

Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie

Competition Rules

General and Specific Rules

Adopted by the Board of Directors on 2026-06-14

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TITLE I — GENERAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER 1 — PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Article 1 — Purpose of the Rules

These rules establish the sporting, administrative and disciplinary rules applicable to the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie.

Their purpose is to ensure the safe, fair and orderly running of the event, while fostering sporting integrity, respect for participants and the preservation of the values that have characterized the Classique since its creation.

These rules apply to all events sanctioned by the Classique, subject to the particular provisions set out in the sections specific to each boat category.

Article 2 — Scope

These rules bind every person taking part in the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie, including:

- a) athletes;
- b) teams and crews;
- c) team captains;
- d) support persons;
- e) members of support crews;
- f) volunteers;
- g) officials;
- h) members of the organizing committee;
- i) any other person accredited or authorized to take part in the running of the event.

Any registration in the Classique constitutes full and complete acceptance of these rules as well as of any directive issued by the organization or the officials.

Article 3 — Interpretation

These rules must be interpreted so as to promote:

- a) the safety of athletes and the public;
- b) sporting fairness;
- c) compliance with navigation rules and applicable laws;
- d) the smooth running of the event;
- e) the protection of the integrity and reputation of the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie.

In any situation not expressly provided for in these rules, the officials and the Sanctions Committee may make any decision they deem appropriate in order to uphold these principles.

CHAPTER 2 — VALUES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Article 4 — Core Values

The Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie is founded on the following values:

- a) pushing one's limits;
- b) safety;
- c) respect for people and rules;
- d) team spirit;
- e) sporting integrity;
- f) a passion for canoe marathon;
- g) the preservation of the sporting, cultural and environmental heritage associated with the event.

These values must guide the conduct of all participants before, during and after the competition.

Article 5 — Collective Responsibility

Each participant contributes to maintaining a safe, respectful and inclusive sporting environment.

Every person taking part in the event must adopt conduct consistent with the values of the Classique and cooperate with the officials, volunteers, authorities and other participants in order to ensure the smooth running of activities.

Any conduct contrary to these principles may result in the application of the disciplinary measures provided for in these rules.

Article 6 — Primacy of Safety

The safety of athletes, volunteers, officials, spectators and river users is the organization's absolute priority.

Consequently, any decision made by an official or by the organization for the purpose of ensuring people's safety prevails over any other provision of these rules.

Participants must comply immediately with directives given for safety reasons, whether temporary or permanent.

Article 7 — Residual Power of the Organization

The organization reserves the right to modify the running of the event, the course, the schedule, the procedures or any other terms when exceptional circumstances justify it, in particular due to:

- a) weather conditions;
- b) the level or flow of the river;
- c) a safety incident;
- d) an intervention by emergency services;
- e) a decision of the competent authorities;
- f) or any situation likely to compromise the safety or integrity of the competition.

These decisions are enforceable as soon as they are communicated and must be complied with by all participants.

TITLE II — ATHLETES' CODE OF CONDUCT

CHAPTER 3 — GENERAL OBLIGATIONS

Article 8 — General Principle

Every athlete taking part in the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie must adopt exemplary, respectful and safe conduct before, during and after the events.

They are responsible for their actions and must at all times contribute to the smooth running of the event, the maintenance of sporting fairness, and the protection of the integrity and reputation of the Classique.

Article 9 — Sportsmanship and Integrity

Each athlete must:

- a) demonstrate sportsmanship, respect and integrity at all times;
- b) compete honestly and fairly;
- c) respect the principles of sporting fairness;
- d) refrain from any conduct intended to gain an unfair advantage or to harm another participant.

Article 10 — Responsibility for Safety

Each athlete is responsible for their own safety as well as that of other athletes, volunteers, officials, spectators and members of the public present on the course or at the various event sites. They must adopt prudent and safe conduct in all circumstances.

CHAPTER 4 — RESPECT FOR THE RULES AND AUTHORITIES

Article 11 — Compliance with the Rules

Every athlete must know, understand and comply with:

- a) these rules;
- b) the specific rules applicable to their category;
- c) the instructions contained in the athlete's guide;
- d) the directives communicated during official meetings;
- e) any instruction issued by the organization.

Ignorance of a rule or instruction does not constitute valid grounds for setting aside a penalty or sanction.

Article 12 — Respect for Officials and Authorities

Athletes must at all times respect the directives given by:

- a) race officials;
- b) authorized volunteers;
- c) water safety teams;
- d) local authorities;
- e) emergency services;
- f) any person mandated by the organization.

Decisions made for safety reasons must be applied immediately.

Article 13 — Respect for People

Every athlete must adopt respectful behaviour toward:

- a) other athletes;
- b) volunteers;
- c) officials;
- d) partners;
- e) the media;
- f) spectators;
- g) the residents of the municipalities crossed;
- h) the organization's representatives.

Any disrespectful behaviour or behaviour likely to harm the smooth running of the event may be subject to disciplinary measures.

CHAPTER 5 — GENERAL CONDUCT

Article 14 — Compliance with Laws

Athletes must comply with all laws, municipal by-laws, navigation rules and other applicable legal provisions during the event. Any hateful, discriminatory, violent, political or disrespectful demonstration may result in a sanction up to and including disqualification.

Article 15 — Language and Behaviour

Every athlete must refrain from making remarks or adopting behaviour that is:

- a) abusive;
- b) threatening;
- c) intimidating;
- d) discriminatory;
- e) disrespectful;
- f) offensive toward any person present in connection with the event.

Article 16 — Withdrawal

Any athlete who withdraws from a stage or from the competition must notify an official or a representative of the organization as soon as possible. Any unreported withdrawal may result in disciplinary measures where the safety of participants or the deployment of emergency services is compromised.

CHAPTER 6 — ASSISTANCE AND SPORTING FAIRNESS

Article 17 — Authorized Assistance

Each team must complete the race without receiving unauthorized outside assistance. Authorized assistance is exclusively that provided:

- a) by the officials;
- b) by the safety teams;

- c) in the official zones designated by the organization.

Article 18 — Feed Zones

Friends, family members, support persons or support crews may only provide feeding or assistance in the official zones authorized by the organization. Outside these zones, any form of assistance is prohibited and may result in the application of the penalties provided for in these rules.

Article 19 — Unfair Advantage

It is prohibited for any athlete to seek to gain an unfair competitive advantage, in particular through:

- a) the use of a vehicle;
- b) the use of an unauthorized boat;
- c) outside assistance;
- d) a prohibited technological means;
- e) any other method not provided for in these rules.

CHAPTER 7 — ENVIRONMENT, EQUIPMENT AND COURSE

Article 20 — Protection of the Environment

Athletes must respect the environment and contribute to the protection of the Saint-Maurice River and the sites used by the event. In particular, it is prohibited to throw:

- a) waste;
- b) bottles;
- c) equipment;
- d) any other object on the course or in the river, except in the areas designated for that purpose.

Any form of deliberate pollution may result in a disciplinary sanction.

Article 21 — Use of Electronic Devices

Electronic devices or personal equipment must be used safely. The organization may prohibit any device likely:

- a) to impair the athlete's attention;
- b) to compromise their safety;
- c) to disrupt official communications;
- d) to provide an unauthorized advantage.

Article 22 — Equipment

Each athlete must use equipment that is compliant, safe and maintained in good condition throughout the event. The organization may refuse the start to, or withdraw from the competition, any team using equipment deemed dangerous or non-compliant.

Article 23 — Respect for the Course

Athletes must fully respect the official course established by the organization.

Article 24 — Knowledge of the Course

It is the responsibility of each athlete to know:

- a) the official route;
- b) the portages;
- c) the buoys;
- d) the transition points;
- e) the feed zones;
- f) the checkpoints.

Any shortcut or failure to respect the official route may result in a penalty or disqualification in accordance with these rules.

CHAPTER 8 — IMAGE AND REPRESENTATION OF THE CLASSIQUE

Article 25 — Image of the Event

Athletes must adopt exemplary conduct and preserve the image, reputation and heritage of the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie. This obligation applies both at competition sites and on social media, digital platforms and during any activity related to the event.

Article 26 — Appropriate Behaviour

Every athlete must avoid any indecent exposure or any behaviour deemed inappropriate during the event. The organization reserves the right to impose any disciplinary measure provided for in these rules when behaviour is likely to undermine the dignity of persons, the reputation of the event or the safety of participants.

TITLE III — GENERAL RACE RULES

CHAPTER 9 — GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Article 27 — General Principle

All events of the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie must be contested with respect for the principles of sporting fairness, safety and integrity. Each team is responsible for completing the course by its own means, in accordance with the rules established by these rules and the specific provisions applicable to its boat category.

Article 28 — Authority of the Organization

The organization determines, among other things:

- a) the official course;
- b) the start and finish zones;
- c) the feed zones;
- d) the mandatory portages;
- e) the checkpoints;
- f) the procedures applicable to each stage.

Any change made necessary for safety or organizational reasons is applicable as soon as it is officially communicated.

CHAPTER 10 — OFFICIAL COURSE

Article 29 — Respect for the Course

The official course must be respected at all times. Each team must pass all buoys, waypoints, portages, transitions and mandatory zones identified by the organization. No shortcut or deliberate modification of the course is permitted.

Article 30 — Omission of a Mandatory Point

Any omission of a buoy, marker, waypoint or mandatory portage constitutes a breach of these rules. The applicable penalties are provided for in Title V of these rules.

Article 31 — Advantage Gained

Where the officials consider that a team has gained a competitive advantage greater than the penalty normally provided for, they may recommend the application of an additional penalty or a disqualification in accordance with these rules.

CHAPTER 11 — START PROCEDURES

Article 32 — Official Start

All teams must comply with the start procedures established by the organization. The official start is given exclusively by the officials designated for that purpose.

Article 33 — Start Position

Each team must remain in its assigned position until the official signal. Any manoeuvre intended to gain an advantage before the start is prohibited.

Article 34 — False Start

A team that crosses the start line before the official signal is liable to the penalties provided for in these rules. No distinction will be made between a deliberate and an unintentional false start.

Article 35 — Validation of Starts

Officials may use any means deemed appropriate in order to confirm a breach, in particular:

- a) direct observation;
- b) video capture;
- c) photographs;
- d) electronic systems;
- e) any other available technological means.

CHAPTER 12 — OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

Article 36 — General Principle

Each team must complete the race independently, without receiving outside assistance other than that expressly authorized by these rules.

Article 37 — Authorized Assistance

Assistance is permitted only in the official feed zones designated by the organization. It may include, among other things:

- a) the provision of food;
- b) the provision of liquids;
- c) the replacement of authorized equipment;
- d) any other assistance expressly authorized by the organization.

Article 38 — Prohibited Assistance

Outside the official zones, it is prohibited in particular to receive:

- a) feeding;
- b) physical assistance;
- c) motorized accompaniment;
- d) a bicycle escort;
- e) any other assistance likely to provide a competitive advantage.

Any unauthorized assistance may result in a penalty or disqualification in accordance with these rules.

CHAPTER 13 — SAFETY DURING THE RACE

Article 39 — Safety Principle

The safety of athletes, volunteers, officials, spectators and other river users is the absolute priority throughout the competition.

Article 40 — Duty of Care

Each athlete must navigate safely and avoid any manoeuvre likely:

- a) to cause a collision;
- b) to endanger another boat;
- c) to compromise the safety of volunteers;
- d) to disrupt the normal running of the competition.

Article 41 — Compliance with Interventions

Teams must comply immediately with any directive issued by:

- a) the officials;
- b) the water safety teams;
- c) the emergency services;
- d) the competent authorities.

Refusal to comply constitutes a breach of these rules.

CHAPTER 14 — SPORTING BEHAVIOUR

Article 42 — Sportsmanship

Athletes must demonstrate at all times:

- a) respect;
- b) cooperation;
- c) caution;
- d) exemplary sportsmanship.

Article 43 — Prohibited Behaviours

Without limiting the scope of these rules, the following are prohibited in particular:

- a) the deliberate blocking of a boat;
- b) dangerous manoeuvres;
- c) unsporting gestures;
- d) behaviour intended to intimidate or harm another team;
- e) any action likely to compromise sporting fairness or the safety of the event.

Article 44 — Power to Intervene

Where a behaviour poses a risk to safety or compromises the smooth running of the competition, the officials may intervene immediately and take any measure they deem necessary, in particular:

- a) issue a warning;
- b) impose a penalty;
- c) temporarily immobilize a team;
- d) withdraw a boat from the competition;
- e) recommend a disqualification.

CHAPTER 15 — PARTICULAR PROVISIONS

Article 45 — Exceptional Situations

Any situation not provided for in this Title is assessed by the officials according to the following principles:

- a) the safety of persons;
- b) sporting fairness;
- c) respect for the course;
- d) the integrity of the competition;
- e) the values of the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie.

Article 46 — Category-specific Rules

The provisions of this Title apply to all boat categories. The particular technical rules applicable to the C2 Canoe and the Rabaska are set out in the specific Titles of these rules and prevail in the event of any inconsistency with the general provisions.

TITLE IV — OFFICIALS AND SPORTING GOVERNANCE

CHAPTER 16 — GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 47 — General Principle

In order to ensure the safety of participants, sporting fairness and the smooth running of the event, the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie establishes a system of officials and a Sanctions Committee responsible for the application of these rules.

The officials and the Sanctions Committee carry out their duties impartially, objectively and in compliance with the principles of procedural fairness.

Article 48 — Authority of the Officials

The officials of the Classique are vested with the authority necessary to ensure compliance with these rules and the smooth running of the competitions. In this capacity, they may in particular:

- a) monitor compliance with the course and safety rules;
- b) issue warnings;
- c) impose time penalties;
- d) recommend or pronounce a disqualification where these rules so provide;
- e) intervene in the presence of dangerous or unsporting behaviour;
- f) order the temporary or permanent stopping of an athlete or team for safety reasons;
- g) confirm or invalidate a provisional ranking;
- h) analyze any exceptional situation not expressly provided for in these rules.

Decisions made by the officials in the exercise of their duties must be respected by all participants.

CHAPTER 17 — STRUCTURE OF OFFICIALS

Article 49 — Race Director

The Race Director is responsible for the sporting conduct of the Classique. They ensure, among other things:

- a) the application of these rules;
- b) the coordination of the officials;
- c) the general supervision of the events;
- d) the management of exceptional situations.

When they take part in an event as an athlete, the Race Director must withdraw from any decision relating to penalties, protests, appeals or any other situation likely to create a conflict of interest. In such a situation, their responsibilities are automatically assumed by the Deputy Race Director or by any other person designated by the organization before the start of the event.

Article 50 — Water Safety Director

The Water Safety Director is responsible for the planning, coordination and implementation of safety protocols on the water. They supervise, among other things:

- a) the water safety teams;
- b) emergency interventions;

- c) prevention measures;
- d) safety-related communications.

Article 51 — Course Officials

Course officials are assigned to the various sectors of the competition, in particular:

- a) on the course;
- b) at the portages;
- c) at the feed zones;
- d) at the buoys;
- e) at the transition zones;
- f) at the finish lines.

They are responsible for noting breaches and forwarding their observations to the Race Director or the Sanctions Committee.

Article 52 — Safety Officials

Safety officials ensure compliance with the instructions aimed at protecting athletes, volunteers and the public. They may intervene immediately when a situation poses a risk to safety or to the smooth running of the event.

Article 53 — Timekeepers and Finish Officials

Timekeepers and finish officials are responsible for:

- a) official timing;
- b) the validation of results;
- c) the establishment of provisional rankings;
- d) the confirmation of official times.

Article 54 — Video and Technology Officials

The organization may use various technological means in order to validate a breach or a race situation, in particular:

- a) video capture;
- b) photographs;
- c) GPS systems;
- d) authorized drones;
- e) electronic tracking systems;
- f) any other technological means deemed appropriate.

These elements may be used as evidence in the application of these rules.

CHAPTER 18 — SANCTIONS COMMITTEE

Article 55 — Composition

The Classeique establishes an independent Sanctions Committee responsible for ensuring fair, impartial and consistent handling of significant breaches. The Committee may be composed, among others, of:

- a) the Race Director;

- b) the Water Safety Director;
- c) a representative of the organization;
- d) a senior official;
- e) a technical or legal representative, where necessary.

When the Race Director takes part in an event in the category under review, they are replaced in accordance with Article 49.

Article 56 — Operation

The Sanctions Committee may meet before, during or after an event in order to examine any situation requiring its intervention. It determines the applicable procedure itself, subject to compliance with the principles of procedural fairness and the right of any person concerned to be heard where the nature of the sanction warrants it.

CHAPTER 19 — POWERS OF THE SANCTIONS COMMITTEE

Article 57 — Powers

The Sanctions Committee may, in particular:

- a) analyze the officials' reports;
- b) review video, photographic or electronic evidence;
- c) meet with the athletes concerned;
- d) obtain any relevant information;
- e) confirm a sanction;
- f) modify or cancel a sanction;
- g) impose an additional penalty;
- h) pronounce a disqualification;
- i) suspend an athlete or team;
- j) refuse a future registration in the most serious cases.

Article 58 — Breaches That May Be Reviewed

The Committee may intervene, in particular, in the following situations:

- a) dangerous behaviour;
- b) deliberate failure to respect the course;
- c) illegal outside assistance;
- d) deliberate obstruction;
- e) fraud or cheating;
- f) unsporting conduct;
- g) refusal to obey officials;
- h) disrespectful remarks or gestures;
- i) verbal, physical or psychological violence;
- j) intimidation or harassment;
- k) consumption or possession of prohibited substances;
- l) harm to the image or reputation of the event;
- m) any act endangering the safety of athletes, volunteers or spectators.

CHAPTER 20 — COMMUNICATION AND APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS

Article 59 — Communication of Decisions

Penalties and sanctions may be communicated, among other ways:

- a) verbally to the athlete or team concerned;
- b) by posting on the official boards;
- c) by electronic transmission;
- d) by their entry in the official ranking.

Each athlete remains responsible for taking note of the sanctions or penalties imposed on them.

Article 60 — Procedure Applicable to Time Penalties

Where a sporting breach is observed or reported, the officials may impose a time penalty after analysis of the available facts. This analysis may take into account, among other things:

- a) the officials' observations;
- b) relevant testimony;
- c) photographs;
- d) videos;
- e) GPS data;
- f) any other available technological element.

Where additional verification is necessary, the penalty may be communicated after the complete analysis of the evidence.

Article 61 — Procedure Applicable to Disciplinary Sanctions

Situations involving, in particular:

- a) violence;
- b) intimidation;
- c) harassment;
- d) serious unsporting behaviour;
- e) fraud;
- f) serious breaches of the code of conduct;
- g) any significant harm to the integrity of the event;

may be referred to the Sanctions Committee. Before a final decision is made, the person concerned may present their version of the facts as well as any element relevant to their defence. The decisions of the Sanctions Committee are made in accordance with the provisions relating to protests and appeals set out in these rules.

TITLE V — PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS

CHAPTER 21 — GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Article 62 — Purpose

This Title establishes the penalties and sanctions applicable to teams and athletes who breach these rules. The disciplinary measures are intended to ensure:

- a) compliance with the rules;
- b) sporting fairness;
- c) the safety of participants;
- d) the smooth running of the event;
- e) the protection of the integrity and reputation of the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie.

Article 63 — Types of Sanctions

Depending on the nature, seriousness and consequences of the breach, an athlete or team may be subject to one or more of the following measures:

- a) an official warning;
- b) a time penalty;
- c) a financial penalty;
- d) a reduction or withdrawal of prize money;
- e) a disqualification (DSQ);
- f) a temporary suspension;
- g) a refusal of registration;
- h) a permanent exclusion from the event.

Sanctions may be applied separately or cumulatively where circumstances justify it.

Article 64 — Principles of Application

The officials and the Sanctions Committee take into account, among other things:

- a) the seriousness of the breach;
- b) the athlete's intent;
- c) the competitive advantage gained;
- d) the consequences for safety;
- e) whether or not the behaviour is repeated;
- f) the athlete's cooperation with the officials.

Any situation that provides an unfair advantage or compromises safety may be subject to a sanction even if it is not expressly provided for in these rules.

CHAPTER 22 — APPLICATION OF PENALTIES

Article 65 — Time of Application

Penalties may be applied:

- a) in an official feed zone;

- b) at the finish of a stage;
- c) after analysis of the evidence;
- d) by adding to the official time;
- e) directly to the official ranking.

Article 66 — No Prior Warning

Officials are not required to issue a warning before imposing a penalty where the nature of the breach justifies it.

Article 67 — Refusal to Cooperate

Refusal to cooperate with an official, obstruction of their work, or refusal to carry out a penalty may result in immediate disqualification.

Article 68 — Primacy of Safety

Any decision made by the officials for the purpose of ensuring the safety of athletes, volunteers or spectators takes priority and must be respected immediately.

CHAPTER 23 — TIME PENALTIES

Article 69 — Minor Breaches

A penalty of two (2) minutes may be imposed, in particular, in the following situations:

- a) feeding carried out slightly outside the authorized zone;
- b) unintentional dropping of waste outside the designated areas;
- c) minor failure to respect finish or portage procedures;
- d) forgetting a mandatory piece of equipment with no immediate danger;
- e) lateness or failure to comply with a minor administrative instruction.

These penalties are intended to correct behaviour that provided only a limited advantage.

Article 70 — Major Breaches

A penalty of five (5) minutes may be imposed, in particular, in the following situations:

- a) unauthorized outside assistance;
- b) deliberate feeding outside the official zone;
- c) partial bypassing of a mandatory portage;
- d) deliberate blocking of another boat;
- e) dangerous behaviour on the water or at the portages;
- f) refusal to follow an official's directives;
- g) deliberate abandonment of waste on the course;
- h) use of a prohibited technical aid.

A five (5) minute penalty is a significant sanction likely to influence the ranking substantially without automatically resulting in elimination.

CHAPTER 24 — FAILURE TO RESPECT THE COURSE

Article 71 — Omission of a Mandatory Point

The omission of a buoy, marker or mandatory waypoint results in a penalty of five (5) minutes per missed element. Where several elements are omitted, the penalties are cumulative.

Article 72 — Course Cutting

Any course cutting that provides a significant competitive advantage results in a minimum penalty of fifteen (15) minutes.

Article 73 — Deliberate Non-compliance

Deliberate or repeated failure to respect the official course may result in immediate disqualification.

Article 74 — Adjustment of Penalties

Officials may increase a penalty where they consider that the advantage gained is greater than the sanction normally provided for.

CHAPTER 25 — START-RELATED BREACHES

Article 75 — False Start

A start made before the official signal results in a penalty of two (2) minutes.

Article 76 — Competitive Advantage

Where the false start provides a significant competitive advantage or compromises the fairness of the start, a penalty of five (5) minutes may be imposed.

Article 77 — Refusal to Respect Procedures

Refusal to respect the start procedures, refusal to resume the assigned position, or repeat of a start breach may result in disqualification.

Article 78 — Validation

Start breaches may be established by means of:

- a) the officials' observations;
- b) video recordings;
- c) photographs;
- d) any other means of validation deemed relevant.

CHAPTER 26 — DISQUALIFICATION

Article 79 — Grounds for Disqualification

A disqualification may be imposed, in particular, for:

- a) cheating;
- b) fraud or false identity;
- c) illegal substitution of an athlete;
- d) motorized assistance;
- e) serious unsporting behaviour;
- f) deliberate endangerment of an athlete, volunteer or spectator;
- g) verbal, physical or psychological violence;

- h) intimidation or harassment;
- i) repeated refusal to obey officials;
- j) deliberate omission of a mandatory portage;
- k) repeat of major breaches;
- l) consumption or possession of prohibited substances in accordance with the anti-doping policy;
- m) any act harming the integrity, image or safety of the event.

Article 80 — Effects of Disqualification

A disqualified athlete or team may, at the discretion of the Race Director, be authorized to finish a stage. However, they are then not eligible for any official ranking, prize money, prize or award related to that event.

CHAPTER 27 — SUSPENSION AND DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

Article 81 — Suspension

The organization may suspend an athlete for a specified period, in particular in cases of:

- a) repeated serious behaviours;
- b) intimidation;
- c) fraud;
- d) doping;
- e) violence;
- f) harm to the integrity or reputation of the event.

Article 82 — Scope of the Suspension

The suspension may apply to one or more stages or to one or more future editions of the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie.

Article 83 — Additional Sanctions

The Sanctions Committee may also impose:

- a) a financial penalty;
- b) a reduction or withdrawal of prize money;
- c) a refusal of registration;
- d) any other disciplinary measure deemed appropriate in order to protect the integrity, safety and reputation of the event.

TITLE VI — PROTESTS AND APPEALS

CHAPTER 28 — GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Article 84 — Right to Protest

Any team or athlete subject to a penalty or decision made in the context of the competition may file a protest in accordance with the provisions of this Title. The filing of a protest does not automatically suspend the application of the contested penalty or decision.

Article 85 — Subject of Protests

A protest may relate, in particular, to:

- a) a penalty imposed on an athlete or team;
- b) a result or ranking;
- c) an alleged breach committed by another team;
- d) a decision made by an official;
- e) any other situation relating to the application of these rules.

CHAPTER 29 — FILING A PROTEST

Article 86 — Form of the Protest

Any official protest must be:

- a) submitted in writing;
- b) filed with the Officials Committee or the person designated by the organization;
- c) signed by the athlete, team captain or authorized representative;
- d) accompanied by the information required by these rules.

Article 87 — Deadline

Any protest must be filed within a maximum of thirty (30) minutes following:

- a) the official finish of the stage concerned;
- b) the official announcement of the penalty;
- c) the posting of the provisional results;

whichever occurs first.

Article 88 — Mandatory Deposit

Any protest must be accompanied by a deposit of one hundred Canadian dollars (CAD \$100). This deposit is intended to ensure the seriousness of protests and to avoid abusive, frivolous or unfounded requests.

Article 89 — Content of the Protest

The protest must contain, at a minimum:

- a) the name of the team or athlete;
- b) the boat number;
- c) the nature of the protest;

- d) the facts relied upon;
- e) any evidence or relevant information available at the time of filing.

An incomplete protest may be rejected.

CHAPTER 30 — ANALYSIS OF THE PROTEST

Article 90 — Review of the File

The Officials Committee or the person designated by the organization analyzes the protest as soon as possible. For the purposes of its analysis, it may, in particular:

- a) consult the officials' reports;
- b) hear the persons concerned;
- c) consult testimony;
- d) examine photographs;
- e) examine video recordings;
- f) analyze GPS data or any other available technological element;
- g) gather any information deemed relevant.

Article 91 — Discretionary Power

The filing of a protest does not guarantee the opening of a full investigation. The Officials Committee retains the discretionary power to determine whether the elements submitted justify a thorough analysis.

Article 92 — Abusive Protests

The Officials Committee may refuse to examine any protest that is:

- a) filed after the deadline;
- b) incomplete;
- c) manifestly abusive;
- d) frivolous;
- e) repetitive;
- f) without any reasonable basis.

CHAPTER 31 — DECISION

Article 93 — Decision of the Officials Committee

After analysis of the file, the Officials Committee may, in particular:

- a) uphold the contested decision;
- b) modify a penalty;
- c) cancel a penalty;
- d) correct a ranking;
- e) impose any measure deemed appropriate in accordance with these rules.

Article 94 — Processing Time

As far as possible, any protest must be analyzed and decided before the official start of the next stage. Failing this, the officials' decision or the penalty imposed remains in effect until a final decision is made.

Article 95 — Refund of the Deposit

Where the protest is found to be well-founded, in whole or in part, the deposit is refunded in full. Where the protest is rejected, the deposit remains the property of the organization.

CHAPTER 32 — FINAL AND UNAPPEALABLE DECISIONS

Article 96 — Final Decisions

Decisions made in relation to a sporting penalty or a race result are final and enforceable, subject to the provisions relating to major disciplinary sanctions set out in this Title.

Article 97 — Matters Without Appeal

The Officials Committee may declare final and unappealable the decisions relating to:

- a) safety;
- b) judgments made by the officials on the water;
- c) dangerous behaviours;
- d) emergency interventions;
- e) immediate interpretations necessary for the running of the competition.

These decisions take effect immediately.

CHAPTER 33 — APPEAL OF MAJOR DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

Article 98 — Sanctions Eligible for Appeal

Major disciplinary sanctions may be appealed where they concern, in particular:

- a) violence;
- b) intimidation;
- c) harassment;
- d) fraud;
- e) doping;
- f) a suspension;
- g) an exclusion;
- h) any other serious harm to the integrity of the event.

Article 99 — Appeals Committee

Appeals are heard by an Appeals Committee designated by the organization. The members of the Appeals Committee must be independent of the contested decision.

Article 100 — Filing the Appeal

Any appeal request must be filed within a maximum of thirty (30) minutes following:

- a) the official announcement of the sanction; or
- b) the written communication of the disciplinary decision.

The appeal must be submitted in accordance with the procedure established by the organization.

Article 101 — Analysis of the Appeal

The Appeals Committee may:

- a) review the entire file;
- b) hear the parties concerned;
- c) gather any relevant information;
- d) confirm the decision;
- e) modify the sanction;
- f) cancel the sanction;
- g) make any decision it deems appropriate in accordance with these rules.

Article 102 — Final Decision

The decisions of the Appeals Committee are final, enforceable and without further internal recourse. As far as possible, they must be made before the start of the next stage or, where the nature of the file requires it, as soon as possible after receipt of the appeal.

TITLE VII — FINAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER 34 — APPLICATION OF THE RULES

Article 103 — Responsibility for Application

These rules are applied by the officials, the Race Director, the Water Safety Director and any person designated by the organization to ensure compliance with them. Decisions made in the context of their application must be carried out immediately, subject to the protest and appeal mechanisms provided for in these rules.

Article 104 — Interpretation

These rules must be interpreted so as to promote:

- a) the safety of persons;
- b) sporting fairness;
- c) respect for the values of the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie;
- d) the smooth running of the competition;
- e) the integrity of the event.

In case of doubt or ambiguity, the interpretation adopted is the one that best protects the safety of participants and sporting fairness.

CHAPTER 35 — UNFORESEEN SITUATIONS

Article 105 — Residual Power

Any exceptional situation or situation not expressly provided for in these rules may be analyzed by the Race Director or, where the nature of the situation warrants it, by the Sanctions Committee. The competent authorities may make any decision necessary in order:

- a) to ensure the safety of participants;
- b) to preserve sporting fairness;
- c) to maintain the smooth running of the event;
- d) to protect the integrity and reputation of the Classique.

Article 106 — Force Majeure

The organization may modify, suspend, interrupt or cancel a stage, course, portage, procedure or any other component of the event when a situation of force majeure or a risk to safety justifies it. The following, in particular, constitute situations that may give rise to such a decision:

- a) unfavourable weather conditions;
- b) a significant variation in hydrological conditions;
- c) a major accident;
- d) an intervention by emergency services;
- e) a decision of a public authority;
- f) any other circumstance likely to compromise the safety or normal running of the competition.

No compensation may be claimed from the organization as a result of a decision made in accordance with this Article.

CHAPTER 36 — RESPONSIBILITY OF PARTICIPANTS

Article 107 — Acceptance of Risks

Any person who participates in the Classique acknowledges that canoe marathon is an activity involving inherent risks. By registering, each athlete acknowledges that they are participating voluntarily in the event and accept the risks normally associated with the practice of this discipline.

Article 108 — Individual Responsibility

Each athlete remains responsible for:

- a) their state of health;
- b) the compliance of their equipment;
- c) their ability to complete the events;
- d) compliance with these rules;
- e) the consequences arising from their actions or omissions.

CHAPTER 37 — IMAGE AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Article 109 — Use of Image

By participating in the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie, every athlete authorizes the organization to capture and use their image, voice, name, boat number and any other element allowing their identification in the context of the promotion, broadcasting or archiving of the event, without additional compensation. This authorization applies to any communication medium, including in particular digital platforms, social media, print media, television and audiovisual productions.

CHAPTER 38 — RESPECT FOR THE SPIRIT OF THE CLASSIQUE

Article 110 — Sportsmanship

The Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie prioritizes at all times:

- a) respect;
- b) safety;
- c) fairness;
- d) sporting integrity;
- e) the sense of community specific to canoe marathon.

All participants are encouraged to adopt conduct that fosters cooperation, the pushing of one's limits and healthy competition.

Article 111 — Protection of the Sporting Heritage

Each athlete, volunteer, official and member of the organization contributes to preserving the image, history, legacy and reputation of the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie. Any conduct that harms these principles may be considered a breach of these rules and be subject to the disciplinary measures provided for therein.

CHAPTER 39 — COMING INTO FORCE

Article 112 — Coming Into Force

These rules come into force upon their adoption by the Board of Directors of the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie. They replace any earlier version of the general competition rules and remain in force until replaced or modified by resolution of the Board of Directors.

Article 113 — Specific Rules

The technical rules specific to the C2 Canoe and Rabaska categories constitute annexes to these rules. In the event of any inconsistency between a general provision and a specific provision, the latter prevails for the category concerned, except where a provision of these rules is adopted expressly for reasons of safety or sporting integrity.

TITLE VIII — CATEGORY-SPECIFIC PROVISIONS

CHAPTER 40 — GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Article 114 — Purpose

This Title establishes the particular rules applicable to the various boat categories recognized by the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie. These provisions supplement the general competition rules set out in these rules.

Article 115 — Application of the Rules

Unless otherwise provided, all general rules set out in Titles I to VII apply to all boat categories. The specific rules set out in this Title prevail where they are inconsistent with a general provision.

Article 116 — Power to Modify

The organization may adopt, modify or specify the technical rules applicable to a boat category in order:

- a) to ensure the safety of participants;
- b) to maintain sporting fairness;
- c) to comply with the recognized standards of the discipline;
- d) to foster the smooth running of the competition.

Any modification must be communicated to the teams before the start of the event concerned.

CHAPTER 41 — RULES SPECIFIC TO THE C2 CANOE

Article 117 — Application

The provisions of this Chapter apply exclusively to teams registered in the C2 Canoe category. The technical rules, boat specifications, equipment requirements, portage procedures, the terms for substituting an athlete, and any other particular provision are set out in Annex A - C2 Canoe Specific Rules, which forms an integral part of these rules.

CHAPTER 42 — RULES SPECIFIC TO THE RABASKA

Article 118 — Application

The provisions of this Chapter apply exclusively to teams registered in the Rabaska category. The technical rules, crew composition, requirements relating to the steersperson, the procedures for substituting a crew member, the boat specifications, and any other particular provision are set out in Annex B - Rabaska Specific Rules, which forms an integral part of these rules.

CHAPTER 43 — HIERARCHY OF RULES

Article 119 — Conflict Between Provisions

In the event of a contradiction between a general rule and a specific rule applicable to a boat category, the specific rule prevails. However, the general provisions relating to:

- a) safety;
- b) the code of conduct;
- c) the powers of the officials;

- d) disciplinary penalties;
- e) protests and appeals;

remain applicable to all categories, unless expressly indicated otherwise.

CHAPTER 44 — COMING INTO FORCE OF THE SPECIFIC RULES

Article 120 — Adoption

The technical annexes specific to the C2 Canoe and the Rabaska are adopted by the Board of Directors of the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie. Any modification comes into force on the date determined by resolution of the Board of Directors or, failing that, as of its official publication.

Article 121 — Integration Into the Rules

The technical annexes form an integral part of these rules and have the same normative value as the other provisions that compose them. Every participant is deemed to have taken note of them upon registering for the Classique internationale de canots de la Mauricie.

Annex A - C2 Canoe Specific Rules

To come

Annex B - Rabaska Specific Rules

To come