



Guam Kayak & Canoe Federation

P. O. Box 21809
GMF, Guam 96932

Rules for Sanctioned Sprint & Distance Events in Outrigger Canoeing & Kayak

[Adopted by the Board of the Guam Kayak and Canoe Federation in 2003]

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PART I. NOTES ON THIS DOCUMENT & AMENDMENTS

PART A. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. CONTROLS

[a] There shall be Guam Kayak and Canoe Federation (GKCF) sanctioned Qualifying Race Events and Annual Race Events race events:

1.1 Qualifying Events for upcoming GKCF Flag Events (i.e. South Pacific Games and Micronesian Games)

[a] Four (4) GKCF Qualifying Events will be held in the form of annual "GKCF Guam Championship Events" during one (1) year before a scheduled Federation Flag Event. These four annual events are:

- Guam OC1/Kayak Sprint Championship (with OC6 Sprint exhibition)
- Guam OC1/Kayak Distance Championship (with OC6 Distance exhibition)
- Guam OC6 Sprint Championship
- Guam OC6 Distance Championship

[b] Qualifying events can be held according to the standard annual paddling season ([Attachment 1](#)). In addition to these, an annual Slalom Championship will be sanctioned but may not be used as a Qualifying Event. Since slalom racing is unique to Guam, support will be given by the GKCF to maintain this type of racing in the form of an annual OC6 Slalom Championship. The Federation will adopt Slalom Rules.

[c] Qualifying Events are intended to ensure participation by athletes vying to be a member of "Team Guam". Each individual and/or team intending to try-out for Team Guam must be a financial member of a GKCF affiliated club and participate in a percentage of **qualifying events** that encompass OC1 and OC6 disciplines held during the standard paddling season. GKCF vote will determine the percentage of events required for qualification.

[d] A 10-year Event Schedule is provided in [Attachment 2](#) and shows which championship events act as qualifiers to upcoming Flag Events. A type of outrigger event may not be included in an upcoming GKCF Flag Event thus required participation in that event may not be necessary.

[e] Qualifying times for "Team Guam" selection will be determined by consideration of medal times from previous flag events and by best judgment of the selected Head Coach. Qualifying times should be met by "Team Guam" during applicable **qualifying events** and after an acceptable period of Team Guam training. (For instance, Team Guam may use the OC6 Guam Sprints Championship in June/July as the qualifier for the TEAM). If qualifying times are not met, participation in the upcoming Flag Event will be denied.

[f] Member clubs will administer a "GKCF Guam Championship Event" using the same rules that will be used in the upcoming Federation Flag Event.

[g] "GKCF Guam Championship Events" must be held at GKCF approved venues.

[h] In years dedicated to qualifying events, a member club may host their annual event but support from the GKCF as outlined here may not apply.

1.2 Annual Events

[a] A Flag Event may not be scheduled in the upcoming year and some Flag Events may not hold outrigger canoeing events. In order to support the activities and growth of GKCF-member clubs during these Federation years, GKCF will sanction member clubs to host four (5) **annual events** in the form of annual "GKCF Guam Championship Events" in OC1 and OC6 disciplines to be held according to the standard paddling season (same championships as above; see [Attachment 1 and Attachment 2](#)).

[b] Member clubs will administer the GKCF Guam Championship Events using GKCF Distance Race Rules or Slalom Racing Rules where applicable.

[c] The Championship Event may be held at club venues.

[d] GKCF's Risk Manager may approve the site and course.

1.3 Qualifying Events and Annual Events

- [a] Qualifying and Annual Events must be monitored by GKCF appointed officials.
- [b] Qualifying and Annual Events must be open to all paddlers.
- [c] All paddlers involved in both events will be registered with the GKCF. Registration requires that all participants be in good standing with their club, complete the GKCF Paddler Registration Form (Form 1), have approved GKCF insurance and that they sign appropriate waivers prior to involvement in any GKCF Event. The GKCF registrar will be responsible for maintaining a list of registered paddlers using software (i.e. MS Excel).
- [d] GKCF financially affiliated (member) clubs, under the direction of the GKCF, may administer these Events.
- [e] GKCF will provide financial support to the host club for promotion and administration of these approved Events.
- [f] GKCF equipment may be used for these Events.
- [g] The host club will retain all entry fees acquired from a sanctioned Event.
- [h] Hosting duty for these events will rotate among GKCF financially affiliated (member) clubs. Order of hosting duty is to be determined at the beginning of the season by federation vote.
- [i] The host club will supply vessels for each sanctioned event. In sprint events, the same type vessel will be used in all lanes/divisions/heats. In distance events, classes of vessels will be allowed.
- [k] GKCF will be responsible for maintaining an archive of course times and records, and team/individual placement to develop qualifying times.
- [l] Accurately measured courses must be used.
- [m] Any event, proposing to invite international competitors, shall be approved and sanctioned by the Board members of GKCF.

2. COMPETITOR ELIGIBILITY

- [a] Qualifying Events and Annual Events are open to all competitors in good standing with their club.
- [b] Qualifying Events are open to all Clubs whether or not they are a financial affiliated club of GKCF. However, to qualify for the National Team, each competitor must be a member of a financially affiliated club of GKCF unless otherwise approved by GKCF.
- [c] A competitor in each Qualifying Event and Annual Event may only paddle for one club of which he or she is a current and financial member. A competitor shall be a current and financial member of only one club at any one time. To participate in Qualifying Events and Annual Events, each club shall register all paddlers with the GKCF Registrar including proof of age where required, at least 14 days prior to that persons first Event. (Form 1)
- [d] GKCF representatives reserve the right to request proof of age of a competitor at any time.

3. AGE DIVISIONS FOR COMPETITORS

- The following age divisions shall apply to both OC6 and Solo canoe events:
- [a] Under 18 competitors both male and female are those who during the Calendar Year of competition are between 18 years and under and shall not turn 19 during that year. Section 4 (Age Divisions for Junior Competitors) below addresses Junior Divisions for GKCF sanctioned Events.
 - [b] Open competitors both male and female shall be of any adult age.
 - 1 Junior competitors to be eligible to compete in Open Division shall turn 16 in the Calendar

- 2. Year of competition and Have written parental/guardian permission (Form 2) and;
- 3. At the coaches discretion.
- [c] Master competitors both male and female shall have reached the age of 35 years during the Calendar Year of competition.
- [d] Senior Master competitors male and female shall have reached the age of 45 years during the Calendar Year of competition.
- [e] Golden master competitors, both male and female shall have reached the age of 55 years during the Calendar Year of competition.
- [f] In Qualifying Events, all teams shall be of the same gender applicable for that event. In Annual Events, teams shall be of the same gender applicable for that event unless otherwise approved by the GKCF Board.

4. AGE DIVISIONS FOR JUNIOR COMPETITORS

The following age divisions shall apply to both OC6 and Solo events

- [a] The minimum age for Junior Competitors shall be - they must turn **10 years of age prior to the Calendar Year of competition.**
- [b] Junior Division competitors shall not have reached the age of **19 years during the year of competition.**
- [c] The following Junior age divisions shall apply to Junior National Championships and all Junior Division categories for GKCF sanctioned races.
 - [1] 18 years and under (must not turn 19 in the Calendar Year of competition)
 - [2] 16 years and under (must not turn 17 in the Calendar Year of competition)
 - [3] 14 years and under (must not turn 15 in the Calendar Year of competition)
 - [4] 12 years and under (must not turn 13 in the Calendar Year of competition) and must turn 10 years before the Calendar Year of competition
- [d] For Junior National OC6 Championships, in the Junior 16 and Under and 18 and Under Division there may be up to three female competitors positioned in the canoe in any OC6 event.
- [e] For Junior National OC6 Championships in the Junior 12 and Under and 14 and Under Division there may be at least one of the opposite gender positioned in the canoe in any OC6 event.

PART B. EVENTS

1. REGISTRATION & FEES FOR QUALIFYING EVENTS AND ANNUAL EVENTS

- [a] For OC6 Events, a club shall submit an appropriate TEAM REGISTRATION FORM (Forms 3 – 5) together with the REGISTRATION FEES to the respective Event Registrar not less than 14 days prior to the event date or as may be amended by the GKCF Board. **This fee is non-refundable.** Team Registration is not to be accepted after this time unless the LATE REGISTRATION FEE is paid.
- [b] A club may list on the Team Registration Form three more paddlers than allowed in the race. These paddlers may be substituted for the original team and will be required to sign-in during the event check-in period that can be anywhere from 10 minutes to one hour prior to the event start. Once paddlers have signed in for an event, they will be required to stay in the assigned ‘paddlers holding area’. An event is from the beginning of the first heat through to and including the finals.
- [c] For OC1 Events, a team or competitor shall submit an appropriate PADDLER REGISTRATION FORM (Forms 6 & 7) correctly endorsed with the Paddler GKCF I.D. Number, to the respective

Event Registrar not less than 14 days prior to the event or as amended by the GKCF Board. **This fee is non-refundable.** Paddler Registration is not to be accepted after this time unless the LATE REGISTRATION FEE is paid.

- [d] Competitor(s) listed on a late registration form will not be allowed to compete unless the Late Registration Fee is paid.
- [e] Within 14 days after the event, the GKCF Board shall pay the appropriate share of Event monies (i.e. collected during Registration) or ensure the Host Club has collected the correct amount.
- [f] Only competitors named in the TEAM REGISTRATION FORM or in the PADDLER REGISTRATION FORM will be allowed to compete.
- [g] In any GKCF Sanctioned Event, a team shall consist of competitors who are members of the same club or made up of individuals of financially affiliated member clubs.
- [h] Any competitor wishing to withdraw from an event may do so only with good cause and shall notify the Race Director not less than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled event start time.
- [i] If a Senior or Junior competitor wishes to compete in more than one division at a race, that competitor must pay the Registration fee for the second or third division (i.e. If a masters competitor competes in both the masters and open 1000m at the same race, he/she must pay double the Registration Fee.)
- [j] Paragraph [i] of this section applies to both OC6 and Solo events within the same race (i.e. If a masters competitor competes in both the masters 1000m OC6 and masters 250m Solo at the same race, he/she must pay double the Registration Fee.)

2. EVENTS AND DISTANCES

- [a] In order for an event (division) at a Qualifying National Championship to take place, a minimum of three teams/individuals must be entered. In order for an event (division) at an Annual Championship Event to take place, a minimum of three teams/individuals must be entered unless otherwise approved by the GKCF Board.

2.1 SPRINT QUALIFYING AND ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS [OC6 and Solo]

- [1] OC6 Sprint Championship Golden Master Men and Women, Senior Master Men and Women, Master Men and Women, Open Men and Women divisions, or such other division[s] as may be approved pursuant to Rule Part A [3] (Age divisions for competitors), shall be held over a distance between 500 meters and 3,000 meters as determined by the Host Club of Annual Events and approved by the GKCF Board or as determined and approved by the GKCF Board for Qualifying Events.

- [2] Solo Sprint Championship Golden Master Men and Women, Senior Master Men and Women, Master Men and Women, Open Men and Women divisions shall be held over a distance between 250 meters and 1500 meters as determined by the Host Club of Annual Events and approved by the GKCF Board or as determined and approved by the GKCF Board for Qualifying Events.

- [3] Junior divisions shall be held over the following distances:

OC6	[a]	18 yrs up to 2,000 meters
	[b]	16 yrs up to 1,000 meters
	[c]	14 yrs up to 500 meters
	[d]	12 yrs up to 500 meters

Solo	[a]	18 yrs up to 500 meters
	[b]	16 yrs up to 500 meters
	[c]	14 yrs up to 250 meters
	[d]	12 yrs up to 250 meters

as determined by the Host Club of Annual Events and approved by the GKCF Youth Development Committee.

- [4] At the discretion of the Race Director and approval from GKCF Representative (if not the same persons), if Annual Championship Events in Sprint or Distance cannot be held because of prevailing conditions an alternative race venue may be substituted.
- [5] Rule 4 above does not apply to Qualifying Championship Events. The Qualifying Championship Event must be rescheduled.

2.2 DISTANCE QUALIFYING AND ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS [OC6 and Solo]

- [1] Subject to Rule Part B.2.A., where sufficient registration occurs, Golden Master Men and Women, Senior Master Men and Women, Master Men and Women, Open Men and Women and Junior Divisions shall be held.
- [2] GKCF Sanctioned Qualifying and Annual Distance Championship Events for all OC6 divisions shall be held over a distance not less than the upcoming flag event (SPG, Micronesian Games, Olympics) or as determined by the Host Club and approved by the GKCF Board.
- [3] OC6 Junior divisions shall be held over the following distances:

OC6	[a]	18 yrs - up to 9 miles
	[b]	16 yrs - up to 7 miles
	[c]	14 yrs - up to 3 miles
	[d]	12 yrs - up to 1.5 miles

as determined by the Host Club of Annual Events and approved by the GKCF Youth Development Committee.

- [4] All distance races or paddling activities are to stop, be cancelled and an alternative safe area is used when the appropriate authorities have issued a small craft warning.
- [5] For Qualifying Events, GKCF or respective committee must approve the alternative course before being used. Form 8, Sanctioned Event Application, requires that an alternative course be listed. The event GKCF representative must be informed in a timely manner of any decision made in respect to alternative courses to be used during a small craft warning.

3. ANNUAL CHAMPION CLUB

- [a] In any GKCF Champion Event, points shall be awarded to all registered teams and solo competitors.
- [b] The champion club of GKCF affiliated clubs in Senior and Junior divisions shall be the club that accumulates the greatest number of points at GKCF Championship Events during the year of competition from combined OC6 and Solo points.
- [c] If clubs are on equal points, the champion club shall be the club with the most first placegetters in events. If still even, the club with the most second placegetters in events. If still even, the club with the most third placegetters in events.

4. POINTS

- [a] The following point scoring system shall be used for all GKCF Championship Events as applicable to each category:

4.1 SOLO GKCF CHAMPIONSHIP DISTANCE EVENTS

Points will be awarded to sixth place.

1st place	=	9 points	4th place	=	3 points
2nd place	=	7 points	5th place	=	2 points
3rd place	=	5 points	6th place	=	1 point

4.2 OC6 GKCF CHAMPIONSHIP DISTANCE EVENTS

Points will be awarded to 10th place, and one point will be awarded to all other teams completing an OC6 Distance Championship event from and including 11th place.

1st place	=	14 points	6th place	=	6 points
2nd place	=	12 points	7th place	=	5 points
3rd place	=	10 points	8th place	=	4 points
4th place	=	8 points	9th place	=	3 points
5th place	=	7 points	10th place	=	2 points

4.3 OC6/SOLO SPRINTS

6 lanes Final

1st place	=	7 points	4th place	=	1 point
2nd place	=	5 points	5th place	=	1 point
3rd place	=	3 points	6th place	=	1 point

5 lanes Final

1st place	=	7 points	4th place	=	1 point
2nd place	=	5 points	5th place	=	1 point
3rd place	=	3 points			

4 lanes Final

1st place	=	7 points	3rd place	=	3 points
2nd place	=	5 points	4th place	=	1 point

5. AWARDS AND PRIZES

- [a] At GKCF Qualifying Championship Events, GKCF approved awards are to be given.
- [b] At Annual Championship Events awards that are to be presented shall be determined by the Host Club and approved by GKCF.

6. INVITATIONS FOR GKCF SANCTIONED RACES

6.1 INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL EVENTS

- [1] Invitations to International and National Championship Events approved by GKCF shall be sent at least 4 months before the event.
- [2] Invitations and programs are to be approved by GKCF.

6.2 GKCF SANCTIONED QUALIFYING AND ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

- [1] Invitations to clubs should be sent not less than 1 month before the event.
- [2] Invitations are to be approved by the GKCF Board.
- [3] All invitations should contain at least the following information:
 - [a] Date and place of competition
 - [b] Map of course including special or dangerous areas. i.e. reefs, pipelines etc.
 - [c] Divisions and race distances
 - [d] Race program
 - [e] Registration fee to be incurred
 - [f] Event Registrar contact.
 - [g] Closing date for Registration.

7. SPRINT HEAT AND LANE ASSIGNMENT

- [a] The minimum number of lanes is 4.
- [b] The maximum number of lanes is 8.

- [c] Lanes shall be numbered so that lane 1 is closest to the beach or on the left if course is run seaward.
- [d] If teams or competitors number more than the lanes available, heats shall be held.
- [e] An event may consist of 2 or more heats.
- [f] An event may be classed as a final if the number of teams or competitors do not allow for heats.
- [g] The difference between the numbers of teams/individual competitors in each heat shall not be more than 1.
- [h] Heat/lane assignments of teams and competitors for each division, for both Qualifying and Annual Championships, shall be determined by ballot.
- [i] The finalists in each event are determined by the number of lanes so that only one final may be held.
- [j] Lane assignments of teams and competitors, for both Qualifying and Annual Championships finals, shall be determined by fastest times in heats or by ballot if heats are not held.
- [k] Teams or competitors placing first in each heat will gain an automatic placing in the finals with the remaining lanes allocated to the teams or competitors with the next fastest times.
- [l] Lane assignments for finals at Qualifying and Annual Championships are to be determined by the fastest team or competitor being allocated the center lane with the slower teams being allocated the outside lanes in descending order.
- [m] If teams or competitors fail to report for the start of a heat or are withdrawn from the heats, which makes the elimination of an entire event possible, the Race Director may restructure the event or cancel it at any time before the event starts.
- [n] All finals shall be on the same day of the competition where possible.

PART C. EQUIPMENT

1. HULL SPECIFICATIONS [General]

- [a] An outrigger canoe [OC6 or OC2 or Solo], unless otherwise approved by the GKCF Board, shall comprise of 1 hull, 2 iakos and 1 ama.
- [b] The Outrigger (Galaide) assembly consisting of 2 iakos (Latgerus) and the ama (Luchang Galaide), of each canoe, must be deemed functional in its purpose as a counterpoise and in keeping with the spirit of the sport.
- [c] On and from the commencement of the year of competition, a canoe [OC6 or OC2 or Solo] complying with the following specifications will be eligible to compete in any GKCF Sanctioned Qualifying and Annual Championship.
- [d] Before that canoe can be used to compete at these events, it must be inspected and approved by members of the GKCF Board or their appointed representatives. GKCF Secretary will keep a Canoe Log ([Form 9](#)).
- [e] All canoes manufactured by GKCF approved manufacturers will be eligible to compete in GKCF Sanctioned Qualifying and Annual Championships.
- [f] All canoes [OC6, OC2 and Solo], must comply with GKCF Safety Standards.

2. OUTRIGGER CANOE SIX PERSON [OC6] HULL SPECIFICATIONS

- [a] A canoe hull falling within the GKCF approved design specifications as described in [Attachment 3](#)

and adopted by the GKCF Board, shall be eligible to compete in all GKCF events.

- [b] Or such other canoes as may be approved by the GKCF Board from time to time.
- [c] Minimum hull weight of 375 pounds.
- [d] The hull and ama may be made from fiberglass while the iakos shall be made of wood.
- [e] Ama and iakos may only be lashed to the canoe. No other means may be used unless approved by GKCF.
- [f] The front iako must be lashed between the 2nd and 3rd paddlers' position. The rear iako must be lashed between the 4th and 5th paddlers' position.
- [g] See Attachment 3 for a more detailed information sheet.

3. SOLO OUTRIGGER CANOE [OC1] HULL SPECIFICATIONS

The GKCF Board or their appointed representatives must approve any alterations to the manufacturer's original design.

A Solo canoe design must comply with the following specifications:

- [1] **All canoes must be individually inspected by a GKCF inspector or an approved representative.**
 - [a] Minimum hull weight of 20 pounds. **ALL CANOES SHALL BE WEIGHED WITH THE SEAT REMOVED – BARE HULL ONLY**
 - [b] The hull, ama and iakos may be made from any material.
 - [c] An iako must be positioned to the front and rear of the paddlers seated position.
 - [d] The ama and iakos may be secured to the hull by any means as approved by GKCF.
 - [e] A canoe may be fitted with a rudder and rudder controls. [See NOTES 1 and 2]
 - [f] Quick release leg leashes **MUST BE FITTED AND WORN** in all events other than in sprint events. If not supplied by the manufacturer, the coiled body board type is recommended.

NOTES:

- [1] Competitors are reminded that at certain events, rudder and rudder controls cannot be used.
- [2] It is the responsibility of each competitor to be familiar with these requirements before competing at each event, as penalties or disqualification may occur.

3.1 OUTRIGGER CANOE [OC2] HULL SPECIFICATIONS

The GKCF Board must approve any alterations to the manufacturer's original design.

An OC2 canoe design must comply with the following specifications:

- [a] Minimum hull weight of 30 pounds. **ALL CANOES SHALL BE WEIGHED WITH SEATS REMOVED – BARE HULL ONLY.**
- [b] The hull, ama and iakos may be made from any material.
- [c] An iako must be positioned to the front and rear of the paddlers seated position.
- [d] The ama and iakos may be secured to the hull by any means as approved by GKCF.

- [e] A canoe may be fitted with a rudder and rudder controls. [See NOTES 1 and 2]
- [f] Quick release leg leashes **MUST BE FITTED AND WORN** in all events other than in sprint events. If not supplied by the manufacture the coiled Body board type is recommended.

NOTES:

- [1] Competitors are reminded that at certain events rudder and rudder controls cannot be used.
- [2] It is the responsibility of each competitor to be familiar with these requirements before competing at each event, as penalties or disqualification may occur.

4. CANOE ACCESSORIES [OC6, OC2 and Solo Canoes]

- [a] All canoe accessories shall include ama, iakos, skirts and lashings.
- [b] Lashings may be made from either rubber or rope.
- [c] Covers on top of a canoe [skirts] to prevent swamping shall be permitted at any time or as directed by the Race Director, GKCF, or respective representative. They maybe made from any material.
- [d] Ama and iako rigging is permitted only on the left [port] side of canoe for sprint and distance events.

5. WEIGHING AND INSPECTION OF CANOES

- [a] **All new canoes shall be weighed and certified at the point of manufacture. This guarantee shall be submitted to GKCF.**
- [b] All new design canoes OC6, OC2 and OC1 and any other type that may be approved by GKCF shall be inspected, measured, weighed and certified by GKCF inspector or representative before being eligible to compete in any Championship event.
- [c] **All existing canoes shall be weighed and inspected for safety standards by the GKCF Board before the canoe is eligible to participate in any Championship Event.**
- [d] A certificate verifying the weight of the canoe is to be supplied to the GKCF inspector or representative and the club concerned is to preserve the certificate for presentation upon request.
- [e] Compulsory weighing of all canoes each season shall not be necessary unless major work is carried out or a protest is received relating to a canoe.
- [f] At the discretion of the GKCF Board a canoe may be weighed and/or measured at any time.
- [g] If weight, which is to be added to a hull, is unable to be made up by adding fibreglass, the additional weight is to be made up with lead weights only. The weights must be fibreglassed onto the hull or under the seat/s in OC6 canoes but not in a position that may alter any other specifications of the canoe or give a paddler an unfair advantage. If a weight discrepancy is detected before the start of a race the weights must be secured under a seat or seats, but not in a position that may give a paddler an unfair advantage.
- [h] A canoe shall not be altered in any way after the canoe has been inspected, unless altered for safety reasons or at the direction of the GKCF or appointed representatives. If the canoe is altered, GKCF, the respective Committee or the Race Director must be informed immediately.

6. THE PADDLES

- [a] A Paddle shall have 1 blade only and may be any shape or size.
- [b] A paddle may be made from any material. [See NOTES 1 and 2]

- [c] Extra paddles are allowed in each canoe during an event - At least one during a sprint event and an unlimited number during a distance event. Refer to Part C.7 [f] below with regard to the transport of equipment to a canoe.

NOTES:

- [1] At certain events only paddles made from wood may be used.
- [2] It is the responsibility of each competitor to ensure that they know what material is acceptable at each event, as penalties and/or disqualification may occur.

7. TEAM SUPPORT BOAT

- [a] Each team may have the use of 1 support boat only to assist in the retrieving of paddlers in Distance Championship events that allow water changes.
- [b] The use of more than 1 support boat is not permitted to retrieve paddlers, however a mother boat may be used where a smaller boat may return the paddlers after being retrieved from the water. This boat must remain well clear of all competing canoes and if it causes any interference with any canoe the team/s using the boat at the discretion of the Race Director are to be disqualified.
- [c] At no time will a support boat deliberately try to assist its own canoe or be detrimental to the progress of another canoe.
- [d] Except when changing or retrieving paddlers, all support boats shall remain at least 100 meters distance from all competing teams and or competitors.
- [e] Where possible, support boats must be downwind of competitors.
- [f] A support boat (or any other craft) shall not be used for the transport of any article directly to a canoe, except in an emergency. The article must be dropped off in the water and recovered by the team or competitor or given to them by a swimmer.
- [g] Each team may have an inspector assigned by the Race Committee who will accompany the team on the support boat. The inspector shall enforce all race rules and report, any such breach of these rules immediately the rule has been breached, or immediately after the race has finished, to the Race Director.
- [h] Coaching from outside the canoe by any person is strictly forbidden, except for when teams are executing paddler changeovers. If coaching from outside the canoe is detected that team/competitor may be disqualified. (This excludes encouragement from supporters.)

PART D. COURSE RULES**1. DISTANCE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS**

- [a] An event will be started by the starter who shall be positioned near the start line in view of all competitors in the event. The start shall be in accordance with Rule D.9. below.
- [b] If a canoe overturns 2 minutes prior to the start of an event [yellow flag], the team or competitor shall be eliminated from the event, if the competitor or team does not resume their position in the canoe within 3 minutes without any outside help.
- [c] There shall be no recall on false starts.
- [d] If any team or competitors canoe is past the start line before the start of a race they shall be penalized by having 10 minutes added to their finishing time, after official warning/s or at the Race Directors discretion.
- [e] The start line shall be an imaginary line between the start buoys.
- [f] The Race Director/Starter shall be responsible for enforcing a proper start.

- [g] A canoe shall follow the instructions as provided by the Race Director from time to time. A canoe may follow its preferred course between designated markers.
- [h] A canoe overtaking another canoe shall change direction and go around the slower canoe and in a manner so as not to interfere with its progress.
- [i] A canoe being overtaken must not hinder the faster canoe overtaking it in the straightaway.
- [j] Where a canoe changes course to affect an impact on another vessel (ramming) to alter that canoe's progress/course, shall be cause for disqualification.
- [k] Interference with another canoe during an event is a cause for disqualification.
- [l] A turn without the entire canoe and ama rounding a turn buoy is cause for disqualification. A canoe may avoid such disqualification if it subsequently correctly rounds that turn buoy.

2. RIGHT OF WAY AT TURNING BUOYS – DISTANCE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS.

- [a] Right of way at turning buoys will be given to:
 - [1] The leading canoe
 - [2] In the case of the canoes being level or overlapping, right of way will be given to the **INSIDE CANOE**, immediately prior to the turn buoy.
 - [3] If the **OUTSIDE** or **OVERTAKING CANOE** causes interference that team/competitor shall be disqualified.
 - [4] Turn judges are to be positioned on the inside of the turning buoy or marker.
 - [5] Turn judges will determine decisions relating to canoe positions when a protest is lodged.

3. TURNING BUOYS – SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

- [a] A canoe shall be disqualified if it causes interference to another canoe while outside the assigned lane.
- [b] While an event is taking place, competitors/coaches who are not racing shall not be permitted on or near the start line, the turning buoy of lane one, lane one boundary closest to the beach and the beach. Teams or competitors found in this area might at the discretion of the Race Director be disqualified from competing.
- [c] Any event of a distance greater than the sprint course [Rule B.2] shall involve turns.
- [d] Turns are to be made counter-clockwise around the turn buoy. Turning otherwise or without the entire canoe and ama rounding the turn buoy is a disqualification. A canoe may avoid such disqualification if it subsequently correctly rounds that turn buoy.
- [e] Coaching of a team or competitor from outside the canoe is forbidden and if detected disqualification of that team or competitor may occur.
- [f] Once the **red flag** is displayed by the starter the responsibility is upon each and every team and/or competitor to ensure the bow of the canoe does not cross the start line and is not in a forward motion before the lowering of the green flag as disqualification of the team/s or competitor/s may result.
- [g] If a team or competitor after being warned or disobeys the red flag signal, continues to line up with an unfair advantage at the start line, the starter will disqualify the team or competitor.
- [h] The team or competitor must be notified as soon as possible after the commencement or completion of the event of the disqualification.

**4. PADDLERS AND RELIEF PADDLERS
DISTANCE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS**

- [a]
 - [1] A maximum of 9 paddlers per team may register for a distance event. If the event does not include water changes, the extra 3 paddlers will be known as alternates prior to the 'check-in' process.

- [2] In any Distance Championship Event exceeding 15 miles a team may consist of a maximum of 9 paddlers. Championship Events of a lesser distance may include changeovers if GKCF or the respective committee has given prior approval.
- [3] There shall be no more than 6 paddlers in any one canoe at any time during the event.
- [4] Original and or relief paddlers may be used at the discretion of the captain or coach within the guidelines of the approved program.
- [5] During Events with water changes, the first change of paddlers shall not take place for 30 minutes from the start of the event. A breach of this rule is a cause for immediate disqualification. The inspector on each support boat shall notify the team of this time.

[b] **SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS**

- [1] A maximum of 9 paddlers per team may register for each event and any of these paddlers may paddle for that crew in that event.
- [2] Paddlers slated for the event will be required to sign-in during the 'check-in' process before a scheduled event. The 'check-in' process will occur anywhere from 10 minutes to 1 hour prior to an event.

5. SWAMPING OR OVERTURNING OF CANOES

- [a] If a canoe swamps or overturns after the start of an event, the canoe may be righted and bailed out by the use of buckets or similar items and then may continue on in the event. Mechanical or electrical devices are not permitted to be used to bail out a canoe unless in an extreme emergency.
- [b] Relief paddlers only of that team on the assigned support boat may assist in righting and/or bailing out of a swamped or overturned canoe in distance races only.
- [c] A support boat shall stand by and render any assistance to the swamped canoe. The support boat shall not tow a swamped canoe in the direction of the finish line while the canoe is still officially entered in the event.
- [d] A judgment decision on the part of the inspector and support boat captain shall prevail.

6. POSITION IN CANOE

- [a] A paddler shall sit on seats, kneeling is not permitted.
- [b] Moving off the seat while turning a buoy or marker is permitted.

7. COURSE MARKERS

[a] **SPRINT EVENT**

- [1] The course shall be marked by clearly visible buoys.
- [2] Whenever turns are required, colored turning buoys shall be located in the center of the lanes and shall be numbered accordingly.
- [3] Smaller white buoys shall mark Lane boundaries.
- [4] Lane boundary marker buoys must be positioned at the midway point of the straightaway.

[b] **DISTANCE EVENT**

- [1] The course shall be clearly shown on the race map, turning points, danger zones, i.e. reefs and any other obstacles shall also be shown. These are to be marked by large clearly visible buoys unless otherwise determined and clearly detailed at race briefings.
- [2] Start buoys shall be placed wide enough apart to accommodate all canoes, side by side. A beach start shall be between two flags, again to accommodate all canoes side by side.

[3] The first turning buoy of a distance course shall be a minimum of 1 mile from the start.

8. COURSE DIMENSION

- [a] A sprint course shall be either 250 meters or 500 meters in length with lanes 25-30 meters wide and in a straight line.
- [b] A sprint course shall be on water with a depth of at least 0.6 meters (2 feet).
- [c] A distance course shall be determined by the Host Club and approved by GKCF, or the relevant Committee as applicable. The distance shall be in accordance with Rule B.2.
- [d] If the weather, sea or any other factor causes changes to the course, the GKCF shall be notified, and will be clearly outlined at the captains and steerers briefing.
- [e] At the Race Directors discretion and during an annual event only, a course may be altered during the course of an event provided all competitors are notified.

9. START OF AN EVENT

- [a] Competitors must be present at the starting line at the time shown on the program or as otherwise directed by the Race Director.
- [b] Starting signals shall be given regardless of absentees.
- [c] All competitors are under the control of the starter 2 minutes prior to the posted event start time.
- [d] Once the 2-minute signal has been exhibited by a raised yellow flag, the event shall start 2 minutes later regardless of absentees, overturned canoes or broken paddles.
- [e] With 30 seconds remaining, the yellow flag shall be replaced with a red flag. With 10 seconds remaining, the red flag shall be replaced with a green flag with the race commencing on the fall of that flag. A blast from a sound device may also be activated.
- [f] Under certain conditions and at the direction of the Race Director the start sequence will remain the same however intervals between flags may be shortened.
- [g] If a canoe overturns 2 minutes prior to the start of an event [yellow flag], the team or competitor shall be eliminated from the event if the competitor or team does not resume their position in the canoe within 3 minutes without any outside help.
- [h] The position of the canoe at the start of an event shall be such that the bow of each competing canoe is lined up on but not crossing the starting line.
- [i] The canoe must not be moving or travelling in a forward motion.
- [j] The start line is an imaginary line drawn between the 2 extreme lanes or turning buoys in sprint events and between 2 markers for distance events.
- [k] The Starter shall communicate where possible with the team or competitor in any canoe that is not lined up evenly, or the starter may raise a **black flag** indicating that a canoe is over the start line.
- [l] Once the **black flag** is displayed by the starter the responsibility is upon each and every team and/or competitor to ensure the bow of the canoe does not cross the start line and is not in a forward motion before the lowering of the green flag as disqualification of the team/s or competitor/s may result.
- [m] If a team or competitor after being warned or disobeys the black flag signal, continues to line up with an unfair advantage at the start line, the starter will disqualify the team or competitor.
- [n] The team or competitor must be notified as soon as possible after the commencement or

completion of the event of the disqualification.

- [o] The Race Committee may formulate a detailed starting procedure for each race, with prior approval from the management committee of GKCF.

10. FINISH OF AN EVENT

- [a] The finish of any event is when the bow of the canoe passes the finish line between the finish buoys/flags.
- [b] The finish line is an imaginary line drawn between the 2 extreme lanes or turning buoys in sprint events or between 2 markers for distance events. Finish lines shall not be placed in small channels during a distance event.
- [c] In a sprint event, a canoe must pass the finish line within the assigned lane.
- [d] In an OC6 event, a canoe must finish the event with the 6 registered competitors in the canoe in order to qualify for placement awards and points.

11. INTERRUPTION

- [a] The Race Director may authorize the interruption of a race if an unforeseen problem occurs.
- [b] A red flag and or signal will be used to stop the event.
- [c] If an event is declared null and void, no change in the structure of the team is allowed for the restart of that event.

PART E. DISQUALIFICATION AND PROTESTS

1. DISQUALIFICATION

- [a] Only the Race Director may disqualify a Club, Team or Competitor from competing after consultation with the appropriate officials. The Club, Team or Competitor shall be given the reasons for disqualification in writing at the time of notification by the Race Director.
- [b] Any team or competitor who attempts to win an event by means other than honest or who does not comply with these race rules or, who by his or her conduct, clearly shows a lack of respect of the said rules, or appointed officials shall be disqualified.
- [c] The following are cause for automatic disqualification;
 - [1] Non compliance with a direction given by the Race Director or a GKCF appointed official.
 - [2] Abusive language or threatening behaviour towards the Race Director, an appointed official or another competitor.
 - [3] Not being a paddler in good standing with their club.
 - [4] Competing for more than one team in an event (division). This action will disqualify both teams from the event.
 - [5] Not meeting the age requirements of each division.
 - [6] Interfering with another canoe while outside an assigned lane.
 - [7] Starting or finishing outside an assigned lane.
 - [8] Paddling not in a seated position.
 - [9] Non-compliance with the starters directions.
 - [10] In sprint events, not rounding a turn buoy in a counter-clockwise direction, unless the offending canoe immediately turns the buoy in the correct manner.

- [11] In sprint events turns without the entire canoe and ama rounding a turn or marker buoy. A canoe may avoid disqualification if it subsequently correctly rounds that buoy.
- [12] A person holding a canoe pushes a canoe in a direction that gives them an advantage.
- [13] Persons interfering with another canoe so as to cause an unfair advantage.
- [14] If the steerer/captain of a canoe fails to notify the Race Director of the canoe number or identification markings prior to the start of any heat or final.
- [15] In a distance event an overtaking canoe fails to give way in the prescribed manner [Rule D.2.]
- [16] A competitor administers a banned substance or consumes alcohol as provided by in these rules.
- [17] A team or competitor receiving coaching from outside the canoe other than as proscribed in these rules.
- [18] Where a canoe changes course to effect an impact on another canoe (ramming to alter that canoe's progress/course.)

2. PROTEST

- [a] A protest shall be submitted and shall be delivered together with the Protest Lodgement Fee to the Race Director not later than 15 minutes after completion of the heat/final
- [b] A protest fee of \$75.00 shall be submitted to the Race Director. If the protest is upheld the fee shall be refunded in full. If the protest is dismissed, the fee shall be forfeited to GKCF, or respective committee.
- [c] On receipt of a protest the Race Director shall immediately notify all parties involved in the protest.
- [d] Within 10 minutes the Race Director shall deliver the protest to the Protest Committee for deliberation.
- [e] The Protest Committee shall hear, investigate, and rule on all protests and any other matter brought before it by the Race Director.
- [f] A disqualification pronounced by the Protest Committee shall be confirmed verbally outlining the reasons for the decision to the club official, team captain or competitor by the Race Director.
- [g] Any ruling made by the Protest Committee shall be final.

PART F. DRUGS AND ALCOHOL (see www.gnoc.com- GNOC Anti-doping Code)

1. The use of banned substances, by competitors, as described and listed by the International Olympic Committee and the Guam National Olympic Committee (GNOC) as amended from time to time is prohibited.
2. The guideline laid down by the GNOC is to be adopted by GKCF and the respective committees.
3. The consumption of alcohol by junior competitors at any Junior event is forbidden regardless of age.
4. It is strongly recommended that competitors 18 years and older do not consume alcohol while competing at a sprint or distance race. If underage drinking occurs, the proper authorities will be called and any underage paddler will be banned from GKCF events.

PART G. OFFICIALS

1. LIST OF OFFICIALS

All federation sanctioned events are to be organised under the direction of GKCF. The following

officials are to be appointed by the Host Club:

- [a] Race Director
- [b] Race Committee
- [c] Protest Committee
- [d] Course and Facilities Inspector
- [e] Paddler Inspector
- [f] Starter and Assistant Starter
- [g] Course Judges
- [h] Turn Judges
- [i] Finish Line Judges
- [j] Time Keepers
- [k] Race Registrar
- [l] Recorders
- [m] Race Secretary
- [n] Announcer
- [o] First Aid

2. RACE DIRECTOR

- [a] The Race Director shall not be a competitor in any event at that race.
- [b] The Race Director shall ensure that the rules concerning the equipment are observed for all competitors taking part in an event.
- [c] The Race Director shall ensure that the announcer provides the spectators with all necessary information in regard to events.
- [d] The Race Director shall ensure that all official boat crews are briefed on their responsibilities and are conversant with these rules.
- [e] The Race Director shall be responsible for announcing all disqualifications.

3. RACE COMMITTEE

- [a] The Race Committee shall consist of the Race Director and up to 4 members of the Host Club.
- [b] The Race Committee, under the direction of the Race Director, shall co-ordinate the competition, supervise its progress, and amongst their duties shall:
 - [1] Brief all officials on their respective duties in accordance with the Race Rules.
 - [2] Ensure that the race course is accurate.
 - [3] Assign competitors to heats and lanes in accordance with Rule B.7.
 - [4] Inspect equipment when required.
 - [5] Inform GKCF of required information (i.e. competition results, paddler names) within 7 days after the completion of the race.

4. PROTEST COMMITTEE

- [a] Subject to sub-clause [c], a Protest Committee shall consist of 3 members, with the Race Director, empowered to call upon any other members from any other club affiliated within GKCF to officiate, providing that member is not a member of or associated with any club involved in the protest.
- [b] A quorum of a Protest Committee shall be not less than 3 persons who shall not be members of any club involved in the protest.

5. COURSE AND FACILITIES INSPECTOR

- [a] The official appointed to this position must ensure that the distances and other features indicated on the course map from the approved program for the race are accurate. The official is also to ensure that all the required facilities are available. See [Form 8](#) for required facilities.

- [b] The official appointed to this position may develop a map of the venue showing where facilities, tents, etc are located.
- [c] If the course or facilities are not approved, the race is to be suspended or cancelled until the appropriate committee gives such approval.

6. PADDLER INSPECTION

- [a] A Paddler Inspector shall ensure that the competitors in an event are only those named on the Registration form and that no illegal equipment is used in an event.
- [b] An area termed the "Check-in Area" should be available where the competitors will check in with their GKCF I.D. Card and report to the Paddler Inspector when called. See Attachment 5.
- [c] An area termed the "Paddler Holding Area" should be available where competitors are to go directly after they leave the "Check-in Area" and before they enter the water. See Attachment 6.

7. STARTER AND ASSISTANT STARTER

- [a] There shall be a starter who shall have an assistant.
- [b] The starter shall be positioned near the start line with a clear view of all competitors and can be seen by all competitors in all events.
- [c] The Starter shall communicate with and be satisfied that all officials are ready for the start of an event.
- [d] The Starter shall start an event in accordance with Rule D.9.
- [e] The Starter shall decide on all matters concerning event starts and is solely responsible for decisions in the case where canoes are not lined evenly.
- [f] The Starter shall ensure that the starter flags are on site.
- [g] The Starter shall ensure the competitors are in their assigned lanes.
- [h] The Starter, if unable to communicate with any team/competitor, is to display a black flag to indicate a canoe has crossed the start line and will still continue with the start sequence as described in Rule D.9.
- [i] The assistant starter is to ensure the number of the heat in a sprint event prior to the start of that heat has been announced and the competitors assigned to that heat would approach the start line when the yellow flag is displayed.
- [j] The assistant starter shall be positioned so as to be in alignment with the start line and ensure that no canoe crosses that line prior to the green flag being lowered.
- [k] If a canoe crosses the start line the assistant starter is to display a black flag and attempt to communicate with the canoe/s.

8. COURSE JUDGES

- [a] The Race Director shall assign a Course Judge at every critical point or turn on the water during a distance event.
- [b] A Course Judge shall look for violations of race rules and shall immediately notify the Race Director of any such violation.

9. TURN JUDGES

- [a] In any sprint event, there shall be 2 to 4 Turn Judges who shall be positioned to give them a clear view of the turning buoys.
- [b] The Turn Judges shall ensure that competitors negotiate their turn buoy and the straightaway, in

compliance with the rules and shall immediately notify the Race Director of any non-compliance.

- [c] In any distance event the turn judges must be positioned on the inside of the buoy so any breach of these rules can be judged and notify the Race Director immediately of any non-compliance.

10. FINISH LINE JUDGES

There shall be 2 Finish Line Judges who shall decide and record the order in which the competitors cross the finish line.

11. TIME KEEPERS

- [a] There shall be 2 or more Timers who shall be solely responsible for timing events and shall ensure that times are recorded and rule on any time discrepancies. Use of approved Heat Sheets is recommended (see [Form 10](#)).
- [b] In sprint events there is to be a timekeeper assigned to each lane.

12. RACE REGISTRAR

- [a] The Race Registrar shall be responsible to GKCF for the recording of all events (divisions) at each sanctioned race and the return of all GKCF Forms completed as required within seven days.
- [b] All records of all sanctioned events shall be maintained for a period of 12 months from the end of the race season.

13. RECORDERS

- [a] The Recorders shall record the results of each event and prepare any necessary information under the supervision of the Senior Recorder.
- [b] The Senior Recorder shall work closely with the Race Registrar and Announcer to ensure that race information is made available to the public.

14. RACE SECRETARY

- [a] The Race Secretary shall provide all information required to the media representatives in regard to the progress of events and results.
- [b] The Race Secretary shall have overall responsibility for all documents involving the competition.
- [c] He or she shall work closely with the Race Director.

15. ANNOUNCER

- [a] The Announcer shall be responsible to keep the competitors and spectators informed of events and results.
- [b] He/she shall call events in progress and give any information, which enhances the spectators, interest in the sport.
- [c] He or she shall announce the official results of an event at the direction of the Race Director.

16. FIRST AID OFFICER

- [a] There shall be at least one First Aid official appointed to each governed and sanctioned race.
- [b] This person shall be qualified to administer first aid as required to all competitors and any other person seeking first aid assistance. This person is not to be a competitor on the day.
- [c] If the first aid officer for whatever reason has to leave the race site, all events are to be stopped until a suitably qualified person is present to carry out the duties of the first aid officer.
- [d] In case of an incident, an Injury Report Form ([Form 11](#)) is to be completed and must be submitted to the GKCF Secretary within 7 days after the injury was sustained or otherwise Insurance Claims may be affected.

PART H. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BOTH THE RACE DIRECTOR AND RACE COMMITTEE THAT ALL ASPECTS OF SAFETY ARE CATERED FOR AT THE RACE BOTH ON AND OFF THE WATER.

It is recommended that each Club introduces a swimming program within its training structure and have each registered paddler undergo a swim test.

It is recommended that the Coach or Team Leader of each team be responsible for the training in the rigging of the canoe, towing a canoe and inspect it before any event.

The following are the minimum safety requirements that are to be adhered to by both host and individual clubs at all races. Other precautions may be introduced by the Host Club under Supplementary Rules, which must accompany the registration forms and approved by the GKCF:

1. COMMUNICATIONS TO EMERGENCY SERVICES

- [a] The host club must have either telephone, mobile or line, or radio communication with all emergency services before a sanctioned race may commence.
- [b] It is the responsibility of the Race Committee to ensure that either or both forms of communication are available.

2. FIRST AID

- [a] The Host Club of each sanctioned race is to ensure adequate qualified first aid persons are present at all times at the venue during competition.
- [b] If such persons or facilities are not available the event is to be stopped until those facilities are made available at the venue.
- [c] An injury report Form (Form 11), must be submitted to the GKCF Secretary within 7 days after the injury was sustained or otherwise Insurance Claims may be affected.

The following section is a guide for safety boat usage. Some variations may be made due to race conditions. The race director and the race committee shall have final decision on safety boat usage.

3. SAFETY AND OFFICIAL BOATS – DISTANCE EVENTS

A minimum of 1 support boat to 5 canoes is suggested for distance events. These vessels must be in a seaworthy condition and will be referred to as, **LEAD BOAT, CHASE BOAT AND OBSERVATION BOATS**, with the CREWS duties and requirements detailed below.

- [1] **LEAD BOAT.**
 - [a] This boat is to display a clearly visible flag at all time while appointed the Lead Boat. If for whatever reason this boat abandons the role of Lead Boat it must before departing the area give its replacement boat the flag for the competitors to follow.
 - [b] This boat is to remain at least 100 meters (preferably where exhaust will not affect lead crews) in front of the field and show the general direction to the next turning buoy and finish line.
 - [c] All competitors are to follow the Lead Boat irrespective of what was displayed on the course map or told at the Captain/Steers briefing. There may be a safety reason for the change of course.
 - [d] Once this boat has reached the finish line it is to remain there until the Trailing or last boat has crossed the finish line or as directed otherwise to do so by the Race Director.
 - [e] This boat shall carry an official appointed by the Race Director who will report on weather conditions, if they start to deteriorate, during the event.
 - [f] Report to the Race Director confirming that all competing canoes and crews have completed the

event.

[g] The crew is to report any infringement of these rules to the Race Director.

[h] The call sign for the Base Station is "Beach".

[i] The call sign of this boat is "Lead Boat".

[2] CHASE BOAT

[a] This boat is to remain at the rear of the field and shall keep sight of the last canoe at all times.

[b] This boat is not to pass the last canoe at any time unless in an emergency or as directed to do so by the Race Director.

[c] The crew is to report any infringement of these rules to the Race Director.

[d] The Call sign of this boat is "Chase Boat".

[e] The Chase Boat is to advise the Race Director by radio that the course is clear of all canoes and that all canoes that started in the event have been accounted for.

[3] SUPPORT BOATS

[a] The remaining boats and any extra boats in attendance on an official nature is to be known as Support Boats. These boats are to:

[1] Patrol between the Lead and Chase boats.

[2] Assist in monitoring the field and the support boats ensuring that all rules are adhered to.

[3] To report directly to the Race Director if competitors or support crew and their boat break any rule.

[4] Assist any competitor or canoe that may require assistance or as otherwise directed by the Race Director.

[5] The call sign for these boats are "Support 1" and "Support 1" etc. If more than two observation boats are used the call signs are to be "Support 3" and so on.

4. SAFETY AND OFFICIAL BOATS – SPRINTS EVENTS

A minimum of 2 Safety vessels shall be required for sprint events. These vessels must be located at either end of the sprint course and must not cause interference with the event. These vessels shall not be used for any other purpose. Eg. Start Boat etc.

5. SAFETY AND OFFICIAL BOATS – COLLATERAL EVENTS

Where other events are being conducted simultaneously with a distance event, eg. An OC1 event a further 3 [minimum requirement] support boats are required. These boats will be known as **LEAD BOAT ALPHA, CHASE BOAT ALPHA** and **SUPPORT BOAT ALPHA**, with the duties and requirements as detailed in these rules.

6. ALL SAFETY AND OFFICIAL BOATS SHALL CARRY

[a] A rope that is capable of towing a disabled canoe if required.

[b] An extra 6 life jackets above the amount required by the local authority for that boat and crew.

[c] Communication equipment capable of transmitting to and receiving messages from the Race Director or local Authorities

[d] A red flag, which is to be displayed at the direction of the Race Director if and when an event is to be stopped or cancelled.

- [e] An official appointed by the Race Director to report on any breach of these Rules.

7. BRIEFING OF OFFICIAL BOAT CREWS

It will be the responsibility of the Race Director to ensure all official boat crewmembers are briefed on their responsibilities and are familiar with these Rules.

8. REPLACEMENT OF SAFETY AND OFFICIAL BOATS

When an official boat is called away from the race for any reason, the Host Club is to ensure a replacement boat is made available.

9. EQUIPMENT COMPETING CANOES SHALL CARRY OR MAKE AVAILABLE

- [a] A minimum of 2 buckets or similar pieces of equipment to be used to bail out a canoe.

[b] A minimum of 1 spare paddle and a tow rope of 25 meters minimum length by 12 mm diameter, available for immediate use is suggested on all OC6 canoes for ALL DISTANCE RACES. ALL CLUBS ARE RECOMMENDED TO TEACH TOWING PROCEDURE. See Attachment 4 for Towing reference if needed.

- [c] Although not compulsory during competition, at least 6 life jackets which may be positioned in the canoe, but not so that an unfair advantage can be obtained by any competitor.

- [d] It is mandatory that skirts are available for each canoe at all sanctioned races.

- [e] In prevailing conditions, skirts are to be fitted at the direction of the Race Director or GKCF official.

- [f] If a decision is made that storm covers are to be fitted before racing all canoes must fit storm covers or be disqualified from competing.

- [g] Six life vest in each canoe (or placed on a team chase boat) is required. It is Guam law.

10. TEAM SUPPORT BOATS

It is recommended that each club provide its own team support boat which is in a seaworthy condition and capable of towing a distressed canoe and must carry the items referred to in Rule H.4.a,b and c.

11. ACCESS TO RACE COURSES

- [a] All official and support boats are to gain prior permission from the Race Director to be on the water during an event and are not to interfere with any canoe or competitor. Any breach of these rules is to be reported immediately to the Race Director.

- [b] No canoe is permitted on any course unless authorized by the Race Director.

12. RESPONSIBILITY FOR SEAWORTHINESS OF CANOES

The Captain of each team is responsible for the rigging of the canoe and inspecting the same for seaworthiness before each event.

13. DISTRESS SIGNAL

If during an event either a canoe or a competitor is in need of assistance the remaining team members are to render assistance when required. If further outside assistance is required the team members are to raise their paddles and wave them from side to side until assistance is given. If no paddles are available the team are to wave their arms from side to side.

14. ASSISTANCE TO COMPETITORS

A Support boat shall immediately render assistance to any canoe or competitor in distress during an event, and shall continue to render assistance until such assistance is no longer required or is relieved by another boat. The incident must be reported to the Race Director immediately.

15. CAPTAINS RESPONSIBILITIES – OFFICIAL BOATS

Competitors are reminded that the Captain of a canoe or safety boat is responsible for the safety of both his/her crew and vessel. The Captain is in charge of the vessel and his or her directions and commands are to be strictly adhered to at all times.

16. BREACH OF SAFETY RULES – NOTIFICATION

The Race Director and a GKCF official, is to be notified immediately of any breach of Rule G. and are to ensure the events are stopped until all safety aspects are in place.

17. ACTION ON BREACH OF SAFETY

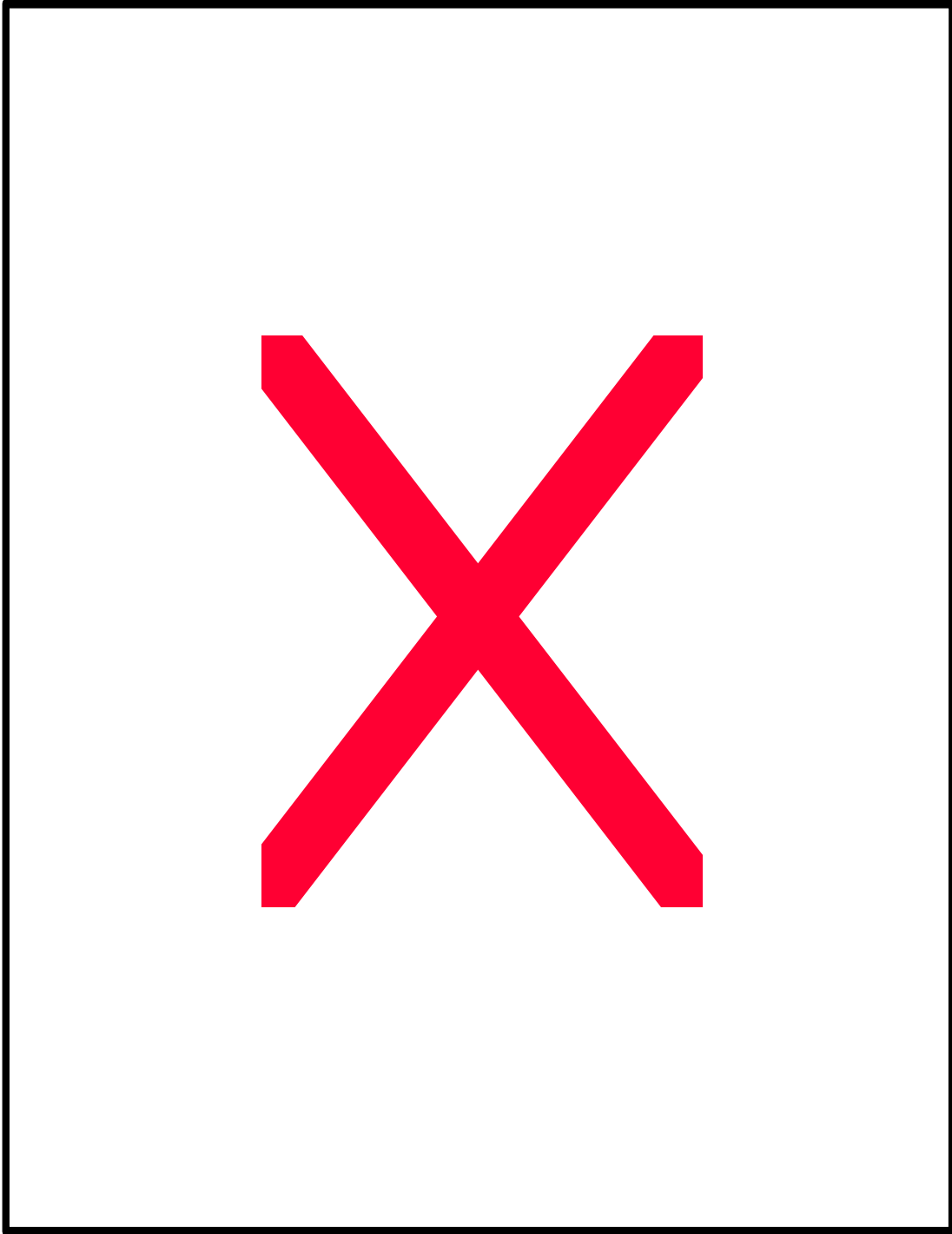
If any part of this rule [Rule G] is breached the Race may be stopped or cancelled by the Race Director or any GKCF official until the error or discrepancy is rectified.

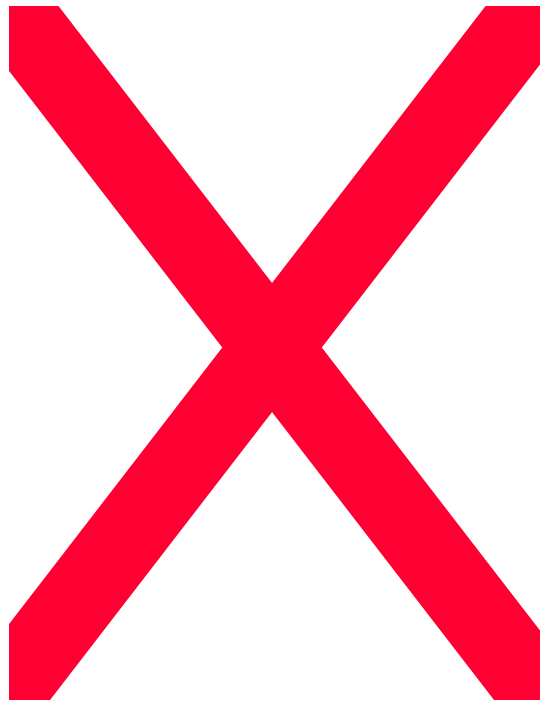
18. CANCELLATION OF RACES

- [a] All distance races or paddling activities are to stop, be cancelled and an alternative safe area is used when the appropriate authorities have issued a small craft warning. See Rule B 2.2. item 4 and 5, Distance Qualifying and Annual Championship Events.
- [b] GKCF or respective committee must approve the alternative course before being used. Either the President or Secretary must be informed of any decision made in respect to alternative courses to be used during a small craft warning. See Rule B 2.2. item 4 and 5, Distance Qualifying and Annual Championship Events
- [c] Weather reports must be obtained one week from the scheduled race to ensure weather condition is favourable and the respective persons advised of any adverse forecast.

19. CLUBS COACHES AND FEDERATION COACHES

- [a] Any person dealing with children **under the age of 18 years** must undergo a screening process based on his or her criminal history to determine the person's suitability to work in child related areas.
- [b] Any person undertaking coaching must apply through their club to be recognized and receive the appropriate clearance.
- [c] All coaches for GKCF National Teams shall be ACEP certified and shall submit a resume during selection process.





PART I. NOTES ON THESE RULES & AMENDMENTS

I. These rules have been formatted after AOCRA and have been modified to fit federation needs. These Rules were adopted on _____ by vote of the following board members:

_____ Signature	_____ Print Name	_____ Date
_____ Signature	_____ Print Name	_____ Date
_____ Signature	_____ Print Name	_____ Date
_____ Signature	_____ Print Name	_____ Date
_____ Signature	_____ Print Name	_____ Date
_____ Signature	_____ Print Name	_____ Date
_____ Signature	_____ Print Name	_____ Date

II. Updated amendments to these rules will be made from time to time. Amendments will be voted on by GKCF board members and added/amend these.

III. Responsibility to be aware of current rules remains with the competitor. Team/Club representatives on the GKCF Board are strongly encouraged to pass rules on to club members.