

Open Canoe Slalom Rule Changes since 2002

2003 Rule Changes for the year 2004

Ballot Item 5. The wording under Article VIII, 11 is changed as follows: **"Because of seasonal differences in river flows at potential race sites across the country, the Open Canoe Slalom Nationals may take place at times other than the mid-summer period."**

2004 Rule Changes for the year 2005

Ballot Item 3. [hereafter "Ballot Item" is omitted]

Under Article VI: **"No class at the National Championship Race will be combined with any other class." ... "All modifications to the class list must be final before January 1st of the current year."**

5. **"A competitor is not permitted to enter more than seven classes at the Open Canoe Slalom Nationals. However, an individual competitor is limited to a maximum of three classes per day."**

6. These words to be included in Article XVII, 4: **"A sweep boat shall be provided for the downriver portion of the Combined classes."**

7. Under Article XVIII, 4. Negotiation of Gates: **"The Head of a competitor means his head only. Hands, arms and torso are not considered in this context.**

c. Negotiation of a gate begins when the **head** crosses the gate line.

e. Within the parentheses, "head and torso" is changed to **"head."**

8. Article XIX: Determining the results, 2. Combined Races, is changed to read:

Scoring for combined classes will be performed in the following Manner.

a. Express all event results in seconds. Slalom is scored as in Article XIX, Section 1 and Downriver is scored by time from start to finish.

b. For each event, calculate each competitor's score as the percentage of the fastest time for the class, (competitor's time/fastest time in class) X100. The competitor(s) with the fastest time get a score of 100 points.

c. Add the scores for the two events.

d. Low score for each class wins.

2005 Rule Changes for the year 2006

1. In Article 6: **Specifications of Canoes can be modified, including changes that effect existing classes, based on a majority vote of the representatives of the Open canoe Slalom Committee.**

4. The "OC-2X Open" class is omitted.

6. Wording change under Article VII, 2: "The schedule of events shall be as follows: There must be at least three days allocated, including one day of practice and two days for racing. The slalom classes should be divided into two **or more** days of competition."

7. Wording change under Article XII, 3:

Combined Classes: "The same boat and competitors must be used for the entirety of the race **for the Combined classes; this means both slalom runs of the Combined as well as the downriver run. For Combined classes**, if one team member drops out or if the canoe becomes unusable **and beyond repair**, the team and canoe are disqualified."

Slalom Classes: “Competitors can change boats between first and second runs in slalom classes as long as the boat qualifies for the class. For tandem slalom classes, the same competitors must compete for both runs.”

8. Wording change under Article VI, definitions: “Cadet” is changed to “Youth.”

9. An overall Mens and Womens National Champion title may be awarded based on the discretion of the Committee. If awarded the method of selection must be included on the race entry form.

2006 Rule Changes for the year 2007

1. The name of the annual slalom championships is the:

ACA Open Canoe Slalom Nationals & North American Championships

2. New definition of the RAC and REC categories:

“The REC Classes are intended to include canoes sold for general recreational use. A recreational canoe must be or have been a commercially available, general production model to qualify for REC Classes. Recreational and Racing canoes can be made of any hull material. Recreational canoes shall be defined by their weight: they shall weigh at least 3 pounds per foot of length plus 6 pounds. There is no minimum weight requirement for racing canoes. A Recreational canoe may be used as a Racing canoe. Cutting down the hull of a Recreational canoe is allowed provided the ends remain higher than the center.”

3. A non-championship Citizens Race shall be held at the annual national slalom competition. This event will be open to any nationality, and Citizens awards will be presented up to 3 places.

4.: A Citizen is defined for the purpose of the Citizens Race as a person who has never raced in our annual national slalom competition before or has never placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in the Citizens Race at two previous annual national slalom competitions.

5. As part of item 3 above: **The Citizens Race classes will consist of solo men, solo women, tandem men, and tandem mixed.**

6. New wording of Article VI, CLASSES OF COMPETITION (AWARDS):

All classes on the class list will be offered at the annual national slalom competition. Any class with one or more entries will be run. Championship Open Canoe Slalom awards shall be presented to all competitors (regardless of nationality) as follows: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards are given when there are three or more competitors in a class; 1st and 2nd place awards are given if there are two in a class: a 1st place award is given if there is one in a class. A "U.S. National Champion" title shall be awarded to the top placing U.S. Citizen, or legal U.S. resident of at least two years, in each class having four or more U.S. entries. No class will be combined with any other class to attain a larger class size. Awarding participation certificates to Youth and Juniors is at the discretion of the race organizer. All modifications to the class list must be final before January 1st of the current year.

7. There shall be an optional Team Event at the annual national slalom competition, with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards presented if 3 or more teams enter. Conducting this race, however, is at the race organizer’s discretion, and if the event is included in the schedule of events it shall be announced on the race application form.