

Champion Canoe/Kayak Knockout

The first ever innovative Champion International Canoe/Kayak Knockout was staged on September 14, 1991 in Colorado Springs on the Broadmoor Hotel's Cheyenne Lake.

A traditional canoe/kayak regatta is exciting for the athletes and coaches and their friends and relatives; however, the Knockout is an event that is exciting for someone who has never seen the sport before.

One of the goals of creating the event was to develop a vehicle which could bring the Olympic sport of canoe and kayak sprint racing to the mainstream public. With the Knockout's shortened course of 200M, head-to-head competition in a heat-

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elimination format and a team scoring system which is easy for the public to understand and follow makes the Knockout spectator sport with much potential.

World Champion Renn Crichlow of Nepean, Ontario, capped an outstanding season pocketing \$2,500 with a victory in kayak singles.

Canadian paddlers walked away with \$36,500 of the \$60,000 available in prize money, including the \$18,000 purse for their victory over the United States in the team event.

Crichlow, who became the first Canadian paddler to win a world title in Paris with his victory in the K-1 500 metre singles, beat out Mike Herbert of the U.S., who was second and Liam Jewell of Toronto, in the three-man 200 metre final race.

"There's no time to set a pace in the 200 metre. You must go all out," said Crichlow, 22, who also placed third in the K-2 with Ken Padvaiskas of Chateauguay, Quebec.

"There were four rounds and we only had five minute rests between each race. By the time of the final, I was hurting in the arms and legs."

Canada's top individual cash winner Saturday was David Frost of Cap-de-la-Madeleine, Quebec, who won the C-1 200 metre and the C-2 200 metre with Larry Cain of Oakville, Ontario, to pocket \$3,000.

"This is the first time they've ever organized something like this and I liked the experience," said Frost who finished ahead of teammates Cain, in second and Steve Giles of Lake Echo, Nova Scotia in the singles final.

"I didn't know what to expect, but I hope it becomes an annual event."

Caroline Brunet of Lac Beauport, Quebec, fourth at the world championships in the women's K-1 500 metre, won her K-1 200M and placed second in the K-2 200M with Tessa DeSouza to earn \$2,750.

A summary of Team Canada's winnings were:

Dave Frost	\$3,000
Caroline Brunet	\$2,750
Larry Cain	\$2,500
Renn Crichlow	\$2,500
Steve Giles	\$1,750
Alison Herst	\$1,500
Ken Padvaiskas	\$1,000
Liam Jewell	\$1,000
Tessa DeSouza	\$750
Paul Pageau	\$750
Kevyn Stafford	\$500
Jack Chubaty	\$250
Steve Wasteneys	\$250
Team	\$18,000
Team Canada Total	\$36,500

Plans are already being developed for next year's event which could see the competition expanded over several days and include a broad range of international athletes.