

The International Umpires Sub-Committee met virtually at 19:00 UTC on Monday 14th July 2025

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Opening of the Meeting | 5. Education |
| 2. Minutes of previous meeting | 6. Proposals |
| 3. Review of Monday.com platform | 7. Any Other Business |
| 4. Working Groups | |

Members Present:

<i>Chair - Chris Lindsay (IRL) JL</i>	<i>Vice-Chair Christina Ortendahl (SWE) CO</i>	<i>Zuoru Jiang (CHN) ZJ</i>
<i>David Maria Gosalbez (ESP) DMG</i>	<i>Juuso Leivonen (FIN) JL</i>	<i>Arnaud Mante (FRA) AM</i>
<i>Latrice Oatley (BER) LO</i>	<i>Alina Stratigiou (GRE) AS</i>	<i>Richard Slater (AUS) RS</i>
<i>Vice President – Tomasz Chamera</i>	<i>Vice President – Cory Sertl</i>	<i>WS Staff – Megan Griggs</i>

1. Opening of the Meeting

a. Welcome by the Chair

Chair, CL welcomed all members of the sub-committee and Vice Presidents Tomasz Chamera and Cory Sertl to the meeting.

Tomasz Chamera confirmed the Board recognised the priority of moving towards digital practices and process including E-Roc for daily tasks and technology within officiating, highlighting the recent format working party paper received from the Events Committee working group. Tomasz shared an update on event appointments recognising the challenges faced in the current appointment system and emphasised the need for broader consultation with stakeholders.

Cory Sertl recognised the meeting had full attendance and thanked all members for their service. CS supported the initiatives Tomasz mentioned and reinforced the Board's priority focus to create a Race Officials database as well as critical items of format and evolving digital officiating within the sport.

b. Apologies for Absence

Full attendance from all committee members.

c. Conflicts 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 meeting held on 29th April 2025 were approved, with no further matters arising not previously addressed in this email.

3. Review of Monday.com platform

- a. CL explained all documents had been uploaded to the Monday.com platform and encouraged all committee members to utilize the platform for internal discussions and document reviews.
CL checked all members had access to the platform and offered assistance for any issues.

4. Working Groups

- a. Reports were received from the following IUSC working groups:
 - a. Digital Umpiring WG
CL gave an update on behalf of Chair Craig Mitchell (CM), confirming the working group had their boards started on Monday.com and CM had met with WS Michael Downing to debrief on the Format Working Group recommendations, for CM to take forward with the working group.
 - b. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion WG
Chair Alina Stratigiou (AS) gave an update on the working group, highlighting initial focus is to understand the current situation on number of umpires, gender split and representation across regions. The priority is to explore increasing gender representation and then explore developing more umpires in underserved regions.
 - c. Umpire Documents WG
CL gave an update on behalf of Chair Kathy Lindgren. CL confirmed the working group had all 3 umpire manuals and are going to start reviewing the documents aiming to bring forward recommendations to updates at the annual conference meeting.

5. Education

- a. IU assessment criteria
The sub-committee discussed the new IU assessment criteria document. CL thanked all for their contribution to the discussion so far on Monday.com. AS highlighted the need for umpires

to communicate clearly and use appropriate terminology, proposing a separation between umpire dialogue and standard terminology. Richard Slater (RS) agreed, noting while standard termination is essential, umpires should also adapt their language to suit different audiences. Juuso Leivonen (JL), Arnaud Mante (AM) expressed concerns about maintaining standard terminology to avoid confusion, especially for non-native speakers. AS proposed a revision to umpires expressing differing opinions, advocating for clearer language to emphasize resolving disagreements quickly. CL confirmed he would take the discussion points forward into a new draft to be circulated online for approval.

RS highlighted the need for clearer guidelines in the document, emphasising each headline should be the focus for assessors and the numbered criteria should be seen as non-exhaustive examples, to prevent the criteria becoming a tick box exercise.

b. IU assessor guidance document

CL shared to the committee the background of creating this document with the ambition to formalise guidance to the assessors on how to carry out assessments and formalise the approach to ensure there is consistency in how assessments are conducted.

AM highlighted there need within the process for a candidate to ensure World Sailing are aware they have requested an assessment, to ensure there isn't any foul play in an assessor not completing an assessment if the candidate may not pass.

MG (WS) confirmed the updated process to request the assessment through the survey monkey platform allows opportunity to see if an assessment has been accepted but not completed.

c. To finalise plans for 2025 education

CL shared an update on the education plan for 2025, confirming the education held to date, with a seminar in April in Southampton, GBR. CL confirmed a fleet racing seminar to be held in Poland in October, had been advertised on the World Sailing website and a clinic in Fiji has been approved, to be instructed by Damien Boldyrew.

CL further advised discussions are taking place for an additional clinic and seminar to take place in China and hoped this would be finalised by the end of the month.

d. National Umpire Course

CL led a discussion on developing a National Umpire course with focus on using the World Sailing Academy to utilise opportunity to access more MNAs. CL shared a previous document produced breaking down the existing seminar material to create a national program and an advanced international level seminar. CL acknowledge this would require input from multiple members recognising the workload required to achieve this proposal.

6. Proposals

a. The sub-committee voted on recommendations to share to Race Officials Committee on the

following proposals:

- a. **2025:01** - Standardise Online Appendix Dates, Versions and Preambles (from US Sailing) – APPROVE
- b. **2025:02** - Rule 14 (from US Sailing) – REJECT but would encourage RRC to clarify the rule for the future.
- c. **2025:03** - Rule 60.4(a)(2) (from US Sailing) – REJECT but would encourage RRC to clarify the rule for the future.

7. AOB

CL shared an overview of the Events Committee format working group recommendations, highlighting the recommendations that will relate to Race Officials and particularly the umpire discipline.

RS highlighted guidance was needed at Board level to establish clear principles and identify the ultimate goals, enabling the respective working groups to ensure their proposed solutions align with the identified ambitions.