

RACE OFFICIALS NEWSLETTER



Issue 1
December 2007

MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN John Doerr (GBR)

Welcome to the first issue of the Race Officials Newsletter.

Dear Race Official,

Introduction

As part of the ISAF Strategic Plan the Race Officials Committee has decided to write regular newsletters to our Race Officials as one way to improve communications between us. If you have ever been involved with newsletter production this may seem a daunting task. My experience is that we start off enthusiastically, but maintaining momentum is very difficult. Consequently, we also decided that each newsletter would not be a major publication. A newsletter may contain very few items, but we would try to make them timely. Issues may be appropriate for and distributed to all Race Officials, but some may be limited to specific disciplines. The secretariat will circulate newsletters to all officials and each newsletter will be posted in the Race Officials area of the website. We are going to avoid regular pleas for contributions, but if you do have an item that you believe may be of interest to all Race Officials, your contribution will be welcome, as would any feedback. Please send your items, questions or comments to anna@isaf.co.uk.

Please note that the format of this newsletter is subject to change for future editions.

I hope you find this first newsletter useful

With best wishes for a successful 2008

John Doerr



Payments to Umpires

The Council approved submission 005-07 which changes the procedure about The Executive Committee being responsible for the amount of the Umpire Fees, provided that 12 months notice will be given to the organisers.

The Umpire Fees from 16 November 2008 are as follows:

Chief Umpire Fee	EUR 125.00
Umpire Fee	EUR 85.00

The same fees as in 2007 (Chief Umpire Fee EUR 120.00 and Umpire Fee EUR 80.00) will apply until 16 November 2008.

Secretariat

Race Officials Secretary

Trish Merrick left the ISAF Office on 17 October 2007 after 8 ½ years as Race Officials Secretary. She was a great contribution to the ISAF Race Officials programme and we are all very thankful for what she did. On her leaving day we had to promise her to maintain the good relationship between the Race Officials Administration and the Race Officials on the same good level.

Anna Dickens joined our Secretariat in September to take over the responsibilities as Race Officials Secretary. After a successful ISAF Annual Conference she looks forward to working with you in 2008.

A few words from Anna: "Hello! I finished my Geography degree at the University of Plymouth in 2006 and since then have been working in the watersports industry. I have worked with Neilson Holiday Company as a Sailing Instructor/Beach Supervisor for 2 summers. Last year I was a yacht broker over the winter but found that there wasn't

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enough for me to do in this role during the winter months. I have been a keen dinghy sailor for 13 years and also enjoy any kind of watersports, especially windsurfing. So far, I am enjoying my time at ISAF. My highlight was the annual conference and getting to meet so many fantastic people. I hope I can continue with Trish's great work and help you guys as much as possible."

Manuals and Publications

CD ROM in January 2008

Content – all Manuals, Racing Rules, Case/Call Books, Policy documents etc

November Meetings

You may imagine that with Olympic Events to be decided, issues concerning Race Officials directly were not of the highest profile at the annual ISAF Conference. Our meetings (The ROC and its four sub-committees) are the main opportunity to bring our work throughout the year to a conclusion and to set out our plans for the next year and beyond. Each committee is required to summarise its work for the year and submit an annual report to Council. The ROC report for 2007 is attached to this newsletter.

If you have waded through all 65 pages of the recently published Council minutes you will find that we were successful in obtaining Council's approval for the overhaul of our administrative regulations and terms of reference. While some minor changes were also approved through the submission process the overhaul does not contain any major changes of substance. The concept was to bring those regulations that were common to all of our disciplines together and avoid the previous repetition. The overhaul has identified a number of anomalies and we will be working towards submissions to fix these in 2008. In addition to the overhaul, there were some changes in the regulation.

New Race Officials

ISAF welcomes the following new race officials:

5 new IU's:

Francois Eggenberger (SUI)
Peter Johnson (GBR)
Ricardo Lobato (BRA)
Michael O'Connor (IRL)
Jos M Spijkerman (NED)

14 new IJ's:

Jacob Mossin Andersen (DEN)
Jorge Barreda (PER)
Michael Butterfield (GBR)
Modesto Fernandez Vazquez (ESP)
Ulrich Finckh (GER)
Hermann Mufti Kling (GER)
Selvam Mookken (SIN)
Jonathan Napier (GBR)
Johan Noren (SWE)
Michael O'Connor (IRL)
Glenn Oliver (USA)
Hans Olling (DEN)

Francisco Quinonero Martinez (ESP)
Peter Shrubbs (BER)

19 New IRO's:

John Coveney (FRA)
Fernando Jorge Cruz (POR)
Peter Dimech (MLT)
Mandus Freese (GER)
Ricardo Garcia Soriano (ESP)
John Grandy (GBR)
Bruce Greene (USA)
Marc Guichard (FRA)
Andreas Kuchler (DEN)
Aslihan Kutlu (TUR)
Klaus Lahme (GER)
Manel Llige Puig (ESP)
Jerome Nutte (FRA)
Carmelo Paroli (ITA)
Serge Rouanne (FRA)
Patrik Schander (SWE)
Jamie Wilkinson (GBR)
Changcheng Zhou (CHN)
Nathalie Peberel (FRA)

16 New IM's:

Atz August – 420 Class (ITA)
Greg Buck – J/80 Class (USA)
Massimo Coccloni – Vaurien Class (ITA)
Philippe De Troy (BEL) – Micro Class
Bruno de Wannemaeker (BEL) – Funboard, RS:X, Int
Formula Classes
Martin Egan (GBR) – Mirror Class
Diego Freiria (URU) – Optimist Class
Eugene Hinkel (USA) – Skud 18 Class
Pamela Johnson (GBR) – Splash Class
Pilar Lopez (ESP) – Laser Class
Don Martin (CAN) – 29er Class
Raul Pasqualin (BRA) – RS:X Class
Teresa Rios Sanchez (ESP) – 420 Class
Francisco Javier Romero Jimeno (ESP) – RS:X Class
Nelson Schmitt (BRA) – Lightning Class
Guido Verlaeck (BEL) – Int Formula Class

Obituaries

The ISAF Race Officials Family lost some very important members in the last year:

Lars Grande (NOR) IJ 1994 - 2007
Emily Johanson, (USA) IJ 1985 – 2006
Giorgio Lauro (ITA), IJ 1996 – 2007, IRO 1994 – 2007
Andrzej Ostrowski (POL), IJ 1988 – 2007
James Gibb (GBR), IJ 2002 - 2007
Jean Lemonie (FRA) IJ 1980 – 2007
Fernando Bolin (ESP) IJ 1991-2007
You will be missed.

Retired RO's:

Alexander Finsterbusch (IM – Cadet Class)
Donald O'Donnell (IM – 420 Class)
Brian Hooper (IRO)

Race Officials Appointments

The Race Officials Appointments to ISAF events in 2008 are available for download from the ISAF website.

RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE REPORT TO COUNCIL 2007

INTRODUCTION

2007 has been another year of progress for the Race Officials Committee. While maintaining our existing programmes we have, together with Constitution Committee, overhauled the administrative regulations and the outcome will be before Council. We have initiated the Technology Working Party with the mandate to ensure that ISAF is in a position to take advantage of developments in technology. We have started work that recognises the significant increases in professional sailing and how our Race Officials programmes might develop to satisfy the new demands on our services.

EDUCATION and DEVELOPMENT

During 2007 we have run 12 seminars (required for candidates progressing towards being appointed as ISAF International Race Officials) and 18 clinics aimed at improving the standards of race officials at all levels. Our instructors have followed up selected clinics to act as mentors throughout some major events, particularly the Asian Games in Doha. Seven rule 42 workshops for judges, coaches and sailors have been held in conjunction with events. The International Measurers held a conference attended by over 50% of our International Measurers to develop best practice and apply this consistently around the world. The first IM manual was published during the year.

The IJSC have made great progress towards the introduction of a programme for the development of National Judges that will be available to our MNA's that do not have their own programmes.

During 2008 we plan to continue our programme of seminars and clinics, to introduce a workshop for our Instructors to ensure consistent delivery of ISAF practices and policies. We intend to introduce a programme to ensure consistent application of the ISAF Race Management Policies developed during 2007 at all Olympic Class events. We will continue the rule 42 education programmes, but change the focus to youth and development areas.

The 'Question and Answer panel' was continued in 2007 and has provided a useful service for our International Officials.

ORGANISATION & ADMINISTRATION

Our total number of certified International Race Officials has slightly increased. It is clear that

recruitment of new race officials remains a high priority and the majority of the ROC projects arising from the Strategic Plan reflect this. We must continue to work with the member national authorities to encourage the recruitment of race officials.

As highlighted in the introduction we have completed the overhaul of our administrative regulations. The regulations affecting the designated MNA of Race Officials approved by Council in 2006 were introduced without problems and we are very pleased to report that there have been no reports under the new regulation 37 (performance of Race Officials) that needed further action.

The number of appointments of race officials to events that are the responsibility of ISAF continues to increase and reached a peak with the ISAF Worlds in Cascais where 68 ISAF International Race Officials served.

Work has begun to implement a more formal code of conduct, including a clear conflicts of interest policy, for all ISAF Race Officials.


While not the direct responsibility of the ROC, 2007 saw the successful introduction of ISAF clothing for ISAF race officials.

MEDAL RACING

Race officials have responded to the demand for the direct judging of medal races and the race management needs of the new formats. We have worked with Racing Rules Committee to develop the rules and operational framework for these races. A final review of the medal race practices and rules is underway to ensure a successful introduction of the medal race concept at the Olympic Regatta in Qingdao.

SUMMARY

In summary I would like to add a personal note. Without the contribution of many individuals and especially the ISAF staff it would be impossible to deliver the race officials programme. I have continued to receive amazing support throughout the year and would like to thank all of those who have contributed, especially the chairs of the four ROC sub-committees, Josje Hofland, Henri van der Aat, Jan Stage and David Sprague.



John Doerr
Chairman, ROC
November 2007

Looking Forward

Just a few lines looking forward - our work list runs to two pages so highlights only! We will be working hard during 2008 to develop and implement the strategic projects for ROC agreed with the Executive. These are best summarised as improving our recruitment of new race officials and our standards of delivery. One of the keys to successful recruitment has to be our existing Race Officials. I believe it is the responsibility of each and every one of us to be constantly on the look out for potential new officials and to know how to guide them to get started. Many MNA's have effective programmes for developing National Race Officials but many do not. The IJSC is close to finalising a package that can be offered to those who do not, and our thanks go to those MNA's that have willingly permitted their material to be used.

Consistency is key to improving standards, especially from a competitor's viewpoint. During 2007 a lot of work was done to develop a set of race management policies for the Olympic regatta. The RMSC will be ensuring a wide distribution of this document and hopefully many race management teams around the world will be adopting these policies for their own events.

We will be continuing to strengthen our seminar and clinic programmes, building on the successes of

previous years. If you think that ISAF should be running a seminar or clinic in your part of the world, please let us know. The rule 42 education programme, that has been so successfully delivered by Bill O'Hara over the past two years will continue but with a change of focus to youth and regional events.

As the ISAF website develops we are planning to introduce an on-line system for regatta reports and application for appointments. This has a very high potential to reduce the administrative time considerably and allow us to work more on our improvement projects. However, it has to work! As this project unfolds I am sure it will be the subject for future newsletters. The IJSC have already begun to use such a system (www.ijreport.org). A further mailing by the IJSC on this will be forthcoming to IJ's shortly.

The next newsletter will be out in April which will feature information on the Race Officials application process for 2008.

We thank you all for your support throughout the year and wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and New-Year.