

Your Guide to the Krakow Concrete Canoe Challenge 2025

Rules, Registration, and What to Expect!



Concrete
Canoe Challenge

KRAKOW, 13-15 JUNE 2025



Introduction: Imagine teams of students and engineering enthusiasts racing canoes made from concrete across the scenic waters of Krakow, Poland. Yes, concrete! It's all part of the [Krakow Concrete Canoe Challenge, June 13-15, 2025](#) - a unique event that blends engineering skill, creativity, and a serious competitive spirit. Whether you're a potential participant or just curious about this one-of-a-kind competition, here's everything you need to know about the event, from registration to race day rules.

1. Event Overview

The [Krakow Concrete Canoe Challenge \(KrakowCCChallenge\)](#) is a blend of engineering, competition, and fun! Taking place from [June 13-15, 2025](#), in Krakow, Poland, this event invites students to construct and race canoes made from concrete. Hosted by **Politechnika Krakowska** in celebration of its **80th anniversary**, the challenge provides a unique opportunity for students to push the limits of concrete technology by building lightweight yet durable concrete canoes. The [KrakowCCChallenge](#) is open to **technical colleges, universities, and other institutions teaching concrete technology**.

Participants will bring their canoes to Krakow, joining other teams for races, hands-on learning, and social events centred around concrete technology. If you're part of a **team working on a concrete canoe**, it's the perfect time to start building and planning for this event! If you **have concrete canoe** start to plan your trip now!

Each institution can register a maximum of **two canoes**, and each canoe can have one men's team, one women's team, and one mixed team. Canoes are for two paddlers using a single-blade paddle. However, **each student/ competitor may only participate in one category** to keep the competition fair and balanced.

Here's how to get started:

2. Registering for the Challenge

Pre-Registration: Teams need to submit an intention to participate by **January 15, 2025**. The form to be filled for this will be available at canoe.pk.edu.pl.

Registration: By **April 30, 2025**, institutions must finalize their entry by paying a **150 EUR** (or 650 PLN) per canoe fee and **10 EUR** (or 40 PLN) per participant. The participation fee covers:

- campsite access (tents are not provided) and venue services (from Thursday noon),
- Friday welcome event,
- Saturday breakfast, lunch and evening event.
- all participants will be provided with wristband ensuring access to all competition area.

A **refundable cleaning deposit of 50 EUR (or 200 PLN)** per team is required to maintain the site's cleanliness. The cleaning deposit in cash is paid at the registration. As long as teams tidy up their campsite before leaving, they'll get this deposit back.

Please note that Hotel is available in the venue upon your own individual reservation. Check competition website canoe.pk.edu.pl for more details.

3. Canoe Construction Requirements

For teams competing in the Krakow Concrete Canoe Challenge, the construction of each canoe must meet specific requirements:

Materials and Composition: Competing canoes must be made of concrete with **cementitious or low-clinker mineral binders**. The concrete composition may contain no more than **3% organic matter** (e.g., superplasticizers). Any **organic sealants, resins, or paints are not allowed** except for decorative purposes above the waterline.

Reinforcement: Teams are allowed to use reinforcement such as fibers, textiles, or rebars, but these materials **cannot contribute to the watertightness of the canoe**. Additionally, no extra floating elements may be attached to the canoe.

Dimensions and Design: The canoes are required to be two-person, hollow floating units with specific dimensions:

Length: from 4.0 m to 6.0 m

Width: Maximum 1.0 m

Height: Maximum 1.0 m

Safety Equipment: All canoes must be equipped with a **10 m long rope** and a **location buoy** in case of capsizing, ensuring quick retrieval and safety during the race.

These construction guidelines ensure that each team's canoe meets strict engineering and safety standards, balancing the challenge of buoyancy, stability, and creative use of concrete.

4. Technical Evaluation

Each team must submit a **technical report** to the jury by **June 1, 2025**, covering all aspects of their canoe design. This 5-page report should detail:

Concrete Technology: Description of the concrete composition and specific mix constituents, including type of reinforcement.

Boat Design: Explanation of the design concept, with detailed measurements, including average wall thickness.

Innovation and Sustainability: Teams should highlight innovative approaches, with a special focus on sustainable and recyclable materials or methods.

Canoe name: Teams should explain the canoe name and its meaning.

The **Technical Jury** will evaluate each report and score teams based on innovation, sustainability, and attention to recycling, recognizing teams that demonstrate forward-thinking ideas in sustainable concrete technology.

5. Venue and Schedule: Plan Your Weekend

The campsite kicks off at **12:00 PM on Friday, June 13**. Follow the news – the address, the route map and the venue plan will be available on the competition website.

The canoe presentation and judges' inspection take place on **Friday afternoon**. Specific details about the course (combination of a straight racecourse and a slalom course) will be shared **during the briefing**, immediately before the **welcoming event on Friday evening**.

The **sporting competition will take place on Sunday, June 14**. In the evening, there will be an awards ceremony and social event.

All campsites must be cleaned up by **2:00 PM on Sunday, June 15**.

Consult the website for a detailed schedule.

6. Team Eligibility and Proof

Each team must consist of **enrolled students** from the institution they represent. To ensure all team members meet this requirement, participants should be prepared to provide **proof of enrolment** through a student ID, an ID with a photo, or a confirmation letter from their institution. This policy maintains the academic spirit of the competition, highlighting student skills and training in concrete technology.

7. Safety First: Essential Rules for Participants

Safety is the top priority at the Krakow Concrete Canoe Challenge. Here are some essential guidelines to keep in mind:

Life Jackets Recommended: While paddling a concrete canoe might seem intense, life jackets are recommended to ensure everyone's safety.

Swimming Restrictions: For safety, swimming in the race area is strictly prohibited.

Following Instructions: Participants must follow all directions from organizers, and emergency access paths must always remain clear.

These rules keep everyone safe and focused on the fun of the competition.

8. Code of Conduct: Staying Respectful and Responsible

The event is about friendly competition and building a positive community. To ensure a great atmosphere, participants are asked to follow these rules:

No Alcohol or Drugs: Strong alcohol and drugs are strictly banned in the race area, and participants under the influence will be disqualified if necessary.

Respecting the Venue and Other Teams: Participants are expected to treat both the venue and each other with respect.

There are no campfires outside the grill area.

These guidelines help keep the event positive and welcoming for all involved.

9. Fair Play and Sportsmanship

Good sportsmanship is central to the Krakow Concrete Canoe Challenge. The competition includes **separate categories for men's, women's, and mixed teams**, allowing participants to compete in their preferred group. Each competitor/student can only participate in one form of competition, ensuring everyone has a fair chance to showcase their skills.

If any disputes arise, the jury will make the final decision to keep the event fair and friendly.

10. Liability for Damages

Accidents can happen, and if any damage occurs to the venue or other teams' property, the responsible party will be liable. This policy encourages respect for shared spaces and equipment, leaving everything in good condition for future events.

Summary: Important Dates and Deadlines

To make sure you don't miss any key steps, here's a quick summary of the important dates for the Krakow Concrete Canoe Challenge:

Date	Event / Deadline
January 15, 2025	Pre-registration deadline (Intention to participate). Complete the form available on www.canoe.pk.edu.pl .
April 30, 2025	Final registration deadline. Submission of participation fee and team details (canoe name, Captain, team members etc)
June 1, 2025	Technical report submission deadline to the Technical Jury. Report (5 pages English) should include concrete technology, design, dimensions, and sustainability aspects.
June 13, 2025	Competition venue opens at 12:00. Welcome event and briefing on race details held in the evening (participation of Captain and two teammates requested)
June 14, 2025	Krakow Concrete Canoe Challenge
June 15, 2025	Event concludes by 2:00 PM. Teams complete site cleanup and deposit is refunded upon inspection.


Keep these dates in mind as you prepare for the event, and make sure to attend the briefing and welcome event on June 13 for last-minute race details!


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 13-15 June 2025

 KRAKOW, Poland

 Discipline: Concrete Canoe Challenge

Got questions? Feel free to reach out to the event team at canoe@pk.edu.pl or on FB or Instagram

We would be more than happy to help with clarifications on rules or tips.

