



## Communiqué - Nautic Paddle along the Seine: 800 riders for the Paddle event of the year

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The Nautic Paddle is the largest Stand-Up Paddle race in the world. Some 800 riders will set off at 8:00am on Sunday 9 December along the River Seine on what is an exceptional course through the beating heart of Paris.

Now in its 9th year, the Nautic Paddle will take on an XXL dimension since it will be playing host to the final leg of the APP World Tour. A first for Paris!

As is the case every year, the Nautic Paddle will kick off the International Paris Boat Show. With the event now in its 9th year, some 800 riders (100 more than last year) from 5 continents (29 nationalities) will head off at dawn on Sunday 9 December along the River Seine. The exceptional course of this race, which passes under nearly every bridge in Paris, from the Bibliothèque Nationale de France to the docks of Port Javel Bas, adds a delicious magical frisson to this sports event.

Riders are split into two categories: Pro and Leisure, for a shorter 11km sprint or a professional 13.5km version. A second race will then take place at the very heart of the boat show on Sunday afternoon between 2:00 and 4:00pm, with a team relay event at the Nautic pool. Prize-giving at 4:30pm.

### The World Paddlesurf champion set to be crowned in Paris

The APP World Tour (Association of Paddlesurf Professionals) will round off its season with the Nautic Paddle's Elite 13.5km course and a man on man elimination round. This 3rd and final leg of the tour will crown the APP World Tour world champion 2018.

The world's top riders will be present in Paris on Sunday 9 December: Frenchman Arthur Arutkin, currently leading the World Tour, will naturally be eager to defend the top spot. His two direct rivals, Michael Booth and Connor Baxter (winner of the title in 2017) are also within grasp of the title. Among the female contingent, two Californians, Shae Foudy and Candice Appleby, respectively first and second in the world ranking, have their eyes on the big prize. Australian Terrene Black, female world champion in 2017 and third in the ranking after two events, is also in the running.

Also worth a mention is the presence of two French riders, Amandine Chazot, world number two in the stand-up paddle sprint in 2017 and Olivia Piana, crowned women's world champion in China last week.

### The Nautic Paddle partners

Finally, the Nautic Paddle would not be the success it is today without its loyal partners. Indeed, the SNSM (French lifeboat association), together with its 10 support vessels, will guarantee the safety of the 800 participants. Volunteers from the BBSUP (Boulogne Billancourt SUP) will also be present to assist the Nautic's teams of organisers. The Association de Défense de l'Habitat Fluvial (Association for the Defence of River Habitat) represented by James Coleman, is sponsoring the race so as to be a part of this sociable occasion on the River Seine and 10 of its members have been prompted to participate, swept up by the event's competitive and festive spirit.

We would also like to pay tribute to Starboard, the brand created by Norwegian Svein Rasmussen back in 1994, which will be the official supplier of stand-up paddle boards for our guests and participants in both the LEISURE and PRO categories.

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Nautic - International Paris Boat Show, is a show owned by the French Nautical Industries Federation (FIN), organised by Nautic Festival SA, a subsidiary of the FIN.

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