player's thumb) by at least 10 mm. The padding must not be compressible to less than 10 mm thickness. The thickness and compression are measured parallel to the axis of the kayak.
- 1.4 The 30 mm thickness must be reached on the horizontal centreline. It may be reduced to not less than 20 mm thick at a width of 50mm. (See profile diagrams).
- 1.5 The attachment must be durable enough to be reasonably expected to last for the entire duration of the competition. It must not move out of place during impact against other kayaks or the poolside. In general one layer of tape is not enough. **It is not necessary to have tape to secure the padding in place.**
- 1.6 If rivets or bolts (or similar) are used to attach the padding, they must be recessed at least 20mm into the padding.
- 1.7 The padding must be attached in a way that the edges and ends of the padding do not protrude, liable to catch on things. If tubing is used, the ends of the tubing must be closed or covered.
- 1.8 The padding must be positioned on the edge (see definition of edge in kayak specifications) to cover at least 15 mm above and below the edge. It must continue around the ends to cover at least 100 mm down the length of the kayak, the edges of the impact zone



For kayaks with integrated bumpers, these must still be securely fitted with additional padding that meet the above criteria.

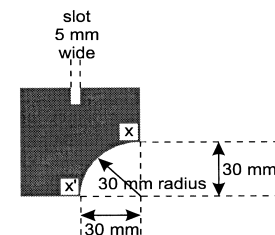
2. PADDLE

- 2.1 The paddle must be double-bladed with a maximum length of 2200 mm. There may not be sharp projections or edges. The blades shape, thickness and curves must stay within the regulations of this article. The paddle will be scrutineered with a gauge.
- 2.2 The paddle may not have sharp projections or edges or other dangerous features.
- 2.3 The blades to be no more than 500 mm x 250 mm in plan. The edges must have a minimum radius of 30 mm in plan and a minimum thickness of 5 mm (**on their edges**). **Metal tipped blades are not allowed, whether padded or not (unless this is an integrated part of the internal construction and have no exposed). Bolt on external metal rims are not permitted.**

3. PADDLE GAUGE

- 3.1 A standardised gauge is to be used to test compliance with the specifications. The gauge needs to be from sheet aluminium and precisely engineered.
- 3.2 To gauge the radius of curvature the radius portion of the paddle gauge, must be applied perpendicular to the surface being tested. If both points X and X' touch the surface at the same time without the rest of the paddle, the radius test is passed.

To gauge the thickness of the paddle-blade, hold the slot over the blade. If the paddle does not enter the slot, the test is passed.



If a paddle blade requires more than one (1) layer of PVC tape (normal electrical tape) to bring the edge thickness up to 5mm, then they will not be permitted to be used.

4. HELMET

- 4.1 The helmet must be a safety one and suitable. They must protect against any blow, which may be reasonably anticipated in the course of a game covering from the jaw line to the rear point of the skull, such that no contact is possible between the skull and a blade on a horizontally held paddle.

All Helmets for use in BCU events must be CE Approved - without question.

5. FACE-PROTECTOR (FACE-GUARD)

The face protector must be of a strong material such as steel or any equal strong material. In any part of the face protector, an object 70 mm wide and 70 mm thick must not be able to enter. The face protector must be securely fixed to the helmet, without sharp or dangerous fixings. They may not present any sharp or dangerous part. It must protect against any blow that may be reasonably anticipated in the course of a game. It must cover the entire face of the player beginning at the lower level of the chin and covering the surface between the two temples.

Any Strong material may be used in the construction and fitting of the face-guard, providing it is not know to shatter, or cause injury to either the wearer or others.

Generally, if a paddle (any legal one) can touch the players face through any holes in the face-guard when in the normal playing position, then that face-guard will not be suitable and will not be permitted to be used.

6. BODY PROTECTION

6.1 The body protection must be at least 15 mm thick. They must protect against any impact from other players equipment, which may be reasonably anticipated in the course of a game. The body protection must begin 100 mm of the cockpit rim measured at the player's side, with the player sitting normally in their kayak. The gap between the top of the protection at the side and the top of the armpit measured with the arm horizontal must be less than 100 mm.



BOAT DESIGNS

The following boat designs have been checked by the Canoe Polo Committee Boat Checking Committee and have been found to comply with the rules.

Apolo, Aquabat, Arrowbat Mk2, Combat (all versions), Combat Zone, Dash and Dash International, DB Designs Cyclone (polythene version), DB Designs Flight, Demon, Double Dutch Matador, Eliminator and Eliminator 2, Evolution, Felix Volta (UK Version), Felix Volta 393 & 395, Gala Sports Sphinx, Impulse Predator, Mogul, Mystere, New Dragonbat Extra, Nitro, P & H Polo and Polo Sprint, Polo Mint, Raptor, Reaction, Revenge (both composite & polythene), Rotabat, RS2, RX300, Shark, Skimmer, The Bug, Tiger, Tiger Mk2, Vampire, and Xcell. These designs will be acceptable in all BCU domestic events at least until the end of 2006.

The following designs do not comply with the current rules and may not be used in BCU domestic events:-Krackabat 1 & 2, Dragon Polo Mk2, Wombat, Brumby and Eskimo Gecko.

It is important to note that only boats of an approved design may be used in BCU events (due to the impracticality of competition organisers checking every boat). Individual members who wish to use boats other than, or modified from, an approved design, must get their individual boat checked *prior* to using it in any competition.

BOAT CHECKING

The BCU Canoe Polo Committee Boat Checking Panel is in place to approve new designs of canoe polo kayak or individual unrecognised design of boats specifically for the use in BCU domestic events.

While these checks are carried out to the latest known specifications of the ICF, the panel are not stating that anything passed is ICF approved. To date (April 2005), there is no such approval available.

The panel comprises of people who are, by some way associated with the sport, while also being familiar with engineering or architectural drawings, or are in some way professionally familiar with schematic drawings of the kind used in the specifications which describe the shape and size of a legal canoe polo kayak.

Ideally these panel members are spread geographically across the nation, although from time to time, this may be limited to some degree.

The Boat Checking Panel is responsible for two things.

Checking a New Design which is intended for production of more than one model of the same shape.

Checking Fee - £50 (Cash or Cheque as requested) per check.

Approval Fee - £50 (Cheque payable to the BCU Canoe Polo Committee) on Pass.

Check an individual Unregistered Design of boat for use in domestic (BCU) events.

Fee - £40 (Cash) per check and/or per boat.

In either case a certificate will be issued by the BCU Canoe Polo Committee as directed by the panel member for the item checked and passed.

In the case of an unknown design, all models of this design are required to undertake individual checking unless the "new" design is checked.

There will be no refunds for a boat of an "Unregistered Design" which had earlier been checked individually and with the "New Design" then subsequently being checked and passed.

Presenting multiple but "Identical" "Unregistered Designs" will still incur the same checking fee as they would still require the same amount of individual checking to ensure uniformity.

Requirements common to both new and unregistered designs:-

Boat Design checking will be carried out by appointment only and the Fee will be paid preferably in cash prior to the start of any checking.

The checking of the design will be carried out as the panel member feels fit according to BCU Polo Committee prior instruction, and no discussion will be entered into on this matter by persons presenting designs to be checked at that time.

The plug or boat may be constructed in any durable material so long as this will not cause any harm to the panel member during reasonable handling for the purposes of checking. Assistance in handling may be requested by the panel member.

Some limited amount of reworking of the design may be allowed as directed by the panel member, so long as this does not cause any nuisance (such as noise) or mess that the panel member feels is unacceptable.

Any mess will be cleared away by the person carrying out the reworking.

Panel members will not carry out any reworking.

If the panel member decides there is too much reworking required or stipulates a time limit for reworking then this will be adhered to. Any subsequent visits will require a new fee to be paid prior to checking.

Protests may be submitted to the BCU Canoe Polo Committee in writing,

Under no circumstance will the BCU Canoe Polo Committee or its panel member tolerate any harassment or abuse. To do so would result in severe penalties including the exclusion in the future of that presenter.

A New Design

Only Plugs/Patterns may be presented for checking. The Plug must be in the form that a mould for manufacture would be produced directly from it, with no modification there-after apart from final polishing. There will be no external seams or joins.

No boat may be submitted.

Designers, Manufacturers, their agents or a representative should be present while the checking takes place. The checking should

never be undertaken without a presenter.

The plug will be supplied with the edge clearly indicated. This edge will be checked and altered by the panel member as they feel fit.

The plug will be checked for Length, Width, Depth and radius across the entire profile from one side to the other and from the edge up and down, as described in the latest specifications available (from the BCU Canoe Polo Committee and the ICF).

The Plug shall be sturdy enough to be measured when reasonable care is taken on the part of the panel member.

No claims of negligence may be made of the panel member of the BCU Canoe Polo Committee for any damage caused as a result of reasonable handling during the checking process – see above.

Persons submitting a plug to be measured are advised to take out any insurance for which they feel fit, but the BCU Canoe Polo Committee or their servants will not be responsible for any loss or damage to plugs presented for checking.

Since the checking process will not be carried out unsupervised by the Designers, Manufacturers, their agents or a representative, no storage of Plugs will be considered.

Whole Plugs are checked by hand exclusively.

Plastic Polo Kayaks

Plastic of any kind (other than exclusively Composite), in particular Roto', Injection, or Vacuum formed polo kayaks will be presented as above and additional to this a production model will be presented following any reworking of the model originally presented.

The additional presenting of the production model will be treated in the same way as an "Unregistered Design" including the associated checking fee. If this is found to pass then the design will be approved on payment of the approval fee.

Additional Fittings

Any additional fittings not falling into the general description of the polo kayak specifications such as: footrests, bulkheads, seats, back supports, thigh braces etc must not present any danger to the paddler. If the BCU polo committee feels that any additional fittings may present a danger to the paddler, it will communicate this to the manufacturer and make

its concerns generally known, though this may not prohibit the kayak passing the Boat Checking process. The continuation of supplying such fittings with no due consideration of modification may result in a review of the design and/or process of manufacture approval.

Integrated Bumpers / Front and Rear Padding

Currently there is no provision within the ICF Boat Specifications for integrated bumpers to follow the true line of the polo kayak. As a result, Padding, as described in the BCU Canoe Polo Hand Book would still need to be attached.

Any proprietary designed/manufactured and fitted end caps or bumpers must be firmly fitted, without moving out of position during the normal course of the polo kayaks normal use. If these are fitted (external to the line of the boat) to avoid the addition of additional Padding then they must still follow the same detail of the rules as previously described in this section.

An Unregistered Design

The boat will be supplied with no end bumpers fitted and these ends will be clean and free from any substance not included in the original manufacture of the kayak before bumpers were fitted.

Any part or amount of the external seem may be requested for removal. This will not be carried out by the checker.

The boat will be checked so far as is reasonably practicable as determined by the panel member.

The owner of the polo kayak or a representative (with full authority) should be present while the checking takes place.

Any internal or external feature including the seam, handles, foot rests, seat or other fittings which are considered to compromise the safety of either the paddler or other players (within the realms of the sport of canoe polo) will be required to be permanently removed or reworked in such a way as to prove they will no longer cause concern to the panel member.

The boat will be marked in a clear way to indicate that the check has been carried out on a pass.

Illegally Produced Polo Kayaks

Any boats claiming to be manufactured to an approved design, but which are later found to not comply, will cause the BCU Canoe Polo Committee to determine a suitable restriction of

use or manufacture. This could include the ban of any suspected boat until such time as it is reasonable to check its individual specification.

The above also applies to old designs which are found to no longer comply to the current specifications. In this case a period of grace will be declared where the boats of that same design may be used up to a specified date. After this point that model will no longer be used in BCU Canoe Polo events.

From time to time panel members will check existing designs as a means of eliminating non-compliant designs from the approved boat design list. This process may also be used to exclude illegally modified (including at the point of manufacture) "approved designs".

If the BCU Canoe Polo Committee's Boat Checking panel find a production boat which has been manufactured as a modified version to the "approved design", then the BCU Canoe Polo Committee will decide what action to take. This action will be advised to the manufacturer concerned as well as the polo community by whichever means it feels fit to reduce the likelihood of this kind of deception again.

The BCU Canoe Polo Committee would attempt to mark the boat concerned (in a non damaging but visual way – possibly with the use of a small tamperproof sticker) to demonstrate the non-approval status.

The BCU Canoe Polo Committee welcomes advice from manufacturers stating that their own old designs or models are no longer in production, and as such may be removed from the list.

Illegally Copied Designs

The BCU Polo Committee are actively against the illegal copying and production of polo kayaks, and will take whatever steps appropriate to outlaw this kind of activity.

Boat Checking Panel Members are knowledgeable in the recognition of existing designs and will advise the BCU Canoe Polo Committee of any familiar designs being presented by un-recognised manufacturers of that design(s).

British Canoe Union Canoe Polo Committee

Annual Consultative Meeting 4th December 2005

*at the Headquarters of the 73rd Derby Scout Group, Allestree,
Derby, commencing at 12.00 noon.*

Please seriously consider whether you might be able to contribute towards the management and development of Polo. The Committee desperately needs some new blood to cover all the work, and to generate new ideas and enthusiasm to take the sport forward.

In advance of the AGM if you would like to discuss any item, or require further details of how you could get involved, please contact: Curly Barker on 0208 252 6618 or email him at curly.barker@canoepolo.org.uk

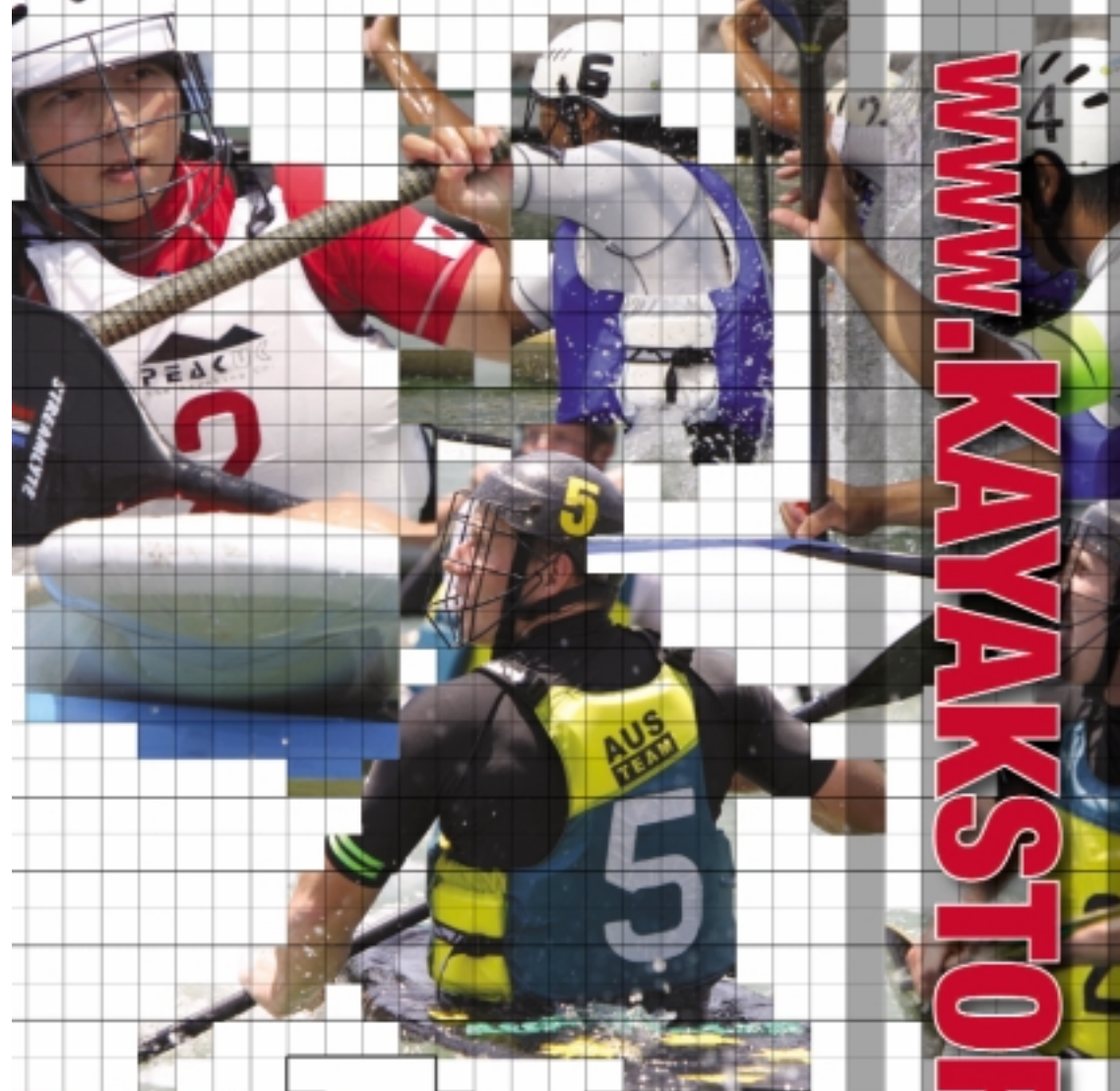


NEXT YEAR'S YEARBOOK

The Canoe Polo Yearbook is distributed free to all Polo Teams entering the National Leagues and National Championships. Additionally, copies are supplied to Universities, Regional Polo Organisers and Regional Paddlesport Development Officers to assist them introduce new players and teams into the sport. Further copies may be obtained from the Secretary throughout the year at a cost of £3.00 each, which includes postage costs.

Copy date for all advertising, Regional Reports, League Reports, corrections etc. to be received by the Secretary is 1st May 2006.

The Yearbook is intended to assist all polo players and officials to enjoy their sport. If you have any helpful suggestions as to content, or offers of assistance in its production or printing, please feel free to make your views known via the Executive Committee.



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