

For Immediate Release
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ICF CANOE POLO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS HEADS TO FINALS AUG 4 - 5

Welland, ON - The City of Welland is hosting the 2018 Canoe Polo World Championships at the Welland International Flatwater Centre (WIFC) the week of July 30 to Aug 5, 2018. The event began with a spectacular Opening Ceremonies on Monday evening, luring 2000 spectators to Merritt Park to enjoy live entertainment and to welcome 650 athletes from around the World to Welland. The ceremony opened with a Parade of Nations—which brought 26 countries to the podium—and was highlighted by a blessing ceremony, greetings from dignitaries, Canada’s national anthem, and concluded with a thrilling concert and party for the athletes.

The International Canoe Federation (ICF) Canoe Polo World Championships opened Tuesday morning at the WIFC with fierce competition and a well-attended audience. Canada’s women under 21 team notched a successful first day with a lopsided 10-0 win over Argentina.

The ICF Canoe Polo World Championships is gaining attention worldwide. All games are accessible to viewers through a high-quality live stream available on Planet Canoe’s YouTube channel. The World Championships has also gained significant attention from television, newspapers, radio, and social media.

“This world championships has turned out to be one of our biggest and best events to date at the WIFC,” said Richard Dalton, Event Director and Manager of Recreation and Culture. “It’s brought the sporting community together from 26 countries and created a kinship for the love of flat-water sport. Everyone is blown away by the live stream we’re producing, and the quality of our venue – it’s amazing to be a part of it.”

Locals are encouraged to attend the ICF Canoe Polo World Championships to discover world-class competition at the city’s state-of-the-art flat-water facility. The finals take place on Sat Aug 4 and Sun Aug 5 with sessions ranging from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Although access to the competition is free of charge, there is a \$5 parking fee for vehicles which is directed back to local non-profit community groups. Bicycle racks are also available for those who choose to ride to the venue. Seating is on a first come basis so early arrival is recommended, and vendors will be on site with food, beverages, and souvenirs.

For more information on the event listings or to live-stream the event visit www.canoeicf.com. For more information on future events at the WIFC visit www.wifc.ca.

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