The International Umpires Sub-Committee met virtually at 20:00 UTC on Monday 10th February 2025

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Introduction
3. Sub- Committee Structure and Workplan
4. AOB

Members Present:

Chair - Chris Lindsay (IRL)	Vice-Chair *Christina Ortendahl (SWE)*	*Zuoru Jiang (CHN)*
David Maria Gosalbez (ESP)	*Juuso Leivonen (FIN)*	*Arnaud Mante (FRA)*
Leatrice Oatley (BER)	*Richard Slater (AUS)*	*Alina Stratigiou (GRE)*
VP – Tomasz Chamera	*VP – Cory Sertl*	*Ricardo Navarro – ROC Chair*

1. Opening of the Meeting

a. Welcome by the Chair

Chair, CL welcomed the committee members and thanked them for their time and commitment. He introduced the Vice President for Race Officials, Tomasz Chamera, and the Chair of the Race Officials Committee, Ricardo Navarro. Tomasz Chamera welcomed all new members of the IUSC and thanked them for agreeing to contribute their skills and expertise to the aims of World Sailing.

b. Apologies for Absence

All members present for the meeting.

2. Introduction

a. Chris outlined the structure and responsibilities of the World Sailing International Umpire Program, explaining the committee reports to the Race Officials Committee, which in turn reports to the Board. The committee's responsibilities include administering the World Sailing International Umpire Program, reviewing applications for international umpire status, conducting seminars and exams, assessing M&As, recommending policies for IUs, and updating manuals and application forms. Chris highlighted changes in the governance structure, including the shift from submissions to proposals and the introduction of new policies. He emphasized the importance of aligning actions with the World Sailing strategic goals and encouraged committee members to identify areas they are particularly interested in contributing to. Lastly, he noted that the committee will now review applications for International Umpire status twice a year, with the first deadline in March.

3. Sub-Committee Structure and Workplan

a. Introduction

Chris led a discussion on the organisation and structure of the committee's work for the upcoming year. The committee agreed to meet virtually once a quarter and in person once a year at the annual conference. They also decided to use Monday.com as their primary platform for tracking work and communication. Chris introduced the concept of working groups, identifying they can include non-committee members, to tackle specific tasks or jobs. The committee agreed to focus on education, equality, diversity, and inclusion, digital officiating, and promotion and awareness of race officials.

b. Topics for inclusion in the Workplan

Richard Slater proposed the idea of using technology to deliver education, particularly through online platforms or seminars. He suggested that this could help in achieving a better gender balance and geographic spread of umpires. JL agreed, emphasizing the need for dedicated resources and support from instructors. AS shared her positive experience with a women-only umpire clinic in Greece, highlighting the success of using international instructors and materials. RS also suggested focusing on non-European countries to improve gender balance and cultural understanding. MG expressed optimism about the budget for education in the next four years, suggesting that the focus should be on creating educational resources rather than being driven exclusively about costs. The committee agreed to prioritize these ideas and develop them further this year.

Action: CL to draft terms of reference for suggested Working Groups (WG)

Action: All committee members are requested to inform CL regarding their areas of interest

c. Structure of Workplan

Chris led a discussion on the committee's work plan, focusing on four main categories: digital officiating, promotion and awareness, education and training, and technology. The committee agreed to prioritize digital officiating, particularly for the kite class at the Olympic Games. They also discussed the need for better communication and decision-making in high-speed races. The committee members were encouraged to consider their interests and areas they'd like to work on, with CL planning to send out a document for further feedback.

Action: CL to share draft with the committee for comment of the IUSC workplan

4. **AOB**

a. No additional business discussed, Chris Lindsay closed the meeting expressing his enthusiasm for the committee’s ambition for the year.