



C1 winner Savsek.



Woods winning the cross.

Bence Vekassy photographs

Woods had to withstand a fierce challenge from Czech home town favourite Tereza Fiserova to win the women's kayak cross. In a high action final Woods was able to capitalize on mistakes made by other paddlers to jump from fourth to first and then to outwrestle Fiserova in the race to the finish line.

'It feels pretty special after the past couple of weeks I've had; it's been a bit of a fight and I've been a bit disappointed in my slalom but to come out really fighting and to take the opportunities that opened up for me,' Woods said.

'It's really tough to defend those upstream gates in kayak cross; she (Fiserova) had her paddle on my boat at one point. We were neck and neck going under that bridge so I used so much of my right stroke to try and push her into the dead water.

'I heard a little noise from her and I thought then that I had it and just went for the line.'

Italy's Stefanie Horn backed up the gold medal she won in Augsburg the previous week with a bronze in Sunday's final.

Marx and Rohrer showed the benefit of extensive kayak cross training sessions by dominating every stage of Sunday's racing, eventually facing off in the four man final and taking the gold and the silver. Marx, a former World Cup winner, said he was pleased to be back on the podium after missing qualification one week earlier at the season opener.

'Last week I just really didn't seem like myself so I had to put in an extra effort to be able to try and bounce back this weekend,' Marx said.

'I wasn't the most confident last week but now I could show what I could do. I knew in training that I was fast but it didn't work out in Augsburg and here I knew I had to show everyone what I could do.'

Rohrer said he and Marx had discussed the final ahead of the race. 'We did talk a little bit but we don't want to give away too many details,' Rohrer said.

'We have a good training group which gives us a good idea where we stand. A good group definitely makes a big difference. Other teams are already looking at us quite a lot so we hope we can keep it that way.'

French teenager Titouan Castryck finished with the bronze medal. **ICF**

- K1W:** 1 J Fox, Australia, 98.95. 2 R Funk, Deutschland, 103.58. 3 M Franklin, GB, 104.90.  
**K1M:** 1 J Prskavec, Czechia, 89.67. 2 V Prindis, Czechia, 90.55. 3 G De Gennaro, Italia, 90.82.  
 6 J Dickson, GB, 93.02. 17 C Bowers, GB.  
**C1W:** 1 J Fox, Australia, 109.13. 2 M Doria Vilarrubla, Andorra, 110.57.  
 3 G Satkova, Czechia, 111.02. 4 M Franklin, GB, 113.13. 5 K Woods, GB, 115.74.  
**C1M:** 1 B Savsek, Slovenia, 97.65. 2 M Benus, Slovensko, 101.26. 3 J Bernardet, France, 102.90.  
 8 A Burgess, GB, 109.49. 11 R Westley, GB.  
**K1XW:** 1 K Woods, GB. 2 T Fiserova, Czechia. 3 S Horn, Italia.  
**K1XM:** 1 D Marx, Schweiz. 2 J Rohrer, Schweiz. 3 T Castryck, France.



Fox won K1 but not C1.



Lilik took the C1.



The K1 went to Prskavec.



Vijtova was the cross winner.

# Clarke's unplanned win

## Ljubljana Slalom

Australian Jessica Fox began her quest for a fifth C1 gold medal at the famous Tacen white water course in perfect style, posting the quickest qualifying time to move straight into Friday's semi finals. In the men's C1 local hope Luka Bozic posted the quickest time as he began his quest for a second gold medal on his home course.

Fox, who had won at least one gold medal every time she had competed in Tacen since 2013, had an error free run of 100.69. She was almost four seconds quicker than Italian 2020 Olympian Marta Bertoncelli, who was next quickest.

'It was really nice. I enjoyed it a lot. I love it here so much; when you feel the flow here it is such a great feeling,' Bertoncelli said.

'I haven't done an international race here; this is my first one so I'm really excited about it. I'm feeling great and overall I feel like I'm getting better and better and with my confidence too.'

Great Britain's Sophie Ogilvie, despite two gate touches, was third quickest.



'I'm really happy with that; the top bit was to plan and then I just tried to keep that going down,' Ogilvie said.

'I got a bit touchy down the bottom so a bit of learning going into it tomorrow. I feel like I've had some good runs over the past two weeks but not really my potential but these are stepping stones into the European Games coming up.'

The top five in the men's C1 qualifying all completed the course without faults with Bozic posting a time of 90.73, just 0.13 ahead of Italy's Raffaello Ivaldi, with another Italian, Roberto Colazingari, who took his only career World Cup gold in Tacen in 2019, finishing third.

American Zachary Lokken had one of his best runs of the year so far to qualify fourth.

'I'm pretty happy. I nailed all my lines, got a little messed up in one part but other than that it was pretty good,' Lokken said.

'I've had some mixed results, not as good as I would have wanted. Overall I'm paddling pretty well, I've just got to hone it together and get a good run in.'