

# INVITATION

## Intellectual Impairment (II) Demonstration Races

Saturday, 13 June 2026  
Montemor-o-Velho, Portugal

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21 April 2026

Dear National Federations,

Dear II Teams,

European Canoe Association with its new name Paddle Europe is continuing its journey of inclusion and continuing integration of **Intellectual Impairment (II) Demonstration Races in 2026.**

Together with Special Olympic Europe, with great pleasure and honour, Paddle Europe and the Host Organising Committee would like to extend the invitation and include **Intellectual Impairment (II) Demonstration Races** to its program on 2026 Paddle Europe Sprint, Paracanoe and Masters Championships, 11-14 June 2026, Montemor-o-Velho Portugal.

For the second time at the Sprint European Championships, the athletes with intellectual disabilities will be given exceptional opportunity to showcase their talents, demonstrate courage, experience joy and sportsmanship. Not only their participation will enhance the overall championships but also promote the values of inclusivity, diversity and unity within European and global paddling community.

### DATE:

Saturday 13 June 2026

### LOCATION:

Montemor-o-Velho High performance Centre GPS: 40°10'29.9"N 8°39'17.8"W



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EUROPE**



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### EVENTS:

- Men K-1 200m
- Women K-1 200m
- Men “Unified” K-2 200m
- Women “Unified” K-2 200 m

- Boats for the K1 event will be provided by the athlete and must meet the ICF Paracanoe Technical requirements

- Boats for the Unified K2 will be provided by HOC.

### PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

13.05	Women	K2 II Unified	200 m	Final
13.10	Men	K1	200 m	Final
13.30	Women	K1	200 m	Final
13.35	Men	K2 II Unified	200 m	Final
13.45	Women	K2 II Unified	200 m	Medal ceremony
13.52	Women	K1	200 m	Medal ceremony
13.59	Men	K1	200 m	Medal ceremony
14.06	Men	K2 II Unified	200 m	Medal ceremony

*Note: Detailed timetable will be issued after the Nominal entries' deadline (01 June 2026).*

### ENTRY:

Entries can only be made by National Canoe Federations through the online entry system (SDP) of the ICF at: <https://icf.mev.atos.net/icf/main.jsp>

Competition can be found under PARACANOE:

Numerical Entry Deadline: **27 April 2026**

Nominal Entry Deadline: **1 June 2026**



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### Entry rules

- There is a maximum of nine (9) entries per event.
- All events will be Direct Finals.
- Athletes must submit proof of II eligibility. A submission of a Paracanoe Medical Diagnosis Form with an Intellectual Impairment (II) diagnosis signed by a medical doctor is sufficient.
- Able-bodied participants in the “Unified” K2 shall use the rear seat of the boat. SOI rules for Unified sports shall apply. Both participants in each crew shall be consistent training partners over a competition season.
- Competitors must meet the age requirements of the ICF for international competitions. Paracanoe Competition Rules:1.4.1 - The first year an athlete can compete in an ICF competition (level 1 to 3) or an international competition (level 4) is the year of their 15th birthday.
- NFs shall ensure that athletes meet medical health standards to compete
- All participants shall wear PFD's.

### Accommodation and Airport Transfer

The Host Organising Committee can offer their support in case accommodation and airport transfer are needed.

Please refer to the [BULLETIN](#) for detailed information on accommodation and airport transfer requests and conditions. For further instructions, before booking, please send an e-mail to [marcos@canoportugal.com](mailto:marcos@canoportugal.com)

More information on 2026 Paddle Europe Sprint, Paracanoe and Masters Championships in Montemor-o-Velho can be found on Paddle Europe website: <https://paddle-europe.eu/calendar/2026-eca-canoe-sprint-and-paracanoe-european-championships-586> and <https://paddle-europe.eu/documents#paracanoeing> or HOC website: [www.canoesprintportugal.com](http://www.canoesprintportugal.com)



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### Additional information and assistance:

For any further inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact:

HOC – Marcos Oliveira [marcos@canoeportugal.com](mailto:marcos@canoeportugal.com)

PEU Paracanoe technical Delegate – Robert Weisz [rweisz@canoe-eca.eu](mailto:rweisz@canoe-eca.eu)

PEU/SO coordinator – Roza Banasik Zaranksa [rozazar@wp.pl](mailto:rozazar@wp.pl)

Paddle Europe Office – Jovana Stanojevic: [jstanojevic@canoe-eca.eu](mailto:jstanojevic@canoe-eca.eu)

We will ensure to provide a smooth and efficient process of the organisation of Intellectual Impairment (II) Demonstration races in Portugal thus making important step towards the inclusion and future cooperation on European Championships level.

**We are looking forward to welcoming you all in Portugal!**



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