Racing Rules Committee Minutes

The Racing Rules Committee met between 19:30 – 21:15hrs UTC on Wednesday 12 February 2025 by video conference

Present:

Richard Slater (AUS) – Vice-Chair

Lynne Beal (CAN)

Luigi Bertini (ITA)

Bence Böröcz (HUN)

Pauline den Burger (NED)

Sandy Grosvenor (USA)

Gonzalo Heredia (ARG)

Zuoru Jiang (CHN)

Line Juhl (DEN)

Chris Lindsay (IRL) (non voting)

Finn Mrugulla (GER)

Jon Napier (GBR)

Christina Ortendahl (SWE)

Yoann Peronneau (FRA)

Luke Scott (RSA)

In Attendance:

Line Markert – Vice President

Apologies for Absence:

Ana Sanchez (ESP) - Chair

1. Opening of the Meeting

(a) Welcome

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair took the chair of the meeting.

The Acting Chair welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new cycle and thanked the Committee members for volunteering to put forward their skills and experience to serve the sport.

The Acting Chair noted the Chair's absence. The Committee sent its best wishes to the Chair and wished her and her family well at a difficult time.

The Acting Chair explained that the Chair had indicated that, in periods of her absence, the Vice-Chair, Jon Napier and Line Juhl would be responsible for co-ordinating and managing the work of the Committee.

Vice President Line Markert addressed the meeting and welcomed Committee members to their new term of office. She passed on the best wishes of Vice President Tomasz Chamera who was unfortunately not able to attend this meeting.

Chris Lindsay was welcomed to the Committee as the non-voting representative of the Race Officials Committee. It was confirmed that Bence Böröcz would be the Committee's representative to the Race Officials Committee, and Sandy Grosvenor would be the Committee's representative on the Equipment Committee.

(b) Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence were received from the Chair and Tomasz Chamera.

The declarations of interest of the Committee members in the World Sailing Register of Interests were noted.

2. Governance Structure

The Committee received a report from Jon Napier on the new governance structure of World Sailing and how this affected the work of the Committee.

3. Working Groups

The Committee reviewed the proposed Working Groups of the Committee.

The Committee agreed to review the functioning of the Q&A system and to unify the Call Books as far as possible.

Decision
The Committee intends to appoint the following Working Groups and will seek expressions of interest as required by the Constitution from World Sailing Members:

- Call Books WG

- Case Book WG

- Digital Officiating Rules WG

- High Speed Rules WG

- Match Racing WG

- Proposals WG

- Rule 86.2 WG

- Rule Opinion WG (Q&A Panel)

- Team Racing WG

- Umpired Fleet Racing WG

Following the expressions of interest, the final proposals of membership and terms of reference will be sent to the Board for approval.

4. Rule 42 Interpretations

The Committee noted that, whilst the Rule 42 Interpretations were formally a document under the control and supervision of the Committee, the International Judges Sub-committee will be responsible for the continuing development of the Interpretations. The Committee will be asked to approve any changes to the Interpretations.

Bence Böröcz will act as the Committee's liaison with IJSC over the document.

5. Q&A 2025.AD

The Committee received a report on the proposed disposal of all remaining Q&As from the last cycle.

The Committee discussed proposed Q&A 2025.AD and agreed that it was important to address the emerging different interpretations in this area.

Decision
The Committee supports the general principle of the answer.

Bence Böröcz will co-ordinate the Committee's suggestions to be sent to him by 15 February, after which the Chair will finalise the answer to be issued.

(11 in favour, 1 against, 2 abstain)

6. Team Racing Call Book

The Committee received a report from the Acting Chair on the proposed Team Racing Call Book which had been submitted for approval by the previous Team Racing Rules Working Party.

Decision

The Committee rejected the proposed Team Racing Call Book.

The Committee requested that it be presented with only the necessary amendments to the Team Racing Call Book for now. If there are any Calls that need to be withdrawn for substantial editing, that should be proposed.

Jon Napier and Chris Lindsay will co-ordinate the review.

(0 in favour, 13 reject, 1 abstain)

7. Appendix UF

The Committee received a report from the Acting Chair on the proposed revisions to Appendix UF.

It was agreed that a tracked change version will be circulated for the Committee's information. The umpire observation document from the International Umpires Sub-committee will be circulated to the Committee as well.

Decision

The proposed revisions will be circulated for a later email vote of the Committee.

8. Appendix MR

The Committee noted that Appendix MR needed to be reviewed and finalised for this Olympic cycle.

Decision

Yoann Peronneau will lead a review the document and present any proposed revisions to the Committee for approval.

9. Standard NOR and SIs

The Committee discussed the standard notice of race and sailing instruction guides.

Decision

Sandy Grosvenor will lead a review of the documents and present the final versions to the Committee for approval.

10. Any Other Business

(a) Proposed Email Votes

The Acting Chair informed the Committee of forthcoming email votes of various Appendices.

(b) Monday.com

The Committee was informed about the plans from World Sailing to use the Monday.com work management product in place of the current Trello system.

There being no other business, the Acting Chair closed the meeting.