



Fostering a Global Voice for Women and Sport

AAPHERD National Convention

April 23, 2013



WOMEN IN OLYMPIC SPORTS

PROGRESS?

YES!

Still much work to do?



WOMEN'S CANOE LONG OVERDUE



YES!





Olympic Charter and International Canoe Federation (ICF) Statutes

Olympic Charter:

*"The practice of sport is a **human right**. Every individual must have the possibility of practicing sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit."*

ICF Statutes ARTICLE 2 – PURPOSE

1. The principles of the ICF shall be general unity of action, mutual respect of National Federations in their dealings with one another and the inadmissibility of discrimination ... Paddling is competitive and recreational activity for all, regardless of race, age, gender, religion or ability.



Sport = Canoe/Kayak

2 Disciplines w/sub-disciplines

16 TOTAL EVENTS

SPRINT – 12 TOTAL		SLALOM – 4 TOTAL	
MEN'S KAYAK 5	WOMEN'S KAYAK 4	MEN'S KAYAK 1	WOMEN'S KAYAK 1
MEN'S CANOE 3	WOMEN'S CANOE 0	MEN'S CANOE 2	WOMEN'S CANOE 0



1918 Washington Canoe Club



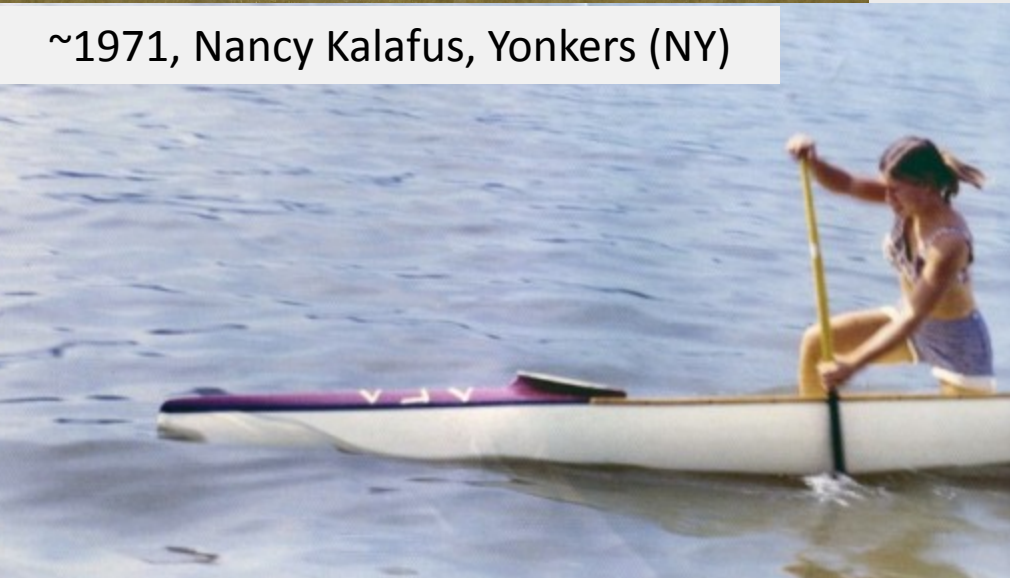
W.C.C. MIXED TANDEM
1918 · 1919 · 1920 · 1921 ·
H.T. Knight ~ Miss Elizabeth Smith

WOMEN'S CANOE NOTHING NEW!

Will girls race Canadian
boats? F. Fox and D. Smith train.



~1971, Nancy Kalafus, Yonkers (NY)



c. 1962 Washington Canoe Club

WOMEN'S CANOE NOTHING NEW!



US Team ad, 1977

Chuck Lyda and Marietta
Gillman 1977 World
Champions Mixed C2



1975 Truckee River, Near Lake Tahoe, Ca.



Cathy Hearn (early '70's)



London 2012 Summer Olympic 26 “Core” Sports February 2013 IOC Voting on Removal of One Sport for 2020

■ “Bottom 5”

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	Canoe/Kayak	19	Swimming
7	Cycling	20	Table tennis
8	Equestrian	21	Taekwondo
9	Fencing	22	Tennis
10	Football (soccer)	23	Triathlon
11	Gymnastics	24	Volleyball
12	Handball	25	Weightlifting
13	Hockey (field hockey)	26	Wrestling



canoephoto.com / Balint Vekassy (ICF)





Photo: Balint Vekassy



Nina Jelenc Photogra



What Factors are Contributing to the Exclusion of Women's Canoe from the Olympics?

1. ICF continues to state Women's Canoe "needs more development" – specifically, Sprint Canoe needs more development but Slalom is Ready for Rio.



International Canoe Federation Position Statement

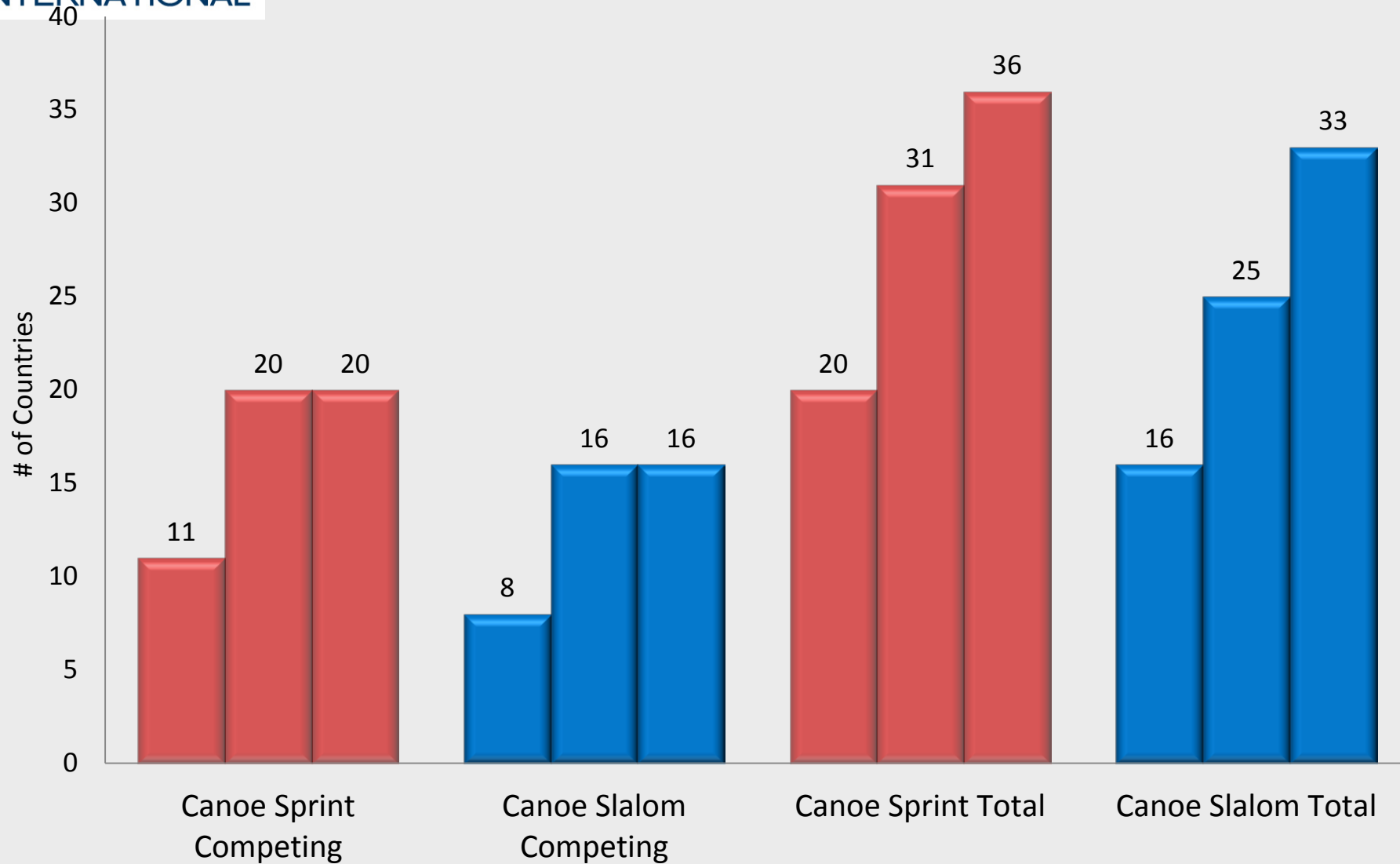
“The ICF would like to point out that on a global scale, few National Federations are developing the Women’s Canoe category in the Sprint discipline whereas much progress is being made in the development of the Women’s Canoe category in Slalom...”

... *the ICF is now committed to having a Women’s Canoe Singles event (Canoe Slalom) included in the Sport Programme of the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.* ”

ICF Press Release, November 20, 2012.



Canoe Sprint and Canoe Slalom 2009, 2010, & 2011 World Championships





What Factors are Contributing to the Exclusion of Women's Canoe from the Olympics?

1. ICF continues to state Women's Canoe "needs more development."
2. IOC Quotas on athlete and event slots.
3. Adding women's events costs money and time.

Why is voting still required on things that are stated core values in statutes and charters?



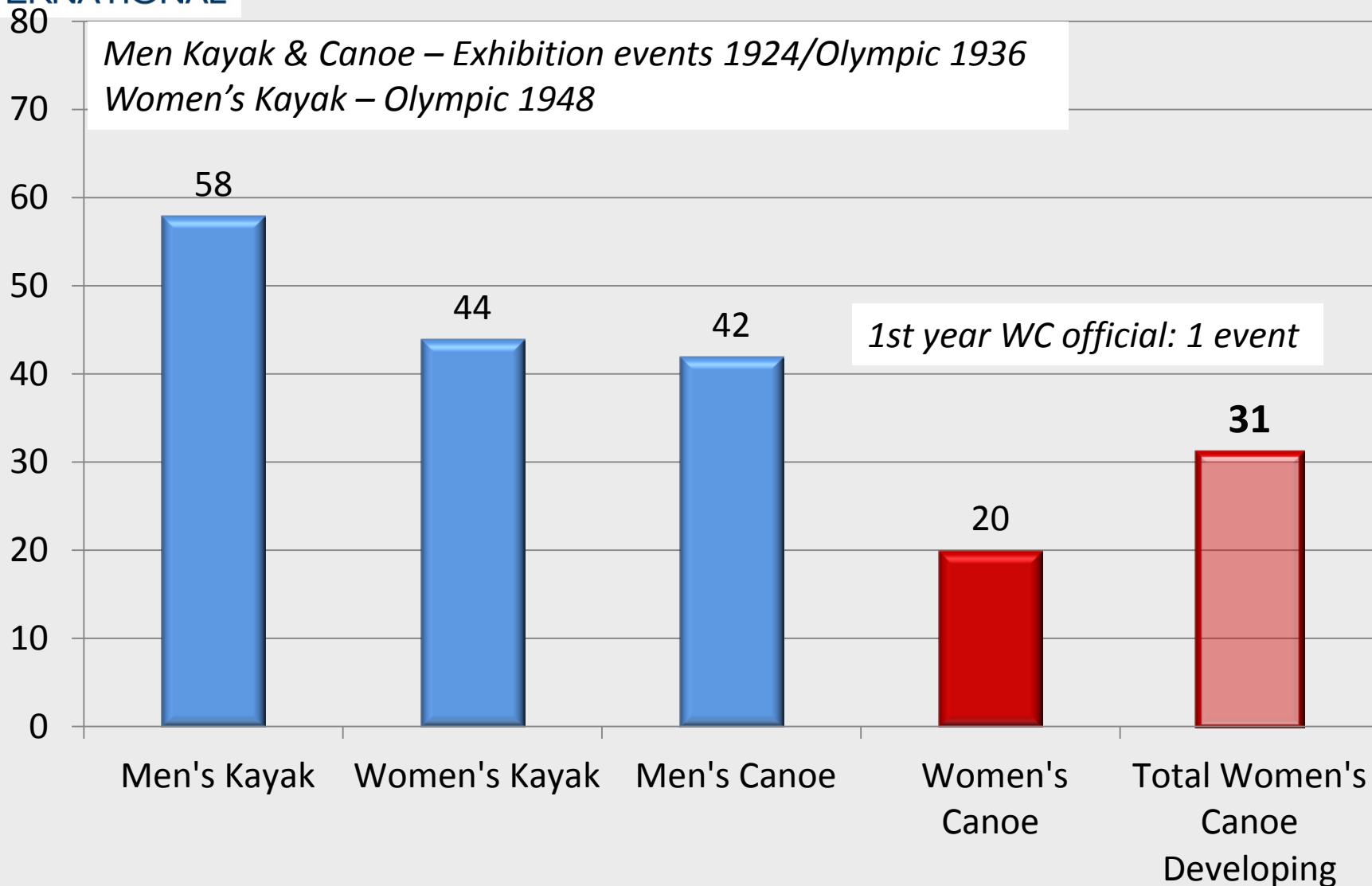
International Canoe Federation Position Statement

“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.

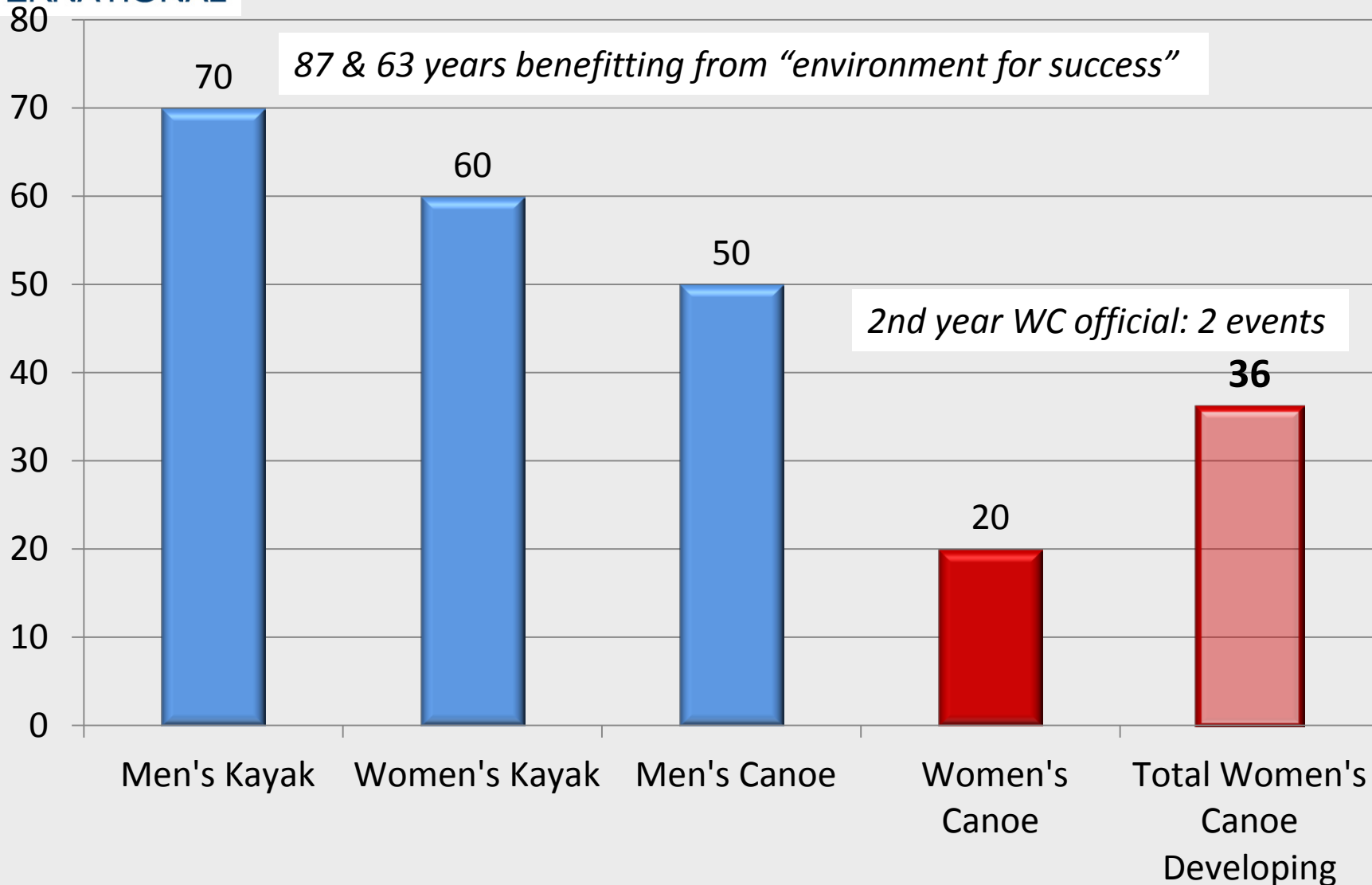


Sprint Olympic Events & Women's Canoe at the 2010 World Championships





Sprint Olympic Events & Women's Canoe at the 2011 World Championships





Para-Canoe/Kayak added to Rio 2016 in 2010

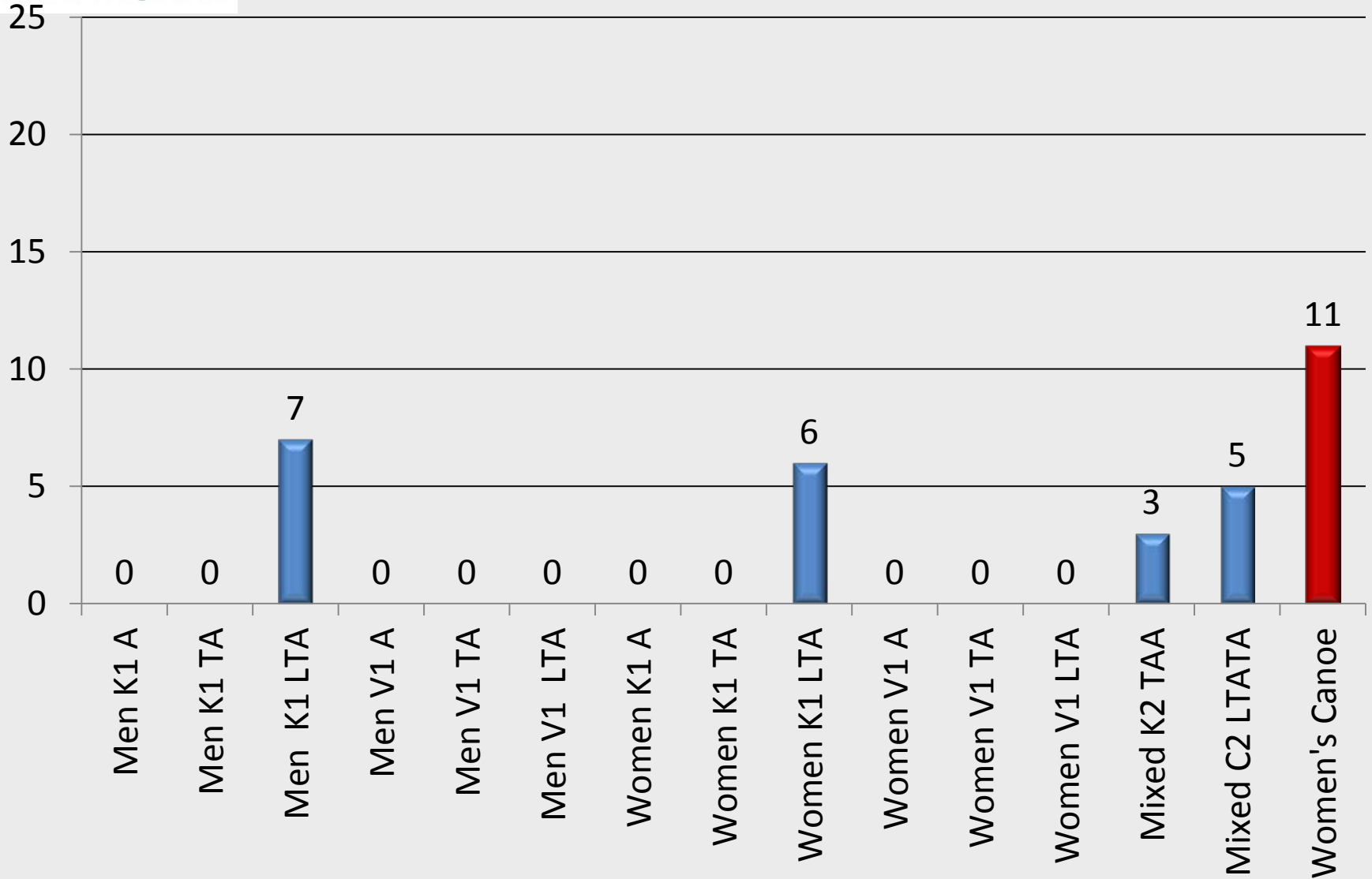
The process to include Para-canoe/kayak into the 2016 Summer Paralympics began 1 October 2009, less than 2 months after exhibition events in August 2009.

Within 9 months, approval was reached 16 July 2010.

Official announcement of Olympic status made by the International Paralympic Committee and the ICF December 2010.

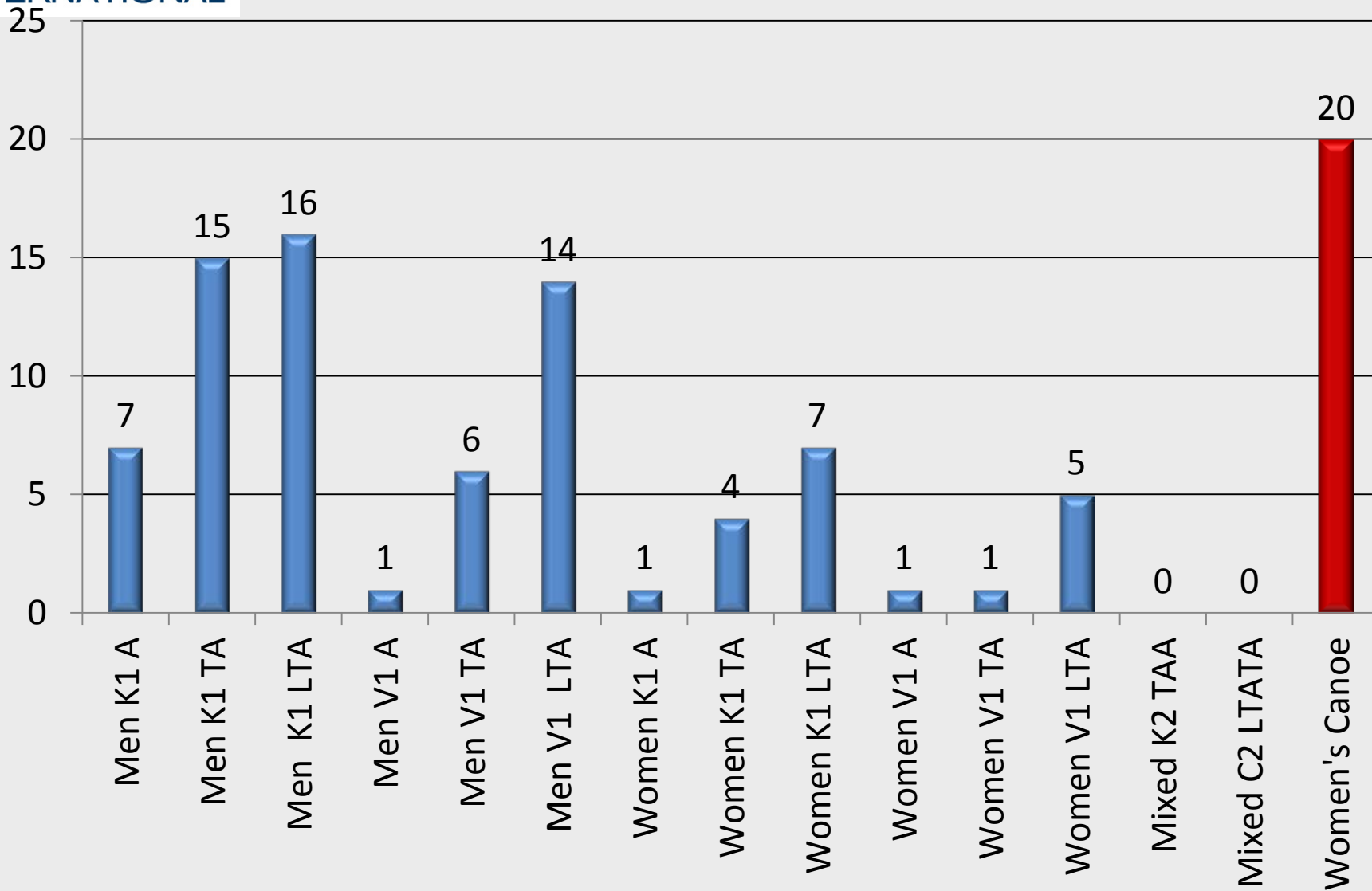


2009 Sprint World Championships Exhibition Events for Para-canoe/kayak & Women's Canoe





2011 Sprint World Championships Official Events Para-canoe/kayak & Women's Canoe





WHAT WE WANT

*Balance Between the Genders
and Disciplines (Canoe/Kayak) by 2020*

1. 2014 - World Championships/World Cups – women's events equal to men
2. 2015 – allow Toronto (host organizing committee) to add C2 sprint to the
Pan American Games to match current Worlds status
3. 2016 - Rio Olympics - women's canoe Sprint & Slalom
4. 2018 - Youth Olympic Games - women's events equal to men
5. 2019 - Pan American Games - women's events equal to men
6. 2020 – Olympics - women's events equal to men



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

ORGANIZATIONS

1. Petition the IOC to “Get Equal Before Adding” – increase the caps.
2. Petition the IOC to conduct an Olympic Program review to determine what is the “magic number” of athletes which will truly represent the best in the world. Why 10,500 and not 12,000?
3. Recommend to the ICF to add gender equality to their list of priorities.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

ORGANIZATIONS

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Asked for his main priorities as ICF president for the next four-year cycle, Mr. Jose Perurena stated:

***“To maintain the image and reputation of canoeing and the ICF...
Then to ensure canoeing is on TV and in the media around the world in the lead-
up to Rio and beyond.
Then, importantly, it’s my job to support our teams and athletes at the events
because that is what we are doing all this work for.”***



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3. Recommend to the ICF to add gender equality to their list of priorities.
4. Create an external Olympic accountability arm for gender equality similar to World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).
5. Keep these continued gender imbalances in your conversations about the Olympics, and participate in discussions for resolution.
6. Post our website link on your website and Facebook page.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

PUBLIC

1. “Like” and share our Facebook Page: Vote Yes for Women’s Canoe C1/C2.
2. Share contacts for media actively promoting women’s sports issues.
3. Voice your support for equal opportunities for all in every sport.



READY FOR RIO!





CONTACT

Pam Boteler - pam@womencanintl.com
www.womencanintl.com

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

- [Women’s Canoe in action](#)
- [Olympic Medalists – Canada – speak out on behalf of Women’s Canoe](#)