Purpose or Objective
Amend Appendix N.

Proposal

N1 COMPOSITION, APPOINTMENT AND ORGANIZATION

N1.1 Except as permitted by N1.3, an international jury shall be composed of experienced sailors with excellent knowledge of the racing rules and extensive protest committee experience. It shall be independent of and have no members from the race committee, and be appointed by the organizing authority, subject to approval by the national authority if required (see rule 91(b)), or by the ISAF under rule 89.2(b).

N1.2 The jury shall consist of a chairman, a vice chairman if desired, and other members for a total of at least five. A majority shall be International Judges. The jury may appoint a secretary, who shall not be a member of the jury.

N1.3 Except when an International Jury is appointed by ISAF, an International Jury shall include a person who is not an International Judge. That person shall have a good knowledge of the racing rules, have protest committee experience, and be an experienced sailor who is aspiring to become an International Judge in the future.

Renumber N1.3 to N1.7 accordingly

Current Position

As above. The current wording actually prohibits the inclusion of an apprentice (used in this proposal to mean a ‘rookie’, ‘learner’ or ‘novice’ – typically a national judge) who may not yet have an ‘excellent knowledge of the racing rules’ but can nevertheless make an important contribution, and gain the experience to become an International Judge.

Reasons

The original concept (in 1980) when setting up the Judges scheme, was to encourage the inclusion of apprentices by requiring only that a majority be IJs. What is happening now is that organisers think it important that the entire Jury is made up of IJs, thereby not allowing novices to gain experience.
Under this proposal, an OA may still appoint their ‘favourite 5 IJs’ but will, in such a case, have to include a sixth (the apprentice). Or of course, they may appoint 4 IJs and an apprentice.

It is important for the ongoing development of judges that apprentices be encouraged and given the opportunity to learn and well as contribute on International Juries.