

'It happened because we believe in ourselves every time and, finally, after so many second and third places, we won,' Khudzenka said.

'It's a great result for us and our country. We are like a puzzle and together we make one big piece. Every time we believed it could happen and it happened right now.'

Hungary finished just point one six of a second behind Belarus with the Russian Canoe Federation taking the bronze.

The International Canoe Federation has congratulated host country, Denmark, for staging a memorable paracanoe and canoe world championships in incredibly challenging circumstances.

For the first time ever the sprint world championships were held in the same year as an Olympic Games, after Tokyo 2020 was postponed owing to Covid 19. There was also ongoing uncertainty because of travel restrictions and concerns about the spread of Covid but almost 700 competitors from more than 50 countries took part in the week's event, which also marked the 100th birthday of the Danish Canoe Federation. New world champions were crowned and some familiar names returned to the podium top.

'After such a difficult period for the event organizers, this year's world championships have been an absolute credit to everyone involved,' ICF President Jose Perurena said.

'There has been so much uncertainty for more than one year but the Danish Canoe Federation has met every challenge presented to it.

'We are very proud to have been part of the Danish Canoe Federation's centenary celebrations and thank them for hosting this very special event.'

The Danish Canoe Federation, together with the host cities of Copenhagen, Gladsaxe, Lyngby-Taarbæk and Sport Event Denmark, staged the 2021 canoe sprint and paracanoe world championships on behalf of the ICF Danish Canoe Federation president Tom Faurschou said the success was a team effort.

'I am proud, happy and grateful,' he said, 'proud of a well staged world championships and the many great Danish results, happy with the many side events and school visits and, not least, grateful for all the many, many volunteers.'

'Together with the host cities and Sport Event Denmark we received much international appraisal for our hosting.'

Lars Lundov is the CEO of the Danish national sporting event organization, Sport Event Denmark, and said the world championships were a great opportunity to showcase what his country has to offer and can achieve at major international competitions.

'Nothing beats medals at home,' he said.

'Congratulations to the Danish medallists. In Denmark, we have a proud tradition of Olympic and world championship medals in canoeing and we have an equally proud tradition of staging major canoeing events.'

'In 2013 Denmark hosted the ICF worlds in the marathon distance, in 2015 an ICF World Cup in sprint and in the pipeline we have European and worlds canoe marathon.'

ICF

200m: K1W: 1 E Jorgensen, Denmark, 39.98. 2 A Lucz, Magyarország, 40.71. 3 N Podolskaia, Rossija, 40.79.

K1WL3: 1 L Sugar, GB, 47.77. 2 H Gordon, GB, 48.25. 3 N Barbosa, France, 48.78.

K1WL2: 1 C Henshaw, GB, 48.73. 2 E Wiggs, GB, 50.70. 3 K Varga, Magyarország, 52.02.

K1M: 1 A Di Liberto, Italia, 34.78. 2 P Menning, Sverige, 34.81. 3 R Akmens, Lietuva, 34.95. 14 N Demebele, GB.

K1ML3: 1 S Yemelianov, Ukraina, 39.54. 2 R Oliver, GB, 40.68. 3 J Valle, España, 41.04. 9 J Young, GB, 43.40.

K1ML2: 1 M Syniuk, Ukraina, 41.77. 2 F Mancarella, Italia, 41.96.

3 M Swoboda, Österreich, 42.88. 5 D Phillipson, GB, 43.73. 7 N Beighton, GB, 44.69.

K1ML1: 1 P Kiss, Magyarország, 45.94. 2 L Silva, Brasil, 46.30.

3 R Suba, Magyarország, 47.86.

C1W: 1 K Vincent, Canada, 46.52. 2 A Jacome, España, 46.79. 3 D Borowska, Polska, 46.90. 8 K Reid, GB, 48.11.

V1WL3: 1 C Henshaw, GB, 59.33. 2 H Gordon, GB, 1:00.69. 3 N Lahutenko, Ukraina, 1:02.09.

V1WL2: 1 E Wiggs, GB, 57.55. 2 M Nikiforova, Rossija, 1:05.11. 3 D Benevides, Brasil, 1:06.30.

V1ML3: 1 J Evers, GB, 50.01. 2 S Wood, GB, 50.13. 3 V Yepifanov, Ukraina, 50.55.

V1ML2: 1 F Paulo, Brasil, 53.93. 2 H Rivero, España, 56.21. 3 N Mourao, Portugal, 56.54.

K2W: 1 Kovnir/Dolgova, Rossija, 37.41. 2 Kiss/Lucz, Magyarország, 37.65.

3 Putto/Kolodziejczek, Polska, 37.67.

C2W: 1 Coco/Corbera, España, 43.88. 2 Duboys/Segura, Cuba, 43.89.

3 Bragato/Nagy, Magyarország, 44.37.

500m: K1W: 1 A Fisher, NZ, 1:48.08. 2 T Csipes, Magyarország, 1:49.00.

3 E Jorgensen, Denmark, 1:49.85. 12 D Kerr, GB.

K1M: 1 M Borykau, Belarus, 1:38.87. 2 J Ribeiro, Portugal, 1:39.88.

3 M Florstedt, Deutschland, 1:40.04. 12 D Johnson, GB.

C1W: 1 M Mailliard, Chile, 2:05.09. 2 L Luzan, Ukraina, 2:05.77.

3 A Nazdrova, Belarus, 2:05.86. 7 K Reid, GB, 2:10.95.

K2W: 1 Kozak/Csipes, Magyarország, 1:40.42. 2 Khudzenka/Litvinchuk, Belarus, 1:40.70.

3 Peters/Broekx, België, 1:42.15. 4 Kerr/Russell, GB, 1:43.62.

K2M: 1 Walz/Germade, España, 1:29.04. 2 Schultz/Hiller, Deutschland, 1:30.01.

3 Balaz/Mysak, Slovensko, 1:30.09. 15 Atkins/Thomson, GB.

C2W: 1 Luzan/Chetverikova, Ukraina, 1:55.85. 2 Nazdrova/Makarchanka, Belarus, 1:57.12.

3 Duboys/Segura, Cuba, 1:57.70.

K4W: 1 Belarus, 1:32.55. 2 Magyarország, 1:32.71. 3 Rossija, 1:35.30.

K4M: 1 Ukraina, 1:20.19. 2 Slovensko, 1:20.59. 3 Ceska, 1:20.69. 15 GB.

1km: K1W: 1 A Gazso, Magyarország, 3:56.04. 2 L Broughton, GB, 3:59.29.

3 P Knudsen, Denmark, 4:00.32.

K1M: 1 F Pimenta, Portugal, 3:25.82. 2 B Kopasz, Magyarország, 3:26.49.

3 A Yurenia, Belarus, 3:50.47. 8 C Smith, GB, 3:35.63.

K2W: 1 Kovnir/Dolgova, Rossija, 37.41. 2 Kiss/Lucz, Magyarország, 37.65.

3 Putto/Kolodziejczek, Polska, 37.67.

K2M: 1 Kernen/Nathell, Sverige, 3:13.70. 2 Jensen/Graversen, Danmark, 3:14.46.

3 Noe/Kullfi, Magyarország, 3:14.83.

5km: K1W: 1 E Kohalmi, Magyarország, 22:57.48. 2 J Egan, Ireland, 22:58.58.

3 L Broughton, GB, 22:59.45.

K1M: 1 B Noe, Magyarország, 20:02.96. 2 F Pimenta, Portugal, 20:03.19.

3 M Pedersen, Danmark, 20:13.25. 8 D Johnson, GB, 20:49.34.

C1W: 1 V Klimava, Belarus, 26:18.94. 2 Z Kisban, Magyarország, 26:37.32.

3 M Mailliard, Chile, 26:39.51. 11 B Gill, GB, 29:11.37.

Russell/Demebele so close to medal in U23 mixed K2

J/U23 World Championships

The Hungarian women's junior and U23 canoe sprint team delivered an extraordinary performance on the first day of medal races at the world championships, winning seven of the eight titles up for grabs in Portugal.

The Hungarians were ruthless in their performance, notching up wins in both junior and U23 races and in both canoe and kayak. Only Germany's Annika Loske in the women's U23 C1 500m stood in the way of a clean sweep by the world powerhouse sprint nation.

Among the Hungarian winners were reigning European champions Alida Gazso in the U23 K1 500m, Agnes Kiss in the junior C1 500m, and Sara Fojt in the junior K1 500m.

There were also gold medals for Hungary in the women's U23 C2 500m, the junior C2 500m, Emese Kohalmi in the U23 K1 1,000m and Anna Maro in the junior K1 1,000m.

Medals in the men's competition were more evenly spread with Germany picking up two titles, Spain two and single gold medals for Russia, Moldova and Italy.

Germany's Martin Hiller held off Denmark's reigning European champion Thorbjorn Rask to win the men's U23 K1 1,000m while team mate Moritz Adam triumphed in a strong U23 C1 1,000m field.

Spain's Alex Graneri led from start to finish to win the junior K1 1,000m.



It was Russia's turn to shine on day three with the nation picking up five of the 14 gold medals on offer.

Hungary continued its strong form with another three gold medals, Belarus won two and host nation Portugal, Canada, Denmark and Poland all picked up wins.

The Russian charge was led by a strong junior team who picked up half the gold medals on offer on Sunday, including wins to Iuliia Babashinskaia in the K1 200m, Anna Pivovarova in the C1 200m and the C2 and K2 men's 500m races.

Poland's K1 200m men's European champion, Jakub Stepun, held his firm to win the world title while Frederikke Matthiesen took Denmark's gold in the women's U23 200m sprint.

The women's U23 C1 200m final was one of the closest races of the day with Canada's Sophia Jensen, racing for the first time in the older age division after domination of junior events, holding on by just 0.14 of a second to beat Georgia's Mariami Kerdikashvili.

Pedro Casinha provided the excitement for the Montemor-o-Velho crowd with a stirring win in the men's junior K1 200 metres. It was the first gold medal of the event for the host nation.

With one day of competition remaining, Hungary continued to lead the medal table with 10 gold and 18 overall, ahead of Russia on five gold and 12 medals in total. So far 19 countries had won medals, with 18 golds on offer on the final day.