



The Race Officials Committee met between 0930 - 1800 hours at the Melia Palas Atenea Hotel, Palma, Mallorca, Spain on Tuesday 4 November 2014

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Present:

Jan Stage (DEN) - Chairman
Peter Shrubbs (BER) – Vice-Chairman
Patrick Bergmans (BEL)
Sally Burnett (GBR)
Dimitris Dimou (GRE) (in part)
Barry Johnson (AUS) (in part)

John Doerr (GBR) (non-voting)
Andres Perez (ESP)
Ricardo Navarro (BRA) (non-voting)
Nino Shmueli (ISR)
Ross Wilson (AUS)

Xu Lijia (CHN) – ISAF Athletes' Commission (non-voting)
Jon Napier – ISAF Competitions Manager
Madeleine Dunn – ISAF Competitions & Race Officials Administrator
Katherine Mason – ISAF Events Administrator

Apologies:

Ronnie McCracken (HKG)

1. Opening of the Meeting

(a) Welcome by the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed the Committee to Palma and thanked them for their work over the year.

(b) Attendees and Apologies

Apologies were received from Ronnie McCracken. The Committee sent its best wishes to Ronnie during his recovery.

(c) Obituaries

The Committee paid respects following the deaths of Hugh Elliott (USA), Andre Raoult (COK) and Masayuki Ishii (JPN).

2. Minutes of the previous meeting and Agenda

(a) Minutes

The Committee noted the minutes of the previous Race Officials Committee meeting held on 12 November 2013 (circulated and approved after the meeting).

Race Officials Committee Minutes (cont.)

(b) Matters arising

The Committee agreed to consider three additional agenda items under item 9 (items 9(k), 9(l) and 9(m)) concerning the working parties for the development of International Classifiers, International Expression Judges and International Technical Delegates.

3. Governance

(a) Executive Committee meetings

The Committee noted there were no decisions of the Executive Committee that affected ISAF Race Officials in the previous year.

(b) Collaboration with Vice Presidents

The Committee confirmed that collaboration with the relevant ISAF Vice Presidents was working well.

(c) Delegation to Sub-committees

The Committee made no changes to the current delegations of authority to the Sub-committee.

4. Strategy and development

(a) Reports from the Sub-committees on progress on strategy and development

i) International Judges Sub-committee

Andres Perez, as Chairman of the International Judges Sub-committee, reported that the Sub-committee has been reviewing the numbers of International Judges renewing their qualification and confirmed that the number of International Judges met the needs of the discipline. The IJ Renewal Test is working well and the IT platform is available for use as a continuous education for judges. The Chairman commented that the Sub-committee should work on the development of existing International Judges as this is one of the most commented on areas from the judge community. Andres Perez added that there are developments needed in this area in respect of umpired fleet racing.

The Committee considered comments from observer Rodney Tan concerning the use of the English language in Asian countries and the ability to sit and understand exams in the English language. Andres Perez commented that there was a national judges program which was available for MNAs and judges who wanted to work towards international status.

Observer Tomasz Chamera, the Chairman of the Race Management Sub-committee, addressed the Committee and said he recognised and acknowledged the issues of language but believed that international status meant working in one common language and for sailing this is English. However, he said that work should be done in this area with training materials possibly translated.

The Chairman agreed with this position, but said it was important that the Sub-committees examine the effect of language on their disciplines.

Decision

The Sub-committees shall consider potential language issues within their disciplines.

ii) International Measurers Sub-committee

Dimitris Dimou, as Chairman of the International Measurers Sub-committee, reported that the number of International Measurers will decrease this year. He said this was due the age profile of the current group of International Measurers, with 20% being over the age of 70. 11 International Measurers will retire this year, 3 will not renew and there are 8 new applicants this year. He reported that across the classes the availability of International Measurers ranges from enough, to not enough to none at all. He said that, across events, equipment control is not always seen as a requirement or a necessary expense (as an example, he said even the ISAF Youth Worlds does not have equipment inspection). As to other challenges, he remarked on the limited amount of measurement activity outside of Europe (with most International Measurers being concentrated in Europe), better links are needed with the ISAF Classes (and clashes with the Conference meeting schedule exacerbates this), and the issue of language as well. On language, he felt that International Measurers have to be able to explain situations in clear English to competitors.

iii) International Umpires Sub-committee

Sally Burnett, as Chairman of the International Umpires Sub-committee, reported that the biggest issue for the Sub-committee is the changing nature of the discipline. The number of match racing events has decreased significantly and the number of fleet racing events has increased. The Sub-committee is therefore looking at developing an umpired fleet racing qualification alongside the existing match racing and team racing disciplines. Work has commenced on a manual, which will eventually lead to seminar material and ultimately an exam in the discipline.

Changes are being examined in relation to the re-appointment criteria as well. The number of fleet racing events on re-application forms is increasing and International Umpires are beginning to find difficulties with the balance of their events on application forms. The Principal Event Guidelines are being reviewed in conjunction with the International Judges Sub-committee. This will be a slow process and changes may not be in place for the 2015 round of applications.

With respect to numbers, these were reported as being stable however even the most senior and experienced umpires are stepping back from involvement with match racing, which has in turn created difficulties with event appointments. Work is therefore needed to help International Umpires who qualified 3 – 5 years ago to bring them up to the top level and proposals are being looked at for continuous professional development alongside the World Match Racing Tour.

Finally, the Sub-committee has appointed two new umpire instructors and there is a major revision of seminar materials.

iv) Race Management Sub-committee

Nino Shmueli, as the representative of the Race Management Sub-committee, invited its Chairman (Tomasz Chamera) to address the Committee. Tomasz Chamera reported that the Sub-committee is working on the recruitment of new race officials and continuous development. In particular, the Sub-committee is working on the identification of individuals who can work in management roles such as Principal Race Officer, Course Representatives etc.

In relation to clinics and seminars, the Sub-committee has run an extensive programme and has appointed race management 'ambassadors' in regions to promote race management training and development. The Sub-committee has a

Race Officials Committee Minutes (cont.)

working group looking at the standardisation of documentation for clinics and seminars.

The Sub-committee would like to run an IRO Conference and will submit a request for funding. Also it wishes to run an instructor conference in order to ensure consistency of teaching and the use of new development materials.

The Committee discussed potential new strategic areas.

Decision

The Committee added talent identification, the development of race officials for the forthcoming major events and class relationships as new strategic areas and asks the Sub-committees to include these in their work and report back to the Committee next year.

- (b) Cost of officials at ISAF/high level events

The Committee received an update from the Chairman on the appointment of a working party.

Decision

A working party is appointed to examine the cost of race officials at ISAF and high level events and how these costs can be reduced:

Peter Shrubbs (BER) – Chairman

Bernard Bonneau (FRA)

Sally Burnett (GBR)

Marianne Davis (CAN)

Christophe Gaumont (FRA)

Andres Perez (ESP)

Takao Otani (JPN)

- (c) Report from the Chairman on his attendance at:

- i) Coaches Commission
- ii) Olympic Classes Sub-committee
- iii) ISAF Classes Committee

The Chairman reported on his attendance at the above commission and committee meetings.

He reported that he had discussed with the Coaches Commission collaboration between race officials and coaches, and also the 2014 ISAF Sailing World Championships. The feedback has been passed to the Race Management Sub-committee. The Coaches Commission also received a report from the Chairman on the potential changes to rule 69.

The Chairman reported on his meeting with the Olympic Classes Sub-committee and specifically the collaboration with the classes (e.g. the running the rule 42 clinics) and talent identification.

For the ISAF Classes Committee, the Chairman reported that the main interest was the requirement to have an international jury for the smaller World Championships.

- (d) ISAF Race Official appearance

The Committee received a report from the Competitions Manager on plans for race official uniforms. He reported on a potential relationship with a manufacturer and the intention to conclude a deal in 2015. Samples were available for the Committee to

view during the meeting. The current intention would be that a core kit would be available with additional items available for race officials to purchase separately.

The Chairman asked each Sub-committee to appoint one member to liaise with the Secretariat on the race official uniforms. This group will also need to consider the range of kit available. The Competitions Manager reported that if funding was to be made available by ISAF for the provision of uniforms, then there would be a requirement to wear the uniform at ISAF events.

Sally Burnett raised the question of cost and the required contribution and felt it was important that the level of contribution was considered against affordability criteria.

5. Education and Development

(a) Seminars and Clinics

i) 2014 program

The Committee noted the 2014 program of seminars and clinics.

ii) 2015 program

The Committee received the intentions of the Sub-committees in relation to the 2015 program of seminars and clinics.

The Committee discussed a request from the Asian Sailing Federation that continental associations give their consent to MNA requests for clinic and seminars to ensure the effective use of ISAF resources within the continent.

Decision

Seminars and clinics do not require approval from the Continental Associations. The Committee will work with the Continental Associations to ensure more seminars are held with a wider geographical spread.

iii) Procedures for over-booked seminars

The Committee discussed the lack of procedures for dealing with over-booked seminars and minimum qualifications required of candidates. John Doerr reported on current work being done in an IU seminar to document the administration of seminars. He remarked that it is necessary to move the selection process away from the seminar organisers and to ISAF. The Chairman agreed and felt that the Secretariat and the instructors needed to be more involved in the process.

The Committee also considered the question of the standard of candidates and whether the overall learning experience of a seminar can be lowered when candidates who are clearly not qualified are allowed to attend. Barry Johnson felt that combined clinics and seminars were not appropriate.

Decision

John Doerr and the Secretariat are to prepare a proposal for consultation with the Sub-committee Chairmen and then to be submitted for Committee approval.

iv) Standardization of clinic/seminar application forms

The Competitions Manager reported on the proposed standardization of clinic and seminar forms. The draft forms will be shared with the Sub-committee Chairmen for approval before use.

Decision

The Committee approves the standardization of clinic and seminar forms.

Race Officials Committee Minutes (cont.)

v) Notification of race official exam results to MNAs

The Committee discussed whether exam results should be notified to MNAs (whether the overall pass/fail or the percentage).

Decision

ISAF will not inform third parties of exam results. Candidates can be asked directly by their MNAs of their result as part of the application endorsement process.

vi) Conduct and behaviour of participants at race official seminars

The Committee considered the issues raised by a recent case of alleged cheating at a seminar and the fact that candidates are not bound by the ISAF Regulations concerning conduct and behaviour.

Nino Shmueli and John Doerr supported the application of ISAF Regulation 35 to seminar candidates (not for clinics). Patrick Bergmans requested that seminar and clinic attendees have ISAF Sailor ID. The Competitions Manager suggested that candidates sign a statement saying they agree to be bound by the ISAF Regulations before attending a seminar.

Decision

The Chairman and the Secretariat will review whether a submission is required for next year.

(b) Training in assessment

The Committee discussed whether there should be a common program for training in assessment. John Doerr informed the Committee of the work done in training new IU instructors and documenting the processes being used. The Chairman remarked that in all disciplines ISAF needs training of new instructors in how to assess others. The Committee noted the appointment of new instructors as assistant instructors to a seminar was best practice.

The Competitions Manager commented that adding assistant instructors needed to be budgeted into a seminar as these can increase ISAF's costs and also the seminar organiser needs to agree to pay for the additional accommodation and subsistence.

Decision

A common programme for assessment training will be developed following the IU seminar in THA in 2015.

(c) Conferences

Nino Shmueli submitted a request for an IRO instructor conference in 2015 and regional conferences for all IROs in 2016.

Andres Perez submitted a request for an IJ instructor conference.

Sally Burnett suggested that all instructors may need to have a conference following the development of the assessment training materials.

Decision

The Chairman will review the requests in consultation with the Secretariat.

(d) Travel Grants

Ross Wilson reported on the provision of two travel grants in the previous year. The Travel Grant Working Group recommended an amendment to the procedures to allow the Working Group flexibility when considering applications.

Race Officials Committee Minutes (cont.)

The Chairman remarked on that the ISAF Classes Committee commented that the system is too complicated and the rules need to be reviewed to simplify them.

Decision

Ross Wilson and the Secretariat will review the procedures and report back to the Committee.

(e) Publications

The Committee received a brief verbal report from the Chairman in the absence of Ronnie McCracken. The Chairman suggested forming a common ROC Manual in order to replace the common sections of the manuals.

Ross Wilson undertook he would inform the Sub-committees of the process to submit their common sections manuals for consolidation.

The Competitions Manager asked for a decision on which group is authorised to amend the manuals.

Decision

Ross Wilson is to inform Sub-committees about the process to submit common sections for a joint ROC manual.

Amendments to manuals must be authorised by the full Sub-committee for the discipline.

6. Race Official Administration

(a) Code of Conduct

The Competitions Manager introduced the draft prepared by Dimitris Dimou and himself following the Committee's decision in 2013.

Decision

The draft Code of Conduct is to be circulated for approval by email by the Secretariat.

(b) Contribution to national level activities

The Committee discussed the extension of Regulation 31.12.1(i) to all disciplines. The Chairman explained the background to the introduction of the Regulation for International Umpires and asked whether this should be introduced for the other disciplines.

Andres Perez commented that race officials do not have any control over what an MNA wants them to be involved in. The Chairman replied that this does not have to be a specific MNA, it can be any MNA.

Nino Shmueli supported the extension of the Regulation to all the disciplines. Sally Burnett commented that a number of race officials were not aware of the existence of the Regulation and the application to any MNA. The provision needs to be highlighted. The Competitions Manager commented that this area was the largest source of conditions imposed on appointment decisions.

Decision

Following consultation with the Committee, the Chairman will make a submission in 2015 extending the Regulation to all disciplines.

The Chairman raised the question of whether there should be an obligation to have a diverse range of events when submitting an application for re-appointment. He

explained that for International Umpires there is an obligation to officiate a range of graded events, but that this was not the case for other disciplines.

The Committee supported the extension of this principle to all disciplines. Sally Burnett raised the question of the interaction between principal event requirements and this obligation. She suggested that the wording of the current Regulation can be improved.

Decision

Following consultation with the Committee, the Chairman will make a submission in 2015 extending the requirement for a range of events to all disciplines.

(c) Designated MNA of Race Officials

The Competitions Manager reported there were no re-designations of race officials in 2014.

(d) Reference Forms

i) Time limits for reference forms

The Committee discussed whether there should be a requirement for reference forms to be issued within a certain time of the event.

Decision

Reference forms must only be issued and filed within two months of the event ending.

References must be requested in advance of the event.

Once asked for by a candidate, a reference must be issued unless there are extenuating circumstances to withdraw from the process.

Unrequested references (i.e. not requested by the candidate) are to be treated by the Secretariat as reports under Regulation 32.

For events where the chief race official is not an ISAF Race Official, then an ISAF Race Official must be involved in production of the reference.

ii) General principles applicable to applications from candidates who have positive and negative reference forms

The Committee discussed how to assess candidates who have a mixture of positive and negative reference forms on file. The Chairman felt that the Sub-committees need guidance on this topic. He reminded the Committee that the standing instruction to the Secretariat is that all forms held on file are to be considered by the Sub-committees and the Committee.

Decision

John Doerr is to prepare guidance for approval by the Committee. Each Sub-committee chairman is to appoint a member of their Sub-committee to assist in this task.

iii) Provision of reference forms by non-IROs for IRO applications

Nino Shmueli explained that the current Regulation permits IRO references to come from ISAF Race Officials with just one from an International Race Officers. He said that the Race Management Sub-committee was concerned that some applicants are producing reference forms all from non-IRO ISAF Race Officials. The Sub-committee felt that a majority must come from International Race Officers.

Ross Wilson raised the concern that those in remoter areas with fewer IROs will find it difficult to find comply with this idea and this will prevent applications being made.

Ricardo Navarro said that the reference form contains areas that can only be commented on if the referee is on the committee boat with the IRO.

Decision

The Race Management Sub-committee is to prepare a submission for the Chairman to make in 2015 which would increase the number of required reference forms from an IRO from one to two.

7. Event Appointments

(a) Event Appointments Working Party Report

The Committee received a report from the Competitions Manager on behalf of the Event Appointments Working Party. He noted that same report had been on the agenda of the Sub-committees and the Event Appointments Working Party met at Conference in order to decide the 2015 appointments for major events.

The Working Party had been pleased to note the performance assessment process carried out at the 2014 Youth Olympic Games and the 2014 ISAF Sailing World Championships and the additional support provided by ISAF to the chief race officials of those events in producing the feedback on official support.

Looking forward, the Competitions Manager reported that Event Appointments Working Party wished to move to a system of two lists in all disciplines for the major events: a list of chief race officials and a list of suitable team members for major events.

(b) Event Appointments Working Party Procedures

The Chairman noted the procedures of the Event Appointments Working Party had been published and invited any comments from the Committee.

Ross Wilson felt there was no procedure to allow race officials to gain their way onto the major event lists and this needed to be rectified in order to provide for transparency. Vice President Chris Atkins said that this was role of the relevant Sub-committee and he strongly encouraged the Sub-committees to set up processes to allow MNAs or other stakeholders to make suggestions to the Sub-committees. He reminded the Committee that the Event Appointment Working Party, under its current procedures, leaves the assessment of technical expertise to the Sub-committee in the process.

(c) Sub-committee reports on the identification of race officials for development to high level roles at events

The Chairman reported that, in his view, there was difference between the Sub-committees in the number of race officials with the potential to develop to higher level roles. He asked that the Sub-committees worked on this matter and develop processes to do this. Barry Johnson, on behalf of the International Measurers Sub-committee, updated the Committee on the development of the IM grouping system and its implementation/uptake in the first year.

Sally Burnett shared her concern that the Sub-committees were working in isolation and there is no formal process for the sharing of information. She felt that the Committee should have as a goal the identification of what information needs to be shared for each discipline. The Chairman agreed with this approach.

Decision

The Sub-committees are to review their processes for the sharing of information in the area of talent identification so that the Sub-committee Chairmen are informed.

8. Race Officials Performance and Feedback

(a) Race Official Groupings

i) IU grouping

The Competitions Manager updated the Committee on the allocation of International Umpires to groups (G1: 14, G2A: 24, G2B: 34, G2C: 6).

Sally Burnett updated the Committee on the IU grouping process and the decision of the Sub-committee to suspend the grouping process and not undertake a grouping process in 2015. She said that the main driver for this was that International Umpires were trying to be grouped for reasons other than why the grouping process was established in the first place (which was for appointments to match racing events). In addition, the Grouping Panel is having difficulty to judge groupings solely on match racing experience given the proliferation of the umpired fleet racing.

The Chairman asked for the view of the Event Appointments Working Party. The Competitions Manager, on behalf of the Working Party, reported that the matter had been discussed at the Working Party's recent meeting and it had concluded that if the grouping process was producing unsatisfactory information, then it should no longer be used for event appointments. However, the Working Party had a strong view that there must be an equivalent process put in place.

The Chairman said he was happy to suspend the process provided that an alternative system was put in place. He said that an alternative must be approved by the middle of 2015. Sally Burnett proposed that a new system should address the growth of umpired fleet racing and should cover that discipline as well.

Decision

The Committee approved the decision of the International Umpires Sub-committee to suspend the IU grouping process for 2015 and the intention to have an alternative process in place in time for 2016 appointments.

ii) IM grouping

Barry Johnson updated the Committee on the IM grouping process. As of the date of the meeting, 42 out of 113 International Measurers had applied for a grouping and at present 9 had been allocated to Group 1 and 17 to Group 2 (with 3 of them eligible for a move up to Group 1 subject to taking the IM examination).

(b) Race Official Reports

Barry Johnson reported that the International Measurers Sub-committee wishes to move to a position where regatta reports should be mandatory for International Measurers.

Decision

The Committee supported in principle a move towards mandatory reporting, but deferred consideration of the IMSC request pending improvements in the IT systems that handle regatta reports.

Race Officials Committee Minutes (cont.)

(c) Race Official Performance

- i) Performance reviews at the 2014 Youth Olympic Games and 2014 ISAF Sailing World Championships.

The Committee received a verbal report from the Chairman and the Competitions Manager on the process trialled at the events this year. Sally Burnett reported that a side effect of the process was that it encouraged judges to undertake more of their own self-assessment in addition to the formal reviews of their performance.

The Chairman noted the challenges of conducting this process with large international juries, in particular the resources that are needed to conduct the assessments and communicate them to the race officials.

- ii) Performance reviews at 2015 events

The Committee discussed what events would be suitable for performance reviews in 2015. The Competitions Manager proposed that reviews should occur at the 2015 Rio Test Event and possibly at a Sailing World Cup event. Nino Shmueli supported the use of the system at high level events. Andres Perez supported the use of the system at the Rio Test Event, Sailing World Cup events and eventually a move to all events where ISAF appoints the officials. The Competitions Manager commented that the resources needed should be considered, as an independent official must be present in order for the system to work.

Sally Burnett commented that there is an opportunity to use the process at two levels – a high level where the Secretariat is involved formally, and then lower level events to encourage race officials to be more open about their performance and self-assessment.

Decision

Performance reviews will be undertaken at the 2015 Rio Test Event and at a 2015 Sailing World Cup event.

- iii) Use of performance reviews by Sub-committees

The Committee referred to its earlier decisions in the meeting concerning the identification of talent and performance by Sub-committees and made no further decisions.

(d) Sailor Representative system

The Committee received a report from the trial of the sailor representative system at 2014 Sailing World Cup in Palma.

The Chairman explained how nominated competitors in the Radial and Finn classes met with members of the International Jury (the jury course chief for each class) to pass on feedback from the fleet on the event. Sofia Truchanowicz (POL) addressed the meeting about how this process worked for the Finn class. The system allowed for face-to-face dialogue with competitors and gained useful feedback to help improve the quality of racing. She said there were challenges with arranging meetings and also making sure that the jury was not the recipient of feedback concerning race management and becoming a 'middle man'.

The Chairman commented that at the 2014 ISAF Sailing World Championships the competitors found they did not have time for this process. As an alternative, the ISAF Course Representative could be introduced at the first briefing and walk the boat park each day after racing with a member of the International Jury. This approach was supported by the Olympic Classes to be tried in 2015.

9. Reports

- (a) Sub-committee reports and recommendations to Council

The Committee noted the written reports filed with it following their meetings. No recommendations to Council were made.

- (b) Reports from 2014 major events and recommendations to Council

- i) 2014 Olympic Test Event

The Chairman reported that the race official team at the 2014 Test Event consisted of small groups of each discipline as this was the first test event and that overall the event had gone well.

- ii) 2014 ISAF Sailing World Championships

The Chairman noted that the in depth discussions concerning this event in the Sub-committee meetings. The Committee had no further observations to make.

- iii) ISAF Sailing World Cup

The Committee had no comments concerning the ISAF Sailing World Cup.

- iv) 2014 Youth Olympic Games

The Committee had no comments concerning the 2014 Youth Olympic Games.

- v) ISAF Youth Sailing World Championships

The Committee noted the report from the Jury Chairman of the 2014 ISAF Youth Sailing World Championships and the recommendation that the number of judges be increased to 10 from 8 in order to allow two panels to be appointed.

The ISAF Technical Delegate for the event addressed the Committee and supported the increase in judges due to the decision to change in the classes used and the sharing of boats between boys and girls fleets. At present, the limited number of judges means that competitors racing in the mornings have to wait until the evening for their hearings.

Recommendation to Council:

The number of members of the International Jury should be increased to 10 as soon as contractual arrangements permit.

- (c) Q&A Panel

The Committee received a report from the Chairman of the Q&A Panel.

- (d) Rule 42

The Chairman of the Rule 42 Working Party, Zofia Truchanowicz (POL), reported that the size of the Working Party had been decreased but it had welcomed the addition of Lijia Xu (CHN) from the Athletes' Commission who was an important member representing the sailors in the Working Party's discussions.

Zofia reported that the first ever ISAF Rule 42 Clinic had been held immediately prior to SWC Palma with 15 sailors and 7 judges taking part. The Clinic allowed for the development of both on the water and classroom material. She said that the experience from the Clinic underlined the need for dialogue with the sailors and classes.

Zofia informed the Committee that the feedback received from coaches was that rule 42 was being judged correctly at Olympic level, however there is a need for further work at the junior and youth levels.

Zofia reported that the online education platform suffers from an issue that only a limited number of users are allowed at a time. Instead, the Working Party is looking at using Youtube as a better means of communication. She outlined the other areas that the Working Party is investigating to help the education on this topic.

With respect to the Racing Rules of Sailing, the Working Party discussed whether to define the term 'clearly propel' in the ISAF Rule 42 Interpretations but has concluded that this was not necessary as the word 'clearly' is already well understood in English. The Working Party has also discussed the potential removal of ooching from rule 42 and has concluded not to propose any amendments. Work has also been undertaken on whether to add an exemption to allow one roll/pump off the start line, but the Working Party has concluded that this is a class-specific issue and should be addressed through class rules.

(e) Conflicts of interests

The Committee received the report from the Vice-Chairman as Chairman of the Conflict of Interest Working Party.

The Vice-Chairman noted that 25 requests for a ruling had been received in 2013 and only 4 in 2014. He felt this was due to the publication of the decisions, which gave ISAF Race Officials more certainty about the circumstances that would constitute a conflict of interests.

The Vice-Chairman reported a concern from the Working Party that the level of an event and the nature of any family relationship were not being given due consideration under the current Guidelines. He said the Working Party considers that more weight needs to be given to the fact ISAF has already approved race officials as having the required judicial temperament and not to exclude them from officiating at every potential conflict that arose.

He outlined to the Committee the concept of a proposed 'points system' which would be used to assess conflicts of interests.

Decision

The Committee approved in principle the concept of a points system in the Guidelines for Assessing Conflicts of Interests. The Working Party is to prepare a full proposal for approval by the Committee.

(f) Social media

The Committee received a report from the Chairman of the Social Media Working Party, Alfredo Ricci (ITA).

Alfredo reported that 4 cases has been considered by the Working Party and it is currently waiting for the consent of those involved to publish their decisions.

(g) Race Officials Website

The Committee received a report from the Chairman of the Working Party, Andrus Poksi (EST). The Chairman asked that any comments concerning the website be directed to the Chairman or any member of the Working Party.

(h) Match Racing Organization and Race Management

The Chairman reported that the purpose of this Working Party was to bring together the Race Management Sub-committee, International Umpires Sub-committee and Match Racing Committee to address issues concerning match racing events. The Chairman reported that Thomas Jorgensen (DEN) has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Working Party.

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The Committee considered the draft new race management policies for match racing.

Decision

The Committee approved the proposed amendments to the ISAF Race Management Policies for Match Racing, subject to approval from the Race Management Sub-committee.

(i) Judging Oceanic Racing

The Chairman reported on the history on this issue and asked Andres Perez to update the Committee.

Andres informed the Committee that the ISAF Judges Manual has been updated with a new chapter on oceanic racing, which has been approved by the International Judges Sub-committee.

(j) Jury Size Working Party

The Chairman updated the Committee on the intention of the Working Party to prepare a submission to allow, in certain circumstances, ISAF to approve an international jury of three members. This permission will depend on the size and history of the event and the intended judges. A submission will be made in 2015.

(k) International Classifier Working Party

The Committee noted Proposal 4 of Submission 109-14 and the intention that the Race Officials Committee prepare and publish the qualifications for this new discipline.

Decision

A working party is appointed to prepare the proposed qualifications for ISAF International Classifiers by 1 April 2015 and then advise the Committee on applications for appointment:

John Doerr (GBR) - Chairman

Lynne Beal (CAN)

Two members appointed by the Chairman following consultation with the Disabled Sailing Committee

Emma Little (ISAF Secretariat)

(l) International Expression Judge Working Party

The Committee noted Proposal 4 of Submission 109-14 and the intention that the Race Officials Committee prepare and publish the qualifications for this new discipline.

Decision

A working party is appointed to prepare the proposed qualifications for ISAF International Expression Judges by 1 April 2015 and then advise the Committee on applications for appointment:

Sally Burnett (GBR) - Chairman

Bruno de Wannemaker (BEL)

Richard Gowers (GBR)

Andres Perez (ESP)

(m) International Technical Delegate Working Party

The Committee noted Proposal 4 of Submission 109-14 and the intention that the Race Officials Committee prepare and publish the qualifications for this new discipline.

Decision

A working party is to be appointed by the Chairman to prepare the proposed qualifications for ISAF International Technical Delegates by 1 April 2015 and then advise the Committee on applications for appointment.

Post-meeting note: The Chairman appointed the following working party: Ricardo Navarro (BRA) – Chairman, Francisco Jauregui (MEX), Flavio Naveira (ARG) and Jon Napier (ISAF Secretariat).

10. IT Systems

- (a) Internet based training and development
 - i) Report on the IJ renewal test system

Andres Perez summarised the discussion of the International Judges Sub-committee on this matter and felt the system was working well.
 - ii) Report on continuous training materials

No further reports were received.
- (b) Internet based applications

The Committee received a report from the Chairman.
- (c) Internet based event reports

Not discussed.

11. Submissions

Please refer to the 2014 Submissions Booklet for details of all submissions also available online at www.sailing.org/meetings

- (a) Submissions for which the Race Officials Committee is the Reporting Committee:
 - i) Submission 109-14 – ISAF Race Officials – New Disciplines, Regulation 6.9.6 from the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee

Recommendation to Council: Approve
 - ii) Submission 110-14 – ISAF Race Officials – Regulation 31 – Race Official Examinations from the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee

Recommendation to Council: Approve
 - iii) Submission 111-14 – ISAF Race Officials – Regulation 32 – Race Official Performance from the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee

Recommendation to Council: Approve
 - iv) Submission 154-14 – Racing Rules of Sailing – Rule 69 from the Chairmen of the Racing Rules Committee, Constitution Committee and Race Officials Committee

Recommendation to Council: Defer

Further work needs to be done on this area and the submission should be deferred until 2015.
- (b) Submissions for which the Race Officials Committee is an Other Committee except Racing Rules submissions:
 - i) Submission 035-13 – Race Officials – Appointments to Events – Regulations 25.8.10, 25.8.13 and 25.8.15 from the Chairman of Constitution Committee

Race Officials Committee Minutes (cont.)

Withdrawn

- ii) Submission 001-14 – IFDS Merger with ISAF – New Regulations 5.1(c) and 6.4, Changes to current Regulations and Articles from the Executive Committee

Opinion: Approve

- iii) Submission 013-14 – Appointment of Race Officials to Events – Regulation 25.8 from the Executive Committee and the Chairmen of the Regional Games Committee and Race Officials Committee

Opinion: Approve with amendment:

25.8.7 ISAF shall not appoint or approve a Jury Chairman, **ISAF Principal Race Officer, Chief Measurer/Equipment Inspector** or Chief Umpire who is from the country of the Organizing Authority of the event.

- iv) Submission 014-14 – Event Appointments Working Party – Regulation 25.8.2 from the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee

Opinion: Approve with amendment:

The working party shall be appointed **at the same time as the ISAF committees** ~~at the Annual ISAF Meeting after the Olympics and shall be appointed~~ for a four-year period in line with the ISAF Committee's term of appointment. ~~In respect of each event, the working party shall have power to add one other expert whose expertise is relevant or needed.~~ **The ISAF Race Officials stated in (a) and (b) above should cover a range of race official disciplines, if possible, and may be retired.**

- v) Submission 021-14 – Continental Associations to Train and Certify Regional Technical Officers and Race Officials from the Bulgarian Sailing Federation, Sailing Cook Islands, the Cyprus Sailing Federation, the Fiji Yachting Association, the Hungarian Yachting Association, the Yachting Association of India, the Oman Sailing Committee, the Pakistan Sailing Federation, Papua New Guinea Yacht & Boat Association, Qatar Sailing and Rowing Federation, the Russian Yachting Federation, the Royal Spanish Sailing Federation, the Yachting Association of Sri Lanka, UAE Sailing and Rowing Federation.

Opinion: Reject

The submission is unclear in its intent and what it tries to achieve. The term "qualify" is not clear.

- vi) Submission 022-14 – Appointment of Technical Delegates and ITOs to Continental Games – Regulation 25.9 from the Bulgarian Sailing Federation, Sailing Cook Islands, the Cyprus Sailing Federation, the Fiji Yachting Association, the Hungarian Yachting Association, the Yachting Association of India, the Oman Sailing Committee, the Pakistan Sailing Federation, Papua New Guinea Yacht & Boat Association, Qatar Sailing and Rowing Federation, the Russian Yachting Federation, the Royal Spanish Sailing Federation, the Yachting Association of Sri Lanka, Swiss Sailing, UAE Sailing and Rowing Federation.

Opinion: Reject

This is the role of ISAF. Submission 013-14 shows Continental Associations are already being consulted.

- vii) Submission 037-14 – Misconduct and Discipline – Regulation 35.5 from the Chairman of the Constitution Committee

Opinion: Approve

Race Officials Committee Minutes (cont.)

- viii) Submission 038-14 – Misconduct and Discipline – New Regulation 35.10 from the Chairman of the Constitution Committee

Opinion: Approve

- ix) Submission 039-14 – Misconduct and Discipline – Regulation 35.16 from the Chairman of the Constitution Committee

Opinion: Approve with amendment:

A person who has had a sanction imposed on him by the Disciplinary Commission has the right of appeal against that decision to the ISAF Review Board. Any appeal must be lodged in writing with the Chief Executive Officer within 30 days **of being notified in writing of the Commission's decision.** ~~of the publication of the written decision of the Commission.~~

- x) Submission 097-14 – Crew Weight Limit for Women's Match Racing – Regulation 27.2.3(a) and 27.2.3(d) from the Chairman of the Match Racing Committee

Opinion: Approve

- (c) Submissions on the Racing Rules of Sailing for which the Race Officials Committee is an Other Committee - submissions 117-14 through to 212-14.

- i) 121-14 Racing Rules of Sailing - Definition of Interested Party, Conflicts of Interest and Rule 63.4

Opinion: Approve with the following amendment

Support the RRC WP proposal that an edited version of the definition in Proposal 2 be accepted and the rest of the submission be deferred to 2015 where the changes to Appendix M should also be submitted.

- ii) Submission 190-14 – Racing Rules of Sailing – Appendices, J, K and L from the Royal Spanish Sailing Federation

Opinion: Reject

The Committee supports keeping the suggestions open for discussion with a view for resubmission in 2015

- iii) Submission 198-14 – Racing Rules of Sailing – Appendix LE from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Opinion: Approve

Subject to consultation continuing with the Race Management Sub-committee.

- iv) Submission 200-14 – Racing Rules of Sailing – Appendix P from the Finnish Sailing and Boating Federation

Opinion: Approve with amendment:

If the class rules permit pumping, rocking and ooching when the wind speed exceeds a specified limit, the race committee may signal that those actions are permitted, as specified in the class rules, by displaying flag O no later than the **preparatory warning signal and removing it no earlier than the starting signal.**

12. Finance

- (a) 2014 Budget

The Committee received a report on 2014 budget performance.

Race Officials Committee Minutes (cont.)

(b) 2015 Budget

The Committee discussed the 2015 budget.

Sally Burnett submitted a request on behalf of the International Umpires Sub-committee for additional funding for an IU continuing development seminar in conjunction with the World Match Racing Tour.

Decision

The draft 2015 budget is approved. The request from IUSC will be reviewed by the Chairman and the Secretariat.

13. Annual Report

The Committee received the Chairman's proposed annual report to Council.

Decision

The Committee approved the Chairman's report.

14. Closed Session

(a) ISAF Disciplinary Commission proceedings

The Committee noted one set of proceedings before the Disciplinary Commission concerning an ISAF Race Official.

(b) ISAF Review Board proceedings

The Committee noted one appeal before the Review Board concerning the Committee's decision not to appoint an individual as an ISAF Race Official.

(c) Performance Investigations

i) Publication of the outcomes of performance investigations

The Committee discussed whether or not to publish the outcome of performance investigations and the names of those investigated.

Decision

The Committee asks the Secretariat to prepare a proposal for consideration.

ii) Report on performance investigations

The Committee received a report on performance investigations carried out in 2014. The Committee noted the decision of the Executive Committee to approve the Committee's recommendation for a termination of appointment.

(d) Commendations

The Committee considered recommendations for commendations.

Decision

The Committee will make a formal request to the Executive Committee for three individuals to be considered for recognition.

(e) Seminar/Clinic Instructors, Test Administrators and Performance Assessors

The Committee noted the current list of instructors.

Decision

Sub-committee Chairmen are to check the list of instructors and inform the Secretariat of any corrections.

Decision

The Committee approved a preliminary appointment of an IRO Clinic Instructor for one year, but requires that the full appointment process be run in 2015.

(f) Race Official Appointments

The Committee discussed the policy concerning applicants who have only officiated in one class and applicants who are in position to appoint themselves to events. The Committee agreed it could not retrospectively introduce such restrictions.

Decision

The Chairman will consider making submissions in 2015 to address these issues. The Secretariat is to write to the applicants who appointed themselves to events and warn them the Committee does not consider this conduct is acceptable.

The Committee considered recommendations from the Sub-committees for appointment and re-appointment.

Decision

The Committee determined the applications for appointment and re-appointment as ISAF Race Officials in accordance with the separately published list.