



# **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**



**YES!**





# London 2012 Olympics

## Number of Athletes and Events

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

\* 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	<b>MODERN PENTATHLON</b>
3	Badminton	16	Rowing
4	Basketball	17	Sailing
5	Boxing	18	Shooting
6	<b>CANOEING</b>	19	Swimming
7	Cycling	20	Table tennis
8	Equestrian	21	<b>TAEKWANDO</b>
9	Fencing	22	Tennis
10	Football (soccer)	23	Triathlon
11	Gymnastics	24	Volleyball
12	Handball	25	Weightlifting
13	<b>HOCKEY (FIELD HOCKEY)</b>	26	<b>WRESTLING</b>

■ “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		
K4 1000			
K1 200	C1 200		C2
K2 200			
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







# 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.**”***

ICF Press Release, November 20, 2012.

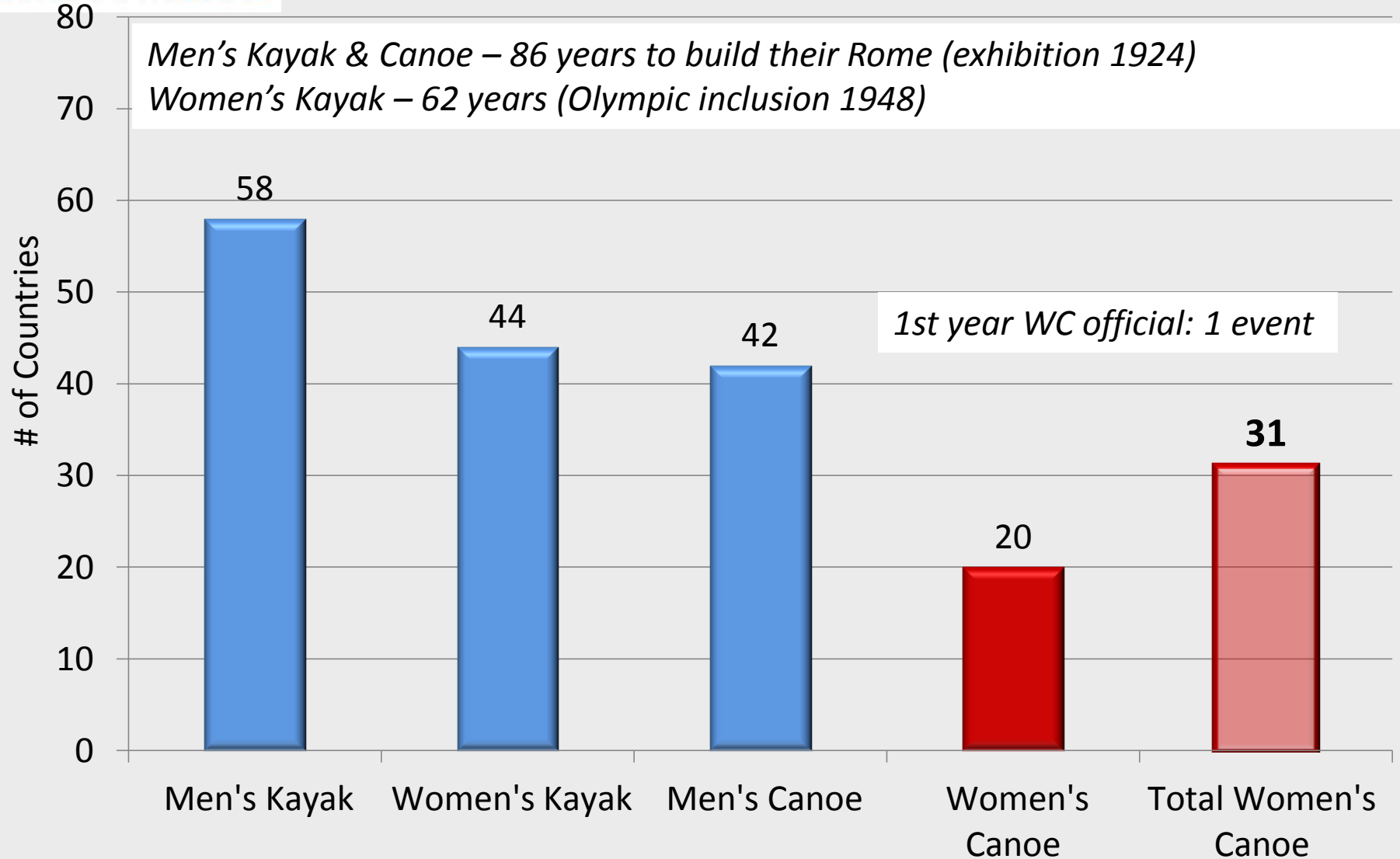


# OLYMPIC CANOEING

## SPRINT Olympic Events & Women's Canoe

### # of Countries Participating in 2010 World Championships

*Men's Kayak & Canoe – 86 years to build their Rome (exhibition 1924)*  
*Women's Kayak – 62 years (Olympic inclusion 1948)*

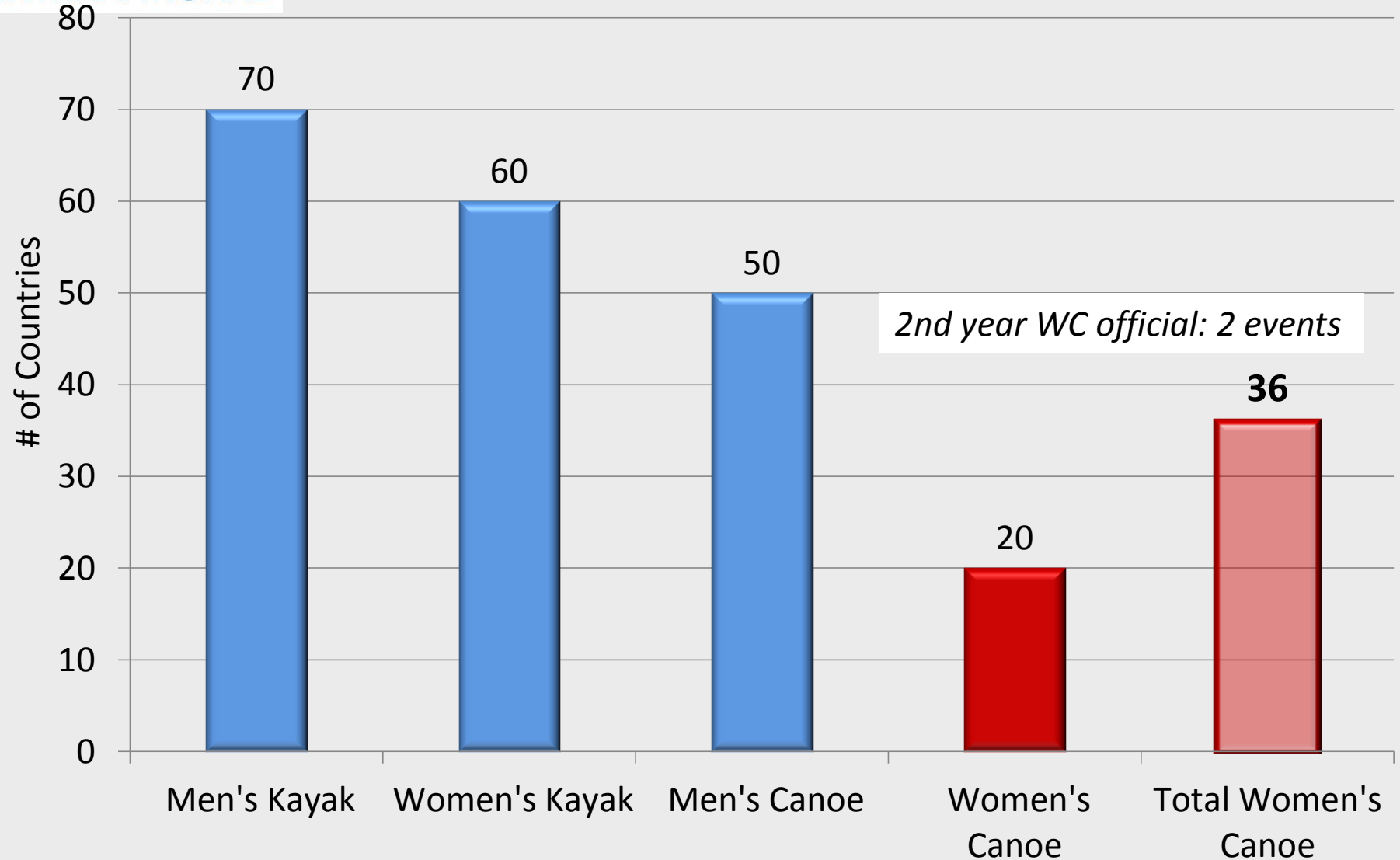




# OLYMPIC CANOEING

## 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](http://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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"Like" and Share



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