

IFDS Technical Committee Report; Chair, Hugh Elliot

The Technical Committee has continued to work on the revision of the Race Management Manual (RMM) to simplify and clarify the documents.

While we had believed that we had completed RRM Part I – which ranks as a ‘*rule*’ as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing – there always seem to be new issues to address.

At the Sailors’ Forum in Medemblik during the 2010 IFDS Worlds, it appeared that the consensus of the sailors was to drop the Wind Speed Rule, RMM Part I Rule. The Technical Committee notes that there is no such rule in RMM Part I.

There have been reports that Race Officers at ISAF Sailing World Cup events have been misinterpreting RMM Part I Rule 12 (Time on the Water) such that no racing took place after lengthy on shore postponements. The Technical Committee would appreciate feedback from the Sailors’ Council and guidance from the IFDS Executive Committee as to whether this ‘*rule*’ should be reclassified as a ‘Guideline’ and moved from RMM Part I to RMM Part II.

Sailors with certain disabilities have been observed using Inflatable Personal Buoyancy Devices/Aids which are stored in a pack attached to a belt worn around the sailor’s waist. This breaks RMM Part I Rule 7.1(a). The IFDS Technical Committee understands that the IFDS Executive Committee intends to appoint a working party to address this issue and recommends that this working party include a member of the IFDS Technical Committee, the IFDS Measurement/Classes Committee, the IFDS Medical Committee and the IFDS Sailors’ Advisory Council.

The Committee has completed work on RMM Part II. Work continues of RMM Part III.