

Good SUPer day!

We invite you to Kołobrzeg for **the 8th edition of Planet Baltic SUP Race™**. We are counting down the days to high five you again and meet new "Planet people". Last year's competition was a revolutionary edition, for which we prepared for 3 years, introducing small elements of the puzzle each year and checking how they would be accepted. Some of them worked out great and some were rejected or had to undergo a process of evolution. Exactly one year ago we published the Notice of Race with a package of changes revolutionary in the world of SUP. It would be untrue to say that we were not afraid of your reception. Feeling the pressure and responsibility, we were betting on our eyelashes to close everything down to the last button. These fears disappeared at the moment of the first whistle opening the prologue sprint. Seeing your commitment, determination, will to fight and above all your approval, we felt that together we were doing something great. We will not hide the fact that we were simply

surprised at how well the bold changes worked and how positively they were received. Thank you for your understanding, trust and support in making such big changes. This year we are slowing down, we will not abuse your tolerance and we will not improve what works well. We think you will agree that together we have achieved a standard that requires at most a calm evolution. What will the Planet Baltic SUP Race™ 2025 look like? You have already got to know us well enough, so you know that there will be no ordinary "copy/paste" 😊 Here are the main assumptions and novelties.

We continue our great cooperation with **the Czech Surf and SUP Federation ČFSAS**. This will be the second year that Kołobrzeg becomes part of the Czech Republic as part of the Czech Cup. We are proud that our southern neighbors will trust us once again and together we will create a regatta that is unlike any other in the world. And just to make things clear – the Kołobrzeg stop will receive the same number of ranking points as the Championship and the Czech Cup Final.



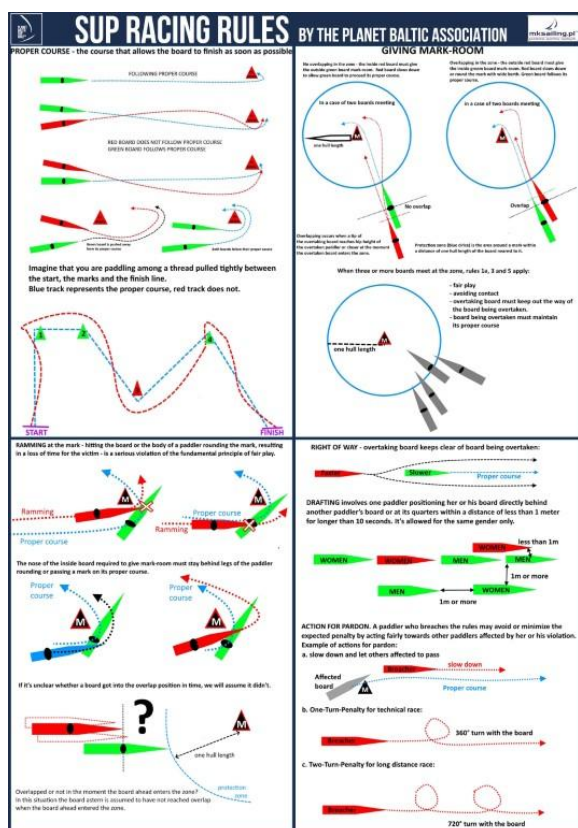
This year, **the Polish SUP Tour has been reactivated**, which began and ended in Kołobrzeg. We started at the Parsęta River Trophy, then there were two stops in Dąbrowa Górnicza and Rewa and we are finishing with the final at PBSR™. Cups and financial prizes will be awarded on Saturday at the banquet closing our regatta and the Polish SUP Tour <https://polishsuptour.pl/>

We are changing the date of the PBSR™. A year ago, we started the races on Friday and finished early on Sunday. From this edition, we start the races on Thursdays and finish the competition late afternoon on Saturday. Why such a change? It broke our hearts to say goodbye to you after the closing ceremony, when you were running away to your homes, work, and duties. This year, you are reporting on Wednesday for the start-up on the Baltic Sea, registration and briefing in the evening. On Saturday, however, we finish the races even after 1700, we take a shower break and check in for the closing ceremony in the evening at the banquet! This is our cunning way to keep you longer 😊 We will be honored to host you at an event that will not be an ordinary party in boardshorts. **Attention, attention our dear Ladies and Gentlemen!** You take your best evening dresses, suits, book hairdressers, make-up artists. **The banquet starts at 2000** and ends no earlier than Sunday 😊

Speaking of Sunday - equipment security on the beach will be until 1000. Thanks to this, you will be able to leave your boards safely on the beach on Saturday and return to them to say goodbye to the Baltic waves before leaving for home.

We plan to play additional dragons' races and this year **prone will debut paddling** without a paddle. In Poland, this is a practically unknown type of boarding and it is high time for its debut, because the world is running away from us.

The same is true for **SUPfoil**. Last year we encouraged you, but unfortunately no one brought such equipment to Kołobrzeg, so this year the equipment will come to you. **On Friday and Saturday** you will be able to try your hand at downwind boards with foil and electrically powered foil sets. The equipment will be provided by Foil Drive <https://eu.foildrive.com/> and the training will be led by none other than two-time Kiteboarding World Champion and Waterman Legend Mark Shinn!



And **what's new in the SUP rules?** We have refined the racing rules and placed them in Addendum 2 to NoR/PI. Why such a move? Well, we believe that our racing rules can be a guide for the SUP world, it will be easier to draw attention to them or share them with other organizers. Thanks to our rules, we avoid controversies that unfortunately regularly occur at ISA or ICF competitions. We have introduced helpful graphics that clearly indicate what *"zone, overlap, drafting, proper course, ramming, place at the mark"* is. By the way, we would like to thank the competitors of previous editions for many discussions about the evolution of the rules and for testing the changes on themselves. You were understanding and trusted our ideas. Now others can safely use them.

Notice of Race The NoR and the paddling instructions were combined into one document two years ago. We publish them 7 months before the regatta, so that you can train for specific regulations and those who will be with us for the first time have

time to familiarize themselves with our regatta regulations. **We usually make two updates - the first one a month and the second one a day before the first whistle.**

Communication between competitors, the race and protest committee and the organizers will take place via Telegram. Download this safe and practical app from [GooglePlay](#) [AppStore](#) and join us by clicking [Telegram PBSR202 5](#).

The judging panel will be international again: Poles, Czechs and Ukrainians. Our neighbors will support us with their experience from the Czech Cup, which has been held for 8 years. Since we are part of the Czech Cup, your results will also appear on [the SUP Ranking Czech 2025](#)

In carrying out such an intensive competition, we have been helped for years **by a support group**. The beach infrastructure will not build itself, the routes must be set up quickly and your safety guaranteed. Our team grows every year and we cordially invite **volunteers** - you are more than welcome.

The Official Notice Board (ONB) will be updated electronically. We will also have an information board on the beach where we will post important updates.

Most Valuable Paddler is an original idea of PBSR™. It turns out that in the meantime it has become the main goal of the competition. We are pleased to hear that this title is more important to you than medals in many championship events. It is a great honor for us. Historically, the MVP ranking has been dominated by 3 people: Gosia, Marta and Mikołaj. So far, we have only two foreigners. Paul from Tahiti and Linus from Sweden.

We have no doubt that the future of this sport is the youth.

For this reason, we are introducing the MVP Junior title and we want to appreciate and distinguish "our" youth. Next to it is the current MVP list. Who will join this esteemed group in 2025?



The age categories remain unchanged, however, we clearly explained in NoR that OPEN is not an age category and we introduced the concept of the senior category only for the purposes of separating this age group from OPEN. We would like to remind you that PBSR™ has always been, is and will be held in one category – OPEN, i.e. a category without an age limit, to which we also hold age categories. This means that the fastest competitor wins OPEN regardless of whether they are 11 or 71 years old. We have synchronized the division into age groups with the Czech Cup, which uses ISA regulations. Unfortunately, the ISA nomenclature is misleading (U15 de facto means U16) and therefore we do not use their abbreviations for youth classes.

The maximum length of boards allowed for PBSR™ is 14'0" or 427 cm for all age categories. This is not compatible with the Czech Cup regulations, therefore the results of 15-year-olds and younger starting on boards longer than 12'6" will not be included in the Czech Cup ranking. We agree that children must swim on smaller equipment for their health, but we cannot force a 15-year-old with a height of 190 to swim on smaller boards. We will definitely introduce a requirement to use smaller boards when we create the U12 category. It will not be this year.

Closing ceremonies at the end of each day. This is a practical and facilitating solution for our entire community. If, for example, someone is unable to be there on Saturday, they will receive any prizes for Friday on Friday. On Saturday, in addition to the competitions of the day, MVP and Junior MVP medals will be awarded.

A year ago, we were the first organizers in the world to conduct the eliminations of technical and sprint races in **the format of a prologue and medal races**. This decision was a bull's eye! Your reception of this idea was fantastic. The main assumption of this format was to introduce fair competition and allow you to paddle until it hurts. It worked, since many emphasized in their opinions that they had never been able to swim so much before. This was especially emphasized by competitors from the slower part of the peloton, who often finish them in one race at other competitions. In our case, the record holder, Paweł, swam 6 technical and 7 sprints. Not because he had to, but because he wanted to. Paweł ultimately took 20th place in the sprint and 22nd in the technical. On the other hand, the faster part of the peloton had to plan their runs tactically in order to achieve the best elimination time. We do not hide the fact that in this way we added spice to these races, where you have to show not only technique and strength, but also tactics and observation of opponents on the beach.

The prologue format was possible thanks to the Herkules company from Koszalin. Arek Kozak provided all the equipment, gate, chips, measuring instruments, shared his know-how and conducted the prologues. It was a big challenge for us and for Herkules, who has conducted hundreds of competitions, but it was the first time he conducted SUP competitions. We quickly got along with Arek and his people. This year we continue our cooperation and will improve a few details in time measurement. And what,

the end of technological innovations? Of course not! We have prepared a surprise for you. Taking care of your safety and facilitating the logistics of playing the long distance and handling protests, we decided to purchase **a service to track your location** . This will be the second rowing competition in Poland using such an advanced service for locating competitors. The first competition was **the Parsęta River Trophy** , where as organizers we tested this technology and it turned out better than anyone expected. You can judge for yourself: <https://sportrec.eu/gps/parseta-river-trophy-2025>



We decided to purchase this service from the Estonian company [SportRec](https://sportrec.eu) , which has been supporting one of the most difficult and largest marathons in Europe for years - a 100-kilometer paddling marathon the Vohandu River. This year, trackers on the long distance will receive the top 10 women and men in the MVP 2025 ranking.

Regulars know that it is forbidden to paddle in the port channel between the lighthouse and the Solna Marina. This year we plan to "shuttle" the boards in a few controlled **convoys** to facilitate the transport of boards from the beach to the Marina, for example to transfer them to the start of the long distance from the port. We will tell you about the details at the briefing.

Do you like to go back to videos and photos from previous editions of PBSR™ ? If so, we have a big surprise for you. This year, your struggles will be immortalized by the best of the best in this country and beyond. **Łukasz Baliński, Robert Hajduk, Szymon Sikora**. These are true grandmasters in their craft. You have seen their work, films many times watching reports from the Games, world championships, Europe of many disciplines. We feel honored that we managed to persuade such a strong team to come to Kołobrzeg together. You will meet them at the beginning during registration. Each of you will report to our photographers on the wall in order to take a profile photo of the competition. This is a new standard that we are introducing to Polish SUP and we are convinced that it will be well-received. The above Trio will be supported by **Michał Kozłowski** , who provided you with great photos from the races last year.

Starting jerseys (bib) Do you remember who has the license for the yellow jersey of the leader No. 1 and 101? Of course, MVP 2024. It will be easier for you to rush into the chase for the best. Jerseys with numbers 2-30 (men) and 102-120 (women) will be assigned according to the rankings. We emphasize that this will be a discretionary matter, because we do not know all the players and the form of those we know may be much different than we were able to get to know.

We would appreciate your comments regarding NoR . Send them to marek.rowinski.senior@gmail.com

See you on the Kołobrzeg beach.

Race Committee PBSR™ 2025