

Video Judge Process

The Video Judge acts as another judge in the Canoe Slalom Event. They provide support to the Gate Judges by an independent overview of all gate situations, using the benefits (and limitations) of video analysis.

There are usually two people assigned to this role. At World Championships the ICF CSLC will appoint the Video Judges. At World Cups the committee will appoint at least one Video Judge to ensure consistency. The Video Judge is considered an International Technical Official (ITO) position.

The Technical Video Service (TVS) will feed both the Video Judge and the Teams to ensure they both have access to the same footage. The ICF provides Level 1 & 2 Competitions with equipment and suitable software to capture, store and replay the files for every Competitor. The ICF Technical Video Service Co-ordinator is responsible to prepare and maintain the set up and ongoing delivery of this service. Where the event is broadcast, the broadcast signal may also be recorded and used by the Video Judge.

During the Heats phase the Video Judge reviews files at the request of the Chief Judge eg following an enquiry. It is not normally possible to review all files within a 1 minute start interval without disrupting the efficient running of the heats.

Where the start interval allows, typically during the Semifinal and Finals phase, the Video Judge reviews all penalties given by Gate Judges as well as any situations where a penalty may have been incorrectly applied or not applied at all.

When the Chief Judge receives a proposed change from the Video Judge, or an enquiry, they review the video and Gate Judges sheets. They then make their decision based upon the balance of all the available evidence.

The criteria used by the Video Judges in their determination include the following:

1. The video provides clear 100% evidence that a penalty has been incurred/or not incurred and this does not agree with the Gate Judge's determination, a change to add or remove the penalty is proposed to the Chief Judge.
2. The video provides evidence that supports the Gate Judges documentation i.e. it is consistent with what the Gate Judges have documented, but does not provide 100% evidence of the penalty, the decision will rely on the Gate Judge's documentation and call.
3. The video is inconclusive. Where the video cannot provide clear and conclusive evidence that a penalty has been incurred, or not incurred, the documentation and decision of the Gate Judge will be adopted.
4. The video does not provide any extra information and is not used. In this case the video may be from the wrong angle, too far away or the Athlete may block the view of the gate

Where there is 100% conclusive evidence the Video Judges will propose a penalty (or the removal of a penalty) even if it has not been recorded by the Gate Judges.

In all cases any change to a penalty proposed by the Video Judge must be confirmed by the Chief Judge. They will ultimately decide whether to apply or remove a penalty even if it has not been given by the Gate Judges.