



Va'a Canoe Paddling Competition Manual

10th Micronesian Games
15-24 June 2024

Marshall Islands Micronesian Games Organizing Committee
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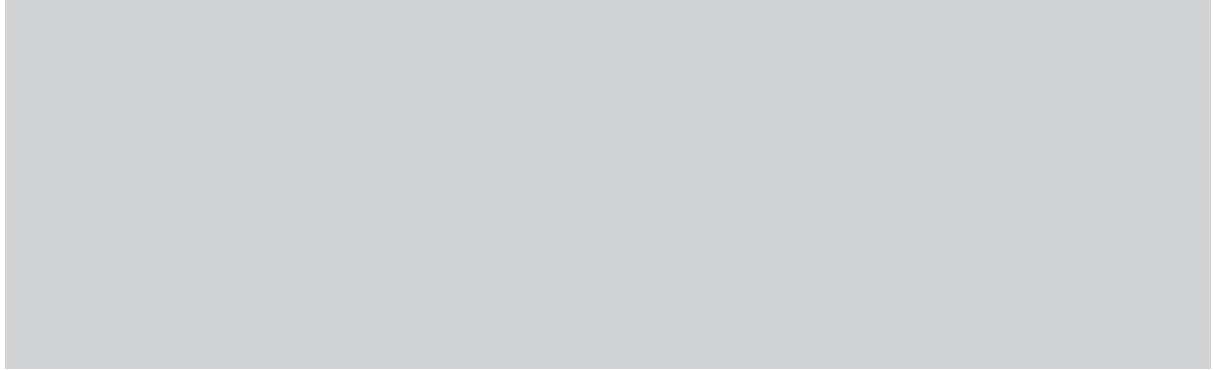
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1 VA'A CANOE PADDLING

1.1 General Information

Dates	21-22 June 2024 (Pending submission of numerical entry forms)
Venue	Delap Park, Majuro
Technical Meeting	TBD
Competition Manager	Elizabeth Holly +692 4582195 elizabethholly88@gmail.com
Technical Delegate	TBD

2 COMPETITION DETAILS

2.1 Technical Committee

Technical Delegate	TBD
Competition Manager	Elizabeth Holly

One representative from each participating member association.

2.1 Officials

2.1.1 Officials for the tournaments will be drawn from accredited referees nominated by the participating MGAs. All MGAs entering teams are expected to send one suitable referee per team. Referees will be assigned to games and evaluated under the supervision of the recognized institution. Officials will be supplied and assigned by the host country, in consultation with the International Va'a Federation (IVF). All officials must attend the official clinics to be presented by the representative of the IVF.

3 CONDUCT OF THE TOURNAMENT

3.1 Dates & Venues

3.1.1 The MAJOL2024 Va'a Canoe Paddling Tournaments for men and women will be held at the Delap Park, Majuro RMI from 21-22 June 2024 (Pending submission of numerical entry forms).

3.2 Practice Schedule

3.2.1 This will be determined at a later date and distributed to all teams when they arrive.

3.3 Technical Committee Meeting

3.3.1 The Technical Committee shall be chaired by the Technical Delegate or the chair will be appointed by the Technical Delegate.

3.3.2 The Technical Meeting will be held no more than 48 hours prior to the commencement of the competition. Schedule will be communicated prior to your arrival. Visit Sport Information Center (SIC), located in the Athletes' Village, for technical meeting schedules.

3.3.3 Two (2) Representatives from each team may attend the Technical Meeting. The Technical Delegate will welcome and preside over the meeting. All matters pertaining to the competition will be covered at this Meeting.

3.4 Agenda

1	Welcome remarks by the Competition Manager
2	Introduction of Relevant Key Competition Technical Officials
3	Final Timetable
4	Confirmation of the Jury of Appeal
5	Protests and Appeals to the Jury
6	Confirmation of Entries
7	Failure to Participate
8	Medal Ceremonies and Procedures
9	Draws
10	Venue visit
11	Other Concerns

3.5 Competition Management

3.5.1 The MAJOL2024 OC will coordinate the Micronesian Games Va'a (Outrigger Canoeing) competition under the IVF:

- Race Rules and Management
- Organization & administration guidelines and Explanation
- Be monitored by an IVF Official

- Guidelines and rules of International Va'a Federation

3.6 Events

- 3.6.1 The following list of events will be confirmed or updated after receipt of Numerical Entry forms and based on consultation with the Va'a contact of each MGA.

MEN	WOMEN
V6 500m sprint	V6 500m sprint
V6 1500m sprint	V6 1500m sprint
V6 27km Long Distance	V6 22km Long Distance

3.7 Competition Schedule

- 3.7.1 To be finalized during technical meeting, following final registration through Accreditation and Sport Entry System May 15 deadline and consultation with the technical delegate.

3.8 Medals

- 3.8.1 Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded in the Micronesian Games competition in accordance with the Micronesian Games Charter.

3.9 Maximum Entries

- 3.9.1 The MAJOL2024 OC is limiting the number of entries for the Va'a Canoeing competition to 10 Men and 10 Women per country. No more than 1 team entry per event in accordance with Micronesian Games Charter.

3.10 Entries

- 3.10.1 All athletes must comply with entry requirements as specified in the Micronesian Games Council Charter.

3.11 Individual Entries

- 3.11.1 Accreditation and Sport Entries must be completed online by the MGAs by 15 May, 2024.

3.12 Final Entries

- 3.12.1 The names of competitors shall be confirmed at the Technical Committee Meeting.

- 3.12.2 Only those competitors whose names appear on the final accreditation and sport entry system on May 15 shall be eligible for final nominations.
- 3.12.3 When a competitor is injured after being included in the Accreditation and Sport Entry System, a substitute may be nominated on production of a medical certificate established by the doctor designated by the MAJOL2024 OC provided this nomination is made before midnight preceding the opening event of the tournament in which the injured competitor would have taken part. The substitute's name must have been entered in the Accreditation and Sport Entry System by the May 15 deadline.

3.13 Draws

- 3.13.1 All draws will be done randomly either before or by assignee of the Technical Committee at the first Technical Committee Meeting as per IVF requirements either by computer software or draw from the hat. Both under IVF delegate control.

3.14 Lane Allocation

- 3.14.1 Heat assignments will be made randomly. Thereafter, lane assignments will be made by computer based on place and time as followed by IVF.

3.15 Allocation of Canoes

- 3.15.1 Canoes will be in a pool. Each canoe will be allocated to a lane. Countries will use the canoes assigned to that lane.

3.16 Competition Rules and Regulations

- 3.16.1 The MAJOL2024 Va'a competition will be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the International Va'a Federation (IVF).
- 3.16.2 In cases of disputes the Micronesian Games Council decision shall be final.

4 COMPETITION PROCEDURES

4.1 IVF Rules

- 4.1.1 These rules are excerpts from the 2018 IVF Rules and Regulations used as part of the World Sprints, if applicable to these games. They are included as

a general guide for competing paddlers. Refer to the IVF Rules 2018.

4.2 Hull Specifications

4.2.1 All Va'a are to be made from the same mold, using the same materials, with weight and dimensions to be the same. Prior to the competition, officials will check the weight and make alterations as need so that all Va'a are of the same weight, with tolerance levels set by the hull and equipment committee.

4.2.2 If the Tournament Director determines there is a need to measure the Va'a to ensure uniformity, the Va'a shall be compared using the standards as mentioned in the IVF Rules.

4.3 Call in and Holding Areas

4.3.1 A check-in location termed the call-in area will be designated where the contestants will report to the paddler inspectors when called. An area (termed the holding area) for contestants to go to after they leave the call-in area and before they enter the Va'a will be designated near where the Va'a are kept between races.

4.4 Starts

4.4.1 Contestants must be present on time at the starting line, in the order stated for the day's events. Starting signals shall be given regardless of absentees.

4.4.2 The position at the start should be such that the bow of each competing Va'a is lined up without movement behind the starting line. The Va'a must be in their assigned lanes, and may be allowed to be held in some way by a person(s) chosen by the contestant.

4.4.3 The Competition Manager may order all or certain races to have a holder for each Va'a.

4.4.4 The start will be controlled by the aligner, located at the side of the course, and the flag person, located in a boat in the middle of the course approximately sixty meters in front of the starting line.

4.5 Starting Procedures

- Immediately prior to race start time, the starter will raise a white flag signaling Va'a to come to the pre start line.

- As soon as the Va'a are lined up on the pre start line, the aligner will communicate to the starter the OK to raise a red flag signaling the Va'a are lined up evenly on the start line. At the same time the aligner will verbally instruct the Va'a, as recorded, to do this in the English language.
- As soon as the Va'a are lined up evenly, the aligner must communicate quietly to the starter by radio to start the race.
- Instantaneously upon radio communication, the flag person will simultaneously lower the red flag and raise a green flag and an assistant will sound an air horn, signaling the start of the race.

4.5.1 If the aligner is unable to line up the Va'a evenly within one minute, he or she may choose to continue to try to line up the Va'a or may order the white flag to be raised and begin the process again.

4.5.2 At the start of a race, no Va'a shall have an illegal advantage. All Va'a that are lined up illegally must be given a warning to line up correctly and the opportunity to do so. If, after an official warning, a Va'a persists in lining up so that an illegal advantage is gained, the aligner may start the race, signaling this infraction by raising a black flag. If the aligner, after communicating to the starter to start the race, sees an unfair situation not previously noticed, a rerun must be immediately called.

4.5.3 If the aligner sees any reason to immediately halt the race for a rerun, he or she will communicate such to the course boats by radio and the waving of a red flag.

4.6 Turns

4.6.1 Turns are to be made counter-clockwise, with the ama nearest the flag.

4.6.2 If contact is made by any part of the hull, iako or ama so that the flag touches the water, the contestant shall be disqualified.

4.7 Finish

4.7.1 The finish line is crossed when the bow of the Va'a passes the finish flags.

4.7.2 All competitors must be on the Va'a at the finish of their race.

4.7.3 Any Va'a finishing outside its assigned lane will be disqualified.

4.8 Drawing of Lanes

- 4.8.1 Lanes shall be assigned randomly for semifinal heat races with the process carried out under the supervision and the control of the IVF and the Tournament Director.
- 4.8.2 The race schedule for the entire regatta and the lane assignments shall be posted the day prior to the start of the day's event. Unless for some unforeseen reason (protest, medically excused paddler, etc.)
- 4.8.3 Subsequent lane assignment postings shall be done as early as possible. Copies shall be available for each area coordinator.

4.9 Replacements and Withdrawals

- 4.9.1 V6 teams shall be entered with 6 paddlers. Where a paddler is deemed unable to paddle in a race progression for any verified medical reason, any eligible paddler from within that country roster list may replace them.
- 4.9.2 A contestant may withdraw without penalty by notifying the Competition Manager the day before his race is scheduled. If a contestant does not start, and has no valid reason approved by the competition committee a fine shall be levied. These fines shall not be refundable and no contestant from that area will be allowed to compete until the fine is paid. The amount of the fine will be confirmed at the Technical Committee Meeting.

4.10 Disqualification

- 4.10.1 Besides the reasons set out for disqualification in other parts of these rules, any individual who attempts to win an event by means other than those which are honest, does not respect the race rules, or who displays unsportsmanlike conduct, shall be disqualified for the entire duration of the Games.
- 4.10.2 All disqualifications pronounced by the Competition Manager or Infractions Director shall be immediately confirmed in writing with reasons given. The Team Manager or Assistant Team Manager of any disqualified athlete shall then be notified, given a copy of the disqualification form and acknowledge receipt thereof on a copy indicating the precise time, which is the start of the protest time. The disqualification shall then be publicly announced and posted.
- 4.10.3 The following provisions as stated in these rules are cause for automatic

disqualification:

- Competing for more than one crew in an event will disqualify both crews from the competition.
- Not meeting the age requirements.
- Using prohibited drugs.
- Starting or finishing outside one's lane.
- Paddling in a non-seated position.
- Starting incorrectly.
- Not rounding the flags in a counter-clockwise direction.
- Contacting the flag so that it touches the water.
- Finishing without the entire crew in the Va'a.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct.
- A competitor who is a citizen of or resides in one member area competing in a team from another area.

4.11 Competition Clothing and Equipment

- 4.11.1 There shall be no advertising or publicity on personal equipment and competition clothing used or worn at the Games except that of the official sponsors as prescribed by the MAJOL2024 OC.
- 4.11.2 Identification of the manufacturer (name and/or logo) of the equipment and or clothing may appear, if not marked conspicuously for advertising purposes in accordance with the Micronesian Games Charter.
- 4.11.3 All Countries are required to bring paddles. Canoes will be supplied by the MAJOL2024 OC.

5 COMPETITION VENUE

5.1 Venue

- 5.1.1 The MAJOL2024 Va'a Competition will be held at the Delap Park.

5.2 Facilities at the venue

- 5.2.1 4 Sprint Lanes
- 5.2.2 Warm-up area

5.2.3 Country tents for competing athletes

5.2.4 Medical facilities will also be available at venue

5.3 Training Venue

5.3.1 Training will be available at the competition venue.

5.4 Equipment

5.4.1 The MAJOL2024 OC will only provide canoes for training on the training dates.

5.5 Training Schedule

5.5.1 Teams will be provided with a training schedule upon arrival for pre-competition training only. Training will not be available during competition.

5.5.2 Scheduled training times may be amended with the Competition Manager.

6 ELIGIBILITY

6.1 Athlete Eligibility

6.1.1 In order to be eligible to compete at the Micronesian Games, an athlete must comply with one of the following criteria:

(1) The athlete must have been born in any state, country, or territory which is a member of the Micronesian Games Council -- that is, Palau, Guam, CNMI, Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae, Marshall Islands, Nauru, or Kiribati -- and must have lived in any of those states, countries, or territories for a period of three years up to and including the start of the Games; OR

(2) The athlete must be the child of at least one parent, or two grandparents, who were born in any state, country, or territory which is a member of the Micronesian Games Council (see above), without regard to residence; OR

(3) The athlete must have resided in any state, country, or territory which is a member of the Micronesian Games Council (see above) for a period of seven years up to and including the start of the Games, AND, resides in the state, country, or territory for which the athlete will compete, as of the start of

the Games, without regard to ancestry.

The temporary absence of an athlete from the territory of a member of the Micronesian Games Council for purposes such as education, sports, training, military service, and health care, or other legitimate absences of a similar kind, are not considered as interrupting a previously established residency.

In addition, athletes must:

- (a) Complete all necessary entry and participation forms;
- (b) Not be currently under disqualification or suspension by any relevant authority;
- (c) Comply with all relevant rules and regulations of the Micronesian Games Council, the MGC Constitution, and the World Anti-Doping Code.

It is the responsibility of each participating state, country, or territory to ensure that all competitors comply with these requirements.

These requirements apply only to athletes. There are no eligibility requirements for coaches or technical officials.

Entries by name must be submitted at least 30 days prior to the start of the Games. Late entries will not be accepted. At the close of entries, the MAJOL2024 OC will communicate a list of all named competitors to each competing state, country, or territory. Each competing state, country, or territory will have 10 days to challenge the eligibility of a competitor. A \$50 bond is required for each challenge. The bond is refundable if the challenge is successful but is forfeited if the challenge is unsuccessful.

The burden of proof of eligibility is on the sponsoring state, country, or territory, rather than the challenging state, country, or territory. In the event of a challenge, the sponsoring state, country, or territory must submit documents proving eligibility.

Challenges to athlete eligibility are made to the Micronesia Games Council Executive Board, not to the MAJOL2024 OC, which will refer them for decision by a Disputes Tribunal, consisting of three persons appointed by the Micronesia Games Council Executive Board. All challenges to eligibility shall be decided at least 10 days prior to the start of the Games. The decisions of the Disputes Tribunal are final and may not be appealed.

A state, country, or territory whose athlete is successfully challenged and is deemed ineligible to compete will be liable for a penalty in the amount of USD\$100. Failure to pay the penalty means that the state, country, or territory will not be allowed to compete in the sport in which the ineligible athlete was registered.

The contents of this section are a summary of the relevant provisions of the Micronesia Games Council Constitution. While every attempt has been made to assure the accuracy of this summary, in the event of any inconsistencies between this summary and the provisions of the Micronesia Games Council Constitution, the provisions of the Constitution shall be controlling.

7 PROTESTS TO THE JURY OF APPEAL

7.1 PROTESTS

7.1.1 Any protest must be lodged with the Competition Manager in writing in English and signed by the leader of the delegation. A check or cash in the amount of \$100.00 must be included with each protest.

7.2 JURY OF APPEAL

7.2.1 The Jury of Appeal shall consult, all relevant person, including the Referee and Judges. If the Jury of Appeal is in doubt, other available evidence may be considered. If such evidence, including video evidence, is not conclusive, the decision of the Referee shall be upheld. The Jury Chairman gives the jury's decision to the Competition Manager, who institutes preparation of an Amended Result, if required.

8 ATHLETES' VILLAGE

8.1 Accommodations

8.1.1 Athletes and coaches will be housed at the Marshall Islands High School campus.

8.2 Meals

8.2.1 Meals will be provided at each Athlete's Village cafeteria upon presentation of an accreditation card. Only accredited persons will be provided meals.

8.2.2 If the sports competition schedule conflicts with the dining hall hours, teams may request takeout meals. It's the responsibility of the Chef de Mission to request takeout meals during the CdM meeting at least 24 hours in advance and to pick up the takeout meals in the dining hall; takeout meals will not be delivered.

8.3 Medical

8.3.1 Primary care medical facilities (first aid) will be available, without charge, at the sports venue. More advanced care will be on call. Care other than primary care is the sole responsibility of the individual, and will be made available on the same basis (including cost) as it is to the general public.

8.4 Sport Information Center (SIC)

8.4.1 The SIC located at the Athletes' Village, will be open and manned during regular business hours.

8.4.2 The SIC is the formal communication center for the receipt and distribution of all sports information and results.

8.4.3 A set of daily results will be prepared, and will be distributed to each Chef de Mission at a daily morning meeting.

8.4.4 Transportation

8.4.5 Transportation will be provided for teams by the Micronesian Games Organizing Committee. Games transportation schedule will be disseminated at a later date.

8.5 Security

8.5.1 Security will be provided at all MAJOL2024 venues.

9 DOPING CONTROL

9.1 Random Testing

9.1.1 Athletes are advised that random drug testing will be conducted for the duration of the 2024 Micronesian Games.

9.2 Prohibited Substances

9.2.1 It is the responsibility of the athlete to check the status of all medications and refrain from using prohibited substances. Athletes who test positive for a prohibited substance will be disqualified from, including but not limited to, the 2024 Micronesian Games.

9.2.2 Complete listing of prohibited substances can be found on WADA website.

10 CODE OF CONDUCT

10.1 Conduct

10.1.1 The conduct of athletes, coaches, managers, and team officials are expected to adhere to the highest standards reflective of national pride and the spirit of the 2024 Micronesian Games. All participants shall appreciate the goodwill and regional unity that are the objectives of these Games.

10.2 Tobacco, Betel-nut, Vape, Alcohol and Drugs

10.2.1 The use and consumption of Tobacco, Betel-nut, Vape, Alcohol and Drugs in or around any Games facility is prohibited.

Good Luck to all the Teams!!!!