



Cathrine Rask.



Daniel Laczó.



Kohalmi/Rendessy.



Mad dogs and Englishmen.

ICF photographs

'I felt comfortable in the race because I tried to not use all my energy on the portages and save my energy for the finish because I knew every girl was fast. It was a tough race.

In 2019 Mads Pedersen won both the U23 and senior canoe marathon worlds within 24 hours. With only the senior title to focus on this year, he was always going to be tough to beat. Only 2012 world champion Ivan Alonso was able to last the distance before fading on the final lap.

'It was super tough; we had a very high average speed and we worked very hard to keep the distance to the chasers so it was amazing to take the win,' Pedersen said.

'I've been training for two years and thinking about taking the title again so coming here after a year of Corona and being back on the world stage and to take the world championship again it's absolutely amazing.'

France's Stephane Boulanger put on a brave performance to take the bronze medal.

The 22 year old Balazs Adolf put on a powerful display to defeat a paddler he described as a 'Hungarian legend' in the men's C1, in the process decimating the remainder of the field.

A field of 12 quickly began falling away as Adolf, four time world champion Marton Kover and Manuel Campos of Spain surged ahead. The relentless pace eventually also told on Campos, the defending world champion, left behind as the two Hungarians strengthened their grip.

Adolf, who won the men's C1 5,000m at the canoe sprint world championships the previous month and opened this week with victory in the men's short distance marathon, proved too strong on the final lap.

'As a junior I used to train at the same club as Marton so it was such an honour to paddle alongside him; he is a legend in our sport,' Adolf said.

'I just backed my sprint ability. In the future I will focus on Olympic events but I want to keep competing in marathon.'

Kover finished second while Ukraine's Denys Davydov took the bronze.

At the age of 24 Babak had already chalked up six world titles, four over the traditional marathon distance and two over the short course. The Ukrainian had set herself a target of ten world titles, which did not appear overly ambitious, given her dominance of women's C1.

She paddles at least 30 kilometres during every training run, much further than any world championship distance. Besides her natural talent it's the workload which sets her apart from most of her opponents.

'This was a hard race because at the start it took me a long time to get away from everyone,' Babak said 'but I controlled all the stages. My secret is doing a lot of kilometres on the training track.'

There was a Hungarian quinella in the men's junior K1 with Csanad Sellyei a convincing winner over team mate Bruno Kolozsvari, with Argentina's Julian Salinas taking the bronze.

The 2021 marathon world championships are also serving as a qualification event for next year's World Games in Birmingham, Alabama.

Hungary picked up another two gold medals while there were also wins for France and Spain on the final day of competition on the Sunday.

France's Quentin Urban and Jeremy Candy defended their K2 world title, Spain's Manuel Campos and Diego Romero retained their C2 world crown, Emese Kohalmi and Eszter Rendessy kept Hungary's incredible record in the women's K2 and Csanad Sellyei and Bruno Kolozsvari won the junior K2 to add to Hungary's gold medal tally.

Two years after being crowned junior K2 marathon world champions, Emese Kohalmi and Eszter Rendessy were celebrating becoming senior world champions after a perfectly timed race on the Sunday.

Kohalmi and Rendessy were in a breakaway group of three for most of the race with defending champions Renata Csay and Zsófia Voros heading the chase group. At the final portage Kohalmi and Rendessy broke clear of Spain's Tania Fernandez and Tania Alvarez with South Africa's Jenna Ward and Saskia Hockly fighting on for the bronze.

The result continued a run of seven consecutive women's K2 titles for Hungary. Csay and Voros, winners of the past two world titles, finished fourth. It was the first time in 21 years that Csay, a K2 world champion on 13 occasions, did not win a medal.

Spain made it three in a row in the men's C2 with Manuel Campos and Diego Romero defending the title they won in China in 2019.

Spain and Hungary have dominated the men's C2 in canoe marathon, winning every title since 1999. Sunday's win was the second for Campos, but the third in succession for Romero. It was also Spain's first gold medal for the championships.

'Everything went to plan for us; at the end of the race we wanted to make a break,' Campos said. Sometimes it is more difficult and takes more time to find these gold medals but today everything went well and we can in the end find the gold medal.'

'We have a very long experience working together; we are very co-ordinated and work well together,' Romero said.

'Yesterday I did not have a good day but today I needed to check everything that went wrong and it went much better today.'

Poland's Mateusz Borgiel and Mateusz Zuchora stuck alongside the Spaniards until the final sprint while Marton Kover and Marton Horvath took the bronze.

The depth in Hungarian junior paddling was on show again, with Csanad Sellyei and Bruno Kolozsvari winning the junior K2. Sellyei and Kolozsvari had finished first and second in the junior K1 24 hours earlier and were far too strong as a combination for Denmark's Nikolaj Bryde and Jeppe Maretti with Argentina's Baltazar Itria and Franco Marchetti taking the bronze.

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K1WJ: 1 M Horvath, Magyarország, 1:32:30.92. 2 J Regenye, Magyarország, 1:32:42.28. 3 S Hockly, S Africa, 1:32:59.13. 18 G Anderson, GB, 1:41:11.93.

K1WU23: 1 C Rask, Danmark, 1:47:37.17. 2 D Fekete, Magyarország, 1:47:45.96.

3 C Mackenzie, S Africa, 1:48:22.24. 11 A Freeman, GB, 1:54:40.99. 15 R Solway, GB, 1:55:53.46.

K1WSh: 1 V Kiszli, Magyarország, 16:11.11. 2 L Broughton, GB, 16:14.95.

3 K Bedec, Srbija, 16:16.37. 4 S Clark, GB, 16:28.41.

K1W: 1 V Kiszli, Magyarország, 2:05:14.38. 2 Z Voros, Magyarország, 2:05:17.44.

3 L Broughton, GB, 2:05:18.09. 6 S Clark, GB, 2:05:34.61.

K1MJ: 1 C Sellyei, Magyarország, 1:40:33.76. 2 B Kolozsvari, Magyarország, 1:40:45.58.

3 J Salinas, Argentina, 1:40:47.02. 16 L Ferri, GB, 1:44:16.40. 17 Z Tarver, GB, 1:44:37.74.

K1MU23: 1 N Thomsen, Danmark, 1:50:52.94. 2 A Rodriguez, Argentina, 1:52:26.15.

3 U Hart, S Africa, 1:52:49.17. 4 C Smith, GB, 1:52:51.50. 16 A McIntyre, GB, 1:57:10.65.

K1MSh: 1 J Ramalho, Portugal, 14:19.85. 2 M Petersen, Danmark, 14:23.13.

3 I Alonso, España, 14:28.59. 12 J Russell, GB, 14:55.88. 20 D Johnson, GB, 16:30.96.

K1M: 1 M Pedersen, Danmark, 2:03:38.96. 2 I Alonso, España, 2:04:03.61.

3 S Boulanger, France, 2:05:29.31. 10 J Russell, GB, 2:07:46.24. 17 A Hicks, GB, 2:09:36.52.

C1WSh: 1 L Babak, Ukraina, 18:32.93. 2 Z Kisban, Magyarország, 18:46.71.

3 V Klimava, Belarus, 19:11.79. 4 B Gill, GB, 19:34.14.

C1W: 1 L Babak, Ukraina, 1:21:01.47. 2 V Klimava, Belarus, 1:22:40.47.

3 Z Kisban, Magyarország, 1:22:56.90. 4 B Gill, GB, 1:23:38.17.

C1MJ: 1 P Soltesz, Magyarország, 1:35:20.97. 2 E Pontecorvo, Italia, 1:36:37.56.

3 D Grijalba, España, 1:37:12.38. 15 G Bell, GB, 1:49:12.35. 16 O Chisholm, GB, 1:51:07.96.

C1MU23: 1 D Laczó, Magyarország, 1:47:40.08. 2 J Duro, España, 1:48:10.78.

3 S Maciel, Portugal, 1:49:54.23. 8 A Leech, GB, 1:53:22.49.

C1MSh: 1 B Adolf, Magyarország, 16:04.23. 2 M Borgiel, Polska, 16:08.41.

3 J Brezina, Česká, 16:12.45. 15 A Leech, GB, 18:09.07.

K2WJ: 1 Fojt/Ujfalvi, Magyarország, 1:27:31.08. 2 Csengeri/Horvath, Magyarország, 1:27:36.65.

3 Hansen/Nielsen, Danmark, 1:28:52.58. 14 Roeser/Jepson, GB, 1:33:41.71.

K2W: 1 Kohalmi/Rendessy, Magyarország, 1:55:07.33.

2 Fernandez/Alvarez, España, 1:55:12.59. 3 Ward/Hockly, S Africa, 1:55:21.68.

13 Freeman/Swarbreck, GB, 2:04:31.51. 14 Solway/Duffield, GB, 2:07:56.44.

K2MJ: 1 Sellyei/Kolozsvari, Magyarország, 1:35:05.69. 2 Bryde/Maretti, Danmark, 1:35:12.16.

3 Itria/Marchetti, Argentina, 1:35:19.28. 9 Cabrera/Railton, GB, 1:36:03.14.

15 Tarver/Hinves, GB, 1:39:26.09.

K2M: 1 Urban/Candy, France, 1:59:03.21. 2 Boros/Erdelyi, Magyarország, 1:59:04.30.

3 Carre/Boulanger, France, 1:59:04.85. 14 Johnson/Johnson, GB, 2:05:28.64.

15 Dowden/How, GB, 2:06:55.79.

Nat: 1 Magyarország, 209. 2 España, 195. 3 Rossija, 133. 4 GB, 129.