Paddle Europe Monthly · October 2026 Edition

PADDLE EUROPE MONTHLY · OCTOBER 2026

Celebrating 2026. Preparing for 2027.

European titles, a season of achievements and the next chapter for Paddle Europe.

1. OPENING

Closing the 2026 Season, Looking Towards the Future

As the 2026 European season comes to a close, we look back on another remarkable year of competition, dedication and shared achievements across our continent.

On behalf of Paddle Europe, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all athletes, coaches, National Federations, organisers and everyone who contributed to making this season possible.

A special word of appreciation goes to all International Technical Officials (ITOs) and National Technical Officials (NTOs) who served at our European Championships throughout the year, as well as to the many volunteers and individuals who worked tirelessly behind the scenes. Their dedication, professionalism and willingness to give their time are essential to the successful delivery of our events and to the continued development of European Canoeing.

With the competitive season now concluded, we are taking the time to review our activities and reflect on what we have achieved throughout 2026. We are also engaging directly with this year's event organisers to gather feedback, evaluate the delivery of our Championships and identify areas where we can improve. This process is an important part of our commitment to continuous development and to providing an even better experience for athletes, teams, officials and organisers.

At the same time, preparations for the 2027 season are already underway, with a clear ambition: to build on what we have achieved together, strengthen our activities, raise organisational standards and bring even greater dynamism, professionalism and quality to canoeing across Europe.

Thank you for being part of the Paddle Europe community. We look forward to continuing this journey together in 2027.



2. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS

The Final European Titles of 2026

Odysseus and Duisburg Crowned in Milan

The 2026 Paddle Europe Canoe Polo Club Championships brought the European Championship season to a close at Milan's Idroscalo, where 40 clubs competed across

three days of action from 2 to 4 October.

Belgium's Odysseus claimed the men's European title after a thrilling 4–3 victory over Spain's Málaga, completing an impressive campaign and succeeding KSVH Berlin as European club champions. France's Avranches secured bronze with an 8–2 win over Italy's Pro Scogli.

In the women's competition, Germany's MKC Duisburg successfully defended their European crown, defeating Spain's Burriana 4–0 in the final. Fellow German club RM Essen completed the podium after overcoming Alaquàs 5–2 in the bronze-medal match.

The Championships brought together 302 athletes across 25 men's and 15 women's teams, delivering 168 matches and 985 goals. Particularly encouraging was the growth of the women's competition, with participation increasing from 10 clubs in 2025 to 15 in 2026.

With new champions crowned, established clubs confirming their strength and growing participation across Europe, Milan provided a fitting conclusion to the 2026 European Championship season.

40	302	168	985
TEAMS	ATHLETES	MATCHES	GOALS

Read the Full Championship Report



3. 2026 SEASON IN REVIEW

2026 Season in Review

A Year of Champions, Records and European Excellence

14	3,035	264
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS	DIFFERENT ATHLETES	EUROPEAN TITLES

> 2026 at a Glance — 14 European Championships • 3,035 different athletes • 264 European titles • 43 delegations • 11 venues • 42 competition days

The 2026 Paddle Europe season brought together more than 3,000 different athletes across 14 European Championships, 11 venues and 42 days of competition. A total of 264 European titles were awarded, with 43 national and independent delegations represented.

Across the Championships outside the Canoe Polo club competition, 3,035 different athletes competed, generating 3,279 championship participations. The Canoe Polo Club

Championships added 302 registered players, bringing the combined total to 3,581 championship participations and club registrations.

Among the outstanding performances, Ukraine's Liudmyla Luzan won four Sprint titles in Montemor-o-Velho, Great Britain's Charlotte Henshaw claimed two Paracanoe titles on the same day, and France's Dimitri Tostain collected five Wildwater titles. Czechia's Valentýna Kočířová earned six Junior and U23 Slalom medals, while Italy's Cecilia Pampinella swept all three Open women's SUP titles.

Czechia led the European title rankings with 29 gold medals, just ahead of France with 28. France led the overall medal standings with 86 medals, followed by Czechia with 84 and Spain with 82. Spain fielded the most different athletes, with 303, ahead of France, Germany, Great Britain and Italy.

The season also celebrated participation across generations, with 536 athletes competing exclusively in Masters categories, and historic achievements for nations and athletes across disciplines.

Athlete totals exclude the separately counted Canoe Polo club competition; the 3,581 figure is not a count of unique athletes.

Explore the Complete 2026 Season Report

Read the Season Review Article



4. HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES

Hosting the Future: Bidding Opportunities

Help Shape the 2027 European Competition Calendar

With the 2026 European Championship season now complete, Paddle Europe is looking ahead to future editions and inviting National Federations and potential organisers to take an active role in hosting European paddle events.

A particular priority is securing a host for the 2027 Paddle Europe Canoe Polo Club Championships. Following the successful conclusion of this year's competition in Milan, the hosting opportunity for 2027 remains open. Paddle Europe encourages interested National Federations to explore the possibility of bringing this European club competition to their country.

Beyond Canoe Polo, bidding opportunities are also available for other European Championships and European Cup events across several disciplines and future seasons.

Paddle Europe provides a structured bidding process, beginning with an Expression of Interest and continuing through consultation, bid submission and evaluation. Interested parties are encouraged to review the official bidding guidelines and contact Paddle Europe to discuss potential hosting opportunities.

OPEN BIDDING — 2027 CANOE POLO CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Paddle Europe invites interested National Federations to explore hosting this event.

Explore Hosting Opportunities

For further information: events@paddle-europe.eu



5. COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Get Involved: Committee Nominations

New Opportunities to Contribute to Paddle Europe

Paddle Europe has opened a call for nominations to fill four vacant positions within its Technical Committees and Athletes Committee, inviting all member National Federations to put forward qualified and motivated candidates.

These appointments offer an opportunity to contribute directly to the governance, technical development and future direction of Paddle Europe

Positions Open for Nominations

Slalom Technical Committee – Chair

Sprint Technical Committee – Member

Freestyle Technical Committee – Member

Athletes Committee – Paracanoe Male Representative

Key Nomination Deadlines

4 November 2026	Slalom Chair, Sprint Member and Freestyle Member
31 May 2027	Athletes Committee — Paracanoe Male Representative

All deadlines are at 23:59 CET (Swiss time).

How to Apply

Nominations must be submitted exclusively by National Federations through the Paddle Europe Events platform, using their official login credentials.

Each application must include the candidate's CV and an official nomination letter from the National Federation. Further information on the positions and their responsibilities is available through the platform.

Paddle Europe encourages nominations that reflect a diversity of backgrounds, experience and perspectives, helping to build strong and representative committees.

Submit Nominations

For access difficulties or further assistance: events@paddle-europe.eu



6. CONGRESS FEATURE

Paddle Europe Congress 2027

Shaping the Future of European Canoeing

The 18th Ordinary Congress of Paddle Europe will take place on 3 April 2027 in Ljubljana, Slovenia, hosted by the Canoe Federation of Slovenia.

As an important milestone in the governance of Paddle Europe, the Congress will bring together Member National Federations to discuss the organisation's future, participate in elections and contribute to key decisions shaping the years ahead.

With preparations already underway, National Federations are encouraged to take an active role by submitting nominations for elected positions, presenting motions or proposed amendments to the Statutes, and ensuring their delegates are registered within the established deadlines.

Key Congress Deadlines

9 January 2027	Nominations for elected positions
9 January 2027	Motions and proposed Statutes amendments
17 February 2027	Delegate registration
17 February 2027	Distribution of final Congress documentation
31 March 2027	Annual membership fees

All official Congress information, updates, programme details and public documentation will be available on the dedicated Congress webpage.

Nominations, motions, delegate registration and access to member-only documentation will be managed through the secure Paddle Europe Events platform.

National Federations requiring access credentials should contact congress@paddle-europe.eu using their official federation email address.

Further practical information on accommodation, transportation, airport transfers and visa support will be communicated separately by the Host Organising Committee.

Congress 2027 — Official Information

Paddle Europe Events — Member Access



7. CALENDAR UPDATES

Calendar 2027 Updates

Paddle Europe Canoe Polo Cups — 2027 Dates

Three Paddle Europe Canoe Polo Cup events are scheduled for 2027, bringing national teams representing their National Federations together for international competition in France, Switzerland and Belgium. National Federations are encouraged to save these dates as they prepare their national teams for the new season.

1–2 May 2027	**Saint-Omer** France
12–13 June 2027	**Pfyn** Switzerland
3–4 July 2027	**Turnhout** Belgium

Further event information and practical details will be communicated through Paddle Europe's official channels as the season approaches.

Explore the Full 2027 Events Calendar