

Race Officials Committee 2019

Report to Council

Race Officials Committee (ROC) is responsible for the administration of the seven disciplines of WS international race officials: international classifier (IC), international expression judge (IEJ), international judge (IJ), international measurer (IM), international race officer (IRO), international technical delegate (ITD) and international umpire (IU).

The ROC area is organized with the main committee supported by four sub-committees, three permanent working parties and a number of other working parties. The goal for the ROC area as a whole is to support WS international race officials in providing fair, consistent and high quality sailing competitions.

The ROC area administers a total of 781 race official appointments (779 in 2018), with 13 international classifiers (12 in 2018), 336 international judges (339 in 2018), 114 international measurers (112 in 2018), 209 international race officers (207 in 2018), 7 international technical delegates (7 in 2018) and 102 international umpires (102 in 2018). These numbers are before decisions on the 2019 applications. There are currently no international expression judges. Some race officials have more than one appointment, thus the total number of race officials is 666 (664 in 2018). Over the last ten to seven years, there has been an overall decrease of about 5%, but the last three to four years have been very stable. The number of applications for first-time appointment across all disciplines is 59 (62 in 2018), so it is likely that we will see a stable total number of race officials.

The majority of ROC's work is carried out by the following working parties: Conflict of Interest WP (Col), Match Racing Organization and Race Management WP (MR-ORM), Race Official Cost and Payment WP (ROCP), Race Officials' Use of Footage from On-Board Cameras WP, Race Official Application Document WP, Rule 42 WP, RO Manuals WP (MAN) and Travel Grant WP (TG). In addition, there is considerable focus on development in areas with few race officials; one step in this direction has been the introduction of travel grants with a formalized application procedure. Other key priorities are improving race official conduct, producing guidance on Conflict of Interest and consistent and correct processing of complaints about international race officials.

There is a strong focus on development of IT-systems for race officials, including a system that integrate event reporting, race official reporting and application for appointment as race official into one system. A first step in this direction is that an online application system was implemented for all race officials last year. Unfortunately, there were many problems with this intermediate system, both in terms of usability and functionality. It has been improved this year, but it will never be a robust, integrated solution. The plan is to replace it with a more permanent solution as soon as possible.

The four sub-committees and three permanent working parties undertake administration of the international race officials in each of the seven disciplines. In addition, they are working on support to existing race officials in enhancing their skills, development of policies for conduct within each discipline, development of evaluation instruments, such as tests and performance assessments, improving and renewing training activities and materials, training and developing their seminar/clinic instructors and providing national race officials programmes for MNAs to implement. The seminars and clinics that consume a substantial part of the ROC budget are a very important element both in the development of the next generation of race officials and in support to

developing areas. Unfortunately, we have seen a dramatic decrease in the budget for this year and 2020, which is significant hindrance to our development of future race officials.

The ROC and sub-committees are contributing with recommendations to the Event Appointment WP. This has high priority and has involved development and selection of the race official teams for Aarhus 2018, Tokyo 2020 and many other WS events over the last four years. This cooperation is also important for identifying and supporting promising candidates, including those from under-served areas. A grouping system to support the appointment of international judges to Olympic classes events was established and implemented three years ago, and the international race officers and international measurers followed last year.

A related priority is continuous development of existing race officials, in particular to help current senior officials maintain their competence and train the young race officials that are entering the disciplines. Some race official disciplines are changing in nature which makes these activities even more imperative. This effort also includes development of the next generation of senior officials in each discipline.

Race official clothing has been an important issue for several years. Finally, there has been some progress in this area. Over the last three years, WS has provided clothing to race officials at major World Sailing events, and expect to follow up at more events next year. However, the possibility for other race officials to buy similar logoed clothing at a reduced price has still not been established which is an issue that causes significant grief.

Within the WS committee structure, the ROC area has over the last four years established collaboration with RRC, MRC and TRSC as well as EQ, EQSC, COC, IC and OCSC. The aim of this is to enhance the service race officials are providing to competitors, classes, event organizers and MNAs and to get feedback about race official conduct and performance. The collaboration between ROC and RRC includes a joint working party denoted as the Q&A Panel. The Q&A Panel has the purpose of assisting race officials in improving their understanding of the racing rules.

The following pages contains summary reports from the ROC subcommittees and working parties.

The 2019-2022 strategy for ROC is the following:

1. Electronic Officiating
 - Develop and adopt innovative electronic officiating technology at the 2024 Olympic Games that can be tried and tested across the 2021–2024 competition quadrennial
2. Rules Compliance/Cheating
 - Increase rules compliance and reduce cheating.
 - Raise awareness and improve implementation/education of measurement controls to ensure fair competition (to officials and athletes and coaches and classes)
 - Disincentivise start line infringements.
 - Increase the presence of the World Sailing technical team at events to raise awareness and correct implementation of measurement controls to ensure fair competition.
3. Gender Equality
 - Target and promote gender equity and diversity in every element of our sport
 - Build a campaign to promote gender equity across the sport that delivers a systemic change in attitude that drives women's participation in all sectors of the sport, including officiating and sport governance.
4. Event Appointments

- Review Event appointments processes to ensure that they are fair, well-defined and transparent.
- 5. New Talent
 - Work in partnership with our stakeholders to enable the identification and support the promotion of a new wave of talented and diverse volunteers into World Sailing Committees and the Race Officials community.
- 6. Race Official Education
 - Review race official education provision and develop and improve CPD for existing WS race officials.
- 7. New Disciplines
 - Improve governance, administration and education of the new race official disciplines and develop existing disciplines with respect to new Olympic events.
- 8. Communications
 - Improve communications with WS race official community.

In the next years, the efforts in the ROC area will be centered around these strategic areas.

Just over a year ago, we had an increase of staff resources to the ROC area from one to two. This was very welcome and has improved the services offered considerably. Therefore, we hope that this level of staff resources can be maintained over the following years.

Finally, I want to give my sincere thanks to the 42 committee and sub-committee members, the working party members, the current two staff members and our assigned vice-president for all their hard work and support to our activities.

Jan Stage
Chairman of Race Officials Committee

Reports from Sub-Committees and Working Parties

1. International Judges Sub-committee (IJSC)
2. International Measurers Sub-committee (IMSC) – *not included*
3. International Umpires Sub-committee (IUSC)
4. Race Management Sub-committee (RMSC)
5. International Classifier WP (IC) – *not included*
6. International Expression Judge WP (IEJ) – *not included*
7. International Technical Delegate WP (ITD)
8. Conflict of Interest WP (Col)
9. Match Racing Organization and Race Management WP (MR-ORM)
10. Race Official Cost and Payment WP (ROCP) – *not included*
11. Race Officials' Use of Footage from On-Board Cameras WP – *not included*
12. Race Official Application Document WP – *not included*
13. Rule 42 WP
14. RO Manuals WP (MAN) – *not included*
15. Travel Grant WP (TG) – *not included*
16. Q&A Panel

IJSC Report to ROC 2019

IJ Seminars and education:

During 2019 3 IJ seminars were held: Poland, China and Australia . As the education budget was reduced in 2019 the China IJ seminar was fully paid by CYA in. NJ seminars were held in Ireland, India and Thailand. The Thailand one was at cost zero for WS as it was before an event and the two instructors (Rut and Doug) did it for free.

For 2020 education program, an IJ seminar will be held next spring in Belgium,

The National Judges Programme package, that was updated to the new rules and it is available in English for all the MNAs that want to use it, has now been translated into Spanish.

IJ Renewal Exam:

During 2019, 83 IJs took the renewal test, 2 of them failed. New questions have been added to the database.

Jury Policies:

The Jury Policies were updated, included a new section for Support Persons DPs, they were used at T2020 Test Event.

IJ Report System:

The IJ report site system is hosted in a server that is not linked to WS web site. It is important that in the future the system is integrated and controlled by WS, and linked with the renewal system in order to make it much simpler of those that have to renew.

Recommendations:

Link between the IJ report system and the renewal applications.

Communications to event organizers to provide air tickets or immediate reimbursements for ROs travelling to events.

October 2019

ROC report from IUSC 2019

IUSC have managed to successfully meet most of their 2018 targets.

We now have three disciplines to administer and with this comes three manuals and three tests. As promised last year, the two existing manuals – match and team, have been updated. The manual for the new discipline of umpired fleet racing has also been created with much thanks to the RYA for this work. All three manuals are ‘living documents’ which are continuously maintained by a group of dedicated race officials.

IUs may take a test from any discipline which has resulted in the creation of additional tests this year for team and fleet racing with a new test for match racing recommended for 2020.

Reflecting the current boom in umpired fleet racing we delivered 3 fleet race seminars in RUS, GER and CHN with an additional opportunity for performance assessment in DEN.

We currently have 8 IU Instructors from 6 countries. Constraints on the IUSC budget may slow down the training and qualification of new instructors but we will continue to train and hopefully at least maintain our instructor numbers. We continue to administer IU tests worldwide with 17 test administrators and provide performance assessments with 12 assessors.

Last year IUSC/ROC agreed a significant change to how events are calculated for IU re-appointment. It should make re-appointment easier for officials in areas of the world with few principal events. Having now reviewed applications this year it appears to have been successful and it will be reviewed and evaluated with potential for this to be used for first appointment as well.

This year it has become apparent that the increasing numbers of professional race officials will impact on the ability of World Sailing to appoint the best team of race officials to high profile events. This is most evident in the discipline of umpiring. That there are now enough events for a race official to become professional is to be welcomed by both officials and competitors alike. Skills are honed and raised, benefitting all involved. When we are unable to work with our professional colleagues due to a conflict of interest it is a loss to all. This situation needs to be discussed and IUSC will begin this debate at Conference.

I would like to thank the members of IUSC and the many other volunteers who help to develop and maintain our tests, manuals and seminars.

Report of the Race Management Subcommittee

October 17, 2019

The Subcommittee made updates and revisions to the Race Management Policy Book. Among several updates, the minimum windspeed threshold guideline was increased from 4 knots to 5 knots.

Completed first Grouping of Race Officers for 124 IROs. Have implemented biannual schedule for Grouping going forward.

Race Officer education- A new concept- combination WS and local race management clinic was recently conducted in Antigua. Overall, the seminar and clinic schedule has been cut back due to budget cuts. Each proposed event is being carefully vetted to be sure we are using available funds as wisely as possible. Going forward, we are beginning work on updates and revisions to the current seminar program and test, a review of current instructors, and a recruiting effort for new instructors.

World Sailing now owns 5 ipad units to use on starting lines for Sailing World Cup events and Olympic events. The practice of using video on starts has proven extremely helpful to both race managers and competitors/coaches. Using ipads makes zooming in and out very easy, and review very timely for race managers. Most of our starts are under 'U' flag, requiring no display of 'X'. This allows time for race managers to quickly review starts and to confirm sail numbers, etc.

The practice of allowing competitors and coaches to review audio tapes after racing has now become a review of audio and video. It is quite easy to either review the start with the competitor- or just hand him or her the ipad and let them review themselves. It is extremely rare for a competitor to go forward with a redress request after viewing the ipad.

Tokyo 2020- a four year process of appointments to World Sailing events, and reviewing performances of race officers appointed- then applying the guidelines of the Board regarding appointments to the Olympic regatta was followed to make recommendations for IROs to Tokyo 2020. We continued our education and training efforts for the local race management volunteers- in addition to previous clinics and training, we conducted one more clinic and one IRO seminar in the past year.

We continued to work with Michael Downing in efforts to determine if it would be possible to apply tracking and video technology to the Olympic regatta. The results of Michael's efforts will be an officials booth ashore in Enoshima where we will have race officer(s) watching starts live on tracking systems. It is undetermined at this point in exactly what manner the race officer ashore will contribute to the starting process as the level of the developing technology is somewhat fluid. It is our goal to perfect the communications systems and procedures necessary to use the technology in a timely and accurate manner, so that we have built a solid foundation for the use of improved technology going forward. This should allow us to make recommendations based on experience to race management teams who consider such technology in the future as costs go down and accuracy goes up.

For the Race Management Subcommittee

Tom Duggan, Chair

Dear Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of ITD Working Party, we would like to report our activities during 2019. With respect to last period, the WP focus was on three major points: requirements for re-appointment as ITD, assistant TD role definition and discussion about level of events for ITDs and Non ITDs.

Requirements for re-appointment: As this year closes the first four years period of appointments, the requirements for re-appointments should be defined/included in ROC "Roles and Qualification" document. Therefore, the WP discussed that topic with a conclusion that the principle should be similar as other WS officials. At the end a proposal was submitted and approved by ROC.

Assistant TD role definition: Since the discipline was created in 2015, one question was on the table, how candidates for ITD could get the necessary experience and skills to apply for ITD. First step on this way was the decision to appoint for some small events non ITD people to officiate as Technical Delegate. This have worked well but does not cover all the scenario because only major events have the complexity that requires a full TD capacity. Taking that in account, the WP has suggested the appointment of assistant TDs for some major events to give opportunity for non ITD people to work together with an experienced TD. We consider the experience positive and support it continues for next period.

Events for ITD or non ITD: The appointment of non ITD officials have to be evaluated case by case as it may overlap ITD "field of play". One important point has to be in mind, not only non ITD people needs to get experience, also ITD officials need to keep officiating to be updated and also to fill the requirements for future reappointments. This is still under discussion inside the WP and the target is to write a proposal to be discussed inside ROC during next year.

That is all the WP would like to report, thanks for ROC support in this last period.

Ricardo Navarro
ITD Working Party Chairman
16/10/2019

CONFLICT OF INTEREST WORKING PARTY

2019 REPORT

As reported last year, the Conflict of Interest Working Party continues to resolve issues of Race Officials who have an association or connection with an MNA or a Class. To date we do not have a definitive answer to all the questions that cause real or perceived conflicts in these areas. We do, however, continue to work with the Race Officials Committee and World Sailing with the hope that we can comprehensively resolve this area of concern in the foreseeable future.

Until that time, the WP continues to see this as a major concern.

The number of other requests for COI rulings has increased over the last 12 months and this is due to the upcoming Olympic Games in 2020. These have been and are being expedited through the Working Party so as to cause as little delay as possible in these important cases.

Following on from last year's efforts, the WP chairman continues to work with World Sailing to compile a comprehensive review of all the decisions made over the years. The hope is that this will give any RO who has a concern about his or her potential conflict of Interest a database of decisions that can be reviewed before having to come to the WP for rulings.

We hope that WS will publish this information in the near future and will then keep the database current going forward.

The WP also sees this as an important matter and a major concern.

Apart from this the Working Party is working well with decisions being made quickly and in a consistent manner. This is due in part to the excellent information being provided to us by WS when making their requests.

Respectfully submitted-

Peter Shrubbs,
Chairman, Conflict of Interest Working Party

Conflict of Interest Working Party:-

Peter Shrubbs
David Brookes
Lance Burger
John Doerre
Russell Green
Timo Haß
Barry Johnson
Ewa Jodlowska

Match Racing Organization and Race Management WP

Members:

Tatiana Ermakova (RUS) – Chair

Michael Röllich (FIN)

Flavio Naveira (ARG)

Russell Green (NZL)

After analyzing the existing materials about organizing and running a match race event, the WP concluded that a lot of useful information already exists by pieces in different resources, some of which are published on WS official web-site. The WP reviewed previous addition of the draft of the World Sailing Match Race Organization and Race Management Manual accordingly, by adding the useful links instead of rewriting the official papers as well as adding more important and useful information that was missing from the practical point of view, including 6 appendices with necessary forms and formats.

The WP negotiated about having some input on PRO training which will be reviewed and possibly added as a separate chapter of the manual.

Plans for the end of 2019 – 2020:

- To finalize the Manual by using Match Racing part of the latest addition of Race Management Manual and PRO training part
- To review material from Youth point of view and include recommendations especially for Youth Match Racing giving special consideration to social part, interactions and educating.

14/10/2019

Tatiana Ermakova

To: Race Officials Committee
International Judges Sub-Committee
From: Chair - RSS 42 Working Party
Subject: Annual Report - October 2019

Introduction

The current RSS 42 Working Party was formed in May 2017. The members are Doug Elder (NZL) - Chair, Giorgio Davanzo (ITA), Michal Jodlowski (POL), Kai Masuda (JPN), Eric Mehlbaum (NED), Bill O'Hara (IRL), Sofia Truchanowicz (POL), Iskra Yovkova (BUL).

The objectives of the working party are;

- Work to improve the on-the-water judging of RSS 42 by providing educative materials and other information.
- Review RSS 42 (and appendix P) and if thought necessary propose changes.
- Review RSS 42 official interpretations and if thought necessary propose changes.
- Monitor event practices in the use of Appendix P and if thought necessary raise any issues.

2019 Activities

Ongoing reviews indicate that;

- RSS 42 and Appendix P is well understood by sailors at the top level and that issues regarding the judging RSS 42 are now rarely issues at event coach/team leader meetings. The past work done in developing the judging of RSS 42, developing and publishing interpretations, and in the development of class based common breaches (including translating these to other languages) has established a solid foundation for the understanding and judging of RSS 42. Common breaches documents have also been produced for the Europe and 29er, and class experts have been working on improvements to the existing olympic class documents. Publishing new documents and upgrading existing documents on the World Sailing website has proved to be impossible however and so the emphasis has shifted to encouraging class associations to publish this information on class websites.
- At multi-class events the practice of assigning 50% of the judges to classes and rotating the other 50% is now well established. This practice maintains levels of consistency for the competitors and at the same time helps in the development of judges.
- A web based e-learning environment (based on Moodle software) has been established and demonstrated at several major events. The feedback from experienced judges has been very useful. At lower level events less experienced judges working together while answering the questions has proved very successful. (This system can be trialed at <https://rrs42.moodlecloud.com/> Username "42judge" password "2019").

2019/2020 Plans

Tasks planned for the 2019/2020 year are;

- Consolidation of the implementation of a web based e-learning question and answer educational material on RSS 42 and Appendix P.
- Assisting classes associations to publish RSS 42 judging resources on their class websites.
- Publishing Q & A's to clarify interpretations where inconsistent judging has become evident.
- To review and improve Section I of the 2019 Judges Manual.
- To review the RSS 42 sections of commonly used event management software (e.g. Manage2Sail etc.) and suggest improvements where appropriate.
- To survey class associations and RSS 42 active judges for issues and suggestions on improving RSS 42, Appendix P and the interpretations.

Doug Elder NZL,
Chair, RSS 42 Working Party

World Sailing Racing Rules Committee 2017-20
World Sailing Question & Answer service

World Sailing Question & Answer Service Report
Racing Rules Committee – Race Officials Committee
October 2019

The last year has seen a difference in the way the Q&A panel operates. All our work has moved on the trello online platform. We believe that this is our legacy to the people who will take over the Q&A panel in the future, who will be able to access all the previous work. We expected that this would facilitate the work of the group members and it seems that for most it has, although some are probably not comfortable with it and we have seen their contribution being reduced.

20 Q&As have been published and 2 have been answered privately, while 6 of them have led to submissions for rule changes.

It is interesting to note the nature of the questions:

Fundamental rules:	2 Q&As
When boats meet:	2 Q&As
Conduct of a race:	3 Q&As
Protests, hearings, Appeals:	5 Q&As
Other requirements when racing:	4 Q&As
Entry and Qualification:	6 Q&As

Marina Psychogiou (GRE) - chair
Tatania Ermakova (RUS) – vice chair

On behalf of the Q&A panel
Mats Bjorklund (FIN)
Bence Böröcz (HUN)
Lance Burger (RSA)
Natalia Chubenko (RUS)
Rosemarie Collins (AUS)
Russell Green (NZL)
Giorgio Davanzo (ITA)
Rick Hatch (CAN)
Timo Haß (GER)
Sungchul Jeong (KOR)
Ewa Jodlowska (POL)
Michal Jodlowski (POL)
Trevor Lewis (GBR)
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Andrus Poksi (EST)
Manuel Santos e Silva (POR)
David de Vries (AHO)
Bruno de Wannemaeker (BEL)