



WELCOMING REMARKS

A very warm welcome to the International ECA Junior Cup 2018!

The Eiskanal in Augsburg is once again the setting for this year's International ECA Junior Cup. This slalom event for up-and-coming athletes has for many years been a firm fixture in the schedule of competitions organised by the German Canoeing Federation (DKV). On 23 and 24 July 2018, Augsburg's Eiskanal – the 'mother of all artificial canoe slalom courses' – will play host to the next generation of athletes, who will join battle to determine the winner in the various classes. As Chairman of the German Canoeing Federation (DKV), I would like to extend a warm welcome, both personally and on behalf of the Board, to all the participants, all the helpers and officials, and hopefully to many, many spectators.

Once again, young sportswomen and sportsmen from more than 15 countries will be joining us here for this international event, putting their skills to the test against our athletes aged between 12 and 17. Besides the German National Championships, this Cup is therefore one of the highlights of the canoeing season for our juniors here in Germany. However, it is also important that this event brings another highlight to Augsburg as a location for canoeing, thus maintaining the appeal of our sport and the course in Augsburg alike.

I would like to express my thanks to the board and the many volunteer helpers of the Augsburger Kajak Verein, and also to the officials of the City of Augsburg and the sponsors whose support makes this event possible.

The ECA Junior Cup always poses a special challenge for the young athletes, and I hope this year's event runs smoothly, with favourable conditions on and off the water. I look forward to seeing all of the participants being able to give their best, showing our sport in general and canoe slalom in particular in the best possible light.

GERMAN CANOEING FEDERATION

Yours

Thomas Konietzko
President



Greetings

ECA Junior Cup – an International Slalom for Teens and Juniors in Augsburg, 23rd – 24th June 2018

A cordially Welcome to the Fugger- and Canoe City of Augsburg for the ECA Junior Cup, which will take place from 23rd – 24th June 2018 on the “Eiskanal”, which is more or less the most famous Olympic wildwater complex.

This event is of enormous importance for our young athletes as they can breath “international air” under conditions of competition for the first time and make their first experience in an international field. Already in the last years, participants in Olympic Games have been borne on this wildwaterparcours, for instance Alexander Grimm, Hannes Aigner, Melanie Pfeifer or Sideris Tasiadis. Today, this is the same situation again and thus, this slalom competition will be an absolutely high-end-event.

To deal with the currents and turbulences of the Eiskanal and together to manage the entire parcours in a shortest possible time without any faults is not easy, even for experienced canoe slalom athletes – more than ever challenging for our canoe slalom trainees.

The organization of this event has been taken over by the proven team of the AugsburgerKajakVerein (AKV), having a rich body of experience in regards of such events. I am convinced that they will provide a performance for the young slalom canoeists, which all will best treasure even after years. After all, we can expect the participation of many young athletes, whose names we probably we will often hear in the future.

The executive committee of the Bavarian Canoe Federation is looking forward to this canoe event and to fascinating competitions. I'd like to thank all voluntary assistants of the organizer, all sponsors and of course the City of Augsburg, as without its support this event could not be performed. For the ECA Junior Cup 2018 in Augsburg, I wish all athletes and officials an accident free and sportive fair progress.

Bavarian Canoe Federation

The President

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Oliver Bungers



**Welcoming remarks
by Mayor Dr. Kurt Gribl**

International ECA Junior Slalom Cup 2018

Ladies and Gentlemen,
young sportswomen and sportsmen

Augsburg is a sporting city. Not just because of FC Augsburg, who will proudly play top-flight football in the Bundesliga next season for the eighth year running, or the ice hockey professionals of the Augsburg Panthers, who will likewise be participating in Germany's highest league. Augsburg's canoeists and kayakers have also repeatedly brought home gold and silver medals over the decades from Olympic Games and world championships.

Augsburg is also at the head of the field when it comes to popular mass sport, with one in four of the city's inhabitants being a member of a sports club. And there are more than 200 such clubs, covering a diverse array of sports. It is therefore my pleasure as patron of the International ECA Junior Slalom Cup 2018 to extend a very warm welcome to all of you here in Augsburg.

Participating in sport in a club offers an ideal environment for children and young people, and helps them enormously in their own development. Through sport, they learn a great deal about themselves and about others. They develop social skills and the ability to work together to achieve their goals. And while the competitors in whitewater events may take part as individuals, they nonetheless learn in their clubs what it means to be a good team player – something that will stand them in very good stead when they embark on their careers at the latest.

I would like to thank the organisers of the International ECA Junior Slalom Cup 2018, the Augsburger Kajak-Verein, as well as all the volunteer helpers, trainers, support teams, parents and participants for contributing to the success of this event. I look forward to a fair and exciting competition, and wish everybody all the very best.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kurt Gribl'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Dr. Kurt Gribl
Mayor of the City of Augsburg



2018 ECA Junior Cup Welcoming remarks

**Dear canoeing fans
Dear sportswomen and sportsmen**

Augsburg prides itself on being a sporting location, and we are always delighted when canoe slalom events on the Eiskanal Olympic course bring the excitement of international competition to the city.

On 23 and 24 June we will be able to enjoy just such an occasion, as the best young canoeists in Europe will venture out on the Eiskanal and seek to master all the trials the course has to offer in the quickest time possible. There will certainly be exciting races with spectators cheering on eagerly from the side-lines, and this will already whet the appetite for the 2022 Canoe Slalom World Championships in Augsburg.

However, besides the participants and their support teams, the many volunteer helpers of the AugsburgerKajakVerein AKV will also play an essential part in staging a competition of this scale, and my particular thanks go to them for their efforts.

I would like to extend my best wishes for the smooth running of the event and hope that the many spectators will take their own motivation from the sporting drive and passion of the young athletes.

Yours

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Wurm'.

Dirk Wurm
Sports Director