



# FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE

## DE LA PÊCHE SPORTIVE EN EAU DOUCE

### OFFICIAL F.I.P.S.E.D. RULES

### OF INTERNATIONAL "FOR NATIONS" COMPETITIONS

### "PREDATORS ARTIFICIAL BAIT KAYAK ANGLING"

#### ORGANIZATION

- 1- Official international competitions shall only be organized by national Federations that are members of C.I.P.S. The organizing Federation shall be officially responsible for the competition under consideration.
- 2- Only the members of a national Federation affiliated with C.I.P.S. and F.I.P.S.e.d. who have fully paid their annual membership fees shall be allowed to participate; their Federations shall designate them.

The national teams' anglers must hold the same nationality as the Country that they represent. Only one (1) foreign competitor is allowed in each team, on the condition that the following requirements are met:

- The competitor shall have resided in said Country for at least 5 years and he/she shall hold an official document confirming that;
- The application shall be forwarded by the Nation the angler wishes to represent.

All competitors shall always be able to prove their nationality by means of national IDs or passports.

All supporting documents shall be produced at the 1<sup>st</sup> team captains' meeting.

Any angler who has already participated in a World Championship or in any international competition representing a Nation, shall not be allowed to compete for any other Nation.

Only teams and "individuals" that are members of the national Federations affiliated in F.I.P.S.e.d. shall be allowed to take part in World Championships.

In order to apply to organize a championship, the Nation under consideration must have participated at least once, over the previous three years, in the championship that they wish to organize.

After candidature acceptance to organise an international championship, the preliminary programme shall, imperatively, be sent to F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Secretariat before the 31<sup>st</sup> October of the preceding year. **If this requirement is not accomplished by the organising country, the F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee has the right to cancel that candidature and to give the organisation for another country.**

F.I.P.S.e.d. is officially tasked with providing the printed material, certificates and rankings for the awarding of prizes for all championships; therefore, the organizing Nation shall pay for all board and lodging expenses (room, meals and closing gala dinner) of the person performing such tasks. Said person's stay may begin on the eve of the first day of practice and end on the day after the closing dinner; F.I.P.S.e.d. shall pay for the relevant traveling expenses.

For all F.I.P.S.e.d. championships, the organizing Nation shall cover all board and lodging expenses (room, meals and closing gala dinner) for two members of F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee, and for the person in charge of the rankings; their stay may begin on the eve of the first day of practice and end on the day after the closing dinner.

No championship organization shall be entrusted to a Nation if that Nation does not undertake to put live fish back into the water after they have been measured (it is forbidden to kill fish).

The Nation organizing a World or Zone Championship shall be responsible for procuring the trophies, which will be paid for by F.I.P.S.e.d.; the organizing Nation shall provide 3 trophies for the Nation competition, 3 trophies for the individual competitions and 1 trophy for the individual who has caught the biggest fish. F.I.P.S.e.d. shall refund a maximum amount of € 350 for 7 trophies. Such trophies shall feature a plate, carrying a "F.I.P.S.e.d." engraving or F.I.P.S.e.d.'s logo as well as the place and date of the championship. An invoice will be required in order to prove trophy-related expenses. If the aforesaid provisions (concerning the plate/logo) are not complied with, F.I.P.S.e.d. shall not reimburse any money. F.I.P.S.e.d. shall provide the medals, ready to give.

Programs and invitations for all championships shall only be sent in the 2 official languages (English and French) to Nations that are members of F.I.P.S.e.d. (no invitations shall be sent to clubs or individuals).

- 3- Each C.I.P.S. member Nation shall be allowed to present a maximum of two teams; each team is composed of 3 anglers (one person per kayak boat). A maximum of 1 reserve, who shall be nominated before the first draw, will be allowed for each Nation's team.

The names of the 4 competitors must be finalised and communicated to the organisers at the time of the accreditation of their delegation; these names may not be changed subsequently, except in cases of force majeure.

If a C.I.P.S. member Nation isn't able to have 3 anglers to compose a team, the relevant anglers shall be allowed to participate as "individuals" (those anglers competing only as "individuals" will not be included in the scoring for the Nations' medals). A maximum of 2 "individuals" per Nation are allowed to participate, provided that the Nation of belonging has not registered any team.

The number of entries (teams or "individuals") for each Nation may also be limited by the availability of kayaks through the host nation. In this case, priority shall be given to the anglers who are part of a team and not to "individual" anglers.

Before the beginning of each leg, the team captain shall be entitled to replace one competitor, but only with the competitor who was designated as the reserve at the first captain's meeting. **As this championship consists of three days of competition, each team may make a maximum of two substitutions; in other words, a competitor who has been substituted on the second day may return to compete on the third day.** Substituting one competitor from one team to another team is forbidden. It shall not be possible to replace one "individual" angler.

In the event of any injury during a competition, the regular participant may be replaced by the reserve, with the possibility of replacing fishing tackle. Angler substitutions shall be authorized by a Jury member.

**There are no restrictions on the participation of female competitors in national teams or as “individuals”.**

- 4- Competitions shall be organized at watercourses, such as rivers and canals, or at suitable stretches of water, such as lakes, etc.; it must be possible to fish along the entire width and length of the venue. The fishing area selected for the competition shall be specified in the programme, and the competition shall actually take place right at the indicated venue.
- 5- The venue shall not expose the competitors or the spectators to any kind of danger.

One or more members of the Technical Committee or a competent delegate shall inspect the venue that may be selected for a championship, and said inspection shall take place at the same time of the year as to that proposed for the organization of the competition under consideration. F.I.P.S.e.d. shall pay for the travelling expenses (including flight and train tickets or car) of the Technical Committee's member(s), while the organizers shall cover all transfer costs from the airport or train station, and will pay for accommodation and meals. A report of the inspection shall be submitted to the Executive Committee of F.I.P.S.e.d. for evaluation and approval. The final decision on the approval or rejection of a venue by F.I.P.S.e.d. shall be communicated to the candidate Nation.

**The candidature to host a world championship must be done, at least, two years in advance.**

With regard to accommodation, participating Nations shall have two options:

- a) Opting for the official accommodation proposed by the organizing Nation (optional). In that event, the organizing Nation shall clearly indicate the terms and conditions for the stay, including:
  - the half-board price per night per person, depending on the number of persons sharing each room, regardless of the duration of the stay (full board cannot be mandatory);
  - the participating Nation shall specify the dates for check in and check out, informing the organisation at least one week before the first official training;
  - the accommodation terms proposed to the Nations shall first be approved by the Technical Committee;
  - together with the event programme, the organizing Nations shall provide a list of hotels, lodgings, rooms and campsites located within a 20 km range from the venue.

- b) Selecting their hotels by themselves.

If this is the case, participating teams shall inform the organisation where they stay and when they arrive.

If no details about the accommodation are provided by the deadline set by the organizers, the participating Nations shall imperatively have to book their accommodations themselves and shall still pay € 1,200 to the organizers.

In both cases (participation through or without the help of the organizers), the registration fee is € 1,200 per team, which includes up to 6 closing gala dinners (3 Anglers, 1 Reserve, 1 Captain, and 1 Delegate), 4 fishing permits for the whole duration of the championship

(the period of official training and the competition itself), insurance and sundry expenses such as gifts, cups, trophies, etc.

The registration fee is € 250 per “individual” angler which includes the closing gala dinner, the fishing permit for the whole duration of the championship (the period of official training and the competition itself), insurance and sundry expenses such as gifts, cups, trophies, etc.

The organizers shall see to it that all registration forms are duly filled in and carry the mobile phone numbers of one delegate and one team captain. Addresses and emergency telephone numbers (police, firefighters, hospitals, etc.) shall be provided in the program leaflets.

The Federations, in addition to the medals devoted to the official members of the Delegation, will be allowed to ask for extra medals (up to a maximum of 3 per team), upon payment of a contribution of € 25 per extra medal, which will also include the diploma. The fees for extra medals shall be paid to F.I.P.S.e.d. In no case and for no reason extra medals in a number higher than that provided by these Rules may be requested from F.I.P.S.e.d.

For the closing gala dinner, be it a dinner with table service or a buffet dinner, participating Nations shall be assigned a number of seats corresponding to the number of gala dinner seats they reserved.

Any Nation that undertakes to take part in a championship by filling in the relevant registration form but does not show up, shall, in any case, pay the contribution of maximum of € 1,200 to the organizing Nation. Nations failing to comply with this provision shall be forbidden from taking part in and organizing future championships.

Any absent team (that has not arrived) on the last official training day shall be considered as a WITHDRAWING Nation and shall not be allowed to participate in the championship (red card for the team).

Any Nation requesting rental kayak boats, but not showing up at the championship venue, shall anyway pay the rental fee to the organizing Nation. Nations failing to comply with this provision shall be forbidden from taking part in and organizing future championships.

The “Predators Artificial Bait Kayak Angling” World Championship shall preferably take place in October/November. This indication may undergo changes, even substantial ones, based on the climatic conditions of the host country and the characteristics of the competition venue.

- 6- The waterbody surface required for a competition shall be at least 10,000 m<sup>2</sup>/kayak (e.g.: 10 Nations with two teams each, i.e. 6 kayaks per nation = 60 kayaks, waterbody of at least 600,000 m<sup>2</sup>, that is 60 hectares).

## **TEAM CAPTAINS' MEETING**

- 7- It would be advisable that general stewards attend the team captains' meetings.

In the event that a team captain or a Nation's delegate is absent, the President of F.I.P.S.e.d. or a delegated representative shall draw lots.

1<sup>st</sup> meeting - On Monday afternoon or on the eve of the first training day

During this meeting, an international Jury shall be appointed, pursuant to article 35 of the present Official Rules. Then, the following operations shall be carried out:

- a) Roll call of Nations.
- b) **All the kayaks shall be numbered progressively from 1 to n (with n being equal to the total number of kayaks participating in the championship).**
- c) If, for safety reasons related to the layout of the start area, it becomes necessary to provide for staggered starts, all kayaks (supplied by the organizers, personal or rented out of the organization) shall be divided into three groups, namely groups A, B, and C.
- d) Lot drawing aiming at matching the kayaks made available by the organisers with the anglers of the various Nations. Lots shall be drawn so as to attribute a kayak from each of the three groups A, B, and C to the three anglers of each national team. No lot drawing shall be required for the kayaks belonging to the competitors or rented directly by the latter. Such kayaks shall be attributed to the numbers that have not been given to the kayaks made available by the organizers. Kayaks directly rented outside the organization shall be utilised only by the persons who have taken the kayaks in location.
  - “Individual” anglers, if entered, will be equally distributed by drawing lots in groups A, B and C.
- e) After drawing lots for the kayaks, each team captain shall indicate which angler shall belong to group A, B or C. Once the captain has appointed the group of belonging for each angler of his team, he won't be allowed to make any changes to the group anymore. Group changes are not allowed during competition and, in the case one angler is changed with one reserve, that shall become member of the same group (A, B or C) where the modification was done.
- f) Various information about the progress of the championship.

2<sup>nd</sup> meeting - On Wednesday afternoon or on the eve of the first competition day

- 1) If the safety conditions are met, the kayaks will all start together. If this is not the case, the kayaks will be divided into the three groups mentioned above (A, B, C), which will start 5 minutes apart. Depending on the venue, the organisers, in agreement with the International Jury, shall decide to increase or decrease the time interval between the departures of the different groups.

The organizers shall draw up a departure list and give it to all participants.

In the event that the kayaks cannot all start together, the following steps must be taken:

- a) Draw for the start order of the kayak boats for the three legs (e.g.: 1<sup>st</sup> leg: group B, then group C and, last, group A.
- b) For the 2<sup>nd</sup> leg, the group that started first in the 1<sup>st</sup> leg shall start second, the group that started second shall be third, whereas the group that started third shall start first (A followed by B and then by C).
- c) In the 3<sup>rd</sup> leg, the group that started first in the 1<sup>st</sup> leg shall start third, the group that started second shall start first, and the group that started third shall start second (C followed by A and then by B).
- d) The departing criteria for the kayaks belonging to each group will be established during each championship, according to the specific characteristics of the

competition venue as to guarantee the best security conditions to all competitors. This decision will be taken, in agreement with the organizers, by the F.I.P.S.e.d. President and/or the members of its Steering Committee present at the venue where the competition is taking place.

As far as the order of arrival is concerned:

- a) If the kayaks started together, they will return within the single time limit set for all of them.
- b) If the kayaks started in different groups and at different times, they must return within each group's time limit.
- c) In each leg, the arrival order of each group shall always be the same as the starting order.
- d) In case of a thunderstorm or other unforeseen situations causing an immediate competition stop, the kayak arrival order can be random.

**Using an APP to compile the rankings, it's not necessary to wait for the kayaks from the different groups to return to the starting point within the allotted time. Instead, it will be sufficient to record the exact time in the APP from which catches will no longer be considered valid, thus avoiding unnecessary and often risky rushes to get back to the starting point in time. In other words, the end of the competition will be determined automatically whilst the competitors are still at their fishing spots, allowing them to return calmly and safely.**

2) Various information about the progress of the championship.

3<sup>rd</sup> meeting - On Thursday afternoon or on the eve of the second competition day

- a) Notification of the results of the first leg to the participating Nations.
- b) Various information about the progress of the championship.

4<sup>th</sup> meeting - On Friday afternoon or on the eve of the third competition day

- a) Notification of the results of the second leg to the participating Nations.
- b) Various information about the progress of the championship.

NB: Captains' meetings are informative meetings, where guidelines are provided for the competitions. Under no circumstance shall changes to the Rules be made during the captains' meetings. The Rules shall only be changed at F.I.P.S.e.d. Executive Committee's annual meetings, based on the remarks that shall be sent in writing by national Federations to F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Secretary General.

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**-8-** The participating teams may use kayak boats made available by the organizers, their own kayak boats, or kayak boats rented by themselves outside of the organization. In these last two case, teams shall compulsorily insure their kayaks themselves, by abiding by the instructions given by the organizers in the competition program. They shall also fully equip their kayak boats with kayak equipment.

The organizing Nation shall make kayak boats available to the teams that ask for one, for a rental fee (for the duration of the championship, including the official training period); said fee shall be specified in the program (it shall also include insurance).

The organizers shall make sure that the competition program describes the type of kayak boats available for rent.

**It is not compulsory, but optional to have an anchor or a weight to keep the kayak in place or to slow its movement. For this reason, if kayaks are hired, competitors must specify whether they want them to be fitted with an anchor or not.**

The organizing Nation shall only be responsible for insurance and equipment of the kayaks it supplies.

The material required to signal dangerous situations for the kayak boats shall also be provided by the organizers.

Should any participating Nation wish to rent their own kayak boats, it should inform the organizing Nation at least two months before the competition starts.

All personal or rental kayak boats shall be handed over to the organizers upon the day of registration of the Nations at the championship venue. All personal kayak boats shall be made available to the teams after the end of the championship, and the rental kayak boats shall be returned by the organizers.

In competition days, each Nation shall be allowed to put a maximum of three kayaks in the water (yellow card). **During the two days of official training, a fourth kayak will also be put in the water to allow the reserve to train.**

During the two official training days, the captain and the delegate may be on the water (on condition that they do not have any fishing tackle and do not fish) (yellow card). Captain & delegate will need to arrange kayak boats with the organizer or other independent kayak rental facility.

Between one leg and the other, the kayak boats shall be kept in a confined area under the organizers' responsibility for the entire championship duration. Every day teams shall dispose, before and after each leg, of one hour in order to prepare their boats. These operations shall be carried out in the presence of sunlight or in a place with adequate lighting.

Moreover, the organizers shall make sure that a fast Wi-Fi connection is supplied where the ranking operations will be carried out as well as in the departing and arrival places of competitors.

Competitors may reach the venue by their personal means of transportation.

- 9-** Competitors must comply with the legal sizes of fish when required by national or local laws. These measures must be indicated in the program drawn up by the organizers and reminded at the captains' meeting.
- 10-** The competition shall take place in three legs. The duration of each leg will be decided depending on how many hours we have from sunrise until sunset; whenever possible this duration will be from 7 to 9 hours.

In the event of a forced interruption (e.g. a thunderstorm, demonstration, natural disaster, etc.), the Jury may validate the leg, provided that it lasted at least half of the time envisaged for the whole leg.

The Jury can decide to reduce the duration of the leg if the competition schedule does not allow continuing angling for the scheduled angling hours.

- 11-** Each competitor is expected to fully abide by the competition rules (yellow card). When some particular national or regional rules are also in force, they shall be communicated to

all nations registered to the championship, by annexing them to the competition programme.

**-12- Anglers shall exclusively perform no-kill angling (red card).**

All spinning techniques and artificial lures (drop shot, Carolina rig, etc.) with single, double or triple hooks are permitted, provided that they do not allow multiple catches at the same time (e.g. the use of 'spinner bait' or similar is permitted, while the use of 'Alabama rig' or similar is prohibited) (red card).

Pork rind is allowed. "Fly" imitations are prohibited (red card).

In order to weigh down artificial elastic bait, hooks unleaded or leaded on their head or in other part of their bodies may be used. Hooks with a barb are allowed to be used (barring F.I.P.S.e.d. exceptions); hooks shall be "bare" (red card).

Each lure can hold a maximum of 3 hooks and each hook can be single, double or triple (red card).

Deliberate foul hooking of fish is prohibited (red card).

It is allowed to plumb the fishing line.

**-13- All forms of fish feeding are forbidden (red card). Only alluring substances and surface oils to be spread on artificial baits shall be allowed.**

**-14- All competitors are required to be able to swim and paddle.**

**-15- Using echo sounders is allowed in training and during competition. Competitors may use their own eco sounders. The use of telephones or walkie-talkies by anglers is permitted.**

**-16- The competitors shall be the only ones allowed to use landing nets (yellow card).**

The use of a landing net is recommended to retrieve the fish. Gaffs, Lip Grippers and Boga Grips are not permitted to retrieve a fish (red card). They will only be used to remove a lure from the fish's mouth.

**-17- Besides having a federal fishing license, the competitors shall also comply with all rules and regulations on navigation, on the ownership of a kayak, and with the fishing law in force (red card). The organizers shall have all administrative authorizations in place allowing the kayak involved to navigate.**

**-18- The fishing area and the area reserved for the departure and arrival of the kayak shall be marked and clearly visible. Competitors may navigate and fish on the whole authorized waterbody surface. Should it not be possible to use the whole waterbody surface, the fishing area shall be clearly marked (buoys) before the first official training day.**

**-19- It is forbidden to fish in the kayak start and arrival areas and in any area forbidden to navigation, as well as outside the competition limits zone (yellow card).**

Using drones is prohibited, both during competition and training (yellow card), except the special cases authorized by the International Jury, on the advice of the Technical Committee.

Anglers may post "selfies" or photos of themselves on social media. On the other hand, it is strictly forbidden to disseminate on social networking sites, such as Facebook or others, on websites or in any other way, videos or photos of other competitors or of spots recorded during the official training sessions or the legs of the championship (yellow card). Any possible diffusion shall be previously authorized by the anglers in question.

Only the holders of a “press card” or a document accrediting them as journalists will be able to request a badge that will allow them access to the venue. It is therefore compulsory that journalists accredit themselves with the organisation by showing the document accrediting them as such.

Media cameramen are only allowed to take remote photos and videos of their nation's anglers. During training or in competition, on the competition venue it is forbidden to film or photograph the kayaks of competitors from other countries or their spots. However, before the start and after the end of the competition, it is permitted to photograph or film any kayak present in the start area. On the final day of the competition, the media may film and photograph the competitors of all nations on the water (with the permission of the nation being filmed). In this manner all the media content can be used from the final day of fishing to promote all countries at the event.

**Life jackets with a buoyancy rating of at least 150 NW are compulsory at all times** (yellow card). If the life jacket is removed temporarily it must be immediately put back on.

- 20-** The distance between the kayak during the competition in a lake or in an artificial basin shall be at least 30 meters (both during angling and when navigating near another kayak) (oral warning).

The distance between kayaks during competition in a canal or a river shall be at least 20 meters during angling and at least 15 meters during navigation (oral warning).

When the passage is less than 30 meters large, the angler fishing in that particular spot will be forced to let pass another kayak if this latter has the possibility to fish at one spot located at a distance of 30 meters minimum from him. In this case, the angler fishing in the spot shall indicate at which side the angler in transit can pass through. One kayak is considered stationary on a fishing spot when the kayak is held in place by paddle, pedal or anchor.

**In view of the above, each competitor must have at least one optical rangefinder to enable him to check that the distance between his kayak and the others is correct thus avoiding disputes arising from measurements made by eye rather than using instruments** (yellow card).

- 21-** After casting the bait into the water, the angler's free hand shall compulsory be placed on the reel handle (oral warning).

It is only allowed to handle the line with the rod and the reel. It is strictly forbidden to handle the line with fingers (yellow card).

Trolling while the kayak is moving by means of human propulsion is permitted.

Angling from the riverbank is forbidden (red card). Competitors are allowed to moor their kayak to the shore, but they are not allowed to fish when they get out of the kayak.

Anglers are not allowed to leave the kayak to overcome obstacles (rocks, fallen trees, shallow areas, rapids, etc.) (red card).

- 22-** All fish shall be measured, photographed with a phone (smartphone, iphone o ipad) and immediately returned to the water.

The catching of a fish is only valid if the fish is hooked in its mouth, or between its mouth and the pectoral fins, or between its mouth and its gills. Any fish caught but not hanging from the angler's line shall not be deemed valid and shall be put back into the water.

Any fish that does not meet the relevant minimum size parameters cannot be used to determine the score.

Any fish that is waiting to be measured must be kept alive and immediately released after photo.

**-23-** Fly-fishing is forbidden (red card).

**-24-** The boats for the Jury, the stewards and the security staff shall be made available by the organizers. These boats may be engine powered if deemed appropriate.

**-25-** Any kayak that does not show up at the time envisaged for its departure shall be authorized to start, but its return time shall remain unchanged.

When the first signal is given - 30 minutes before the departure of the kayaks - the anglers shall gather at the edge of the departure zone. The roll shall be called, the general steward shall tell the exact time, so that both the stewards and the anglers may synchronize their watches. Then, the anglers shall be allowed to get on board their kayaks, and shall line up at the start. A second signal shall be given for the kayaks to start heading to the angling area.

**-26-** **As specified in Article 7, when using the APP to compile the rankings, the leg finish time will be set within the APP itself, so competitors will not need to adhere to a specific time limit for their return. Conversely, if for any reason the APP does not work, they must take the following measures:** if a kayak gets to the finish with a delay of more than 5 minutes and less than 15 minutes, the “angler” involved shall get a 50 cm deduction in length for that leg. Any “angler” arriving with a delay of 15 minutes or more shall receive 0.0 cm for the relevant leg.

**-27-** The kayak will be numbered (two sticker numbers shall be stuck on each side of the kayak, and they shall be clearly visible).

The organizers shall keep copies of the sticker numbers to be stuck on reserve kayaks, if needed.

The organizers shall make each team be equipped of such a system that allows jury members and the organizers ascertaining, at any time and unequivocally, the nationality of the “angler” present on a specific kayak. In this aim, the organizers shall prepare and deliver to all kayaks some stickers figuring their own national flags or, in alternative, some small national textile or plastic flags to be exposed on the kayak used during each competition day.

Before each leg, F.I.P.S.e.d. will deliver to all participants a list containing each kayak number that matches the nationality of the angler present on that kayak.

**-28-** Boats will be Human Powered Solo Watercraft (Kayak). While the Kayak makes up the majority of the boats in use for human powered fishing, the goal is to encourage innovation and not limit fisherman to one type of human powered kayak boat.

Electric or gas motors are prohibited (red card).

Any human powered boat that is paddled, rowed, pedalled, poled, or otherwise uses human power and it not assisted by motors, sails, or other external power is allowed.

Kayaks, Canoes, Row Boats, John Boats, Inflatable Boats, Paddle Boards, Dugout Canoe, any new type of human powered craft may be accepted by the Technical Committee.

**-29-** All kayaks shall have on board the compulsory equipment required pursuant to local rules and F.I.P.S.e.d. rules. Lacking such equipment, the kayaks shall not be authorized to navigate.

- 30- It is forbidden for competitors' boat to approach each other (yellow card). A derogation from this disposition can be granted by a general steward or by a member of the Jury only in case of absolute necessity.
- 31- Anglers cannot tie ropes or otherwise dock two kayaks together (red card).
- 32- Competitors may keep and assemble as many rods as they wish but, when angling, they shall only be allowed to have one rod each (red card).
- 33- The competitors are not permitted to receive help from anyone, except in the event of genuine danger (yellow card).

**In such cases, every kayaker is required to come to the aid of a kayaker who is in difficulty or in danger in their immediate vicinity.**

**In the event that a kayak suffers a fault or breakage that prevents the angler from continuing to fish properly, the competitor may immediately request that the Jury dispatch a rescue boat to assist them in resolving the problem as soon as possible. This intervention, authorised by the Jury, will not result in penalties or disqualification of competitors in difficulty.**

- 34- The eligible fish species will be determined by the host nation and F.I.P.S.e.d. The host country may select one species or no more than two species to be eligible for ranking. This list will be approved at least 6 months before the competition by F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Technical committee.

## **THE JURY**

- 35- An international Jury shall be appointed to examine any complaints lodged and to apply penalties, as per the rules; the Jury shall be established at the first team captains' meeting.

The Jury shall consist of the following members:

- F.I.P.S.e.d.'s President, or a substitute delegated by the President.
- F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Secretary General.
- The members of the F.I.P.S.e.d. Executive Committee present at the event.
- A delegate representing the organizing Nation, unless he/she holds the same nationality as the above-mentioned members, except for the F.I.P.S.e.d.'s President (or his substitute) who shall be the President of the Jury ex officio.

The Jury members shall be at least 3, but the number of 5 is recommended. If this number is not reached, some delegates from different Nations shall be chosen by drawing lots, until to reach the number of 3 or 5. These delegates cannot have the same nationality as the F.I.P.S.e.d.'s representatives and the organizing Nation.

These delegates shall be enrolled on the team registration form; captains cannot be appointed as delegates.

In the event of any infringement by an angler or by a team holding the same nationality as a member of the Jury, such Jury member shall not vote (except if he/she is the President of the Jury).

The members of the Jury shall wear a bib or badge bearing the word "Jury", and shall be at the competition venue to receive any complaint. Jury members can be reached by mobile phone, so team captains will receive their mobile numbers.

- 36- Complaints, with the exception of those concerning the rankings, must be lodged immediately, either verbally, by the competitor or the team captain (including by telephone) with the International Jury, which will make a written record of the complaint, noting the time at which it was lodged. Complaints that have not been announced in advance may not be lodged with the Jury at the end of the leg.**

**The competitor concerned must be informed immediately of any complaint.**

**If the matter has not been immediately resolved or clarified, the complaint previously announced must be submitted in writing to the Jury no later than 30 minutes after the end of the leg; following this, the Jury will examine and discuss the complaint by summoning and hearing the competitors directly involved, their captains and any witnesses.**

**In exceptional cases, and only if the Jury deems it essential, the Jury may make use of photographic or video evidence provided by a competitor and immediately submitted to the Jury. Under no circumstances will videos or photos taken by other competitors, spectators, friends or team officials, or those that have already been published or shared on social media, be considered. In such cases, the photos and videos will not be accepted as evidence and the complaint will not be admissible.**

**Complaints concerning the ranking shall be lodged within 30 minutes after the official results have been published. The publishing time shall be recorded in the official result list.**

**Any written complaint submitted to the Jury must be accompanied by a deposit of € 200; without this, the complaint will not be accepted. The Secretary General or a representative of F.I.P.S.e.d. must issue a receipt for the amount paid.**

**If, following the hearing, the Jury finds the complaint to be valid, the deposit will be returned to the complainant; if the complaint is found to be invalid, the deposit will be paid into the F.I.P.S.e.d. account.**

The Jury members and all stewards shall make sure the Rules are abided by. Hence, they shall have a thorough knowledge of such Rules.

- 37- The Rules, which are drawn up in the two official languages, shall be made available to the Jury and the team captains by the organizers of the championship.**

The international Jury will make its decisions on a simple majority basis; in the event of a tie vote, the President of F.I.P.S.e.d. or his/her delegate shall have a casting vote.

All members of F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee shall wear a personal badge.

## **LIST OF PENALTIES**

- 38- The penalties shall be as follows:**

- a) Oral warning for infringement of articles 20 (first §), 20 (second §) and 21 (first §).
- b) Warning (yellow card) for the infringement of articles 8 (ninth §), 8 (tenth §), 11 (first §), 16 (first §), 19 (first §), 19 (second §), 19 (third §), 19 (sixth §), 20 (fourth §), 21 (second §), 30 (first §), 31 (first §), 33 (first §) and points 7, 8 and 9 of the Annex and for a second infringement of articles 20 (first §), 20 (second §) and 21 (first §).

- c) Disqualification (red card) for the infringement of articles 12 (first §), 12 (second §), 12 (third §), 12 (fourth §), 12 (fifth §), 12 (sixth §), 13 (first §), 16 (second §), 17 (first §), 21 (fourth §), 21 (fifth §), 23 (first §), 28 (second §), 32 (first §), 46 (first §), 47.1 (first §), 47.2 (second §) and 48 (second §), after a second warning for the infringement of articles 8 (ninth §), 8 (tenth §), 11 (first §), 16 (first §), 19 (first §), 19 (second §), 19 (third §), 19 (sixth §), 20 (fourth §), 21 (second §), 30 (first §), 31 (first §), 33 (first §) and points 7, 8 and 9 of the Annex and for a third infringement of articles 20 (first §), 20 (second §) and 21 (first §).
- d) Warning to the Nation/team (yellow card) for infringement of the article 50 (eighth §).
- e) Disqualification of the Nation/team (red card) for the infringement of the article 5 (eleventh §) and for a second infringement of the article 50 (eighth §).
- f) When an angler is disqualified, a number of points equal to the number of participating “anglers” + 1 will be assigned to him. If an angler is disqualified, those that follow him in the ranking shall keep their original ranking (for example: if angler X who ranked 8<sup>th</sup> is disqualified, the following anglers shall keep their rankings and shall mark 9 points, 10 points, and so on).
- g) Any warning given to a Nation shall be recorded in that Nation’s file and shall remain in the files for a period of 3 years starting from the date of the sanction. Any new infringement committed in the following 3 editions of the same championship shall be considered a “relapse” and the Jury shall make its decision considering such relapse and the list of penalties.
- h) Any warning given to an “angler” shall be recorded in the competitor’s file for a period of 3 years starting from the date of the sanction. Any new infringement committed in the following 3 editions of the same championship shall be considered as a “relapse”, and the Jury shall make its decision considering such new infringement and the list of penalties.
- i) F.I.P.S.e.d.’s Executive Committee shall be entitled, both during a competition and subsequently, to impose penalties on anglers, captains or reserves if they infringe any rule or misbehave, even if said infringements are not provided for in the official Rules.

**-39-** The members of F.I.P.S.e.d.’s Executive Committee may access the competition venue and take note of any infringement of the Rules.

## **MEASURING OPERATIONS**

**-40-** The measuring operations must be carried out and documented by means of photos taken by the competitor (see the guidelines for measuring fish in a kayak attached to these regulations). After taking the photo, the photographic image of the capture must be immediately transmitted via the web App interfaced with the official F.I.P.S.e.d. software program. **If it is not possible to submit the photo promptly, a screenshot of the failed submission must be made and sent immediately. In this way, catches will be geo-localized so they can be validated by the Jury. Under no circumstances may the Jury consider photos sent from the photo gallery as valid.** Anglers will be required to load and test the official web App prior to the event. They should also have a backup digital camera for use if they lose or damage their phone. The length of the catch must be recorded in centimetres. Measurements will always be rounded down. If a fish is 40 centimetres but just short of 41 centimetres it will recorded as 40 centimetres. The angler

participant will perform a digital photo on the official measuring board, with the event identifier, record the length of this fish in the App and shall also put it back into the water. Organizer to provide official board with necessary "identifiers: for each leg of the event. The appointed fishing judges (minimum of 3) will utilize the "kayak fish measuring guidelines" to validate each fish for length.

## **RANKINGS**

### **-41- RANKING BY LENGTH**

Because there are no sections on the venue, the rankings of the championship will be tallied on the basis of the points (expressed in cm) obtained by adding the length of each fish caught by an angler.

Individuals that are not part of national teams, they will not be considered for teams scoring, but exclusively for the individuals one.

#### **1- LEG RANKING**

##### **A- Individual ranking**

- a) Sum of the length (cm) of fish caught by an angler in the leg; the angler totalling the largest length shall be ranked 1<sup>st</sup> and will receive 1 point, the second will receive 2, and so on.
- b) In the event of a tie on length, the anglers concerned shall obtain a number of points equalling the average of the rankings they should have had (example n° 1: two anglers ranking equal 4<sup>th</sup> shall obtain  $(4+5):2 = 4.5$  points each; example n° 2: three anglers tying in the 6<sup>th</sup> placing, totalise  $(6+7+8):3 = 7$  points each).
- c) Any anglers that have not caught any fish shall be given a number of points equal to the average value of non-attributed places (example n° 1: twenty-four anglers, twelve of whom rank top 12, with points ranging between 1 and 12, the subsequent anglers will get  $(13+24):2 = 18.5$  points each; example n° 2: thirty anglers, five of whom have caught fish and scored 1 to 5 points - the 25 angler who have not caught any fish mark  $(6+30):2 = 18$  points each). Should only 1 anglers not have caught any fish or should there be one or more absent anglers, they shall get a number of points equalling the lowest ranking (example: thirty anglers, twenty-nine of whom have caught fish, whereas one has not caught any, the latter will get 30 points).

##### **B- Team Ranking**

- a) Sum of the points obtained by the anglers of the same team over one leg; the national team scoring the lowest number of points shall rank 1<sup>st</sup>, and so on.
- b) In the event of a tie on points, the teams concerned shall be ranked based on the total length of fish caught in one leg by the anglers of the same team.
- c) In the event of further tied scores, the teams concerned shall be ranked based on the total length of fish caught in one leg by one of the anglers of the team.

- d) In the event of another tied score, the teams concerned shall be ranked based on the number of fish caught in one leg by the anglers of the same team.
- e) Should there be another tied score, the teams concerned shall be ranked based on the biggest fish caught in one leg by one of the angler of the team.

## 2- GENERAL RANKING

### A- Individual Ranking

- a) Sum of the points obtained by each angler in the three legs; the angler totalling the smallest number of points shall be ranked 1<sup>st</sup>, and so on.
- b) In the event of a tie on points, the anglers shall be ranked based on the highest total length (cm) of fish caught in the three legs.
- c) In the event of further tie, the anglers shall be ranked by the highest total number of fishes caught over three legs.
- d) In the event of another tied score, the anglers shall be ranked based on the highest length (cm) of fish caught in one of the three legs.
- e) In the event of a further tied score, the anglers shall be ranked based on the highest length (cm) of fish caught by one angler in the 3<sup>rd</sup> leg.
- f) Anglers that did not take part in all three legs shall be ranked in the last places of the classification, following the order of their points (firstly the anglers that have participated in all of the three legs, followed by those anglers who just attended two legs and finally by the anglers that just participated to one single leg).

### B- Team ranking

- a) Sum of the points obtained by the anglers of the same team over three legs; the national team totalling the smallest number of points shall be ranked 1<sup>st</sup>, and so on.
- b) In the event of a tie on points, the national teams concerned shall be ranked based on the highest aggregate length obtained by the anglers of the same team in the three legs.
- c) In the event of another tied score, the national teams concerned shall be ranked based on the number of fish caught by the anglers of the same team in the three legs.
- d) In the event of a further tied score, the national teams concerned shall be ranked based on the best length obtained by the anglers of the same team in the 3<sup>rd</sup> leg.

## 3- ANNUAL NATIONS OR INDIVIDUALS RANKINGS

A world or zone ranking per Nations or individuals shall be drawn up for all championships, taking into account the best 5 results over the 6 past years; such ranking list shall be updated every year and published on F.I.P.S.e.d.'s website.

The Nations and individuals included in such ranking that, for any reason, do not participate in a championship, shall be given a number of points equal to the number of participating countries for that specific year + 1.

- 42- The ranking will be established by a person mandated by F.I.P.S.e.d. or, lacking this person, by the organizers, in the presence of F.I.P.S.e.d.'s President or in the presence of his representative and, possibly, also in the presence of the members of the Jury.

### **ROD LENGTH**

- 43- The length of the rods is not limited.

### **"CIVIL LIABILITY" INSURANCE**

- 44- The organizers **SHALL** take out a "CIVIL LIABILITY" insurance to cover the whole event (from the first training day to the end of the final dinner); a certificate issued by the insurance company, certifying that the whole event is covered by a "CIVIL LIABILITY" policy shall be handed over to the President of F.I.P.S.e.d. two months prior to the competition.

### **TRAINING**

- 45- a) Official training shall take place at the official venue.

Training shall be organized so as to offer equal conditions to all anglers, regardless of whether they use personal kayak, rental kayak, or kayak made available by the organizers.

- b) The official venue shall be organized as follows:

- 1) The official venue is open to fishing prior to the event.
- 2) The venue will be closed to fishing for team members on the Monday of the event, which is set aside for team registration and the opening ceremony.
- 3) Two days of official training: Tuesday and Wednesday (kayaks to return by 4:00 pm).
- 4) Three days of competition: Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

All participating Nations shall be provided with a document carrying the technical specifications and information concerning the venue.

### **ELECTRIC POWER LINES AND PLANTS**

- 46- It is **strictly forbidden** for the kayak to stop and fish at less than 50 meters distance, on both sides, from any electricity infrastructure (including power lines, transformers, trellises, etc.) (red card).

## **RULES IN THE EVENT OF BAD WEATHER OR WATER-RELATED CONDITIONS**

### **-47- 1- WHEN BAD CONDITIONS BREAK OUT BEFORE OR DURING PREPARATION**

A signal shall tell the anglers that they are required to get off their kayaks, and the competition start shall be delayed (red card). If the weather or water-related conditions and the competition schedule allow, the leg may be regularly performed. In that event, a second signal shall indicate the start of the leg.

If the weather or water-related conditions do not improve or the competition schedule does not allow, the leg shall simply be cancelled. The cancelled leg shall not be considered when making the rankings, which shall be established based on the results of the held leg(s). The cancelled leg shall not be held at a later stage.

### **2- IF BAD CONDITIONS BREAK OUT DURING THE LEG**

The leg shall immediately be stopped and the rods shall be placed horizontally in the kayak area at the opposite end from the anglers (red card). The leg stop signal shall be given by the Jury by radio, by telephone, or by launching one or more signal rockets.

Should the swell be such as to endanger the kayakers, following the Jury's instructions, the crews shall immediately be ordered to reach the closest landing spot and wait there for a possible leg resumption signal.

If the weather or water-related conditions allow, the Jury shall authorize the resumption of the leg through the afore mentioned communications systems.

Should the weather or water-related conditions not allow duly carrying out a competition, the Jury may decide to cancel one leg. Said leg shall not be postponed and the ranking shall be drawn up based on the leg(s) that was/were actually carried out. The cancelled leg shall not be held again.

With regard to the duration and validity of a leg which has been definitively interrupted for an exceptional reason, reference is made to article 10 of these Rules.

## **ANTI-DOPING CONTROLS**

### **-48- F.I.P.S.e.d. adopts the World Anti-doping Code applied by C.I.P.S.**

During a championship, the anglers selected to undergo anti-doping controls shall imperatively go to the designated place at the indicated time, following F.I.P.S.e.d.'s or the Jury's guidelines. When an angler selected to undergo anti-doping checks does not report for the controls, the concerned angler shall be disqualified from the competition and all his catches will be cancelled (red card).

Organizing nations will be responsible for the cost of doping control at championships. All contacts with the N.A.D.O. (National Anti-Doping Organization) of each Nation shall be exclusively held by C.I.P.S. as the controlling authority.

The organizers shall be responsible for the fishing material and equipment of the angler drawn to be tested, while he is undergoing the anti-doping control.

C.I.P.S., in quality of Testing Authority, will issue the relevant mission order on the ADAMS System, with the concerned instruction for the doping control tests.

A copy of the Doping Control Form (DCF), signed by the Doctor who has provided the tests, must be sent to the C.I.P.S. Secretariat [cipssecretariat@cips-fips.com](mailto:cipssecretariat@cips-fips.com) or delivered

immediately after the competition to the F.I.P.S.e.d. official delegate present on place, who will forward it to C.I.P.S.

The athletes participating in the Championships, by registering, implicitly accept all WADA anti-doping rules.

An athlete whose illness or condition requires a method or a treatment with a substance prohibited by WADA must apply to C.I.P.S. for a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) following the C.I.P.S. strict TUE application process.

He/she shall then use the application form, which can be downloaded from the ITA website: <https://ita.sport/resource/international-testing-agency-therapeutic-use-exemption-tue-application-form/>.

The TUE request has to be sent to the following address: [tue@ita.sport](mailto:tue@ita.sport).

Athletes must therefore consult the Prohibited List of substances: [https://www.wada-ama.org/sites/default/files/2025-09/2026list\\_en\\_final\\_clean\\_september\\_2025.pdf](https://www.wada-ama.org/sites/default/files/2025-09/2026list_en_final_clean_september_2025.pdf).

### **F.I.P.S.e.d. AND C.I.P.S. FEES**

**-49-** A € 200 fee shall be paid by each participating team; for each individual angler the fee shall be € 70. Said fees shall remain available to F.I.P.S.e.d.

A € 500 fee shall be paid by the organizing Nation to C.I.P.S.'s disposal (to be paid to C.I.P.S.'s bank account).

### **OPENING CEREMONY AND PRIZE AWARDING CEREMONY**

**-50-** The opening and presentation ceremony for the teams and the award ceremony for the winners must be opened with the official C.I.P.S. anthem.

The opening ceremony and presentation of the teams shall take place two or three days before the start of the competition at 6:00 p.m. Said ceremony shall not last longer than 2 hours, and shall not end later than 08:00 p.m.

The top 3 Nations and the top 3 individuals shall officially receive a GOLD, a SILVER and a BRONZE medal respectively. If a Nation has two teams competing, only the top team from that Nation will be considered for medals. All anglers competing are eligible for the individual medals. In conformity with international standards, during the prize awarding procedures, the national anthem of the winner (Nations or individual) shall be played, and the national flags of the top three Nations or individuals shall be raised. The medals shall be paid for by F.I.P.S.e.d. and shall be handed over by F.I.P.S.e.d.'s designated representative.

World Champion Athletes (both individual and team) will additionally receive a patch to be applied to their national team uniform in order to be identified as world title holders for the current year.

During the individual prize-giving ceremony, the fourth and fifth classified must also be called to the podium, but no medals will be awarded.

A certificate stating the results obtained shall be delivered to all the three first-ranked Nations' official members, who shall be present at the prize-giving ceremony, as well as to the five first-ranked individuals.

Any other reward shall be equally awarded to all participating Nations. All participating Nations shall provide their flags and the recordings of their national anthems.

During the ceremony announcing the official results and awarding the medals, **only the 6 members of the official delegation for each team may access the podium (yellow card for the team).**

## **RULES VERSIONS**

**-51-** In the event of any dispute arising from or in connection with the interpretation of these Rules, only the French version shall be considered as the original and reference text.

## **OBLIGATIONS OF THE ORGANIZING NATIONS**

**-52-** The organizing Nation of a World or Zone (Europe, etc.) Championship shall:

- a) Have the F.I.P.S.e.d. trophies engraved (plate or logo);
- b) Send out official programs and information about the championship in the two official languages (English and French).

The President of F.I.P.S.e.d.

Ugo Claudio MATTEOLI



The Secretary General of F.I.P.S.e.d.

Barbara DURANTE



The President of the F.I.P.S.e.d. Technical Committee

João VIZINHA



# **KAYAK FISH MEASURING GUIDELINES OF F.I.P.S.E.D.**

## **THE BASICS**

Kayak fishing rankings are determined on the basis of the total length of fish caught. The following sequence will be used in all F.I.P.S.e.d. kayak fishing championships: catch, photo and release.

**Catch, Photo, and Release:** The equipment used consists of a measuring centimetre board device, a camera (typically a smart phone connected to the internet) and some kind of “marker” distributed by the organizers to prove the photo was taken that day. The length of the fish under examination is determined by means of a photo of the fish itself resting on the official measuring device (see the Measuring Rules for the requirements that the photo must have). Fish’s length is rounded down to nearest centimetre. With a 40 centimetres fish - If the tail is just short of the 41 centimetres mark, for example, then the fish will be counted as 40 centimetres assuming the photo meets the requirements to be legal.

### **The process of scoring a catch is:**

- A fish over the minimum size is caught and placed on a measuring board. Angler can measure the fish inside the kayak.
- Using a smart phone or a connected camera, a photo of the fish is taken in the way described in the rules below.



- The photo is uploaded to the official F.I.P.S.e.d. web App under the name of the competitor who made the capture so that it becomes part of the competitor's catch and is taken into account for his or her total score, assuming it is a legal capture and that the photo was taken according to F.I.P.S.e.d. rules.
- The championship judges (at least 3) are in charge of recording the length of the fish caught by the competitors. Instead, individual competitors shall enter the length in cm of the fish they have caught as determined by the measuring table, and that measurement is reviewed by the championship judges.
- The championship judges approve the measurement and photo and that fish is added to the fisherman's total length score. If the fisherman and judges length results are different then the judges length decision is final.
- At the end of the official championship day the fishermen are ranked on total length of their longest fish.

## **TIPS FOR COMPETITORS**

Please double check all photos before releasing fish so you are in compliance with each rule; in this way, the fish in question will be included in the total score. Also, store the photo on your phone/camera before loading to the approved official F.I.P.S.e.d. web App for scoring. We recommend NOT just using the App to store your photo in case you lose internet connection when uploading.

Once the photo has been taken, the image of the catch must be immediately uploaded via the web App linked to the official F.I.P.S.e.d. software programme. If you are unable to send the photo straight away, you must take a screenshot of the failed upload and send it to the Jury immediately. In this way, the catches will be geolocated and can therefore be validated by the Jury. Under no circumstances will the Jury accept photos submitted via the photo gallery.

## **OFFICIAL KAYAK ANGLING MEASURING RULES**

### **RECOMMENDED AND LEGAL PHOTO EXAMPLE**



This angler has an approved measuring board in the photo, the kayak appears in the photo, as does the identifier, and the photograph has been taken in daylight. He is not manipulating the mouth in any way with his hands or fish grips. The mouth is closed and touches the edge of the measuring board. The tail is in its natural position and has not been adjusted (restricted) by the competitor. The photo is taken from straight above. The fish is flat and facing left with his belly down. This is the legal way to photograph the fish.

### **FISH IS DISQUALIFIED AND DO NOT COUNT FOR RANKING**

- 1) In the absence of an identifier or when the kayak is not visible the catch is disqualified and not counted for the ranking.

- 2) The certified measuring board approved by the organizers must be used. No other measurement devices will be permitted. If the angler decides to use another measuring board, the fish is disqualified and not counted for ranking.
- 3) **The fish's mouth must be closed and must touch the left-hand side of the measuring board; otherwise, the catch is disqualified and will not count towards the rankings.**
- 4) **The fish's tail must be in its natural position and must not be adjusted (pinched) by the competitor; otherwise, the catch is disqualified and will not count towards the rankings.**
- 5) Both the fish's lip and tail must be visible in the photo, and the fish must be positioned facing left on the measuring board with its belly facing downwards. If the picture does not show either the head and tail of the fish, the catch is disqualified and not counted for the ranking.
- 6) If the fish is not placed in the correct position, it is disqualified and not counted for the ranking.
- 7) Anglers shall not picture any part of their hand or fish gripping tools in the fish's mouth. In that case, the fish is disqualified and not counted for the ranking. The competitor will be penalized with a yellow card.
- 8) Incorrect handling of the fish, for example putting the hand over the fish's eye, or putting the hand in some parts to hide fish identification marks. The competitor will be penalized with a yellow card and the fish is disqualified and not counted for the ranking.
- 9) The use of a stringer to clip through the fish's mouth is not allowed. The competitor will be penalized with a yellow card and the fish is disqualified and not counted for the ranking.