



# 2024 KAYAK CROSS RULE INTERPRETATIONS

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## I. 2023-2024 CANOE SLALOM RULES

The 2023 - 2024 ICF Canoe Slalom rules and their appendices are the only valid documents of reference for the Kayak Cross rules to be enforced in 2024.

This document aims to clarify the way to assess some situations which may happen during a Kayak Cross competition. This document is to inform the athletes and coaches as well as ITOs.

## II. INTERPRETATIONS

**Interpretation n°1:** ITOs act as referees. Their assessment is based on their own appreciation of the situation as it is in soccer, rugby and in other sports. Their decisions must always be respected.

**Interpretation n°2:**

If the gate is moved by an athlete in a way which does not open the gate line for himself / herself and to disadvantage another, this athlete will receive a RAL.

**Interpretation n°3:**

If a gate is kept in a static position by an athlete to prevent another athlete from crossing the gate line, the holding athlete will receive a RAL.

**Interpretation n°4:**

If an athlete deliberately moves a gate with their hand whilst their hand is not holding the paddle, they will receive a RAL.

Remark: the “Koala move” (having the buoy between your arms, paddle and body) is permitted on a gate as long as none of situations listed in the Guidelines n°2 to 4 are assessed by an ITOs assigned to the gate or as assessed by the video review.

**Interpretation n°5:**

According to rule 16.23.1 kayak to kayak contact is permitted. However, the ITO must assess if this contact is dangerous and/or clearly unfair. In this case, such situations can be sanctioned with a RAL or DQB (see guideline n°7).

**Interpretation n°6:**

Any Athlete receiving a RAL may be referred by the Chief Judge to the Jury for further sanction (Rule 16.24.5) e.g. suspension from future competitions.

**Interpretation n°7:**

Unfair/unsporting behavior or deliberate team strategy consisting in penalizing one competitor in favor of another competitor can be sanctioned with a DQB to both athletes (the athlete carrying out the action and the one benefitting).

## III. CONTACT

For any question related to this document, please contact:

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