

Slalom E-Book

By William T. Endicott

Section I - History of Slalom

Why is it important to know something about the history of your sport? I think because it helps define your goals. The more you know about how someone has achieved excellence in the past, the easier it is to see what you will have to do to achieve it in the future.

Look at this quote:

“I can now bench press 275 pounds. That has been my goal ever since I read in your book on the history of the sport that Juergen Bremer could do that much.”

Well, it was Jon Lugbill, who said that and he was talking about a book I wrote in 1979, “The River Masters”. Jon went on to win more World Championship gold medals (12) than any athlete in the history of our sport.

Our sport has now accumulated a rather extensive history and here is an attempt to capture the highlights in a few pages!

In a nutshell, international competition in whitewater began in Europe in the early 1920s, after several decades of river running had preceded it. The first competitions were downriver races, or basically, a transfer of Flatwater Racing to whitewater. Slalom came later, but paradoxically was the first to be contested in an actual World Championships.

The earliest whitewater navigation consisted of raft trips down the Isar, Enns and Lech rivers during the 19th century. But it was not until the advent of the foldboat that it became possible to navigate the more difficult Tyrolean and upper Bavarian whitewater rivers. At the same time the fold boat was being developed, in the 1880s an increasing number of canoes and kayaks manufactured in the United States and Canada found their way to Europe. First used in England and France, these boats soon spread to Germany and what is now the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

On July 16-17, 1921, the first German foldboat downriver race took place on the Isar River. This was followed the next year by the Enns regatta and in 1923 by a race on the Traun. These and other races drew competitors from Austria, southern Germany and Switzerland.

Founding the ICF

Because of the growth of Flatwater Racing and downriver racing, there soon became a need for an international governing body. So, on January 19, 1924, the “Internationale Reprasetantshaft fur Kanusport “ (IRK) was founded. It lasted until World War II and after the war was replaced by the International Canoe Federation (ICF), the international governing body today.

In 1932, acting on an Austrian proposal, the IRK established a system for classifying the difficulty of rivers from Class I to Class VI, a system that is still in use.

First Slalom Races

The first slalom race of any sort was held on September 11, 1932, on Lake Hallwyl, in Switzerland. This was neither a whitewater slalom nor an international event, but a local race held on a lake.

A year later, came the direct ancestor for the whitewater slaloms that we have today. It was a race on the Aar River, near Ruperswiler, Switzerland, in October of 1933. Held on Class II and III water, this was the first whitewater slalom ever. After other similar races, the Swiss organized a kind of national championships on the Aar on September 9, 1934.

In this race competitors had one run on two separate courses, each about 500 meters long. The scores were added together for an overall score. The “gates” consisted of buoys and poles rising out of the water. Instead of having to go through a set or parallel poles as is done today, athletes in this race simply had to go around the buoys without hitting them.

As for scoring, the person with the fastest time was given 100 points. Slower times were penalized by subtracting points from 100. In addition to this, there were penalties for hitting the gates. A “light touch” on one buoy cost one penalty point and a “heavy touch” cost as much as 3 points -- a pretty subjective system. In the event of a capsized competitor was allowed to repeat the run with a 20-point penalty.

A bit later on, the Ister Kyak Club of Vienna organized the first kayak slalom held in Austria, on the Muhtraisen at St. Georgen. The Austrian scoring method was different from the Swiss one, creating a controversy for a few years as to just how these races should be scored.

The Austrians suspended colored poles, or actual gates as we know them today, from ropes across the river. They computed scores by adding penalty points to the running times, just as we do today. Touching a gate with the paddle cost 2 seconds, with the boat or body 4 seconds.

On May 3, 1936, in Zwickau, Germany, the first joint kayak slalom and downriver races were held on the Mulde river. The first international slalom was also at Zwickau, on May 2, 1937. In that year there were other international slaloms in Switzerland and Austria and for the first time there were local slaloms in Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Italy.

Slaloms continued to be held through the early years of World War II. In 1941, in a slalom held near Paris, both kayaks and canoes were contested in the same race for the first time. But by 1944 all whitewater activity stopped due to the war and the IRK ceased to exist.

Slalom Redux

After the war, the Swiss were the moving force in reestablishing whitewater racing. They tried in 1946 to get slalom introduced as a World Championship event but the inability of the nations involved to agree on the rules led to a postponement of official ICF sanction until 1948.

In the meantime, the Swiss took matters into their own hands by organizing on August 2, 1947, a large international slalom in Geneva that they advertised as a European Championships, even a World Championships. About 70 foldboat and canoe competitors from Switzerland, Luxembourg, France, Belgium, Austria and Czechoslovakia raced. But the ICF refused to sanction the event so there is a controversy as to whether it should be regarded as the first World Championships or not. The first one recognized by the ICF came in 1949 and they were held every odd-numbered year from then until 2001. But starting with 2002, they have been held every year.

Early Slalom Courses, Boats and Techniques

Early race courses differed substantially from the ones we have today. First of all, they were shorter up through 1949: they usually consisted of 12-15 gates on relatively easy water even though recreational river running was often done on much harder water. By the 1950s, however, both the difficulty of the water and the number of gates had increased markedly.

In the early days, there were mandatory forward, upstream and reverse gates, but there were also a few others that we don't have today. On an 18-gate course, for example, three of the gates might be "free gates," which could be negotiated any way the contestant chose. Then, there was the "360-degree pole," a solitary pole colored red, white, or green, around which the boater had to do a complete 360-degree turn. Since the 360-degree poles were hung in eddies, they were similar to today's upstream gates.

Finally, there was "the barrier," a set of yellow parallel poles forming a line across the river that was supposed to represent a tree fallen part way across. The objective was to test back ferrying ability: the contestant incurred a 100-second penalty if his bow dropped below the barrier on a back ferry. The barrier lasted in World Championships through 1957.

The kayaks of the 1940s were 50-pound foldboats and almost all were made in Germany. Canoes began as molded plywood hulls with canvas decks. They were essentially open canoes with snaps on the side of the hull to hold down the decking. Since the early decks were flat and water collected on them, the boats became even heavier and harder to handle than they already were. Spray skirts were tied onto kayaks and were barely adjustable. On canoes, sometimes the entire deck was just a gigantic spray skirt.

Kayak paddles were collapsible, made of wood, much heavier than they are today, and often had both blades lying in the same plane. Often they had drip rings on the shaft. Canoe paddles were similar in shape to today's but made of wood and much heavier.

World Championships/ Europa Cups/World Cups/Olympic Games

Starting in 1949, there has been a succession of World Championships, occurring in alternating years from 1949 to 2001 and then starting with 2002 being held every year, except for Olympic years (the only time the Worlds was ever cancelled was on the Ocoee River in Tennessee, because of 9/11).

From 1974- 88 there was a Europa Cup contested.

Since 1988 there has been a World Cup contested every year.

Olympic competitions occurred in 1972 and then after a 20-year hiatus, in every Olympics since 1992.

What follows now is a time line of the winners of all these World Championships, Europa Cups, World Cups and Olympics plus other key events.

I have also listed both the scores of the winning athletes and starting with 1961 World Championships, the score expressed as a percentage of the winning K1score as well. I did this for the World Championships and Olympics but not the Europa Cup or the World Cup.

(I admit 1961 is an arbitrary place to start. Furthermore, prior to 1971, I cannot guarantee at this point that all classes ran exactly the same course. In the early days, for example, the course was sometimes made easier for the K1W and C2M class. But I personally know that from 1971 on, all 4 Olympic classes -- K1, K1W, C1 and C2 -- ran the same course.)

In a few places you will see there is data missing and I would love to hear from anyone who has it. For example, I need the World Championship winners' scores from the '91, '92, '93, and '95 World Championships/Olympics.

Finally, if you want to know the exact career record of anyone who has ever taken part in any of these competitions, you should consult the massive index compiled by Marcus Flechtner at: <http://slalom.flechtner.de>.

List of Winners and Key Events

1949 World Championships, Geneva, Switzerland

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Eiterer	Pillwein	D'Alencon	Rousseau-Duboile
Austria	Austria	France	France

Note: This first World Championships draws 7 nations and 81 contestants. The course has 12 gates.

1951 World Championships, Steyr, Austria

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fruehwirt	Pertlwieser	Dussuet	Paris-Neveu
Austria	Austria	Switzerland	France

1953 World Championships, Merano, Italy

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Kirschbaum	Schwingl	Dussuet	Dussuet-Engler
W. Germany	Austria	Switzerland	Switzerland

Note: This is the year that Milo Duffek unveils the Duffek stroke, but then deliberately loses the race so he can escape from Czechoslovakia during the Cold War.

1955 World Championships, Tacen Yugoslavia

K1	K1W	C1	C2	C2M
Holtzbauer	Biesinger	Jirasek	Paris-Neveu	Martanova-Pecka
W.Germany	W.Germany	Czechoslovakia	France	Czechoslovakia

1957 World Championships, Augsburg, West Germany

K1	K1W	C1	C2	C2M
Vogt	Magnus	Schubert	Kleinert-Friedrich	Schmidt-Gloeckner
W. Germany	E. Germany	E. Germany	E. Germany	E. Germany

Note: East Germany wins the most medals for the first time and is never bested again until 1979, when they cease competing in the Worlds. The course is in Augsburg, but on a different, much easier course than the Olympic course that will be built for the 1972 Olympics.

1959 World Championships, Geneva, Switzerland

K1	K1W	C1	C2	C2M
Farrant	Urbanik	Jirasek	Kleinert-Friedrich	Behrend-Merkel
Britain	W. Germany	Czechoslovakia	E. Germany	E. Germany

1961 World Championships, Dresden, East Germany

K1	K1W	C1	C2	C2M
Glaeser	Veberova	Schubert	Merkel-Merkel	Novak-Novak
E. Germany	(Polesna) Czechoslovakia	E. Germany	E. Germany	Czechoslovakia
351.5	511.4	481.4	408.0	527.0
100%	145.5%	137%	116.1%	150%

Notes: The East Germans do not allow the West German team to compete. 28-gate course -- longest to date. Czechoslovakia's Ludmilla Polesna begins a World Championship career that is to see her win 4 individual titles, the most ever by a woman. Also, 1961 was the first year some people used fiberglass kayaks, but it wasn't until 1965 that everyone did.

1963 World Championships, Spittal, Austria

K1	K1W	C1	C2	C2M
Bremer	Veberova	Schubert	Merkel-Merkel	Justin-Bernot
E. Germany	(Polesna) Czechoslovakia	E. Germany	E. Germany	Czechoslovakia
266.7	312.4	361.1	336.2	372.1
100%	117.1%	135.4%	126.1%	139.5%

1965 World Championships, Spittal, Austria

K1	K1W	C1	C2	C2M
Presslmayr	Glaeser	Kleinert	Merkel-Merkel	Janousek-Sirotkova
Austria	E. Germany	E. Germany	E. Germany	Czechoslovakia
276.7	310.7	335.5	369.7	475.4
100%	112.3%	121.3%	133.6%	171.8%

Note: Kurt Presslmayr wins both the Slalom and Wildwater K1 race at the same Worlds, the only man to ever do so.

1967 World Championships, Lipno, Czechoslovakia

K1	K1W	C1	C2	C2M
Bremer	Polesna	Peters	Valenta-Stach	Svoboda-Krcalova
E. Germany	Czechoslovakia	W.Germany	Czechoslovakia	Czechoslovakia
272.88	326.68	315.05	279.99	367.65
100%	119.7%	115.5%	102.6%	134.55%

Notes: Fifteen year-old Uli Peters would have had 265.98, and thus would have won the K1 race, had not the wind blown an upstream gate towards his boat and then quickly subsided, leaving him and the boat now outside the gate, which was a 50-second penalty under the rules of that time. His 17-year old brother, Wolfgang Peters, wins the C1 class.

1969 World Championships, Bourg St. Maurice, France

K1	K1W	C1	C2	C2M
Peschier	Polesna	Peters	Olry-Olry	Svoboda-Traplova
France	Czechoslovakia	W.Germany	France	Czechoslovakia
272.92	314.18	364.32	363.53	342.56
100%	115.1%	133.55%	133.2%	125.6%

Note: The East Germans withdraw in protest over the way the name of their country is being displayed. The course has 30-gates, the longest to date, and the start of a number of courses of this length.

1971 World Championships, Merano, Italy

K1	K1W	C1	C2	C2M
Horn	Bahmann	Kauder	Kretschmer-Trummer	Koudela-Koudelova
E. Germany	E. Germany	W. Germany	E. Germany	Czechoslovakia
241.4	347.30	293.76	268.68	342.14
100%	143.9%	121.7%	111.3%	141.7%

Note: First year of rules change permitting 70-centimeter width on C1s. It had been 80 centimeters up to this time. Siegbert Horn wins the first of what will be 4 K1 individual titles in Europa Cup, World Championship and Olympic competition, the best record at that time. Kretschmer-Trummer, racing an "end hole" C2, do 111.3% of the K1 score in this race and it is a World Championship/Olympic record that stands 33 years until Becker-Henze break it in 2003 with a 108.4% in a "close cockpit" boat.

1972 Olympic Games, Augsburg, Germany

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Horn	Bahmann	Eiben	Hofmann-Amend
E. Germany	E. Germany	E. Germany	E. Germany
268.56	364.5	315.84	310.68
100%	135.7%	117.6%	115.7%

Notes: First time slalom is in the Olympics, on the artificial, all concrete "Eiskanal" course. The East Germans build their own artificial course in Zwickau, which is a copy of the hardest parts of the Eiskanal course. They then win all 4 events, the only time any nation has ever done that at a Worlds or Olympics.



*Reinhard Eiben, German Democratic Republic, World, Olympic and Europa Cup Champion.
"Eiben was my idol. He threw his body around more than the others and I just naturally started
doing that" -- Jon Lugbill.*

1973 World Championships, Muotathal, Switzerland

K1	K1W	C1	C2	C2M
Sattler	Spindler	Eiben	Krejza-Pollert	Knight-Knight
Austria	E. Germany	E. Germany	Czechoslovakia	USA
134.6	288.4	269.1	164.0	474.1
100%	214.3%	199.9%	121.8%	352.2%

Notes: Slalom dropped from the Olympics and will stay out for 20 years. Rules change permits canoes to have ends which are lower than the middle of the boat. This eventually revolutionizes the canoe classes leading to low, flat decks and new techniques based on "sneaking" under the poles and "pivot turns." Water comes way up during second runs for C1, K1W, and C2M thus making comparisons with the K1 and C2 meaningless. Nine nations win medals, the most to date. Americans introduce Kevlar boats for the first time.

1974 Europa Cup, Lipno, Bourg, Augsburg

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Peters	Deppe	Eiben	Hofmann-Amend
W.Germany	W. Germany	E. Germany	E. Germany

Note: First year of the Europa Cup, with points won in a series of races instead of a one-off event. Event runs through 1988 and is then replaced by the World Cup.



*Walter Hofmann and Rolf-Dieter Amend, German Democratic Republic, Olympic Champions:
"They were so fast it seemed like they had an outboard motor".*

1975 World Championships, Skopje, Yugoslavia

K1	K1W	C1	C2	C2M
Horn	Cwierniewicz	Sodomka	Kretschmer-Trummer	Lyda-Gilman
E. Germany	Poland	Czechoslovakia	E. Germany	USA
211.18	269.83	283.39	264.45	392.71
100%	127.8%	134.2%	125.2%	186%

Note: Organizers ban French slalom team from competing as punishment for French downriver team not appearing at the awards ceremony in order to protest a decision. USA's Johny Evans invents and races the first "close-cockpit" C2. It takes several years to catch on with the rest of the world but by 1979 all C2s are of that design.

1976 Europa Cup, Muota, Merano, Lofer

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Horn	Krol	Eiben	Hofmann-Kalbitz
E. Germany	E. Germany	E. Germany	E. Germany

1977 World Championships, Spittal, Austria

K1	K1W	C1	C2	C2M
Kerr	Bahmann	Sodomka	Hofmann-Kalbitz	Lyda-Gilman
Britain	E. Germany	Czechoslovakia	E. Germany	USA
220.8	304.54	306.26	281.66	483.40
100%	137.9%	138.7%	127.6%	218.9%



Angelika Bahmann, German Democratic Republic, World, Olympic, and Europa Cup Champion.

1978 Europa Cup, Spindlrn Mlyn, Bourg, Augsburg

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Sattler	Deppe	Schnitzerling	Kretschmer-Berek
Austria	W. Germany	W. Germany	E. Germany

1979 World Championships, Jonquiere, Canada

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fauster	Hearn	Lugbill	Welsink-Czupryna
Austria	USA	USA	W. Germany
209.08	253.30	238.49	260.67
100%	121.2%	114.1%	124.7%

Note: First Worlds held outside of Europe. USA begins its rise in the sport. In successive World Championships Jon Lugbill cuts percentage against the best K1 from 114% to 103.2% by the 1989 Worlds where it still is today.

1980 Europa Cup

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Renault	Deppe	Hedges	Calori-Calori
France	W. Germany	Britain	France

1981 World Championships, Bala, Wales, UK

K1	K1W	C1	C2	C2M
Fox	Deppe	Lugbill	Garvis-Garvis	Hayman-Haller
Britain	W. Germany	USA	USA	USA
211.84	257.69	234.58	264.23	355.12
100%	121.6%	110.7%	124.7%	167.6%

Note: Rules change permits 5 second penalty instead of 10 second penalty.

1982 Europa Cup

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fox	Sharman	Hearn	Rudin-Studer
Britain	Britain	USA	Switzerland

1983 World Championships, Merano, Italy

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fox	Sharman	Lugbill	Haller-Haller
Britain	Britain	USA	USA
207.18	232.34	221.94	246.33
100%	112.1%	107.1%	118.9%

Note: All classes closer to the winning K1 than usual.

1984 Europa Cup

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fox	Grange	Lugbill	Kucera-Hajducik
Britain	France	USA	Czechoslovakia

1985 World Championships, Augsburg, West Germany

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fox	Messelhaeuser	Hearn	Kueppers- -Klein-Impelmann
Britain	W. Germany	USA	W. Germany
210.56	258.69	223.21	267.15
100%	122.9%	106.0%	126.9%

1986 Europa Cup

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fox	Sharman	Hearn	Simek-Rohan
Britain	Britain	USA	Czechoslovakia

1987 World Championships, Bourg St. Maurice, France

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Prijon	Sharman	Lugbill	Calori-Calori
W. Germany	Britain	USA	France
191.77	216.64	200.87	218.61
100%	113.0%	104.7%	114%

Note: C1 and C2 continue to close in on the K1 score. US Team Coach Bill Endicott starts the first annual slalom coaches' conference and first meeting is in Llangollen, Wales. The World Cup is born here, to start in 1988. Richard Fox, Jaap Van Engers and Bill (President) run it for 5 years.

1988 Europa Cup

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fox	Jerusalmi	Lugbill	Hemmer-Loose
Britain	France	USA	West Germany

1988 World Cup

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fox	Chladek	Lugbill	McEwan-Haller
Britain	USA	USA	USA

1989 World Championships, Bloomington, USA

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fox	Jerusalmi	Lugbill	Hemmer-Loose
Britain	France	USA	West Germany
198.61	234.80	205.04	237.55
100%	118.2%	103.24%	119.61%

Note: Only World Championships ever held in the US. Jon Lugbill gets 103.2% of winning K1 score, a new record that lasts until 2004.

1989 World Cup

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fox	Jerusalmi	Lugbill	Daille-Lelievre
Britain	France	USA	France

1990 Europa Cup

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Skok	Loubie	Lugbill	Hemmer-Loose
Britain	France	USA	West Germany

1990 World Cup

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Ferazzi	Jerusalmi	Lugbill	Simek-Rohan
Italy	France	USA	Czechoslovakia

1991 World Championships, Tacen, Yugoslavia

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Pierce	Micheler	Lang	Adisson-Forgues
Britain	Germany	Germany	France

1991 World Cup

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fox	Jerusalmi	Marriott	Simek-Rohan
Britain	France	Britain	Czechoslovakia

1992 Olympics Seu D'Urgell, Spain

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Ferazzi	Micheler	Pollert	Strausbaugh-Jacobi
Italy	Germany	Czechoslovakia	USA

Note: Rules for this Olympics permit 3 boats per nation per event. But subsequent changes involve international qualification standards that permit fewer and fewer entries until by the 2008 Olympics only one boat per nation per event is permitted.

1992 World Cup

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Ferazzi	Hilgertova	Lang	Simek-Rohan
Italy	Czechoslovakia	Germany	Czechoslovakia

1993 World Championships, Mezzana, Italy

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fox	Jerusalmi	Lang	Simek-Rohan
Britain	France	Germany	Czech Rep.

1993 World Cup

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Shipley	Striepeke	Pollert	Simek-Rohan
USA	Germany	Czech Rep.	Czech Rep.

1994 World Cup

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Pearce	Simpson	Marriott	Simek-Rohan
Britain	Britain	Britain	Czech. Rep.

1995 World Championships, Nottingham, England

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fix	Simpson	Hearn	Kolomanski- Staniszewski
Germany	Britain	USA	Poland

1995 World Cup

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Shipley	Simpson	Marriott	Simek-Rohan
USA	Britain	Britain	Czech Rep.

1996 Olympics, Ocoee River, USA

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Fix	Hilgertova	Martikan	Adisson-Forgues
Germany	Czech Rep.	Slovakia	France
209.75	171.97	151.03	158.82
100%	120.0%	106.9%	112.0%

1996 World Cup, Ocoee, La Seu, Augsburg, Prague, Tres Coroas

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Shipley	Micheler	P. Estanguet	Adisson-Forgues
USA	Germany	France	France

1997 World Championships, Tres Coroas, Brazil

K1	K1W	C1	C2
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Becker	Guibal	Martikan	Adisson-Forgues
Germany	France	Slovakia	France
254.60	288.07	267.61	289.43
100%	113.1%	105.1%	113.7%

Note: New rules provide for a) qualifying races and then finals and b) penalties reduced from 5 seconds per gate to 2 seconds and c) scores from the two runs now added together.

1997 World Cup , Bourg, Bjorbo, Bratislava, Ocoee, Minden,			
K1	K1W	C1	C2
Shipley	Pavelkova	P. Estanguet	Adisson-Forgues
USA	Czech Rep.	France	France

1998 World Cup , Liptovsky, Tacen, Augsburg, Wausau, La Seu			
K1	K1W	C1	C2
Ratcliffe	Hilgertova	Martikan	Strba-Vajs
Britain	Czech Republic	Slovakia	Slovakia

1999 World Championships , La Seu D'Urgel, Spain			
K1	K1W	C1	C2
Ford	Hilgertova	Brugvin	Jiras-Mader
Canada	Czech Rep.	France	Czech Rep.
198.53	226.30	205.84	224.46
100%	114%	103.7%	113.1%

1999 World Cup , Tacen, Tacen, Bratislava, Augsburg, Penrith			
K1	K1W	C1	C2
Ratcliffe	Hlirt	Jezek	Hochshorner-Hochschorner
Britain	Germany	Czech Rep.	Slovakia

2000 Olympics , Penrith, Australia			
K1	K1W	C1	C2
Schmidt	Hilgertova	T.Estanguet	Hochschorner-Hochschorner
Germany	Czech Rep.	France	Slovakia
217.25	247.04	231.87	237.74
100%	114.0%	107.5%	112.5%

2000 World Cup , Penrith, Ocoee, St. Pe, La Seu, Prague, Augsburg			
K1	K1W	C1	C2
Ratcliffe	Kalliska	Martikan	Hochschorner-Hochschorner
Britain	Slovakia	Slovakia	Slovakia

2001 World Championships, Ocoee River, USA, cancelled because of 9/11

2001 World Cup , Goumois, Merano, Tacen, Augsburg, Prague, Wausau			
K1	K1W	C1	C2
Schmidt	Kaliska	Martikan	Hochschorner-Hochschorner
Germany	Slovakia	Slovakia	Slovakia

2002 World Championships, Bourg St. Maurice, France

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Lefevre	Giddens	Martikan	Hochschorner-Hochschorner
France	USA	Slovakia	Slovakia
184.89	216.09	192.92	206.21
100%	116.9%	104.3%	111.5%

2002 World Cup, Guangzhou, Augsburg, Tacen, Prague, Tibagi

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Lefevre	Planert	Pfannmoeller	Hochschorner-Hochschorner
France	Germany	Germany	Slovakia

2003 World Championships, Augsburg, Germany

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Lefevre	Hilgertova	Martikan	Becker-Henze
France	Czech Rep.	Slovakia	Germany
197.88	224.02	208.14	214.52
100%	113.2%	105.2%	108.4%

Note: Becker-Henze set new World Championship/Olympic record by being only 108.4% off the winning K1 score.

2003 World Cup, Penrith, La Seu, Tacen, Bratislava, Bratislava

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Ford	Kaliska	T. Estanguet	Hochschorner-Hochschorner
Canada	Slovakia	France	Slovakia

2004 Olympics, Athens, Greece

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Peschier	Kaliska	T. Estanguet	Hochschorner-Hochschorner
France	Slovakia	France	Slovakia
187.96	210.03	189.16	207.16
100%	111.7%	100.6%	110.2%

Note: Tony Estanguet gets 100.6% of winning K1 score, thus breaking Jon Lugbill's record set in 1989.

2004 World Cup, Athens, La Seu, Merano, Prague, Augsburg, Bourg St. Maurice

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Walsh	Kaliska	T. Estanguet	Hochschorner-Hochschorner
Britain	Slovakia	France	Slovakia

2005 World Championships, Penrith, Australia

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Doerfler	Kaliska	Bell	Bahmann-Senft
Germany	Slovakia	Australia	Germany
201.35	219.86	209.26	224.4
100%	109.2%	103.9%	111.5%

Note: Kaliska sets new World Championship/Olympic record by being only 109.2% of the winning K1 score. This is also the first time in a long time that the winning K1W beats the winning C2.

2005 World Cup, Athens, Augsburg, La Seu

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Doerfler	Kaliska	Bell	Volf-Stepanek
Germany	Slovakia	Australia	Czech Rep.

2006 World Championships, Prague, Czech Republic

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Cipressi	Dukatova	T. Estanguet	Volf-Stepanek
Italy	Slovakia	France	Czech Rep.
202.02	224.09	207.69	224.67
100%	110.9%	102.8%	111.2%

2006 World Cup, Athens, Augsburg, La Seu (+ Continental Championships 2006 + World Championships 2006 counting in the points)

K1	K1W	C1	C2
Pfannmoeller	Kaliska	Martikan	Hochschorner-Hochschorner
Germany	Slovakia	Slovakia	Slovakia

CONCLUSIONS

BEST PERCENTAGE OF K1 RECORDS

- * The closest a C1 has come to the winning K1 is Tony Estanguet in 2004 with 100.6%. The previous record was 103.2%, set by Jon Lugbill in 1989.
- * The closest a C2 has come to the winning K1 is Becker-Henze in 2003 with 108.4%. The old record was Kretschmer-Trumnmer at the 1971 Worlds with 111.3% (in an end-hole boat).
- * The closest a K1W has come to the winning K1 in the Worlds or the Olympics was Elena Kaliska at the 2005 Worlds with 109.2%. She beat her old record of 111.7% from the 2004 Olympics.

MOST OLYMPIC GOLDS

- * Three people who have won consecutive Olympic Championships:
Stepanka Hilgertova, 1996 and 2000; Tony Estanguet, 2000 and 2004, and the Hochschorners, also 2000 and 2004.
- * The following are the 7 nations winning gold medals in the Olympics:
East Germany, France4
Slovakia, Germany, Czech Republic3
Italy, USA1

* The only nation to win all 4 Olympic classes at a Worlds or Olympics was East Germany in 1972.

MOST INDIVIDUAL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP GOLDS

* The Merkel brothers, Guenther and Manfred, won the Worlds 3 times, the most for a C2. Their last win was in 1965.

* Ludmilla Polesna won the Worlds 4 times, which is the K1W record. Her last win was in 1969.

* Jon Lugbill and Richard Fox are tied at 5 each, setting the C1 and K1 records, respectively. Lugbill's last win was in 1989, Fox's 1993.

* The following are the 14 nations winning individual gold medals in the World Championships:

East Germany.....	24
Czechoslovakia, France.....	16
USA.....	14
West Germany.....	12
Great Britain.....	9
Austria, Germany.....	8
Slovakia.....	5
Czech Republic.....	4
Switzerland.....	3
Poland.....	2
Australia, Canada.....	1

MOST TOTAL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP GOLDS

* Jon Lugbill: 12, 5 individual and 7 team.

MISCELLANEOUS

* Overall, the trend in the sport has been towards shorter courses, fewer gates, and smaller penalties.