



## **CANADIAN SPRINT CANOEKAYAK CHAMPIONSHIP ATTENDANCE POLICY**

The Canadian Sprint CanoeKayak Championship is the paddling community's premier racing event each year. As such, it is the primary vehicle for the promotion of the sport at the Club, Divisional and National level. The presence and participation of elite level paddlers is invaluable to their member Clubs, the Host Organizing Committee and CanoeKayak Canada. Given the importance of the Canadian Sprint CanoeKayak Championship, the Sprint Racing Council has approved the following policy that clearly defines the expectations of National Team athletes related to their participation at the Championships.

All National Team athletes are required to attend the Canadian Sprint CanoeKayak Championships unless they have received written permission from the HPC indicating otherwise.

National Team athletes are required to compete in at least one Olympic event at the competition, with the exception of the Olympic year, wherein athletes who compete in the Olympic Games are not required to race.

National Team Athletes will be requested to attend a recognition event(s) that highlights our various National Teams.

Requests to be excused from attending the Canadian Sprint CanoeKayak Championships must be made in writing to the HPC no later than 30 days prior to the start of the competition. If an athlete is injured and cannot race, they will not be required to race but will still be required to attend the competition and will be required to participate in athlete recognition events.

The following list of excusable and inexcusable requests is meant to serve as a guideline for the HPC and all athletes. It is not meant to be exhaustive as circumstances that have not been anticipated may arise.

Acceptable requests:

- Conflict with a competition or training camp that is critical in the athlete's preparation for the Olympics and World Championships. This competition or training camp must be approved in advance by the HPC;
- Medical exemption with a doctor's note (If the athlete is injured, they would still be required to attend, but not required to race.);
- Death in the family; or
- Competition conflicts with the wedding of an immediate family member, or the athlete's own wedding.

Unacceptable requests include the following:

- Traveling/vacation;
- A competition that is not critical to the athlete's preparation for the Olympics;
- Work;
- School;
- Engagement/honeymoon;
- Sickness or injury without a doctor's note; or
- Sponsorship opportunity/special event



If an athlete fails to comply with the policy as outlined above, the following penalties will be enforced:

- Total spring training camp funding will be reduced to 50% of the funding received by athletes who have a similar status (i.e.: World Team Member, D-Carded athlete, World Medalist) to a maximum of \$1,000. (NOTE: These funds will be earmarked for a specific initiative within the overall Sprint Racing Discipline budget as determined by staff.)

This policy was approved at a joint meeting of the HPC and DDC on January 19, 2008. The policy was subsequently approved by the Sprint Racing Executive Committee at their meeting on January 20, 2008. At the conclusion of the February 16-17, 2008 SRC meeting the policy was approved.