Race Officials Committee Minutes

The Race Officials Committee met virtually at 11:00 UTC on Tuesday 29th April 2025

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
3. Working Groups
4. Workplans
5. Education - Instructors
6. Race Official Applications
7. Any Other Business

Members Present:

Chair - Ricardo Navarro (BRA)	Vice-Chair *Elena Papazoglou (CYP)*	
Aileen Loo (SGP) – IMSC Chair	*Andrus Poksi (EST) – IJSC Chair*	*Anne Malledant (FRA) – RMSC Chair*
Chris Lindsay (IRL) – IUSC Chair	*Miguel Amaral (POR)*	*Bence Borocz – RRC Representative*
David Brookes (AUS)	*Lynne Beal (CAN)*	*Giorgio Davanzo (ITA)*
Dimitris Dimou (GRE) – EC Representative	Christophe Gaumont (FRA)	*Sandy Grosvenor (USA)*
Timo Hass (GER)	*Nino Shmueli (ISR)*	*Liang Zhou (CHN)*
VP – Cory Sertl		

1. Opening of the Meeting

a. Welcome by the Chair
Ricardo welcomed members to the mid-year Race Officials Committee meeting.
VP Cory Sertl welcomed all and expressed benefit to attending meetings to listen to the comments of the committee and ensure concerns can be taken to the board to discuss.

b. Apologies for Absence
Apologies received from Captain Arshad (PAK), Alan Baser (GBR), Ewa Jodlowska (POL), Francisco Jauregui (MEX) and VP Tomasz Chamera.

c. Conflict of Interest
The Committee noted the declarations made in the Conflicts of Interest register and urged all members to ensure they have made a recent declaration, even if they have nothing to declare (https://www.sailing.org/inside-worldsailing/organisation/governance/integrity/conflict-of-interest/).

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

a. The minutes of the previous ROC meeting held on 6 March 2025 were approved with no additional matters arising not previously included in this agenda.

3. **Working Groups**

a. Ricardo update the committee on the process for identifying members for the working groups, advising the deadline was 30th April and all expression of interest would be reviewed within 7 days to ensure an updated proposal was ready for the Board meeting. Ricardo advised a large expression of interest from the community, allowing opportunity to include some specialist members not able to be included within committees.

3. **Work Plans**

a. Ricardo updated the committee on the Race Officials Committee workplan, outlining the objectives to achieve
Cory Setly advised all workplans are accessible on the World Sailing website and whilst subject to amendments as they are currently under review by the council and board, encouraged ROC to review other committees workplans, to explore overlap on targets and possibility for synergy between committees on projects.

b. Each Sub-Committee chair shared an overview of their workplans and the ambition for their sub-committees this year. Aileen Loo outlined the main objectives for IMSC of updating the manual, developing an educational program, and exploring new seminar formats to increase engagement. David Brookes share an update on behalf of RMSC, advising the priority focus on digital officiating and bringing change to the sport ahead of LA 2028. Andrus Poksi reinforced the objectives for IJSC and the priority for improving technology to support race official activity. Chris Lindsay outlined the work plan for IUSC highlighting the focus on objectives such as digital umpiring, diversity and inclusion, and modernising education.
Cory Sertl advised of the Boards awareness for technology solutions to support activity within World Sailing and confirmed the committee's feedback shall be raised at the mid-year Board meeting.

ACTION – Megan Griggs to work with Andrus to update IJSC work plan to include working team members for transparency.

4. **Education – Instructors**

a. Andrus Poksi led a discussion on the procedure for appointing trainee instructors at World Sailing seminars, highlighting the constriction on budget to send an additional trainee to a

seminar alongside the two instructors appointed. Sub-committee chairs emphasised flexibility depends on the officiating discipline and the location/number of participants of each particular seminar. The committee discussed if there was an unsuitable reason for different processes between different sub-committees.
Ricardo Navarro confirmed decision of ROC to support sub-committees to be flexible with instructor appointment noting budget cannot be exceeded.

5. <u>Race Official Applications</u>

a. Andrus Poksi gave an update on the existing policy stating a 4-year term for appointment, identifying a March and September application shall lead to confusion with some officials terms expiring mid year. Chris Lindsay supported a change to align all statuses to expire on 31 December.
ACTION – Andrus and Chris to review wording of the policy to take forward the proposal.

b. The committee considered all first-time and renewal applications for World Sailing Race Officials.

6. <u>AOB</u>

a. Anne Malledant raised a proposal to increase the day rate of a race official instructor, highlighting an increased expectation on the requirements for instructors. Sub-committee chairs supported the proposal but raised awareness of the impact on the existing education budget. Ricardo asked Anne to bring a more detailed proposal of the reasoning to himself and Elena after the meeting, to take the discussion forward with the executive office and Board to review.