

Race Officials Committee Agenda



The Race Officials Committee met at 10:30 – 17:30 hours
at the AC Hotel Marriott Malaga Palacio on Wednesday
15th November 2023.

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| 1. Opening of the Meeting | 7. Performance and Feedback |
| 2. Minutes and Agenda | 8. Event Appointment |
| 3. Governance and Strategy | 9. Reports |
| 4. Sustainability, Diversity and Inclusivity of Race Officials | 10. IT System |
| 5. Education, Training and Development | 11. Finance |
| 6. Race Official Administration | 12. Submissions |
| | 13. Closed Session (closed to observers) |

CM = Paper circulated to Committee Members only

SP = Supporting Paper

Presenters:

C – Chair, Ricardo Navarro	VP Vice President – Tomasz Chamera	ROE = Race Officials Manager
NS – Nino Shmueli	SC- All Sub-Committee chairs	
AR - Alexandra Rickman (WS)	EJ – Ewa Jodlowska	AP- Andrus Poksi
CL – Chris Lindsay	AL- Aileen Loo	DB – David Brookes
NS- Nadine Stegenwalner	JA – Jo Aleh (WS- VP)	FJ – Francisco Jauregui
BB – Bence Borocz		

Attendees:

RN – Chair, Ricardo Navarro	VP Vice President – Tomasz Chamera
NS – Nino Shmueli	EJ – Ewa Jodlowska
CL – Chris Lindsay	AL- Aileen Loo
AB – Alan Baser	QC – Qu Chun
CG – Christophe Gaumont	TH – Timo Hass

1. Opening of the Meeting

1.1 Welcome by the Chair

Chair, Ricardo Navarro welcomed all committee members to the meeting, sharing thanks for the work they had put in during the last 12 months.

1.2 Attendees and Apologies

Apologies received from Russell Green (NZL), Chair RN advised Christophe Gaumont shall join the second half of the meeting, due to requirement to attend Race Officials Committee and Special Regulations meetings held on the same day.

1.3 Obituaries

Shared obituaries to remember Race Officials Ron Yaffe ISR (IJ/IRO), Ewa Andersson SWE (IJ/IU) and Ralph Roberts NZL (IJ/IU) who have shared many contributions to race officiating and sadly passed in 2023.

2. Minutes and Agenda

2.1 Minutes

- (a) To note the minutes of the previous Race Officials Committee meeting held on Tuesday 25 October 2022, were noted with no additional matters arising not already covered by this agenda.

3. Governance and Strategy

3.1 Board Meetings

Tomasz Chamera (VP) welcomed all to Malaga and thanked for contribution to the committee. Tomasz gave an overview on the past year, reflecting on many successful events including the Olympic Test Event, Sailing World Championships, Continental Championships, and the start of the Paris 2024 Olympic Qualifiers. TC mentioned the development of the SWCs including Para events, highlighting the importance of this to showcase the inclusivity of the sport. TC confirmed many learnings had been taken from the Test Event by all stakeholders and identified the strong progress made in preparations for next year. Confirmed Paris 2024 Race Official appointments had been made and shall shortly be released.

TC highlighted awareness of the need for better information for Race Officials exploring future development pathways and confirmed the Executive Board see database requirements as a top priority to assist in knowledge and workload of the office. TC identified continuous development remains an outstanding priority and noted the importance of a collaborative approach within the Race Official community and wider stakeholders to offer learning opportunities, reinforcing the need to reach the aims and targets of the International Olympic Committee to reach gender equity and stronger geographic spread to protect the future of the sport. TC appealed to the Race Officials Committee to open discussions on new ideas and initiatives for education and development to progress for the future.

3.2 Race Officials Committee Strategy

- (a) The committee discussed the lack of direction noting the previous Race Officials strategy ended in 2022. Alan Baser highlighted the need for specific targets to ensure the efficiency of work by sub-committee and Race Officials Committee next year. It was noted the work required by the committee in 2024 to develop a clear strategy looking into the next quadrennial.

ACTION - Alan Baser, Chris Lindsay and Timo Hass identified as members to lead on this project in Q1 of 2024.

4. Sustainability, Diversity and Inclusivity of Race Officials

- 4.1 Alexandra Rickham, WS Head of Sustainability, Diversity and Inclusion gave a report on Sustainability Agenda 2030 and the focus of key targets related to officiating and developing gender equity and geographical spread by LA 2028.

Race Officials Committee identified the importance of these targets and the need for support for MNAs who are responsible for developing national level officials, without female interest at national level there is limitations on developing international officials. The committee highlighted the importance of collaboration between education, event appointment and class connections to offer the strongest development opportunity.

AB highlighted a need to put a structure in place requiring technology and more resources for this to be achievable. For the target to be met, there must be a fast track programme created.

ACTION – ROC to include action plan for targets within new strategy and education plan.

ACTION – Executive office to work on a communication plan for race officiating to ensure visibility of efforts made towards these targets.

5. Education, Training and Development

5.1 Seminars and Clinics

- (a) 2023 education - Sub-committee chairs shared information on 2023 education programme. 9 seminars held across all disciplines, with 2 remaining in 2023. A vast improvement from recent years and reflects the first full education program post covid-19. Noted a lack of any education within Oceania.
- (b) 2024 education - Nino Shmueli reinforced a requirement for sub-committees to provide education plans past the next calendar year, to assist in ensuring an even spread of seminar locations across the world, alongside opportunity for developing officials to work towards a timeline based on the pre planning of seminar locations. EJ outlined a lack of interest from MNAs to host education.

ACTION – Sub-committees to work on education plan for 2024 and beyond in Q1.

ACTION – Executive Office to compose a survey to all MNAs for further information on educational programs, interest in hosting clinics/seminars.

- (c) To discuss the development of an education plan for 2024-2028 with focus on the following:
 - (i) Identification and development of new officials – a requirement for stronger connection to continental representations to develop multiple year plans for education. CL identified a need to remove barriers by reducing burden and time commitment for education (5-day seminar). EP reinforced a need for structure of opportunities, to show where an official can develop to, acting as motivation for officiating. FJ highlighted even minimal payment would provide an attraction and encouragement for those involved in sailing from less developed regions.
 - (ii) Gender Equity - Highlighted the positive impact of the female only Race Managements clinics held and the importance of developing this initiative across more disciplines in 2024. The committee identified a requirement for a pathway from attending clinics to gaining event experience.
 - (iii) Recruitment and training in under-served regions. – The committee highlighted a need for online material to break the barriers of remote locations where only 1 or 2 interested attendees, or work on education plan for regional clinics.

VP Tomasz question if the current process is effective in following the goals we need to achieve, reinforced the limited development when 'owned' by committees and changes are made to members ever 4 years. How can education plan be outlined for sustainable future.

5.2 Continuous Development

- (a) To discuss what each sub-committee is doing to maintain and further develop the skills of its race officials for the following:
 - i) Continuous Development - the committee highlighted the task of education past becoming international status.

IJSC confirmed development of a webinar series beginning January 2024 for IJs.
 - ii) Digital Officiating – RN reinforced the need to educate on digital officiating, including content within seminar material and focus of online webinars for current IROs with discussion panels. CL updated the committee on the format of umpiring kites trialled at the Test Event and Sailing World Championships. CL reinforced these are the future developments within officiating and need to focus on training and policies to guide IUs on video reviews.

5.3 Digital Officiating

- (a) Michael Downing confirmed there was nothing to currently update the committee on digital officiating. EJ gave an update on the Olympic Format decisions. The report highlighted the changes to windsurfing finals, kites to have country codes, Windsurfing Marathon Race to have a gate start, and outlined World Sailing events are to give precedence to WS policies over class policies.

5.4 Publications

- (a) Each sub-committee reported on updates of the manuals, with all committees highlighting the work for 2024 to get documents updated with new rule changes.

6. Race Official Administration

6.1 Roles, Qualifications and Competencies

- (a) Jim Capron confirmed minimal changes made in 2023.
- (b) To discuss amendments from Sub- Committee Chairs for 2024, including Appendix A and examination requirements.

ROC approved to keep Appendix A for 2024 appointments but noted it if removing from 2025, it shall be necessary to advise within the 2024 version.

AP outlined the desire for renewal tests to be taken in the year or reapplication. CL advised the IUSC did not support and would like this to be included in the discipline specific section. CL also reported the IUSC desire to remove the seminar from the designated period.

TH, DB and AB supported the proposal from IUSC highlighting it offers a open-minded approach to try something new.

RN opened discussion on the change of designated period dates, noting the timeframe must reflect 4 years.

AL asked for clear guidance on who is the authorised person from each MNA to endorse an application, also requested form event lists to be back in table format for ease of viewing.

ACTION - Further discussion to take place on the RQC document before end of 2023, to finalise version in January 2024.

6.2 To receive Sub-Committee and Working Party reports on race official administration:

- a) Race Management Sub-Committee – confirmed started work on educational material review.
- b) International Umpire Sub-Committee – confirmed creation of IU platform to link events and identify new talent.
- c) International Measurer Sub-Committee – need for database platform owned by World Sailing.
- d) International Judges Sub-Committee – discussed the work completed by the IJSC working parties. AP questioned the current process for recognition award, to acknowledge appreciation for officials completing 16/ 20 years of service to the sport.
- e) International Classifier – nothing to report.
- f) International Technical Delegate - DB recognised a need for clear guidance of the role.

7. Race Officials Performance and Feedback

7.1 Race Officials Grouping

(a) To discuss the 2023 Grouping Lists from Sub-Committee Chairs

- i) International Judges – confirmed updated grouping criteria with clearer and specific criteria.
- ii) International Measurers – confirmed grouping review shall be offered every 6 months, to allow for consideration of officials in the southern hemisphere who complete most of their events in Nov – Feb.
- iii) International Race Officers – confirmed completed grouping process as requested but unsure of purpose due to limited event opportunities.
- iv) International Umpires – confirmed process had been well received and therefore no recommendations to amend.

(b) To discuss a new approach/process for grouping moving forward for race officiating. EP highlighted while grouping remains based on number of appointments completed, the process shall reflect a biased process for officials from Europe who have more access to events, and limit development opportunities from far away regions.

(c) The Race Officials Committee discussed the opportunity for offering event evaluation for officials, noting without unbiased evaluation the grouping process shall always be limited from the overall aim.

8. Event Appointments

Megan Griggs (WS) gave an update on behalf of the EAWP, outlining the statistical representation of appointments made this calendar year. The report highlighted the 2023 priorities of gender equity, geographical representation and opportunity for development of race officials. This year, there were 290 appointments, with appointments based on World Championships and the Paris Test Event (in contrast with 130 appointments in most years). The EAWP are responsible for appointment to high level events, with no structure for bringing officials into other events, highlighting the need for stronger cohesion with Olympic classes to open opportunities for experience at other suitable events. The report identified the

inclusion of travel grants for 2023 appointments to reduce the financial burden for offering event opportunities for further out regions, whilst also utilising the funds to create 'additional appointments, with focus on learning and development. The RMSC notes that officials who have not been appointed to such events need to have opportunities.

9. Reports

- (a) To receive reports from Race Official Committee Working Parties.
 - i) Q&A Panel – BB provided a report on the cases received in 2023 outlining 8 published Q&As in 2023, with 1 remaining to be published and 3 answered privately.
 - ii) Conflict of Interest – TH reported on the conflict-of-interest cases and highlighted the updated guidelines to be shared in 2024.
 - iii) Rule 42 Working Party – report sent by Doug Elder prior to the meeting, no comments raised.
- (b) To receive commission reports
 - i) Coaches Commission
 - ii) Athletes Commission – Jo Aleh updated the committee on the athlete commission initiatives working to explore how to help lower tier MNAs to decrease the advantage from the top tier MNAs. Jo reinforced the need for a clear fast track programme for athletes to progress into officiating.
 - iii) Safety Commission – CG reported on the work done by the safety commission since creation earlier this year. CG highlighted the need for incidents to be shared to WS, asked for the potential of this to be added to the event reports.

ACTION – Executive Office to explore inclusion of safety commission link into event reports.

10. IT Systems

- 10.1 (a) To receive a report from the Digital Platform Working Party and discuss the development of online/internet-based IT systems for race officials.

AP updated on the . Committee members highlighted a lack of information and requested for clarity on what the platform consists of.

ACTION – Full details of the proposed system to be shared to all ROC members.

11. Finance

- 11.1 MG (WS) reported on 2023 expenditure, noting remaining education budget not spent. Reinforced earlier discussions for clearer understanding of education plan, to be able to re-allocate any remaining spend. The report highlighted the annual costs spent on various platforms, reinforcing the need for a central system to free up these costs for alternative spend.

12. Submissions

- 12.1 Please refer to the 2023 Submissions Booklet for details of all submissions also available online at <https://www.sailing.org/inside-world->

- (a) To consider submissions for which the Race Officials Committee is the reporting committee:
 - (i) 108-23 - Appointment of Olympic Race Officials
 - (ii) 110-23 - Regulation 25.8.13 – RRS J1.1(7) – RRS N 1.10
 - (iii) 115-23 - Regulation 31.15
 - (iv) 116-23 – Regulation 31.17 & 6.10.7.2(I)
- (b) To consider submissions on the Racing Rules of Sailing for which the Race Officials Committee is an Other Committee - Submissions 001-23 through to 097-23 and 201-23 to 206-23.
 - (i) 022-23 – Part 5, Introduction, Definition Party, Definition Protest
 - (ii) 023-23 – Rule 60.4(A)
 - (iii) 025-22 – Rule A2
 - (iv) 026-23 – Rule 61.2 and 63.5 – Start of Hearing
 - (v) 030-23 – Rule 66.1
 - (vi) 031-23 – Rule 66.2
 - (vii) 042-22 – RSS Gender Neutral Terminology
 - (viii) 083-23 – Rule N1.4(B)
 - (ix) 088-23 – Regulation 25.8.13, RRS J1.1(7) and RRS N1.10
 - (x) 089-23 – RSS Gender Neutral Language

12.2 To consider any additional Racing Rules of Sailing submissions Race Officials Committee would like to share opinion on. Submissions 001-23 through to 097-23 and 201-23 – 215-23.

- (i) 002-23
- (ii) 010-23
- (iii) 016-23
- (iv) 021-23
- (v) 040-23
- (vi) 043-23
- (vii) 045-23
- (viii) 081-23
- (ix) 096-23

13. Closed Meeting

13.1 Performance Investigations

- (a) To receive a report on performance investigations
- (b) To discuss progression of working party to create a set of procedures for guidance on investigations.

13.2 Seminar/Clinic Instructors, Test Administrators and Performance Assessors

- (a) To note the current list
- (b) To receive criteria and recommendations from Sub-Committees on requests for new instructors.
- (c) To approve the process for appointing new seminar and clinic instructors.
- (d) To outline sub-committee timeline for appointing new instructors for ROC review by the end of 2023.

13.3 Race Official Appointments

- (a) To consider and if appropriate, appoint new World Sailing Race Officials.