



1 September, 2023

IRF European Rafting Championship Organising Committee Svaz vodáků České republiky U Pergamenky 3 170 00 Praha 3

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you in great health and high spirits, and somewhat rested after recently hosting the 2023 IRF European Rafting Championship in the Czech Republic. As the President of the International Rafting Federation (IRF), I am writing to convey our deepest appreciation for your outstanding efforts in hosting the event.

I regret that I was unable to attend the event myself. However, I did watch the race during the live broadcast, and have seen the fantastic photos that were taken. I've read numerous comments from the athletes that participated who spoke highly about the quality of event. Your hard work, unwavering commitment, and meticulous attention to detail were evident throughout the entire championship. From the moment teams arrived, they were welcomed with warmth and hospitality that made everyone feel right at home in your beautiful country. The outstanding organization and smooth execution of the event were truly commendable.

The Vltava River venue was nothing short of spectacular and it was great to have a major IRF race back at this location. It's challenging rapids and excellent infrastructure provided the perfect backdrop for an unforgettable competition. Your Czech team's dedication to creating a great event, while maintaining the integrity of the sport was truly impressive. Having the downriver race on Devil's Stream was particularly great to see. It's been too long since the IRF has had an event on such challenging white water. It was a pleasure to see the fusion of sportsmanship, camaraderie, and cultural exchange that this championship fostered. This is what IRF events are about!

We understand that organizing such a massive event requires tremendous effort, time, and resources. Your team's ability to manage every aspect of the championship flawlessly, from logistics to hospitality to safety, reflects your exceptional professionalism and passion for the sport of rafting. The IRF is extremely appreciative of the Czech Boaters Union stepping up and answering our need to host this important event. Your loyalty to the IRF and dedication to the success of our sport will not be forgotten.

















I'm certain the memories created during the 2023 European Rafting Championship will stay with everyone for a lifetime, and it is thanks to your team's dedication and hard work. You have set a high standard for future ERC's to follow, and we are truly grateful for your efforts in promoting and growing the sport of rafting in Europe and around the world.

Once again, thank you for your outstanding work and for being gracious hosts. We look forward to future championships under your capable leadership and I personally hope to visit the Czech Republic soon.

With my greatest respect,

Joseph Willis Jones

**International Rafting Federation – President** 

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