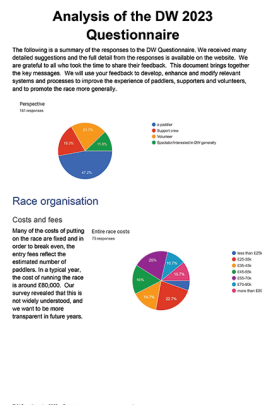


2 Herwanger/Hagen, Richmond/Laksevåg, 16:21:33. 3 Tetsmann/Baum, Sauna, 17:58:33.
20S - Overseas Trophy: 1 Witteveen/Zegers, Levitas, 16:17:09.
 2 Herwanger/Hagen, Richmond/Laksevåg, 16:21:33. 3 Tetsmann/Baum, Sauna, 17:58:33.
2V - Lee Trophy: 1 Treadgold/Hayes, Newbury, 15:32:25.
 2 Herwanger/Hagen, Richmond/Laksevåg, 16:21:33. 3 Burt/Bird, Newbury, 16:31:08.
 4 Burbeck/Drummond, Bishop's Stortford/Reading, 16:54:27. 5 Whitehead/Richman, Newbury, 17:21:40. 6 Alderdice/Webb, Wey, 17:40:23. 7 Symonds/Edwards, 17:53:05.
 8 Houghting/Anderson, Wey/Southampton, 17:55:44. 9 Clarke/Fooks, Devizes, 18:03:48.
 10 Dums/Latvenas, Richmond, 18:09:39. 11 Johnson/Margot, Cambridge, 18:38:26.
 12 Gargan/Foord, Parachute Regt, 19:34:34. 13 Rundle/Barat-Farkas, Elmbridge, 19:34:54.
 14 Thackray/Payne, Devizes, 19:40:54. 15 Jarratt/Carter, Lincoln, 19:48:30. 16 Hudson/Mansfield, Southampton, 20:07:00. 17 Shaw/Smith, Wey, 20:10:59. 18 Taylor/Sampson, Longridge, 20:12:01. 19 Mullins/Fischer, Paddlesport, 20:17:08. 20 Parritt/Trudgeon, Fowey R, 20:38:23.
2.100 - Century Trophy: 1 Whitehead/Richman, Newbury, 17:21:40.
 2 Clarke/Fooks, Devizes, 18:03:48. 3 Thackray/Payne, Devizes, 19:40:54.
2F - Folding Boat Trophy: 1 Niven/Gear-Jones, RM, 23:24:46.
 2 Richardson/Titman, RM, 23:43:24. 3 Adams/Jesson, RM, 25:21:10.
C2L - Senior Ladies C2 Trophy: 1 Mullins/Fischer, Paddlesport, 20:17:08.
C2 - Devizes-Westminster Canadian Trophy: 1 Jones/Jones, Devizes, 19:10:41.
 2 Thackray/Payne, Devizes, 19:40:54. 3 Mullins/Fischer, Paddlesport, 20:17:08.
2LJT - Junior Ladies Team Trophy: 1 Churchers Coll, 20:23:23.
2JT - Junior Team Trophy: 1 Lord Wandsworth Coll, 27:25:15. 2 Kimbolton Sch, 28:28:49.
 3 Churchers Coll, 30:14:40.
2JSchT - Schools Team Trophy: 1 Lord Wandsworth Coll, 27:25:15.
 2 Kimbolton Sch, 28:28:49. 3 Churchers Coll, 30:14:40.
2CCFJT- HMS Alacrity McKaig Cup: 1 Kimbolton Sch, 29:50:25. 2 Churchers Coll, 33:34:31.
2T - Devizes-Westminster Team Trophy: 1 Newbury, 49:25:13. 2 Richmond, 51:12:05.
 3 Devizes, 56:55:23.
2CivT - Gillingham Trophy: 1 Newbury, 49:25:13. 2 Richmond, 51:12:05.
 3 Devizes, 56:55:23.
2SerT - Royal Engineers Trophy: 1 RM, 72:29:20.

The cost of running DW

It costs £80,000 per year to run the Devizes to Westminster Race, £30,000 of that at Westminster alone, a significant proportion already spent even if the race is shortened or cancelled. Costs are increasing steeply and people's personal finances mean that less canoeists are able to support the race than in previous years, a pattern seen elsewhere across the country. How can the issues be addressed for the future of this outstanding race? Last year the organizers carried out a thorough survey, the results of which have now been made public and make interesting reading for anyone competing, volunteering during the race or, indeed, running any other major canoeing competition. They can be downloaded from our website with this issue.



Olympic concerns

This year's Olympic Games in Paris should be the first where people can get to all the venues by public transport but the rail extensions to cater for them will be incomplete and the free transport is now likely to be double the normal rate. Accommodation could be four times the normal rates but over half of Paris' residents are planning to leave for the duration of the Games, partly because they can make a lucrative income from renting out their homes and partly because Paris will be so unbearable, difficult travel, difficult parking, high costs everywhere, traders moved from their locations by the Seine and the opening event shortened so that the free spectator areas for residents will be much reduced. Security areas will be complex. The Games will go ahead but the concerns of residents will be noted by other cities considering hosting the event in the future and add to the financial concerns, further reducing the number of locations prepared to bid.

Future venues

Banyoles will host the 2028 world marathon championships, the venue used in 2010, other bids having been placed by Pitesti-Bascov and Ponte de Lima.

Montemor-o-Velho will have the J/U23 sprint championships that year, Slovakia, Poland and Romania having also bid.

The six locations for the 2026 slalom World Cup will be Vaires-sur-

Marne, Augsburg, La Seu d'Urgell, Prague, Tacen and Kraków, the latter also hosting the 2028 J/U23 world championships.

Sprint World Cups for 2026 will be in Brandenburg, Bratislava and Szeged. Montemor also has the masters' world sprint championships next year.

World ocean racing championships for the next four years from 2025 are set for Durban, Vila Joiosa, Tahiti and Cherbourg and there will be a World Cup in Reunion over Nov 15-17th this year.

The world WWR championships next year will be in Ceske Budejovice with the J/U23 event in Solkan.

Vejen has the 2028 polo world.

With the exception of the coastal events these are nearly all in Europe.

The 17th world dragon boat racing championships are due to be held at Brandenburg an der Havel over Jul 16-20th next year while the 18th will be in Hong Kong in 2027. Between them, the 15th club crew championships will be held in Hualien County in Taiwan over Sep 5-10th 2026.

Exact sex balance

The ICF have announced that they will have exactly the same number of male and female competitors at both the Olympics and the Paralympics. They will also have exactly the same number of male and female officials. Has there ever been a female president? While the better balance is to be welcomed, the exact parity does suggest that the numbers count is being given higher precedence than the ability levels of those involved.

Drone judging

The wooden judging tower on the reef at Teahupo'o in Tahiti, to be used for this year's Olympic surfing, has been declared not legally compliant by the French Polynesian Government, who want to replace it with a new aluminium tower. The International Surfing Association do not agree with the proposal and say that use of live images shot from land, water and drones could do the job perfectly adequately. How many other sports could be judged using drones? They could replace referees following boats at sprint and dragon boat regattas and watch turn buoys in marathons and IC regattas. It is not unusual at our surfing contests to see judges squinting into the setting sun over the distant break at low water, trying to identify the vest colour of somebody already up and riding.

Newgale diversion

Newgale is one of the most popular surf breaks in Pembrokeshire. The A487 runs next to the beach but storms are depositing increasing amounts of shingle on the road, to which there is no alternative other than minor lanes. This is also blocking the Brandy Brook with increasing flooding upstream of the village. Consideration is being given to diverting the road to the northeast of the village from Wood to Penycwm and replacing it with a coastal protection scheme. Carparks at each end of the village would be raised to reduce the risk of flooding but the pub would not be so easy to reach.

Scottish Slalom Committee disbanded

PS have disbanded the Scottish Slalom Committee in their ongoing dispute (Nov, p5). They are accused of failing to cooperate with the central body, of not undertaking adequate risk assessment, of going ahead without PS input or authority and of allowing some of the veterans of previous years to take part in the Scottish championships while no longer paid up members. Their ACM was not advertised to the full membership although it has traditionally taken place at the national championships with all those having a serious interest being present anyway.

An independent report on the construction work undertaken at Grandtully has taken place although this has not been made public. There are no gatelines at Grandtully and the telephone and judging equipment have been taken away although there is doubt as to whether PS have the knowledge to operate or maintain it. It is doubtful whether there will be any events at Grandtully this year, there having been no slalom at Easter. Other slaloms are going ahead in Scotland but those running them have refused to sign an agreement with PS as they have not been shown details, particularly details of the lease at Grandtully. Slalom matters are being handled centrally by PS while the Slalom Committee are in special measures. The PS AGM is not until November. Further building is going ahead by PS on the Grandtully campsite.

Owen Inglis-Humphrey, whose daughter is a young slalomist, is