International Judges Sub-committee Minutes

The International Judges Sub-committee met between 0830 - 1330 hours at the Al Bandar Hotel, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman on Sunday 10 November 2013

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

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Minutes of the previous meeting and Agenda
3. Governance
4. Strategy and development
5. Education and Development
6. Race Officials Performance and Feedback
7. Reports
8. Submissions
9. Technology
10. Annual Report
11. Closed Session (closed to observers)

Present:
Andres Perez (ESP) – Chairman
Lynne Beal (CAN) – Vice-Chairman
Riccardo Antoni (ITA)
Russell Green (NZL)
Gonzalo Heredia (ARG)
Nelson Horn Ilha (BRA)

Ewa Jodlowska (POL)
Ronnie McCracken (HKG)
Lars Nyqvist (FIN)
Andrus Poksi (EST)
Rut Subniran (THA)
Costas Tsantilis (GRE)
Stephen Wrigley (USA)

Apologies:
Xinzu Gu (CHN)
Elliot Levy (VEN)

Chris Atkins – Vice President (in part)
Jan Stage – ROC Chairman (in part)

1. Opening of the Meeting
   (a) The Chairman welcomed the committee members and observers, and thanked them for attending.

   Vice-President Chris Atkins welcomed the Sub-committee and thanked it for its work for and for working to a reduced meeting time. He outlined his thoughts on the priority areas ahead: the need for global improvement, the re-testing system and the need to identify expertise for IJs.

   The Sub-committee joined in his thanks to the judges at the America’s Cup who withstood the pressure graciously.

   (b) Attendees and Apologies

   The Sub-committee noted the attendees at the meeting and received apologies from those members unable to attend.

   (c) Introductions

   The members of the Sub-committee introduced themselves.

   (d) Obituaries

   The Sub-committee respectfully noted those international race officials who had passed away since its last meeting:

   Arthur Wullschleger; Manfred Piso, Pierre-Luc Blanc, Marinus Blickman, Bill Thorpe, Jang Yeon Moon
2. Minutes of the previous meeting and Agenda
   (a) Minutes
       The Committee noted the minutes of the previous International Judges Sub-committee meeting held on 4 November 2012 (circulated and approved after the meeting).
   (b) Matters arising
       There were no matters arising from those minutes not already covered by this agenda.

3. Governance
   (a) Delegation to Sub-committees
       i) The Sub-committee received a report from the ISAF Competitions Manager on the current delegations of responsibility to the Sub-committees.
       ii) To discuss and propose any changes to the Race Officials Committee.

       **Decision**
       The paper is recommended for approval by the Race Officials Committee.

4. Strategy and development
   (a) Current topics
       The Sub-committee discussed the guidelines for conflict of interest for officials were received by all ISAF Race Officials in February 2013.
       The Sub-committee discussed recruitment and training of judges, particularly in underserved areas. It was noted that there was an IJ seminar in Thailand in 2013 with 28 candidates and 9 passing the test. The Sub-committee also noted the ROC travel grant programme to send candidates to events to help them become IJs. A request was made to have announcements of approved IJ seminars made to the MNA, rather than to the club what that has requested to host the seminar.

   (b) New topics
       i) To identify and propose new strategic areas to Race Officials Committee.
       ii) To assess the needs of race officials in each discipline.
       iii) To discuss the development of new ISAF Race Officials.
       iv) To discuss and agree proposals for continuous training programs for existing ISAF Race Officials.
       v) To discuss national race official program packages.
       vi) To discuss linkage with classes.
       vii) To discuss the professionalism of judges.

       The Sub-committee did not discuss item (b).

   (c) Cost of officials at ISAF/high level events
       The Sub-committee did not discuss item (c).
5. **Education and Development**

(a) **Seminars and Clinics**

i) The Sub-committee noted the 2013 program, which included IJ seminars in Thailand (28 candidates, 9 passed) and in Denmark (23 candidates, 13 passed). There was one NJ clinic in the Bahamas in 2013.

ii) The Sub-committee noted the seminars are planned for 2014: San Francisco (USA) in February, and Zagreb (CRO) in March, with two other requests from Europe. The Chairman confirmed the requested budget is for 3 NJ clinics, 4 IJ seminars and 3 rule 42 clinics in 2014.

(b) **Renewal Test**

Stephen Wrigley (USA) reported on the progress on developing the test for renewal of IJ appointments. The test is designed to educate IJs and test knowledge of the rules as they change and will be implemented for IJs who apply for renewal from 2014 onward. A practice test will also be available. The test will be administered on-line anywhere, anytime and must be supervised by an IJ, IRO or IU. The test results will be evaluated to ensure the adequacy of the questions and that the test is measuring what the Sub-committee intends it to measure. All IJs will receive an update on the testing process later in 2013, including how to take the test, and any special considerations for their test (for example, individuals with dyslexia).

**Decision**

The Sub-committee approves the implementation of the renewal test in 2014, subject to review in December 2013 by the working group and the ISAF Secretariat.

The Chairman thanked the working group for their work on this project.

(c) To discuss and propose plans for any future conferences to the Race Officials Committee.

**Decision**

The Sub-committee will consider methods of specialist seminars and training for judges to keep up qualifications, and to learn new areas of judging.

(d) **Publications**

Ronnie McCracken (HKG) reported on updates of the officials’ manuals. Some additional sections are proposed on: logistical arrangements between the judge and the regatta organizers; judging oceanic and offshore racing; and judging radio-controlled boats. Other topics will be considered.

**Decision**

The Secretariat is requested to ask the RYA for permission to include their material on rule 69 in the IJ Manual.

The Chairman thanked Ronnie McCracken and Lynne Beal for their work on the manual.

(e) **Challenges and support**

To identify particular challenges for race officials in each discipline and to discuss and agree potential methods of support.

Not discussed.
(f) Judging Oceanic Races
The Chairman updated the Sub-committee on the working party’s work on a manual section for oceanic and offshore racing.

(g) Direct Judging
The Sub-committee considered the need for a manual / call book for direct judging of fleet racing.

Decision
The Sub-committee recommends the development of a manual for umpired fleet racing/direct judging.

6. Race Officials Performance and Feedback
   (a) Race Official Specialisms
      i) To receive a report from the Chairman on the review of the IJ specialism process.
         The Chairman presented a report of the IJ specialism process. He explained that the early thoughts about a grouping system for IJs have been abandoned. The Sub-committee will develop a system of determining specialism skills that IJs have which should be used to assist the Events Appointments Working Party with its work.
         Decision
         The Chairman is to appoint a working party chaired by Ronnie McCracken (HKG).
      ii) To discuss future proposals and make any recommendations to Race Officials Committee.
          There were no recommendations to make.
   (b) Race Official Reports
      Lars Nyqvist (FIN) and Costas Tsantilas (GRE) presented a summary from the regatta reports received in 2013. The Sub-committee noted more regatta reports were received in 2013 than in 2012.
      The integration of the IJ-Report system into ISAF’s system is challenged by differences in system and database structure, confidential information contained in reports. A renovated reporting system is also possible.
      Decision
      The Chairman will appoint a working party to evaluate the data based on the IJ reports and will recommend to Race Officials Committee that an integrated report form be prioritised.
      The Chairman thanked Lars Nyqvist and Costas Tsantilis for their work.
   (c) Race Official Performance
      The ISAF Competitions Manager explained to the Sub-committee that the IJ reports are not being submitted with useful feedback on international judges. The Events Appointments Working Party is lacking feedback to be used when appointing race officials to ISAF events. The Sub-committee agreed that giving evaluations that are shared with the judge needs to become part of the culture to help all judges improve. The rating scales will be reviewed to consider a broader range of evaluations, with clear definitions of what each level means.
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The Sub-committee had no recommendations to make.

7. Reports

(a) To receive reports from the following major events:
   i) 2015 Olympic Test Event
   ii) 34th America’s Cup
   iii) 2014 – 2015 Volvo Ocean Race
   iv) 2014 ISAF Sailing World Championships, Santander (ESP)
   v) ISAF Sailing World Cup
   vi) Youth Olympic Games
   vii) ISAF Youth Sailing World Championships

   The ISAF Competitions Manager provided a verbal update to the Sub-committee.

(b) Event Appointments
   The Chairman and Vice-Chairman will meet with the EAWP to consider improvement in relation to event appointments.

(c) Conflict of interests
   The Sub-committee received a report from the ISAF Competitions Manager on conflict of interest decisions affecting International Judges.

(d) Rule 42
   i) To receive a report from the Chairman of the Working Party.

      The Sub-committee received a report from the Chairman of the Working Party. The Chairman reported that the Working Party now consists of ten people, with three rule 42 educators. In 2013, ISAF focused on world-wide education at the junior and youth sailor level along with judge training, setting up an e-learning platform, rule simplification and improvement, updating training materials, cooperation with ISAF classes changing their class rules, and answering questions on rule 42. More rule 42 videos have been prepared for the e-learning platform. The rule 42 quiz was updated at the end of November.

   ii) To receive a progress report on internet based training.

      The Sub-committee received a report from Jim Capron (USA) on the internet based training for e-learning run on the Moodle platform. This platform will also run the IJ renewal test.

   iii) To discuss the use of rule 42 and possible changes.

      The Sub-committee discussed the recent change in rule 42 interpretation when “stroke of a paddle” was replaced with “clearly propels”. Discussion centred on interpretation of the word, “clearly,” a word that the working party indicates is needed to indicate an amount of propulsion.

      Decision
      The Sub-committee recommends that the dictionary definition of the word, “clearly” be added to the Terminology section of the Rule 42 Interpretations.
8. Submissions

Please refer to the 2013 Submissions Booklet for details of all submissions also available online at www.sailing.org/meetings

(a) To consider submissions for which the Race Officials Committee is the Reporting Committee:


Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed

ii) Submission 092-13 – International Race Officials Administration - Integration of Three Additional Disciplines – Regulation 6.9 and 31 from the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee.

Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Approve


Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed

iv) Submission 094-13 – International Measurers Administration – Regulation 31.13.2 from the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee.

Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed


Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed


Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed

vii) Submission 097-13 – Race Officials Performance – Regulation 32.10 from the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee.

Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed

viii) Submission 098-13 – Conflict of Interest – Regulation 34 from the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee.

Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Approve

(b) To consider submissions for which the Race Officials Committee is an Other Committee except Racing Rules submissions:

i) Submission 006-13 – Race Officials Committee – Terms of Reference – Regulation 6.9.6 from the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee.

Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed

ii) Submission 007-13 – International Measurers Sub-committee – Terms of Reference – Regulation 6.9.8.3 from the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee.

Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed


Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed

*Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed*


*Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed*

vi) Submission 013-13 – Payments for Umpires from the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee.

*Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed*

vii) Submission 014-13 – ISAF Technical Delegates from the Executive Committee.

*Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed*

viii) Submission 034-13 – ISAF Regulations – Regulation 11 and new Regulation 38 from the Chairman of the Constitution Committee.

*Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed*


*Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Not discussed*

(c) To consider submissions on the Racing Rules of Sailing for which the Race Officials Committee is an Other Committee - submissions 104-13 through to 136-13

i) Submission 115-13 – Racing Rules of Sailing – Composition of International Juries – Appendix N from the Malaysian Yachting Association

*Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Reject*


*Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Approve*

iii) Submission 117-13 – Racing Rules of Sailing – Size and Composition of International Juries – Appendix N1.2 from Sail Canada

*Recommendation to Race Officials Committee: Reject*

9. **Technology**

(a) IJ Report and IJ Application Form

Not discussed.

(b) ROC Website Working Party

The Sub-committee received a report from the Chairman of the Working Party.

(c) Social Media Working Party

The Sub-committee received a report from the Chairman of the Working Party guidelines on the use of social media. The Sub-committee noted that the Working Party recommends that ISAF Race Officials who write blogs should inform ISAF. The Working Party also reported that the ISAF Regulations prohibit ISAF Race Officials from disclosing inside information that is not in the public domain.
10. **Annual Report**
   Not discussed.

11. **Closed Session (closed to observers)**
   (a) **Performance Investigations**
       The Sub-committee discussed a report on performance investigations affecting three International Judges.
   (b) **Commendations**
       The Sub-committee made no recommendations for commendations.
   (c) **Seminar/Clinic Instructors**
       i) The Sub-committee noted the current list of instructors.
       ii) The Sub-Committee did not propose the appointment of any new instructors.
   (d) **Exams**
       i) The Sub-committee received a report from Pat Healy (USA) on the current exam
       ii) The Sub-committee noted that in 2013 58 candidates took the exam and 28 met the pass criteria. The test has an overall passing rate of 41.1%
       iii) The Sub-committee noted that the exam has been updated to the new rule book and to simplify the language used.
   (e) **Race Official Appointments**
       The Sub-committee made recommendations to the Race Officials Committee of International Judges for appointment.