

2026 Paddle Europe

Junior & U23

Slalom Championships

05 - 09 August Epinal - France

Official Bulletin No.1



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Introduction

Message from Pascal BONNETAIN President of French Federation (FFCK)



On behalf of the French Canoe Federation, it is my great pleasure to warmly welcome all National Federations, athletes, coaches and team officials to Épinal for the 2026 Paddle Europe Junior & U23 Slalom Championships.

France is honoured to host this major European event, dedicated to the young talents who represent the future of our sport.

These Championships are not only a high-level sporting competition, but also a unique opportunity to share values that are essential to canoeing: commitment, respect, fairness and friendship between nations.

The city of Épinal and the Base Natur'O venue offer an outstanding natural environment and modern facilities, perfectly suited to elite competition.

Together with the Organising Committee, local authorities and our partners, the French Canoe Federation has worked with great dedication to ensure the best possible conditions for all participants.

I would like to thank the Paddle Europe for its trust, as well as all those involved in the preparation of this event. I wish all teams a successful competition, exciting races and an enjoyable stay in France.

I look forward to welcoming you personally in Épinal and wish you every success during these Championships.

General information

Key dates :

21/06 Numerical entries close

26/07 Nominal entries close

Before 01/08 Paid training sessions

01/08 to 04/08 Official Training

03/08 Team Leaders' Meeting (at 20:00)

04/08 Opening Ceremony (at 18:45)

05/08 to 09/08 Competition

09/08 Closing Ceremony (at 17:30)

Key contacts :

Natur'O Slalom Course Director :

Nicolas Rumeau contact@base-naturo.fr

Organizing Committee : gesnie88@gmail.com

National Federation :

Sebastien TESTER stester@ffck.org

Location : Epinal Harbour

Avenue de la République, 88000 Épinal



About Epinal



59 km²



32 000 inhabitants
110 000 inhabitants in
urban area



380 kms
from Paris



Natural river :
La Moselle



Vosges Mountains



2 Whitewater
Courses



Travel Information

By Aircraft



The closest international airports are:

- Bâle-Mulhouse-Freiburg Airport - Approx. 180km
- Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport - Approx. 380km
- Paris Orly Airport - Approx. 370km
- Strasbourg International Airport - Approx. 180km

From these airports, Epinal can be reached by train or car.

By Train

Epinal is served by the French National railway network (SNCF)

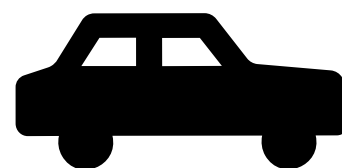
- From Paris : travel time approx 2h30 to 3h00
- From Strasbourg : travel time approx 2h00
- From Nancy : travel time approx 1h00



The Epinal railway station is located 1km from the Whitewater Course (Natur'O)

By Car

- From Paris : 4h via A4 and N57
- From Strasbourg : 2h via A35 et N57
- From Nancy : 1h via N57



Free and paid parking areas are available in and around the city

Venue

Venue Presentation

The competition will take place at Base Natur'O, located in the Vosges department, Grand Est region, France. Base Natur'O is a modern outdoor leisure and sports area, set in the natural environment along the Moselle River. It offers high-quality facilities dedicated to water sports, outdoor activities and major sport events. Its location close to the city centre makes it easily accessible for athletes, officials, media and spectators.



Venue

Athletes' Access to the Venue

Athletes and team officials will access the venue through a dedicated entrance. The Organizing Committee asks each National Federation to unload boats and equipment in the designated athletes' area. Team vehicles must then be parked in the designated team parking area close to the venue.

Public Access to the Venue

The venue will be open to the public during competition days. Spectator areas will be arranged around the course, allowing excellent visibility of the competition while preserving the natural environment. Public parking areas will be available near Base Natur'O, with clear signage and steward assistance.



Accommodation



Accommodation options ranging from hotel rooms to group accommodation, including campsites and camping areas.

Catering services available on request.

For example, here are a few hotels:

- Hotel de la Basilique
- Ibis Épinal Centre-Ville
- Campanile Épinal Centre - Gare
- etc...

For further information, please contact

Marion DECHAVANNE

+33 3 29 34 36 31 / +33 6 27 07 60 24

marion.dechavanne@epinal.fr

www.tourisme-epinal.com

ÉPINAL
TOURISME

Event & Competition schedule



Unofficial Training

Before August 1st Paid access

Delegations can book training slots on the Natur'O website or by email.

www.base-naturo.fr

contact@base-naturo.fr

Events

- Men's Kayak: MK1
 - Women's Kayak: WK1
 - Men's Canoe: MC1
 - Women's Canoe: WC1
-
- Men's Kayak Team: MK1x3
 - Women's Kayak Team: WK1x3
 - Men's Canoe Team: MC1x3
 - Women's Canoe Team: WC1x3
-
- Men's Kayak Cross Individual: MX1I
 - Women's Kayak Cross Individual: WX1I
 - Men's Kayak Cross: MX1
 - Women's Kayak Cross: WX1

Training schedule

Official training

Free training

(by groups of Nations)

The precise tonight of preferences event training and the training groups will be published after nominal entries close. Any special requests must be received by PEU before then.

August 1st

Slalom 9:00-17:15

Kayak-Cross 18:00-20:00

August 2nd

Kayak-Cross 8:00-10:00

Slalom 10:45-19:00

August 3rd

Kayak-Cross 8:00-10:00

Slalom 10:45-19:00

August 4th

Slalom 8:00-15:30

Official opening at 15:30

Opening Ceremony at 18:30



Competition schedule

Provisional schedule :

Wednesday, 5 August : Competition day 1

Kayak Junior&U23 - Heats

Kayak Junior&U23 - Team Events

Thursday, 6 August : Competition day 2

Canoe Junior&U23 - Heats

Canoe Junior&U23 - Team Events

Friday, 7 August : Competition day 3

Kayak Junior&U23 - Semi-Finals

Kayak Junior&U23 - Finals

Saturday, 8 August : Competition day 4

Canoe Junior&U23 - Semi-Finals

Canoe Junior&U23 - Finals

Sunday, 9 August : Competition day 5

Kayak Cross Junior&U23 - Individuals

Kayak Cross Junior&U23 - Elimination



Registration & Participation Fee

The accreditation fee is 160 euros per athlete and per team official for the official period (August 1 to August 9). This fee has been adjusted to reflect the scale of the event and the premium infrastructure provided to ensure an elite competitive environment.

The fee includes comprehensive access to the following services:

- **Elite Athlete Village:**
 - Access to a dedicated, secured zone designed for recovery and networking, providing a professional environment for athletes between sessions.
- **Premium Boat Park:**
 - Secure, 24/7 monitored storage for equipment with optimized logistical flow and dedicated technical preparation areas.
- **Enhanced Spectator Experience:**
 - Integration into a high-energy atmosphere featuring giant LED screens for real-time race tracking, professional live commentary, and fan zones that ensure a massive, vibrant crowd to cheer on the competitors.
- **Technical & Security Services:**
 - Full accreditation and access control.
 - Professional Technical Video Service for race analysis.
 - Elite-level Security and 24/7 Emergency Medical Services on-site.
- **Training & Logistics:**
 - Access to the course during the Official Training period.
 - Hydration stations (water/isotonics) and nutritious snacks provided daily.

Payment Terms: Payments must be settled via bank transfer (prior to the event) or on-site during the initial registration.

Bank Transfer details :

IBAN FR76 1027 8061 0100 0225 2530 141

BIC CMCIFR2A

Account Owner : GESN International Evenements

Entries

Principles: Entries and accreditation requests must be made by the National Federation using the ICF's online entries system (SDP): <https://icf.mev.atos.net/icf/main.jsp>
For detailed instructions on how to submit entries, please read the SDP user guide. SDP user guide
http://www.canoeicf.com/sites/default/files/nf_userguide_v2.2.pdf

Numerical entries close: **21 June 2026**

Nominal entries close: **26 July 2026**

Each athlete competing must be entered by name.

Team personnel must also be submitted for accreditation at this time. These entries will be used to produce the accreditation cards for all teams.

Any questions or issues in regard to accessing SDP, should be sent to [**jstanojevic@canoe-eca.eu**](mailto:jstanojevic@canoe-eca.eu)

Any questions or issues in regard to entries should be sent to Chief Official/Chief judge at [**cwoodgate@canoe-eca.eu**](mailto:cwoodgate@canoe-eca.eu) prior to the respective deadline.

Final entries must be confirmed at the Team Leaders meeting.

Visa information

Essential Deadlines & Contact

- Visa Notification Deadline: No later than 10 July 2026.
- Action: Confirm with the Organizing Committee if your team requires entry visas.
- Submission: Email your completed visa forms to the French Canoe Federation (FFCK) at **events@ffck.org**
- Official Resource: French Foreign Affairs Ministry

The "Evin Law" (Loi Évin)

France has very strict regulations regarding the promotion of restricted substances at sporting events. To avoid penalties or being barred from the water:

Zero Alcohol/Tobacco Branding: No advertising for alcoholic beverages (including low-alcohol beer) or tobacco products is permitted.

Check Your Gear: This applies to everything—tracksuits, boats, paddles, helmets, and support vehicles.

Scope: This is enforced strictly inside the "sport arena" (the canoe slalom stadium).

Health & Anti-Doping

France operates under specific national legislation (Law N. 99-223) in addition to WADA standards.

Local Regulations: Be aware that French authorities have the right to conduct their own doping controls on French territory.

Medical Documentation: Ensure all athletes have their TUEs (Therapeutic Use Exemptions) updated and readily available.

Anti Doping Education

For the ICF World Championships, ICF World Cups and ICF Ranking Races and Continental Championships, every athlete, coach and support personnel **MUST** pass the relevant anti-doping online course on the Anti-Doping Education Learning platform (ADEL) corresponding to their role. Athletes entered in any ICF competition or Continental championships must complete the ICF's anti-doping education programme or equivalent before competing or risk being denied entry to the competition.

For more information please see: <https://www.canoeicf.com/anti-doping-education>

Anti-Doping certificates must send to **sara.seprenyi@mkkszh.hu**

Health & Anti-Doping

First Aid

First aid for countries will be located between flat water area and slalom course. The NF advise all participants that first aid services are only available for initial treatment of emergency cases.

Water safety

Rescue services will be organised in the competition area during official training and at competition times.

Medical insurance

The Organising Committee kindly asks all participants of the 2026 PEU Junior & U23 Slalom Championships to arrange their own medical insurance policy to cover all costs above the regular first aid ambulance and hospital services. The Organising Committee will not cover any such expenses.

Anti-doping requirements

Doping control will be performed in accordance with the PEU Anti-doping requirements and WADA standards.

Event Partners & Sponsors

Event organized by :



Event Partners & Sponsors

