Racing Rules of Sailing

New Rule N1.8 and Regulation 25.8.13

A submission from the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee

Purpose or Objective

To introduce the possibility of allowing an International Jury to consist of only 3 members in special circumstances.

Proposal 1

Insert new rule in RRS Appendix N:

N1.8 In exception to rule N1.1 and N1.2, ISAF may in limited circumstances (see ISAF Regulation 25.8.13) authorize an international jury consisting of a total of only three members. All members shall be International Judges. The members shall be from three different national authorities. The authorization shall be stated in a letter of approval to the organizing authority and in the notice of race and sailing instructions, and the letter shall be posted on the event’s official notice board.

Proposal 2

If Proposal 1 is adopted, amend new rule N1.8 as follows:

N1.8 In exception to rule N1.1 and N1.2, ISAF may in limited circumstances (see ISAF Regulation 25.8.13) authorize an international jury consisting of a total of only three members. All members shall be International Judges. The members shall be from three different national authorities (two, in Groups M, N and Q). The authorization shall be stated in a letter of approval to the organizing authority and in the notice of race and sailing instructions, and the letter shall be posted on the event’s official notice board.

The purpose of Proposal 2 is to discuss and decide whether the more relaxed requirements to International Juries in groups M, N and Q that is already used in other rules in Appendix N1 should be applied in this rule as well.

Current Position

There is no current rule that allows a 3-person International Jury. The existing rules for composition of an international jury are stated in RRS Appendix N, rules N1.1 - N1.7.
Proposal 3

Proposal 3 should be adopted if Proposal 1 above is adopted.

Insert new ISAF Regulation 25.8.13 as follows:

25.8.13 Under RRS N1.8, ISAF may in limited circumstances authorize an international jury consisting of a total of only three members. An event organizing authority may apply to ISAF for such an authorization. ISAF shall consider the following factors:

(a) whether the relevant Member National Authority has given its written approval;
(b) the number of hearings there have been at the previous events;
(d) the type of boat and the event requirements for on-the-water jury activity;
(c) the qualifications, experience and nationality of the proposed members of the International Jury;
(e) whether ISAF has given authorization previously; and
(f) any other information ISAF considers relevant.

The decision is made jointly by the Chairman of Race Officials Committee, the Chairman of the International Judges Sub-committee and the Chief Executive Officer. ISAF may impose conditions on any authorization.

Current Position

There is no current position.

Reasons

1. Under ISAF Regulation 10.10, an ISAF Class must currently appoint an International Jury for its World Championships unless ISAF agrees otherwise. ISAF has published a document that sets out the principles that are applied when assessing applications to dispense from this requirement.

2. If dispensation from this requirement is granted, the organizing authority may appoint a 3-person protest committee (but not an International Jury). Therefore, the decisions of this protest committee are appealable, and the result of the event is not final.

3. Some ISAF Classes with world championships with few competitors, no or only a few protests and a very limited budget have in the past applied for such dispensation. However, this has had the unfortunate consequence that the decisions of their protest committee are appealable. Should an appeal decision be that a new hearing had to be held, it might imply that competitors from different parts of the World would have to travel back to the venue which is entirely impractical.

4. This submission resolves the problems implied by the current rules and regulation.