

RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE

MET AT 0930 – 1800 HOURS ON MONDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2005 AT THE
GRAND COPTHORNE HOTEL, SINGAPORE

Please refer to the ISAF website, www.sailing.org for the details of the submissions on this agenda.



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Present:

John Doerr (GBR) - Chairman
Henri van der Aat (NED) - Vice Chairman
Josje Hofland Dominicus (NED)
David Sprague (CAN)
Jan Stage (DEN)

Bryan Willis (GBR)
Bernard Bonneau (FRA)
David Kellett – Vice President

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(a) Minutes

The minutes of the Race Officials Committee meeting of 8 November 2004 were noted.

(b) Minutes – matters arising

There were no matters arising.

2. OBITUARIES

The sad loss of the following Race Officials during the period November 2004 – November 2005 was respectfully noted.

Andrew Cokayne IJ (GBR) 2002 - 2005
Reginald Maynard IJ (HKG) 1984 - 2005
Alkis Mangriotis RMSC / IRO (GRE) 2004 – 2005
Hiroshi Mozawa IM (JPN) 1986 – 2004

3. REPORTS FROM THE RACE OFFICIALS SUB-COMMITTEES

RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE (CONT).

(a) International Measurers Sub-committee

The Chairman of the IMSC reported that significant progress has been made in the past year working with the Equipment Control Committee to help improve the training of measurers both for event and fundamental measurement. The Chairman of the ROC had met with members of both the IMSC and Equipment Control Committee to discuss this and work and this will continue in 2006.

(b) Race Management Sub-committee

The Chairman of the RMSC reported that they had endorsed the importance of the Race Management Philosophy with regard to all Race Management matters.

The proposal was put forward that only IROs should be appointed to major events as important judgemental decisions are made and also to achieve a greater perception of fairness. Whilst the ROC was not aware of any current problems with the perception of “fairness” at major events discussion followed about the need for a submission to implement such a proposal. There would also be significant cost implications, are there enough IROs to cover the number of events, advance notification to organisers would be needed, especially regarding multi-class events, the definition of PRO and level of authority of PROs and role of NROs at events would also need consideration. The importance of IROS and applicants for status as IRO having international experience was also emphasised. The ROC decision was that it would be a significant change to current practice but supported the proposal in principle.

The need for progress to be made urgently with regard to OCS and for a Track and Trace system to be developed was emphasised.

Better communication between IROs via regular newsletters will be implemented.

It was agreed that a course format booklet would be developed with guidelines for race management at major events to standardise procedures for competitors. Furthermore, the RMSC should be consulted with regard to any change in race formats for the Olympic Games.

It was agreed that additional RM seminar instructors were required and two potential people had been identified.

A clearer definition of “principal event” on application form and in regulation 36.6(b) is required.

(c) International Judges Sub-committee

The Vice Chairman of the IJSC reported that a long term plan for clinics and seminars should be developed and that this should be co-ordinated with the other RO Sub-committees.

RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE (CONT).

The IJSC recognised the need for better communication between MNAs, IJs and competitors.

The IJSC endorsed the proposed Rule 42 Workshops in 2006 to be run by Bill O'Hara as a positive and significant initiative for Rule 42 education 2006. It was also agreed that work would begin to identify a list of individual skills and expertise in order to progress match IJs to these.

(d) International Umpires Sub-committee

The Chairman of the IUSC reported that in the past 3 years it had been difficult to get MNAs to host IU seminars in order provide the opportunities for candidates to meet the criteria for appointment, whereas now it has been necessary to choose between requests or ask MNAs to defer dates.

The order of mandatory requirements for IU status was discussed. Whilst the preferred order is to obtain seminar attendance prior to written test and performance assessment, there is no requirement in the regulation for this and individual cases may be considered.

Feedback from the Chief Umpires Seminar and Performance Assessment Workshop 2005 was positive and it was noted that feedback is more positive when more focussed topics are discussed.

More performance assessors are needed and the procedure for appointment of MR assessors is effective, however more TR assessors are needed and appointment of these is more difficult due to lack of feedback. This is being worked and more ideas are being sought to overcome this.

Work had been progressed regarding communications with an annual newsletter and direct emails to all IUs and MNAs when appropriate. The IU reference library was introduced on the website.

The IU grouping system and how it is used when appointing IUs to events was discussed. Information about how this takes place will be published on the website when the formal approval of the Executive has been obtained.

4. ROC BUDGET

The 2005 expenditure and the proposed expenditure for 2006 – 2009 were reviewed. The Chairman of the ROC reported that expenditure for 2005 would match the agreed budget and that the projected expenditure for 2006 reflected an increase investment in the education of Race Officials. Should there be a need to curtail expenditure due to budget constraints then priorities would have to be set.

RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE (CONT).

5. RACE OFFICIALS ADMINISTRATION

(a) Amendments to regulations 33, 34, 35 and 36

The amendments to regulations 33, 34, 35 and 36 regarding the development of procedures for the grouping and classification of ROs were noted.

However, it was noted that the location of this information in the regulations should be reviewed as it not in a logical place. Also it was agreed that clarification of the terms grouping and classification is required as they have different meanings within each discipline. It was agreed that the term classification should be deleted and the regulations reflect that grouping is not mandatory and is not limited to ranking but may specify groups of ROs with specific skills.

(b) Submission 119-05

Submission 119-05 from the ROC to amend Regulation 34.5(d).regarding the expiry dates of Performance Assessments was discussed.

Recommendation:

*The Race Officials Committee Recommends that Council approve this submission with the following amendment to 34.5(b): have attended an ISAF Umpiring **Seminar in the past four years up to 1 September of the year of application** (not required for re-appointment).*

(c) Amendment to Regulation 33.5(d)(iii)

The recommendation from the IJSC to amend 33.5(d)(iii) was discussed. No submission was made to amend the regulation for 2006 but the ROC supports the IJSC that that it shall be confirmed as a policy that only IJs may complete IJSC reference forms in accordance with Regulation 33.5 System 1(iii) for applications in 2006. The submission to amend the regulation will be put forward in 2006.

The confidentiality of IJSC reference forms was also discussed. Currently, the guidelines specify that these should be completed and forwarded in confidence to the ISAF Secretariat. It was agreed that the information on reference forms should be made known to the candidate in order to create a more open procedure and promote a system whereby the form can be used as a feedback tool. The guidelines and form therefore need to be updated for 2006.

6. SEMINAR /CLINIC MATERIAL

In accordance with best practices agreed by all the Sub-committee chairmen that the ISAF Secretariat should retain updated copies of all seminar and clinic material, including written examinations it was noted that, contrary to this practice, the IJ examination is retained, updated and distributed by one of the seminar instructors. The complexity of the IJ examination procedure was discussed and It was agreed

RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE (CONT).

that it will be reviewed to make it less difficult to administer and easier for the ISAF office to maintain records.

7. RACE OFFICIALS MANUALS

The future format of Race Officials Manuals was discussed.

Edition 6/05 of the IU MR Manual and the first edition of the TR Manual were published in March 2005. The RM and IJ Manuals are currently being updated. All manuals should be more user friendly with better indexing and reference systems. Keeping manuals “current” without causing confusion by publishing too many editions is a major issue. More modern techniques should be incorporated and the Sub-committees should work to present proposals for discussion in November 2006.

8. RACE OFFICIALS REPORTING SYSTEM

(a) Regatta Report Forms

The value of the information provided on report forms was discussed. Statistics collated by the ISAF office indicate that although a great many forms are received, many are blank of those that are completed only 30% of the information provided can be considered as useful technical information. It is also recognised that Information regarding personal performance on these forms is also very limited. It is an ongoing problem as ROs are not sure how the information is used.

Other sources of feedback were discussed and it was proposed that this should also be obtained from more direct sources at events. Coaches and competitors should be encouraged to give feedback to IJs, IROs and IUs. The Sub-committee WPs should work to communicate to their officials to obtain feedback at events and in turn communicate this information across the disciplines.

(b) Summary of Reports Received

Although, the value of information gained is very little in comparison to the volume of reports received the ROC congratulated the summary report submitted by Pat Healy which was produced from the information provided on page 2 of the IJ regatta report form and this service should not be lost.

(c) Online Reporting System

A comprehensive on-line reporting system would be a better alternative to the current system as it would be a more immediate and direct method of providing feedback in a number of areas and it is hoped that this will be progressed in the near future

RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE (CONT).

9. Q&A PANEL

(a) Q&A Service

To note that in accordance with the recommendations approved by Council in November 2004, the ISAF Racing Rules Q&A Service is operating under the joint responsibility of the RRC and ROC and will continue to do so in 2006.

(b) Summary of Q&As

A summary of the Q&As considered by the Q&A Panel since November 2004 was received. The system works well but there was a consensus that it was under utilised.

10. OLYMPICS 2008

ISAF Vice President, David Kellett, gave a summary of how things are progressing with regard to the requirement for sailing at the Olympic Regatta. The Organizing Committee in China appear to meeting the targets with respect to the marina and accommodation needs for competitors and ROs close to the venue. The biggest challenge will be the weather conditions but feedback from monitoring systems has been positive. Racing at the Olympics will be over 16 days. The Organising authorities need a lot of assistance and several clinics have already taken place in China. The IOC have agreed to increase the number of ITOs on the ground and discussions will take place with the Sub-committees regarding numbers.

11. APPOINTMENT OF RACE OFFICIALS TO EVENTS

(a) Regulation 18.12

Regulation 18.12 amended at the 2004 Mid-Year Meeting, relating to the ISAF appointment and approval of race officials to events was noted.

(b) 2005 Appointments

The appointments of race officials to events by the Executive Committee Appointments Working Party in 2005 were noted. It was agreed that these appointments should be published on the website as soon as possible.

(c) Deferred Submissions 076-04 and 082-04

To consider deferred submissions 076-04 and 082-04 from the Mid-Year meeting 2005 regarding the constitution of the Appointments Working Party and make a recommendation to Council.

Recommendation - Submission 076-04

The Race Officials Committee recommends that Council rejects submission 076-04. The current system regarding the Executive Working Party is efficient, effective and they consult as appropriate prior to making appointments.

Recommendation - Submission 082-04

The Race Officials Committee recommends that Council approve item 1. of submission 082-04 regarding publication of ISAF RO appointments, if

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applicable to all ROs. The Race Officials Committee recommends that Council rejects item 2 of this submission as this is now covered by submission 123-05.

12. RACE OFFICIALS CLINICS /SEMINARS

(a) Clinics / Seminars in Association with Regional Games.

The Chairman of the ROC summarised proposals regarding running joint judging, measurement, race management and umpiring clinics to take place just prior to selected Regional Games in accordance with the recommendation from Council regarding Submission 083-04.

The Asian Games in 2006 will be supported in this way and instructors from all disciplines will be involved. The objective is to coach and mentor regional ROs in order that they gain experience to pass on at other events. This proposal is in addition to the ongoing clinic and seminar programme and therefore funding may need to be sourced outside the ROC budget alone.

(b) Taster Seminars for Retired Olympic Sailors

The ROC discussed multi discipline “taster” seminars for retired Olympic Sailors in accordance with the recommendation from Council regarding submission 084-04.

Various proposals were discussed about how to attract high level sailors who have retired from competition into the RO education programme. Ideas such as workshops, “road-shows” at major events, press releases and fast tracking were discussed but the overall consensus was that “taster” seminars were not the way forward to achieve this. The project should be linked and progressed within the ISAF Strategic Plan.

ACTION: The Sub-committees should consider alternatives to attract high level sailors into the Race Officials area for presentation in November 2007

(c) Race Officials Conferences

A 4 year RO conference cycle was discussed. Three successful conferences have already taken place close to the ISAF offices in Southampton: Rule 42 Conference for Judges 2003, IU Conference 2004, Chief Umpires Seminar and Performance Assessment Workshop 2005. The programme for the next ISAF IRO Conference taking place in March 2006 will be based on Race Management philosophy and best practices and current indications are that it will be fully subscribed. Global conferences require a substantial budget and whilst it is cost effective to host conferences in Southampton other possible locations could also be considered for the future.

It was also noted that the most positive feedback came from conferences where the programme was focussed on specific areas rather than a more

RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE (CONT).

general theme. The cycle of conferences should where possible take place in sync with the publication of the RRS.

ISAF will continue to host such conferences but it was agreed that the next focus should be a multi discipline conference for 2007 and specifically a direct judging seminar for all disciplines as a follow up to the ISAF World Sailing Games 2006. The Chairman of the ROC agreed try and formalise this proposal by February 2006.

Regional conferences are also a good way of reaching a large audience but these need to be co-ordinated with care in order that consistency is upheld.

(d) Clinic / Seminar Instructors

The appointment of instructors was discussed. Currently there is no formal procedure. Each Sub-committee has up to now identified potential instructors and invited them to attend a seminar instructors' workshop which should take place every 2 years and they are then appointed subject to assisting an experienced instructor at a seminar. The instructor lists are confirmed each year at the ISAF conference and it was noted that some instructors continue to be appointed even though they may not have run a seminar for several years. It was agreed that instructors who do not run seminars and who do not attend the instructors seminars should not continue to be appointed on an annual basis.

It is now policy for 2 instructors to be appointed at each IJ, IU and RM seminar and the benefits of this were emphasised for all concerned but may therefore mean that more instructors are required.

ACTION: No further instructor appointments will be made until a formal procedure is agreed and implemented. The Sub-committees will produce criteria for appointment of instructors. They will also specify the optimum number of instructors to meet the needs of each discipline and the projected increase in requests as a result of the promotion planned to invite MNAs to host more seminars and clinics to boost the RO education programme.

13. RACE OFFICIALS CERTIFICATION AND RE-CERTIFICATION

(a) Deferred Submissions 088-04. Definition of a Race Official's Member National Authority

Deferred submission 088-04 (item 10(i) Mid-Year 05 Council Agenda) from the Federation Francaise de Voile about the definition of an International Judge, Umpire or Race Officer's Member National Authority was discussed.

Recommendation

The Race Officials Committee recommends that Council rejects this submission regarding Race Officials country in favour of approving submission 118-05.

RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE (CONT).

(b) Submission 118-05 Race Officials Country

Submission 118-05 from the Chairman of the ROC regarding nationality of Race Officials and country of residence was discussed

Recommendation

The Race Officials Committee Recommends that Council approve this submission regarding Race Officials country.

14. RESOLVING DISPUTES BETWEEN RACE OFFICIALS AND ISAF

Deferred Submission 089-04

Deferred Submission 089-04 from the Deutscher Segler-Verband and the Royal Spanish Sailing Federation proposing a new ISAF Regulation outlining a procedure for the resolution of disputes between a race official and ISAF was discussed.

Recommendation

The Race Officials Committee recommends that Council approves this submission with regard to the appointment of officials with the exception of items (a)(iv) and (c). The Race Officials Committee recommend that Council reject Item (a)(iv) as impractical and refer item (c) to the Constitution Committee

15. INVESTIGATIONS PROCEDURE

(a) Investigations since November 2004

A report from the Chairman of the ROC on the outcome of investigations since November 2004 was received. Four reports were received requiring investigation but no action or penalties resulted on completion of these.

(b) Submission 124-05 Race Officials Reports

Submission 124-05 from the Chairman of the ROC regarding updating the RO Regulations and terms of reference to enable a reports procedure incorporating due process, authority to implement a wide range of sanctions and an appeals process was discussed.

Recommendation

The Race Officials Committee recommends that Council approve this submission regarding reports and investigation procedures in principle, subject to the resulting regulations and any changes in detail of the submission being submitted to Council Mid-Year Meeting 2006

16. RACING RULES OF SAILING – BLACK FLAG RULE

Deferred Submission 092-04

Deferred Submission 09-04 regarding the Black flag Rule was discussed.

Recommendation

The Race Officials Committee recommends that Council reject this submission

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regarding Black Flag rule as it does not achieve the effect intended.

17. RACING RULES OF SAILING – PROPULSION

(a) Deferred Submission 093-04

Deferred submission 093-04 from the Executive Committee proposing that RRS 42 should include a standard text for the 'switch on/off' option was discussed

Recommendation

The Race Officials Committee recommends that Council approve this submission regarding propulsion as consistency is important.

18. RACE RULES COMMITTEE AGENDA

The following submissions proposing changes to the Racing Rules of Sailing and the appendices were discussed and recommendations to approve or reject were made as follows:

Sub No.	Received from	Affecting Rule	Recommendation
130-05	The Royal Yachting Association	Rule 17.2	Approve
131-05	The Croatian Sailing Federation	Rule 18.3	Reject
132-05	The Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee	Rule 18.5	Reject
133-05	The Royal Yachting Association	Rule 28.1	Reject
134-05	The Croatian Sailing Federation	Rule 44.3	Reject
135-05	The Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee	Rule 54	Approve
136-05	US Sailing	Rule 63.5	No recommendation
137-05	US Sailing	Rule 64.1(a), Rule 31.3 (new) and Rule 44.4	No recommendation
138-05	The International Hobie Class Association	Rule 86.1	Approve
139-05	The Bulgarian Sailing Federation, Federation Française de Voile, and the International Funboard Class Association	Rule B3.1	No recommendation
140-05	International Funboard Class Association	Rule B3.2	Approve
141-05	International Funboard	Rule B5.2	Approve

RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE (CONT).

	Class Association		
142-05	The Chairman of the Match Racing Committee	Delete Rule 20.3	Approve but not as an emergency change.
143-05	The Royal Yachting Association	Rule J2.2	No recommendation
144-05	The Royal Yachting Association	Rule L15.2	Approve
145-05	The Royal Spanish Sailing Federation	Rule P2.3	Reject
146-05	The Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee	Rule P4	Approve

19. UMPIRED FLEET RACING RULES - EXPERIMENTAL APPENDIX Q

No formal feedback had been received regarding experimental Appendix Q. It is vital to ensure that ROs involved in umpired fleet racing are educated to a very high standard, especially with the raised profile and media focus expected at the Olympic Regatta.

ACTI ON: The Chairman of the ROC and RRC will set up a working party to include the chairman of the IJSC and IUSC to work on this issue and it will requested that racing formats for the Olympic Games should be referred to the ROC and RRC in order to assess the impact they have on ROs.

20. RACE OFFICIALS CLOTHING

The clothing worn by Race Officials at events at which ISAF appoints them was discussed. The Executive are looking into providing clothing to all ISAF officials. The Chairman of the ROC had presented a paper to the Executive on this matter and this will be circulated to the Sub-committees for their input. Cost, quality and branding are all issues that need to be considered but the ROC support the proposal in principle and welcomed and applauded this initiative.

21. IFDS CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

The proposal for IFDS Classifiers becoming ISAF Certified Race Officials was discussed. A comprehensive presentation was received from Ann Allen, Chief Classifier for the IFSS and Ian Harrison. This ROC concluded that they support the proposal and discussed the many complex changes to regulations and procedures required in order to meet the objective to formally recognise IFDS Classifiers as ISAF ROs in November 2007 in order to assure status of officials at the Paralympic Regatta 2008.

RECOMMENDATION

The Race Officials Committee recommends that the Council approve the principle of including IFDS Classifiers as ISAF Race Officials in accordance with a previous Executive minute. The ROC will work with the IFDS to submit regulations and terms of reference changes to the ISAF Mid-Year Meeting 2006 with a view to appointing

RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE (CONT).

IFDS Classifiers as ISAF Race Officials from November 2006. This accelerated procedure is needed to comply with IPC recommendations. It is recognised that this timescale may be over ambitious.

22. REGULATIONS WORKING PARTY

It is apparent that the RO regulations in general are not as clear and standardised in line with the objectives of the ROC for best practices. The wording for criteria for first appointment and renewal of status need particular focus of attention.. To address this each Sub-committee chairman was asked to nominate a member to be part of a working party to review the RO regulations and put forward a re-formatted version including any necessary amendments that require a submission in advance of the submission deadline of 1 August 2006, for implementation in 2007. The following members were designated

IJSC – Josje Hofland-Dominicus
IMSC – David Sprague
RMSC- Annika Ekman
IUSC – Jan Stage

23. ISAF STRATEGIC PLAN

(a) Presentation

It was noted that ISAF Vice-President, David Kellett presented the ISAF Strategic Plan to the Sub-committees prior to their meetings of prior to Sub - Committee meetings on 6 November. All members of the ROC had therefore already received the presentation.

(b) Recommendations

It was agreed that the Sub-committees should nominate 3 members each to form the working parties required to implement the Strategic Plan specifically in relation to the ROC terms of reference.

24. ANNUAL REPORT

It was noted that the Chairman of the ROC will present a report to Council on 12 November 2015 of the activities of the Sub-committees 1 January to date.

RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE (CONT).

25. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Submission 05-005

The Race Officials Committee recommends that Council approve this submission regarding case submissions

(b) Submission 06-005

The Race Officials Committee recommends that Council approve this submission regarding umpire payments

(c) Submission 025-005

The Race Officials Committee recommends that they are consulted to consider the implications of Olympic formats with regards to Race Officials and Race Management.

(d) Administration

- (i) It was requested that the ISAF Secretariat forward the draft agendas of all the Sub-committees before the agendas are finalised.
- (ii) The ROC supported the request from the ISAF Secretariat to enforce the date for receipt of applications. There is flexibility within the procedures to deal with genuine “late” applications.

(e) Communications

It was requested that the format of the Sub-committee newsletters should be standardised.

(f) Guidance Regarding Rule Changes

It was proposed that a WP be created to draft a policy regarding when and how rules may be amended. Guideline are required to clarify when sailing instructions may be altered in accordance with class rules etc.

ACTION :The WP should made up of ROs, have input from Organising Authorities and the RRC.

26. RACE OFFICIALS CERTIFICATIONS

The Race Officials Committee considered the lists of nominations for appointment as International Judge, International Umpire, International Race Officer and International Measurer, and made recommendations to Council. The meeting was closed during this item.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19:00

SP = Supporting Paper attached CM = Circulated to Committee Members Only