

REPORTING COMMITTEE – RACE OFFICIALS

OTHER COMMITTEE – EXECUTIVE

Race Officials - Seminars for Retiring Olympic Sailors

A submission from the Royal Netherlands Yachting Union

PROPOSAL:

To hold a 'taster' seminar for retiring Olympic sailors to convert to race officials, event management and coaching.

The hosting MNA to pay for the venue and ISAF to provide speakers to present a taster experience to introduce the sailors to:

- Umpiring and Judging
- Measuring
- Event management
- Race Management
- Coaching
- Working through committees

ISAF to pay the presenter's expenses plus a little for preparing the materials, and for later revising them for future seminars.

ISAF to pay for the delegates' accommodation in one venue – to encourage networking. The delegates are encouraged to ask their MNAs to apply for their travel expenses from Olympic Solidarity.

CURRENT POSITION:

REASON:

Many top sailors when they retire from Olympic level sailing, are lost from the sport forever. The sport needs more good sailors to move into the management of the sport during their middle age. A seminar will show them how they can get involved in the sport in the next few years, and educate them in the standards and ethics required in running the sport.

ISAF can provide the international glamour of race officials that MNAs cannot. ISAF can bring together international resources – training, instructors, contacts that MNAs cannot. All this helps the conversion from sailor to official at a time when many sailors are actively seeking directions in their lives. MNAs benefit because the taster sessions will stress that officials have a responsibility to officiate inside their own country as well as any international career.

Sailing will benefit from top class sailors becoming active in officiating at an earlier age than is the current tendency, plus this would resist the drift of top sailors away from the sport as they find a new life for themselves.

If successful, ISAF could repeat the seminar every four years.