

Slalom Committee Chair Report for 2020

2020 Was a year that we will never forget. Covid -19 has changed how we do everything and now with all these changes we will start to move forward again and get back to the basics.

We were fortunate that we had our 2020 Senior & U23 Selection in 2019, and Junior Selection just had to be kept being assessed. In the end, we are very proud of our 2020 Canoe Slalom Team, they travelled Europe, completed at World Cup Races, European and World Championships. They stayed safe kept healthy and brought home medals. Our Men's C1 Team Silver Medal and Liam Jegou's Gold medal in Pau, France were the high lights to keep us motivated. Along with many Athletes achieving Semi Finals than before. So Congratulations to all of the 2020 Irish Canoe Slalom Team members, Senior, U23 and Junior.

At home unfortunately there was nothing we could do, no racing, no planning as the uncertainty made it impossible to prepare for anything until we saw the road map. Towards the end of 2020 we were able to have some training but no events locally happened. Continued waiting on the 2020 Olympics going ahead fingers crossed. It was like being a rollercoaster but not being able to get off the ride, up and down!

In September we did receive our Oscar Grant Boats! 12 Small Slalom boats that will be used for development. At present they are split with Ribbontail and Kilcullen Canoe Clubs who are doing the development training.

Behind the scenes the Committee's preparation did start for the 2021 Selection Policies, New governance policies were in the pipeline and works had begun on these. It was a year that we were just unable to do all the things that we wanted to. Fingers were crossed that 2021 would bring us closer to normal.

The New - Slalom Terms of Reference and Committee Standing Orders, are the Governance Documents we have been working with CI. These documents are now approved by the Board of Canoeing Ireland and will be our Committee guidelines going forward from tomorrow.

Thanks to everyone for their patience and understanding in 2020, to everyone who helps with Canoe Slalom – Committee members, athletes and family support. Thanks to all Canoeing Ireland Staff. Our CEO, Moira and our HPD Jon for all their support.

Additional Note:

As this AGM is late and we are almost through our 2021 season – Congratulations to all of our Athletes on their work this season. Development has slowly begun again, we thank Ribbontail & Kilcullen Canoe Clubs for the support. Robert Hendrick, Ethan Dowling, Oisín & Donnchadh Farrell for all their Coaching. We welcomed home our newest Olympian Liam Jegou. Flat water racing has started back slowly.

Kris Kohls, Slalom Chair August 2020