

RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE REPORT TO COUNCIL

The newly appointed Race Officials Committee had an unusual first year. Not only the Olympic Games and other qualifying regattas being held this year but also the continued impact of the Covid-19 required a quick start and precise actions by the Committee. Together with start to implement its four years strategic plan, the Committee had to react to the current scenario with the additional point that some of our members and from its Sub-Committee members were involved with the Games and qualification regattas. Current Race Officials Committee has sixteen appointed members plus two representatives from Athletes Commission and Racing Rules Committee, twelve of are new in the Committee.

Just after been appointed an urgent task was on the table, to review the Covid-19 appendix of the Race Officials Roles, Qualifications and Competences document that would impact the first and renew candidates that could apply in 2021. Under the risk of end with a high number of rejections due to restrictions the pandemic put on travels and educational activities, the Committee reacted and approved the new version on time for the application process.

Another quick action required was related to education requirements of a seminar/exam for new applicants and exam to renew taking in account quite impossible to run in person events. After a combined effort of IJSC, IUSC and RMSC it was possible to offer online exams for renewals and opportunity for some candidates to attend an IJ seminar and IRO exam on site.

One more urgent task, not Covid related, was to review the Grouping System of Race Officials as a consequence of last year Council decision of a full review on events appointment process. Even to direct involvement in appointments to events, up to EAWP, Race Officials Committee provides information for that WP by the Grouping. This review is in place with expectation of conclusion early next year.

Apart from those pandemic urgent actions, the Committee also put forward the four years strategic plan that has three main areas, education, IT and documentation, briefly reported in sequence.

One of its main roles, education of race officials, will have high priority in this term and the key points are development of underserved areas, increase female participation, online educational tools and last but not less, more involvement of Regional Confederations/Federations and MNAs. Some progress was done this year, first to map all race officials around the World, geographical and gender distributed and second to start work on online educational tools. Now the Committee is working to define the educational plan to submit to Board consideration next month.

IT is another strategic point for Race Officials, specific in terms of online resources available for the community, a full integrated application process and an online evaluation system that makes possible to follow all race officials around the World to identify their needs in terms of education. This last tool will also provide MNAs and Regional Confederations/Federations with updated information about officials and qualifications for their own events.

With respect to documentation, apart from constantly review to keep updated with current RRS the feedback from Tokyo will be taken in account to define the new Policies for Race Management. Another key point here is to simplify the documentation in terms of provide all information necessary without unnecessary or long documents, common feedback we receive from athletes, coaches and other support persons.

To put forward all the above, Race Officials Committee has set six Working Parties: Conflict of Interest, Rule 42, e-ROC Electronic Platform, Q&A (with RRC), International Technical Delegates and Classifiers.

We want to thank Vice President Tomasz Chamera for his continuous support and involvement and to Madeleine and Megan for helping the Committee on daily business and liaison with the office.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ricardo Navarro', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ricardo Navarro
Race Officials Committee Chairman

28 October 2021.