



Is It Really a New Era for Women's Sport? The International Canoe Federation's Dirty Little Secret

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with Elaine Keene, WomenCAN International (in spirit)**

A Global Voice for Equality in Olympic Canoeing



LONDON 2012 THE WOMEN'S GAMES?



Still much work to do?

WOMEN'S CANOE LONG OVERDUE



canoephotography.com / Balint Vekassy (ICF)

YES!





London 2012 Olympics

Number of Athletes and Events

	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL	Difference Women- Men	% Women
TOTAL # ATHLETES*	6,068	4,835	10,903	-1,233	44%
CANOEING	221	111	332	-110	33%
TOTAL # EVENTS*	166	136	302	-30	45%
CANOEING	11	5	16	-6	31%

* Source: THE LONDON 2012 OLYMPICS: A GENDER EQUALITY AUDIT - University of Toronto, Centre for Sport Policy Studies, Peter Donnelly (Director, CSPS, University of Toronto) and Michele K. Donnelly (University of Southern California)



London 2012 Summer Olympic 26 “Core” Sports

February 2013 IOC Voting on Removal of One Sport for 2020

1	Archery	14	Judo
2	Athletics (track and field)	15	MODERN PENTATHLON
3	Badminton	16	Rowing
4	Basketball	17	Sailing
5	Boxing	18	Shooting
6	CANOEING	19	Swimming
7	Cycling	20	Table tennis
8	Equestrian	21	TAEKWANDO
9	Fencing	22	Tennis
10	Football (soccer)	23	Triathlon
11	Gymnastics	24	Volleyball
12	Handball	25	Weightlifting
13	HOCKEY (FIELD HOCKEY)	26	WRESTLING

█ “IOC Bottom 5”



IT'S ALL IN THE NAME

INTERNATIONAL

CANOE

FEDERATION

**“CANOE” or “OLYMPIC CANOEING” = the generic term referring
to both Kayak & Canoe**

DOUBLESPEAK AT ITS BEST



OLYMPIC SPORT: CANOEING
DISCIPLINES: Sprint & Slalom
SUB-DISCIPLINES: Canoe & Kayak
EVENTS: 16

SPRINT (12)		SLALOM (4)	
MEN'S KAYAK (K)	MEN'S CANOE (C)	MEN'S KAYAK (K)	MEN'S CANOE (C)
K1 1000	C1 1000	K1	C1
K2 1000	C2 1000		C1
K4 1000			
K1 200	C1 200		C2
WOMEN'S KAYAK	WOMEN'S CANOE	WOMEN'S KAYAK	WOMEN'S CANOE
K1 500	?	K1	?
K2 500			
K4 500			
K1 200			





OLYMPIC SPRINT KAYAK

MEN & WOMEN

SINGLES, DOUBLES, FOURS

MEN'S KAYAK (K)

K1 1000

K2 1000

K4 1000

K1 200

K2 200

WOMEN'S KAYAK

K1 500

K2 500

K4 500

K1 200





OLYMPIC SPRINT CANOE MEN ONLY SINGLES & DOUBLES ONLY

MEN'S CANOE (C)

C1 1000

C2 1000

C1 200

WOMEN'S CANOE

X





OLYMPIC SLALOM KAYAK MEN & WOMEN SINGLES ONLY





OLYMPIC SLALOM CANOE

MEN ONLY

SINGLES & DOUBLES





89 YEARS!



**“Development” is
Code for Delay**



International Canoe Federation Position Statement

*“The ICF would like to point out that on a global scale, **few National Federations are developing the Women’s Canoe category in the Sprint discipline whereas much progress is being made in the development of the Women’s Canoe category in Slalom.”***

ICF Press Release, November 20, 2012.



International Canoe Federation Position Statement

*“It is good that people are mindful of gender equity in our sport, but it is equally important that people acknowledge the progress that has been made, and ... they have to recognize that **Rome wasn’t built in one day.**”*

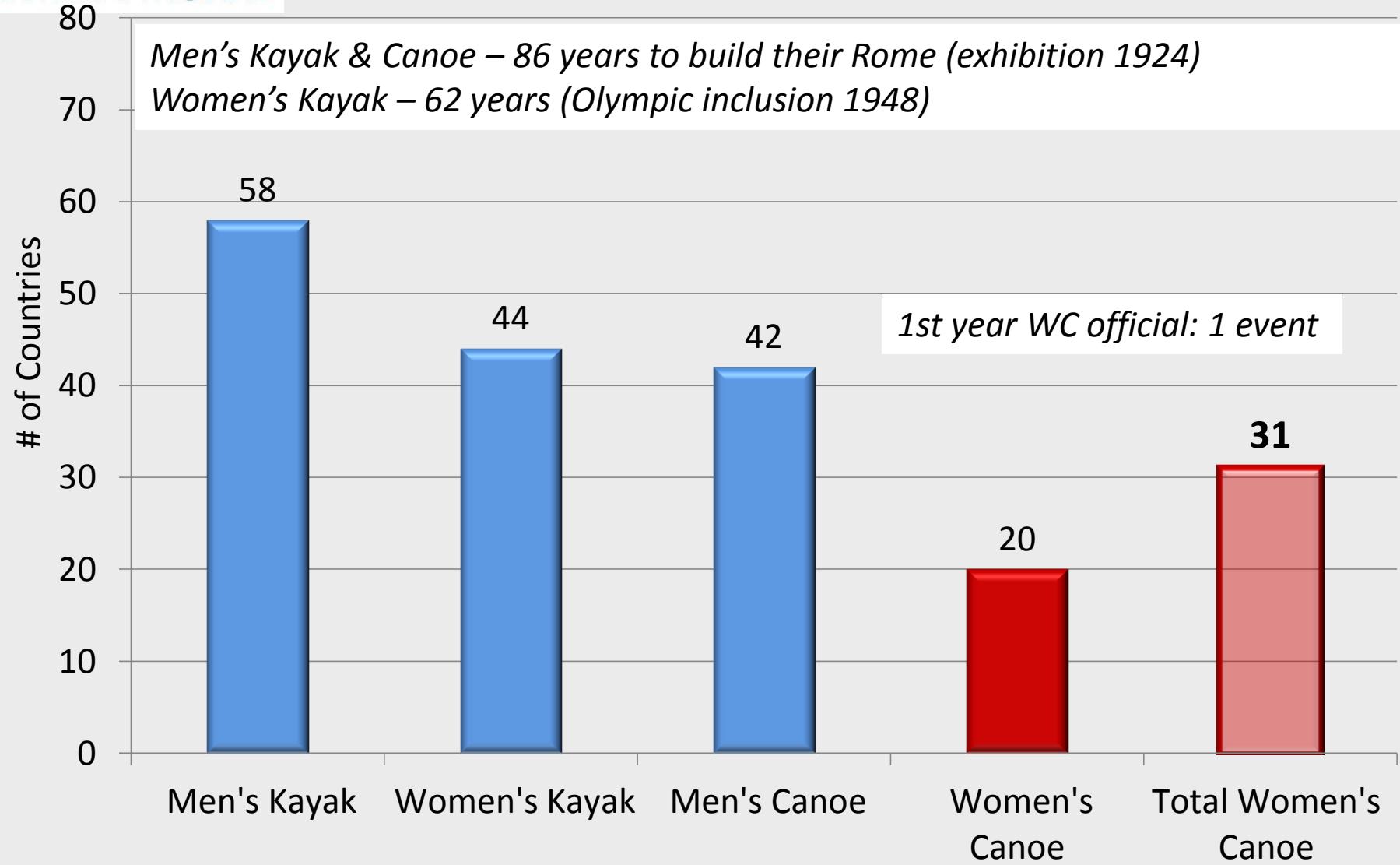
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OLYMPIC CANOEING

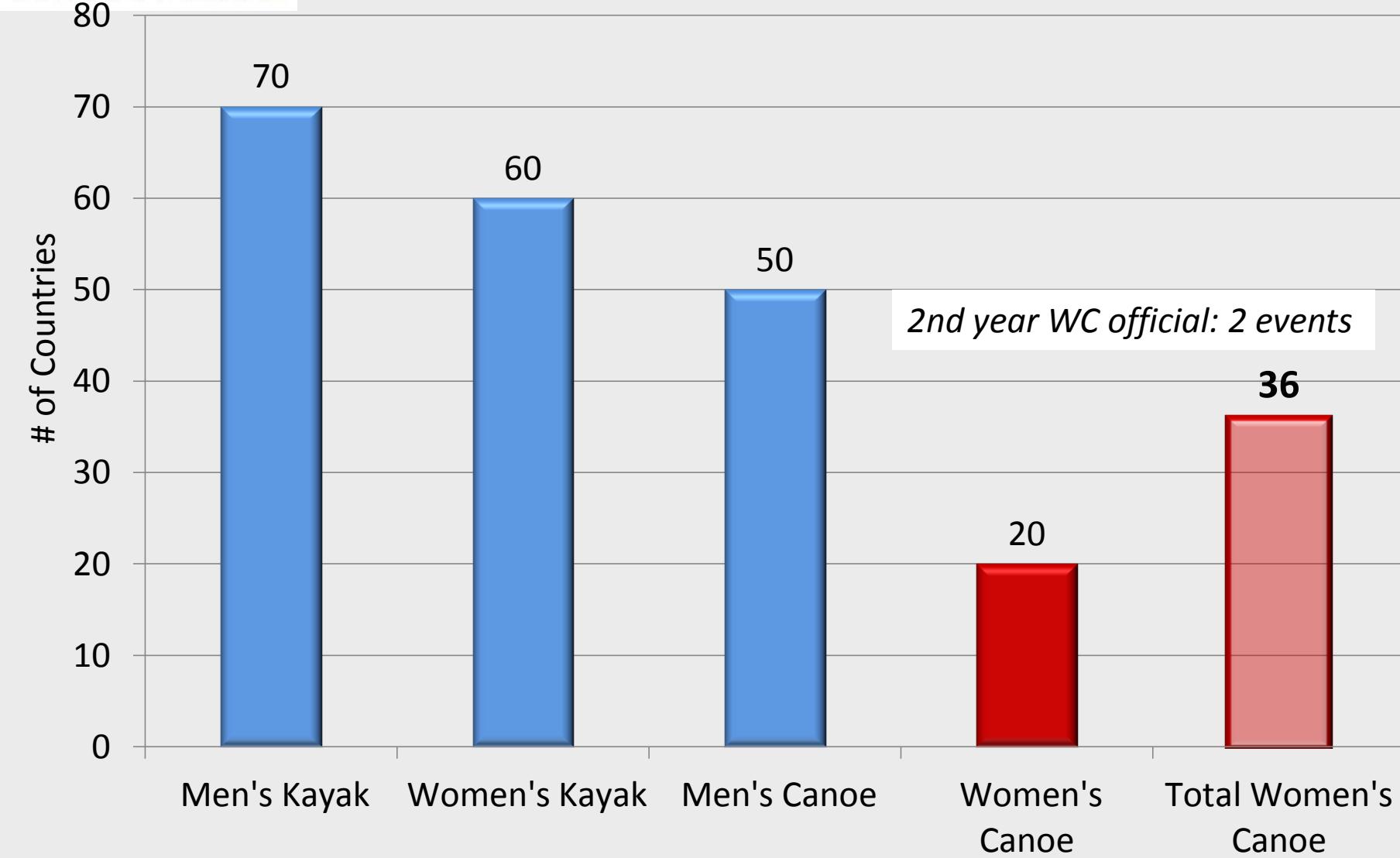
SPRINT Olympic Events & Women's Canoe

of Countries Participating in 2010 World Championships





OLYMPIC CANOEING
SPRINT Olympic Events & Women's Canoe
of Countries Participating in
2011 World Championships





"The largest enemy of change and leadership isn't a 'no.' It's a 'not yet.'

'Not yet' is the safest, easiest, way to forestall change."

~SETH GODIN, Author, Blogger



WHAT WE WANT

1. 2014 – Sprint World Championships/World Cups include 4 women's canoe events (C1/C2).
2. 2015 – Sprint World Championships/World Cups, 9 Sprint women's canoe events = to men
3. 2015 – Toronto 2015 include C2 Sprint to the Pan American Games
4. 2015 – European Games – include C1/C2
5. **2016 – Rio Olympics - women's canoe Sprint & Slalom**
6. 2018 – Youth Olympic Games - women's events & distances equal to men
7. 2019 – Pan American & European Games - women's events equal to men
8. **2020 – Balance between men/women, canoe/kayak**



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

1. Recommend and discuss-widely the creation an external Olympic/Sport accountability arm similar to World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) to address Human Rights issues related to
 - Equal access/opportunities for all
 - Anti-discrimination
 - Anti-abuse/harassment (physical, sexual, emotional, mental – includes bullying)
 - Corruption in sport (match-fixing, doping)
2. Petition for an independent economic analysis of Olympic program to determine what is the “magic number” of athletes/events. Why cap @ 10,500 athletes and not 12,000 or 15,000?
3. Petition Women’s Commissions – at the IOC and IF levels – to follow up on the University of Toronto’s London 2012 Gender Equality Audit, track/report on progress and recommend solutions



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

4. Petition the ICF to change its name to International CanoeKayak Federation (ICKF) (and Sport to Olympic Canoe/Kayak)
5. Petition the IOC to “Get Equal Before Adding” – increase the caps
6. Write about Olympic Canoeing and gender equality in the Olympics
7. SIGN OUR PETITION: Lift the Ban on Women’s Canoeing at the Olympics for Rio 2016! <https://www.change.org/petitions/lift-the-ban-on-women-s-canoeing-at-the-olympics-for-rio-2016>
8. Connect with us: www.womencanintl.com, Twitter @WomenCANIntl, “Like” and share our Facebook page Vote Yes for Women’s Canoe



READY FOR RIO!





CONTACT

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Twitter: @WomenCANIntl

Facebook: Vote Yes for Women's Canoe C1 & C2
“Like” and Share

