

Head Coach News

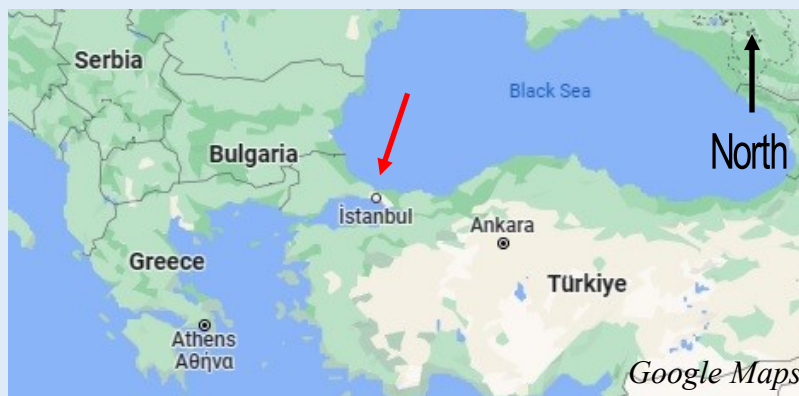


Öztürk in 2014, Canoe Sprint Spring Cup Race, Turkiye

The Head Coach Search Committee is pleased to announce that Mr. Öztürk Kuru of Turkiye has accepted the position of Head Coach of SNCC. The Committee now continues the work to facilitate his arrival to Canada. In the meantime, Canoe/Kayak programs and Summer Camps will continue under Coach Evan Landry while Dragon Boat programs continue under Coaches Jan Corbett and Brenda Arndt. Öztürk has answered a few questions for the Catch.

Where are you from?

- ◆ I was born in Istanbul, Turkey. My first club where I started paddling is Tuzla Deniz Yıldızı Sports Club and is located in Tuzla, Istanbul.



How did you get started in paddling sports?

- ◆ My sister's husband, who is also a former national kayak athlete, told me that my physical build is suitable for paddling, that I should use this genetic advantage and try paddling. Thus, in 2006, when I was only 16 years old, I started paddling.

How did you get started in Coaching?

- ◆ My 10-year national athlete life and my team captainships came to an end when I could not get an Olympic quota from Europe in 2016. After the Federation presidency elections held in December 2016, the presidency and management of the Turkish Canoe Federation deemed me suitable for the Sprint canoe kayak technical committee membership. The development reports, short and long-term plans and reports I prepared during the technical committee membership that I started in January 2017 attracted attention. In March 2017, I signed a contract with the Turkish Canoe Federation to develop the infrastructure for the advancement of canoe and kayak in Turkey, to train trainers and athletes in different cities, and to employ the young national team staff, and I started coaching.

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What do you hope to accomplish in the Head Coach position at SNCC?

◆ First of all, I see it as my first responsibility to share all my experiences about Canoe and Kayak, where I have had the opportunity to work with many country coaches and athletes for over 16 years, and everything I learned during my education in sports sciences. My short term goal is; To reach the general public in the Niagara region, to enable them to do paddling and to spread the sport to the grassroots. My long-term goal is; to train and develop performance athletes, to be a strong team that wins national competitions, and to train athletes to be selected for the national team.



2021: Turkish Olympic Preparation Centre



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What else should the SNCC membership know about you?

◆ I am someone who embraces my community as my family and home. I can work 24/7 to beautify my environment and establish order. In my spare time, I like to spend time doing research on interesting topics or areas I want to specialize in. Apart

from these, I work for my dreams and Being able to participate in the Olympic Games, known as the pinnacle of sports in the world, was one of my biggest dream in life. During my sports life, I was able to target the 2012 and 2016 Olympic Games. However, I could not get a quota in the European qualifying competitions. Now, as a coach, it has been my biggest dream and goal to raise an athlete who will participate in the Olympic Games. ■



Left: 2015 - Performance tests for the team preparing for qualification races to the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games.

Photos provided by Öztürk Kuru.

Right: 2013 XVII Mediterranean Games Turkiye, K2, 1000m, 4th place by a split second.



SNCC on the Water!

While the 2023 paddling season at SNCC officially begins on May 1, our crews and programs have already been on the water! The brief heat wave in April has certainly helped!



Masters



Dragon Boat



Dragon Boat



Masters

49th Annual Welland Sports Awards



Left: Senior Team Achievement, SNCC ParaCanoe Team. Lindsay accepting the Harpwood's Trophies Award.

Right: Senior Team, 2nd runner up, SNCC Canal Dragons Womens Team. Linda, Kendra, and Bernita accepting the medals and certificates.

Left: The Harpwood's Trophies Award.

Right: The first place medal for Senior Team Achievement and the folder containing congratulatory notes from the City of Welland, the Province of Ontario MPP Jeff Burch, and the Government of Canada MP Vance Badawey.



Left: Female Athlete of the Year, went to Aimee in 2019 and in 2022 she was a runner up.

Right: Male Athlete of the Year, went to Austin in 2019 and in 2022 he was a runner up.

Special Note: Canal Dragons and Hope Floats member, Lynda Lemon, won Masters Athlete, Female, for Running/Duathlon.



#GoSNCCGo

Raise the Roof

April 13



It has been fun watching the roof come together. Too bad the new rubberized flooring was a little chewed up in the process. Nevertheless, it's a great addition for the club and our compound.

A few dates to remember:

May 6: Prep the containers for painting.

May 7: Paint the containers.

Volunteers Needed!

April 15

Volunteers will be needed for these important jobs. Come dressed in appropriate work clothes, appropriate footwear for climbing ladders, perhaps noise cancelling headphones, eye protection and masks for using electric sanders as well as the paint sprayers. Volunteers who bring snacks for the workers will be welcome!



April 20



May 19 at 2:00pm: Media Day

SNCC will recognize the large grants from the Government of Ontario that helped support this massive project as well as other initiatives for our Club. All are welcome to attend this ceremony with MPP Jeff Burch.

Ontario Trillium Foundation  Fondation Trillium de l'Ontario

An agency of the Government of Ontario
Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

Updates from the Board



Canoe Kids Camp and Youth Racing Camp: Summer 2023 at SNCC, begins July 3.

Share the news! Registration for camp is still open. Canoe Kids Camp lasts 1 week. Youth Racing Camp lasts for 8 weeks. It's a wonderful opportunity to introduce kids to paddlesports! Visit SNCC.CA for details and to register.

Bingo Volunteers: May 7 at Delta City Bingo, Welland

Additional volunteers are welcome to join the fundraising fun in support of SNCC. It's one 2-hour shift per month for people 19 years or older. Contact Marilyn at 626sledger@gmail.com for the online training and for more information.



Dragon Boat Steering Clinic: May 13, 2:00-7:00pm at SNCC.

This is a free steering clinic. Volunteer paddlers are welcome to come for a workout for a couple of hours. Visit SNCC.CA for details and to register.

Summer Jobs at SNCC!

Many positions are available. See our website SNCC.CA for details and to apply. Funding for these positions is made possible by the Canada Summer Jobs Grant.



SNCC's 15th Anniversary: October 20, 2023, location TBD.

Looking for people who like to plan a party! The Annual Awards night will be combined with our Anniversary party for an evening of celebration and food. Contact Kathleen via email at kat_reardon@hotmail.com if you can help out.

SNCC's Annual General Meeting

Thank you to all that were physically present at the meeting and to those present by proxy. It was a good opportunity to see all the work that has been going into this club since its beginning in 2008, a review of the highlights in 2022, and a look at areas for improvement for 2023 and beyond!

Welcome to new Board Members Marie-Jeanne Monette (Masters and Dragon Boat), Carlos Peralta (Dragon Boat), and Shawn Wilson (Dragon Boat). See SNCC.CA for a complete list of SNCC's Board of Directors.



All are welcome to attend a Board Meeting to see what it's about before volunteering to be a Board Member. All SNCC members are also welcome to join any number of committees and working groups to help keep our club running and improving! As well, share your ideas and suggestions for our club with your Board members.

Next issue: June 2023

Pictures and story ideas for **The Catch** can be emailed to Kathleen: kat_reardon@hotmail.com



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