

**25cts- Devizes-Westminster Scout Trophy:** 1 Turner/Spreadbury, 23rd Salisbury, 29:53:28.  
**20ES - European Overseas Trophy:** 1 Witteveen/Zegers, ALSKV Levitas, 19:30:13.  
 2 Walsh/Austin, Shannon, 27:39:45.  
**20S - Overseas Trophy:** 1 Witteveen/Zegers, ALSKV Levitas, 19:30:13.  
**20Univ:** 1 Smith/De Ruig, OTC, 24:3:11.  
**2V - Lee Trophy:** 1 Butler/O'Grady, Nederland/Runcorn, 17:25:09. 2 Burbeck/Pennie-Douglas, Bishop's Stortford/Cambridge, 21:30:41. 3 Cameron/Balogh/ Hereford, 21:52:11. 5 Johnson/Margot, Cambridge, 22:27:36. 6 Parry/Devereux, RM, 22:46:56. 7 Jackson/Forrest, Exeter, 23:08:28. 8 Clarke/Robert, Devizes/Sutton Bingham, 23:12:45. 9 Symonds/Edwards, 23:25:46. 10 McCall/Charnell, Hinckley, 23:48:37. 11 Robinson/Renko, Cambridge, 24:40:00.  
 12 Last/Bell, Devizes, 25:18:30. 13 Walker/Whitehead, Pangbourne/Newbury, 26:03:10.  
 16 Meeson/Finch, Basingstoke Canal, 27:42:36. 17 Hill/Sumner, Wey/Elmbridge, 28:33:26.  
 18 Groom/Haines, Runcorn, 29:23:48. 19 Turner/Spreadbury, 23rd Salisbury Scouts, 29:53:28.  
**2.100 - Century Trophy:** 1 Parry/Devereux, RM, 22:46:56. 2 Jackson/Forrest, Exeter, 23:08:28.  
 3 Clarke/Robert, Devizes/Sutton Bingham, 23:12:45. 3 McCall/Charnell, Hinckley, 23:48:37.  
 4 Walker/Whitehead, Pangbourne/Newbury, 26:03:10.  
 7 Meeson/Finch, Basingstoke Canal, 27:42:36. 8 Hill/Sumner, Wey/Elmbridge, 28:23:36.  
**2F- Folding Boat Trophy:** 1 Board/Earl, RM, 28:51:58.  
**C2 - Devizes-Westminster Canadian Trophy:** 1 Hall/Kirk, Nashua R, 20:18:59.  
 2 Dobson/Rees-Clark, Devizes, 23:09:45. 3 Gransden/Gransden, Canada, 24:46:25.  
 4 Walker/Whitehead, Pangbourne/Newbury, 26:03:10. 5 Pyke/Howe, Cambridge, 28:03:54.  
 6 Turner/Spreadbury, 23rd Salisbury Scouts, 29:53:28.  
**2LJT - Junior Ladies Team Trophy:** 1 Mt Kelly, 48:53:30. 2 Dauntsey's Sch, 50:08:47.  
**2JT - Junior Team Trophy:** 1 Kimbolton Sch, 60:01:50. 2 Lord Wandsworth Coll 1st, 60:27:33.  
 3 Mt Kelly, 64:18:03.  
**2CCFJT - HMS Alacrity McKaig Cup:** 1 Lord Wandsworth Coll CCF, 65:10:04.

## World events

The ICF have announced several forthcoming world events. Ocean racing World Cups will take place this year at La Vila Joisa in Spain and in Réunion. La Plagne will have a WWR World Cup next year with a sprint World Cup in Canada. Junior and under 23 slalom world championships will take place in Pattaya in 2027, the first time in Asia, the following year in Ivrea and the two years after that in Kraków.

## Polo quits Holme Pierrepont

The Polo Committee have given up with Holme Pierrepont and have selected a new venue at Spring Lakes, Long Eaton, on the western edge of Nottingham, near the M1 but with a convoluted route to reach it. It was to be used for the national championships early in April but these had to be postponed when moving the pontoons proved more time consuming than had been anticipated. There had been a continuing series of problems at the National Water Sports Centre which were not being addressed by Serco, who manage the site.

Polo had no availability to expand what they offered there, suffered issues with toxic blue green algae and Canada goose muck, there was a flood last year which damaged some of the equipment (including clocks) both on the water and those in the storage being used. In that storage area there was an electrical fire which caused further damage, as a result of which polo were able to claim on insurance and replace the items.

PUK have issues with Serco so polo's moving helps them prove their point on the issues they also have with them. It is hard for the slalomists because they cannot just move their course like polo have moved their pitches, so they are stuck there with Serco being a problem. The same thing goes with freestyle and whoever else uses the white water course. For the regatta course there are also issues with Serco and polo's moving may help them.

The flood and fire relate to polo, not the centre buildings, although we published a photo of a bucket placed below a hole in the ceiling of the centre building (p9 of our November issue). There have been minor issues like a broken plank on a footbridge and weeds growing on slalom fittings. The slalom scoreboard hasn't worked for years and the sprint one fails at times. While sprinters can park facing the course, the dragon boat racers need to park in a field 800m away from the launch point, where the course cannot be seen or the commentary heard, particularly relevant as events can run an hour late because of scoreboard problems and crews of 20 needing to share boats. Dragon boat regattas have had to be shortened as time and daylight ran out. Parking needs to be paid by phone, for which not all people have the facilities. The whole place is scruffy. The finish line glass box is hung with cobwebs, has a wet floor and has loose chairs rather than set in a line opposite the finish wire. The trade stands have boycotted the trade area, to the detriment of racers who have come to rely on them to replace broken or forgotten items, because of the massive increase in charges. Even before the increase, traders were frequently trading at a loss, not making enough

to cover their loss of business while loading their vans at home, driving to the event and paying for staff accommodation but treating it as advertising and providing a service for their customers.

The bar does not open any more. The catering is very amateur, poor cooking and staff unsure how much to charge. The sprinters are actively negotiating to move to the Cotswold water park.

## Chinese excellence centre

Fuyang Water Sports Centre in Hangzhou has been nominated as the ICF's first excellence centre, of which others are to follow around the world. Last year the centre hosted the multi discipline Super Cup with a limited entry but some significant names.

## Los Angeles figures

The Los Angeles Olympic Games for 2028 will see 236 sprint paddlers contesting 10 medal events and 82 slalomists chasing six slalom events. Genders will be equal. Only five sports will have more medal events than canoeing.

## ICF launch sprint world ranking system

The International Canoe Federation have launched a world ranking system designed to track paddler performances and bring fresh excitement into sprint events with men's and women's kayak and canoe categories.

It is also set to provide an avenue to secure places at the Olympic Games for Los Angeles in 2028 under the revamped qualification process currently being drawn up by the ICF.

Ranking points would be on offer at the two sprint World Cups this month, with Szeged holding the first of those from May 16 to 18th before Poznan played host from May 22nd to 25th.

Importantly, the system is not just about the sharp end of the sport. For development, it will fuel healthy competition across emerging nations, spotlight rising stars, justify investment in competitor pathways and drive organizers to continually raise their game, lifting standards and opportunities for everyone, everywhere.

The system works by awarding points at any ranking competition, including the Olympic Games, world championships, World Cups, continental championships and world ranking races.

A competitor can register a maximum of five results in the world ranking in each calendar year but those five results must be from five different competitions.

One of these results must also be from a ranking competition that is held on a different continent from the others.

## Ironbridge cancelled

The Ironbridge regional classic and sprint WWR and selection event has been cancelled because of access issues.

## Van Koeverden becomes government minister

Sprint icon Adam van Koeverden has been appointed Secretary of State for Sport in Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney's new cabinet.

First elected to the House of Commons in 2019, Van Koeverden was re-elected this year as member of parliament for Burlington North-Milton West before being named Secretary of State for Sport.

The 43 year old is a four time Olympic medallist, starting with a gold medal in the kayak single 500m at Athens in 2004.

His gold medal in the Greek capital was Canada's first Olympic victory in canoe and kayak in 20 years.

He also took bronze in the kayak single 1km in Greece, Canada's only double medallist at the Games, before adding a K1 500m silver medal at Beijing in 2008 and a K1 1km silver at London in 2012.

A world champion and Pan American Games medallist, Van Koeverden finished his competitive career with ninth in the K1 1km at Rio in 2016.

He was also Canada's flagbearer at the closing ceremony in Athens and at the opening ceremony in Beijing.

In 2022 the Toronto native was inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame.

## Wiggs to miss this season

Emma Wiggs has dropped out of racing for this year. While she suffered a shoulder injury for 18 months before Paris she succeeded in adding to her medal haul at the successive Paralympics. Following surgery, she hopes to return to racing in 2026.

## Polo injuries

Presenting the safety report to the polo ACM, Elan Winter drew