

#### Der Bayerische Ministerpräsident



Welcoming remarks

# International ECA Junior Cup in Canoeing Augsburg, June 14th to 16th, 2024

#### Welcome to Augsburg!

In the sports region of Bavaria, canoeing has a permanent place: The Augsburg Eiskanal is known worldwide and familiar to all canoeists. It was created for the Olympic Games in Munich. Meanwhile, the canoe course at the Eiskanal is even listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Bavaria is proud of this!

Above all, the Eiskanal is a venue of the highest caliber. Since 1972, it has been used repeatedly for hosting high-class competitions. Exciting competitions of the world's best athletes take place here.

At the International ECA Junior Cup, young canoeists want to prove themselves. They show in front of the eyes of the canoeing world that they are on their way to reaching the top level of their sport. Those who achieve a good result here draw the attention of all canoeing enthusiasts and recommend themselves for further competitions.

Best wishes to all participants of the International ECA Junior Cup, heartfelt thanks to the organizers from the Augsburg Kayak Club for their careful preparation and organizational work!

Minister-President of the State of Bavaria



#### **Greetings**

#### International ECA Junior Cup 2024 in Augsburg 14th – 16th June

Welcome to the city of Augsburg for the ECA Junior Cup 2024, taking place from 14th to 16th June on the Eiskanal, the most famous Olympic whitewater course. This event is of great importance for our young athletes in canoe slalom, as it provides them with the opportunity to experience "international waters" and compete on an international level. Over the years, this event has seen the birth of Olympians and Olympic champions, such as Alexander Grimm, Hannes Aigner, Sideris Tasiadis, and most recently, Ricarda Funk. And it continues to be so today!

The event kicks off on Friday with the "Kayak Cross" competitions, a young canoe discipline that will be featured in the Olympic Games for the first time this year in Paris, followed by exciting canoe slalom competitions on Saturday and Sunday. I am confident that the ECA Junior Cup 2024 will showcase top-notch sportsmanship.

The organization of this event is in the capable hands of the Augsburg Kayak Club team, which has extensive experience in hosting such events. I am certain that the young slalom canoeists will have an unforgettable experience at this event, and we can expect to hear much more from these athletes in the future.

The board of the Bavarian Canoe Association and I personally look forward to this canoeing event and the thrilling competitions it will bring. I extend my thanks to all the volunteers of the organizing team, all the sponsors, and of course, the city of Augsburg, without whom this event would not be possible. I wish the International ECA Junior Cup 2024 a successful, safe, and fair competition.

**Bavarian Canoe Association** 

The President

Oliver Bungers





### Welcoming remarks

## **International ECA Junior Slalom Cup 2024**

Dear canoeists, dear fans of canoeing,

The city of Augsburg is delighted that our venerable *Augsburger Kajak Verein* (Augsburg Kayak Club) is once again hosting a major international youth tournament with the ECA Junior Canoe Slalom European Cup 2024. This European competition demonstrates our vibrant culture of hospitality in a special way. As the Mayor of Augsburg, I am honored to be the patron of this event.

A sporting competition for more than 500 young people from all over Europe is something unique in our Augsburg sports landscape. Thus, the *Augsburger Kajak Verein* offers our sports-loving community a special highlight in the youth sector of canoe slalom.

The European ECA Cup also lays the foundation for the great successes of kayaking, as we have been experiencing with our Augsburg female and male canoeists for decades, whether here in the Olympic Park at the UNESCO World Heritage Augsburg Eiskanal, or at international competitions, world championships, or Olympic Games.

This year, the *Augsburger Kajak Verein* celebrates its 100th anniversary. Besides fostering camaraderie, these 100 years also stand for consistent and sportingly competent youth work.

The city of Augsburg thanks all parents, coaches, helpers, and other participants who make the ECA Cup 2024 possible. Special thanks go to the leadership of the *Augsburger Kajak Verein*.

We wish the spectators an exciting weekend at our Augsburg Eiskanal. And to our young talents, we wish a successful, fair, and injury-free competition.

Eva Weber Jürgen K. Enninger

Mayor of the city of Augsburg

Sports Commissioner of the city of Augsburg