

## **2016 USA Wildwater National Championship Rules**

1. USA Wildwater National Championships will be held to determine the junior national champion, U23 national champion, and open national champions in each class recognized for international competition by the ICF (K-1 Men, K-1 Women, C-1 Men, C-1 Women, C-2 Men, C-2 Women).
2. The junior national championship will be awarded to the highest finishing racer in each class who is competing at any age up to the year of his or her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.
3. The U23 national championship will be awarded to the highest finishing racer in each class as long as that individual is no younger than the year of her or his 19<sup>th</sup> birthday and no older than the year of her or his 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday.
4. The open national championships will be awarded to the highest overall finishing racer in each class regardless of age.
5. National champions will be recognized in sprint, classic, and combined categories.
6. Awards for each age group, each class, and sprint, classic, and combined national champions will be given at the discretion of the race organizer.
7. The national championships will consist of one sprint race (with two runs) and one classic race.
  - a. The sprint national champion will be decided based on the better of two timed runs on the sprint course.
  - b. The classic national champion will be decided based on the results of one timed run on the classic course.
  - c. The combined national championship will be determined based on total combined points, which will be awarded as follows:
    - i. Points will be assigned based on the results of each race: 0 points for 1<sup>st</sup>; 1 point for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2 points for 3<sup>rd</sup>, etc.
    - ii. The points each racer earns in the sprint and the classic will be added and racers ranked according to the total number of points earned.
    - iii. The racer with the lowest point total in each class will be named combined national champion.
    - iv. Ties in point totals will be resolved by combining the percent behind the winning boat in each class in the classic and the sprint and ranking the tied racers. The racer with the smaller combined percentage will be ranked higher.
8. The national championships will operate according to current ICF wildwater rules 7, 18, 19, and 21-28. Requirements for pre-race boat inspection may be waived by the organizer, but all competitors must meet safety requirements (helmets, life jackets, shoes, air bags in boat, bow and stern grab loops) and can be disqualified at any point in the competition if they have not followed safety rules.