

**The International Judges Sub-Committee met from 10:30
– 17:00 hours at the Suntec Singapore Convention and
Exhibition Centre on Monday 4th November 2024.**

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| 1. Opening of the Meeting | 8. Event Appointments |
| 2. Minutes and Agenda | 9. IJ Grouping |
| 3. Application Procedures and Requirements | 10. Education Training and Development |
| 4. IJ Report System | 11. Race Officials Committee |
| 5. IJ Manuals | 12. Submissions |
| 6. Rule 42 Working Party | 13. Closed Session (closed to observers) |
| 7. Additional Reports | |

CM = Paper circulated to Committee Members only

SP = Supporting Paper

Presenters:

C – Chair, Andrus Poksi ROM - Race Officials Manager

GH – Gonzalo Heredia LB – Lynne Beal GD – Giorgio Davanzo SH- Sylvie Harle

NB – Neven Baran CO- Christina Ortendahl KH- Kevin Hawkins

Attendees:

C – Chair, Andrus Poksi ROM - Race Officials Manager

GH – Gonzalo Heredia LB – Lynne Beal GD – Giorgio Davanzo SH- Sylvie Harle

NB – Neven Baran GD- Giorgio Davanzo KH- Kevin Hawkins

1. Opening of the Meeting

1.1 Welcome by the Chair

1.2 Attendees and Apologies

Apologies received from Kai Masuda and Christina Ortendahl who were unable to attend the meeting.

1.3 Obituaries

The Sub-Committee paid their respects to the Race Official who passed away in 2024: Jean-Pierre Cordonnier, FRA IJ, IU

2. Minutes and Agenda

2.1 Minutes

- (a) The Sub-Committee approved the minutes of the previous International Judges Sub-Committee meeting held on 13 November 2023. There were no matters arising.

3. Application Procedures and Requirements

- 3.1 The Sub-Committee considered the content of the International Judges section of the Race Officials Roles, Qualifications and Competencies document including examinations.

Since international dinghy single-class events with over 200 boats and many countries that did not appear to be L1 events, the IJSC recommended to add to amend the guidance in 4.4.1 (a) L-1: "International Events with 50+ entries from 2 or more countries (minimum 3 racing days.)"

The Sub-Committee recommends making the requirements for renewal as an IJ clearer, especially when there is an extenuating circumstance.

Further recommendations will be sent to the Chairman.

- 3.2 The Sub-Committee recommends that Appendix A, ROC Coronavirus Guidelines, be deleted for 2025 since it is no longer applicable.

4. IJ Report System

- 4.1 Megan Griggs reported that the <https://www.ijreport.org> application is owned by World Sailing and that it complies with required data protection laws.
- 4.2 Since judges are required to complete event reports, the IJSC proposes that the Race Officials RQC state that, from 2025 on, IJs' participation in events should be shown in ijreport.org.
- 4.3 There were no further recommendations for changes that would require future amendments.

5. Reports by Working Parties

- 5.1 Reports were received from the following ROC working parties:

(a) Rule 42

This working party is a joint venture with Racing Rules Committee and IJSC. Giorgio Davanzo reported that the working party received new drafts for the Common Breaches documents from judges working with classes; WP members commented on some of these documents highlighting issues with them, but the documents were published in the original version. Thomas Chamera noted the need for co-operation among all stakeholders including the classes.

(b) IT Solution (e-ROC)

Gonzalo Heredia reported on meetings with an IPA from World Sailing to prepare the new platform. No progress has been made. Stephen Smith, the Head of IT for World Sailing stated the plan is for completion of the platform for use in 2026.

(c) Q&A

Giorgio Davanzo reported from the Working Party, that some Q&As were selected to continue to the next quad. At the end of the quad the Q&A booklet will be frozen, with some to come Cases, some for policies and some to be submitted for race officials' manuals. Ones relevant to judging will be submitted to the IJSC for consideration in the Manual.

- 5.2 Reports were received from the following IJSC working parties:

(a) IJ Tests (First & Renewal)

Lynne Beal presented a report listing the pass and fail statistics for the first test, including retests - where the results are more variable than in the first test. In 2024, 49 tests were given at seminars, with 28% passing. 9 retests were

given, with 77% passing. The overall pass rate of 36% for 2024 is consistent with previous years. The test will be updated to the 2025-2028 RRS in time for the first seminar to be held in 2025.

Gonzalo Heredia reported on the renewal test; out of 67 tests taken, only 3 failed. The working party reviewed all the failed tests to reconfirm the validity of the questions and answers. Questions are randomly selected, and the test is constantly reviewed. Lynne Beal thanked Gonzalo Heredia for being available almost 24/7 assisting test-takers to access the test platform. The test will be updated to the 2025-2028 RRS in time for use in January 2025.

(b) Judges Manual

Lynne Beal presented a report on the Judges Manual. The Manual has been updated to the 2025-2028 RRS and Regulations, with a draft provided to the IJSC in October. Changes include re-organization of chapters, and expansion of material on using online regatta management systems. Gender neutral language is used throughout, while maintaining “she” to refer to boats in the historical sense. The IJSC approved the January 2025 version of the Judges Manual, with the understanding that updates to rules changes from November 2024, the Case Book, Regulations and Jury Policies for 2025 will be incorporated before publication in 2025.

(c) Remote Proctoring

Gonzalo Heredia reported on remote proctoring system using Zoom for taking the IJ Renewal test. The system has been used frequently in this quad making the test easily accessible.

(d) IJ Documents on the World Sailing website

Sylvie Harle reported on the jury pages on the World Sailing website. The working party located and mapped the IJ documents, identified over 400 pages, who owned them, and updates that were needed. With the new World Sailing website, the mapping was repeated. The working party recommended that when documents are updated, they be identified with a version number, and that there be a section on the website for recently updated documents.

Stephen Smith the Head of IT for World Sailing reported on ongoing work. Initiates include a new submissions system, document management, and World Sailing taking ownership of the technology systems currently in use, and controlling required changes centrally, and to make the website easier to navigate.

(e) IJ Report and IJ Statistics

Giorgio Davanzo presented a report on the IJ Reports from events. There were 265 reports in 2024. 25% come from Group D, 14% from B, 13% from E, 6% from each of G, J and P, and 5% from each of A K and L. In addition, there was an increase in reports from protest committees, which are not included in the count.

In 2024, there were fewer requests for redress (21%). Of those, 20% sought redress for OCS, with 13% being given. More than half of reports are events using Appendix P. There were 4,454 yellow flag penalties, with 85% first penalties, and much fewer second and third penalties. There is an average of 12 hearings per event. While the number of arbitrations increased, judges report that arbitration is not fully understood by the parties.

There were 1800 evaluations of the judges by the chairman. A majority do not express an opinion. Others are predominantly positive. Evaluations of unacceptable were given for NJs, but for only 3 IJs.

Remote hearings were noted only in comments. They were typically in places that could easily provide judges, and for big events.

The working party prepared a Guide for working on reports filed on ijreport.org. The number of errors to be addressed was greatly reduced this year. Some changes need to be made by the platform manager.

(f) IJ Forms

Andrus Poksi reported that the reference form had been updated, adding to include mentorship and the candidate's racing experience.

Sylvie Harle reported that the criteria for being an IJ are spread across many documents. She recommended a review of the documents for consistency and to focus criteria in one place.

(g) Policies and Rules

Kevin Hawkins presented a report on Policies and Rules. The Jury Policies document will be revised, with a recommendation to separate it into two papers.

(h) Standard Wording

Lynne Beal reported for the working party. The document is a tool intended to assist judges in writing conclusions for protests and redress hearings that are based on the applicable rules. The document has been kept up to date through at least 3 rules cycles. Some on-line platforms for receiving hearing requests and writing decisions provide dropdown menus with this wording.

The IJSC asked the working party to update the document to the 2025-2028 RRS once the submissions for rule changes at this conference are decided. This World Sailing document should state that it is not mandatory for judges to use it.

6. Event Appointment

6.1 Megan Griggs shared a report on behalf of the Event Appointment Working Party.

Figures from the report show progression has been made in the past quadrennial to work towards World Sailing gender objectives, but further work is required to explore suitable development pathways to increase geographical representation, noting varying factors impact event appointment figures, including event calendars and event locations. The report reinforced the lack of knowledge of official's capabilities, due to limited feedback from events and little or no performance review procedure for appointed officials. The report highlighted the critical importance of an evaluation process moving into the next quad to utilise learning opportunities and help officials develop and reach their full potential.

7. Grouping

7.1 Andrus Poksi led a discussion on a new approach and process for grouping international judges. A database of events done by IJs would be needed to obtain accurate information on events that judges are doing. Other issues are review of the criteria for Lead and Chief roles, and a process for assessing whether the judges have the skills and competences that the criteria state.

The IJSC recommends that the new eRoc database, which is to be developed, will be essential for providing information about judges' event experience. The IJSC will maintain a working party to review Grouping, but for the time being, the IJSC advises not to proceed with the IJ Grouping.

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8. Education, Training and Development

8.1 Seminars and Clinics

- (a) Neven Baran reported for the instructors. They ran 3 seminars in 2024, with 1 more in November. The total for this quad will be 13 IJ seminars and 1 clinic. There are 11 instructors who meet monthly by videoconference to coordinate work.
- (b) For 2025, five seminars are requested: Thailand, Australia, two in Europe and one in South America. A seminar in Africa is due.

8.2 Continuous Development

Neven Baran reported that an initiative for the IJ instructors is to develop specific continuing education seminars for all IJs. Topics include Rule 69 and Rule 42. Instructors would like to provide continuing mentorship for newly appointed IJs in their first year, to enhance consistency in how judges apply the rules.

8.3 International Development

The sub-committee reviewed the education held over the past 12 months. They discussed how locations of seminars must align with the aims for future Race Official development, with a focus on the target areas. Nino Shmueli recommended a project to develop more judges in Africa.

Additional goals include identification of new talent, gender equality and attracting more women. The sub-committee discussed how to adapt the current education process to assist in breaking down barriers to develop officials. To bring more women into race officiating, including international judging, there is a need for a positive, proactive initiative. Communication with member national authorities will facilitate talent identification. The IJSC could review the recommendations from the Board as they develop their initiative.

Andrus Poksi proposed a system including easier access for candidates to become IJs, and to make levels of IJs, such as entry, standard, senior and pro levels. He notes that we are losing officials.

9. Race Officials Committee

The IJSC has no specific recommendations to the Race Officials Committee on areas of its agenda not already considered by the Sub-Committee.

10. Submissions

- 10.1 Please refer to the 2024 Submissions Booklet for details of all submissions also available online at: <https://www.sailing.org/inside-world-sailing/organisation/governance/conferences/2024-world-sailing-annual-conference/>
 - (a) To consider submissions for which the Race Officials Committee is the reporting committee:
 - (i) 032-24 - Technical Delegates Sub-Committee
 - (b) To consider submissions on the Racing Rules of Sailing for which the Race Officials Committee is an Other Committee - Submissions 001-24 through to 027-24.
 - (i) 005-24 - Rules 30.2, 30.3 and 30.4
 - (ii) 007-24 - Rule 60.3 (b)
 - (iii) 008-24 - Rule 60.5(C)(4)
 - (iv) 009-24 - Rule B5, 60.3, 63.4, 63.6
 - (v) 011-24 - Introduction of a new rule in Appendix D
 - (vi) 013-24 - Rule F2 18 Urgent Changes

(vii) 018-24 - New Case Definition Mark Room

10.2 To consider any additional submissions IJSC would like to share opinion on. Submissions 001-24 through to 032-24.

11. Closed Meeting

11.1 Performance Investigations

(a) To receive a report on performance investigations

11.2 Seminar/Clinic Instructors, Test Administrators and Performance Assessors

(a) To note the current list

(b) To consider any changes to the current list of instructors and any recommendation of new instructors/ administrators and assessors

(c) To review the IJSC criteria for appointing instructors.

11.3 Race Official Appointments

(a) To consider application for International Judges status and to made recommendations to the Race Officials Committee.