

World Sailing

Race Management Sub- Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday 4th November 2025

Location: Dún Laoghaire, IRL

Commencement Time: 10:30 – 17:00

Attendees:

Chair – Anne Malledant (FRA) AM	Vice-Chair David Brookes (AUS) DB	Fabian Bach (GER) FB
Ines Cabrer Carvajal (ESP) IC	Francisco Jauregui (MEX) FJ	Jeff Johnson (USA) JJ
Michal Jodlowski (POL)	Megan Griggs – World Sailing (MG)	Tim Hancock – World Sailing (TH)
Rebecca Videlo – World Sailing (RV)		

Agenda Items

1. Opening of the Meeting

- a. Welcome by the Chair
Anne Malledant (AM) welcomed all members to the meeting and thanked all for their contribution this year.
- b. Attendees and Apologies
Apologies were received from Benedek Fluck (HUN), Pinar Coskuner Genc (TUR) and Qindong Lu (CHN)
- c. Conflict of Interest
The Sub-Committee noted there were no conflict of interest declarations relevant to this meeting.
- d. Obituaries
No obituaries for IRO in the past 12 months.

2. Minutes and Agenda

The minutes of the previous Race Management Sub-Committee meeting held on 2nd July 2025 were approved with no matters arising from those minutes not already covered by this agenda.

3. Education, Training and Development

a. Seminars and Clinics

(i) To review the 2025 program

FB confirmed 1 seminar held in CZE this year, with 1 remaining in CAN. Confirmed a seminar was planned for IND but was postponed due to conflict. AM confirmed an RM clinic was held in PAR earlier in the year ahead of the Junior Pan-Am Games and a clinic was being held currently in THA ahead of the SEA Games.

(ii) To discuss the 2026 program

AM reported interest had been received for a seminar in the Netherlands.

b. Race Management Clinic.

FB confirmed with the development of the national race officer training program, the RM instructors were working to adapt the clinic to be offered as a course focusing on preparing local race management teams for international events. FB reported initial work had been completed between the instructors and the Becky Ashburn and Jeff Johnson as the creators of the National program to ensure understanding within the pathway of race management education. FB highlighted John Parrish was hosting a course at the current time, and further learnings post course would help outline the next steps required.

c. National Race Management Training Program

WS Megan Griggs reported on the activity of the NROTP held in 2025. MG reported that the course launched in March 2025 alongside the opening of the WS Academy, with the Fundamental Course made available online for all users. Since its launch, it has been accessed by 637 participants. 14 MNAs were selected to host in-person training, comprising 10 Level 1 Club Race Officer courses and 4 Level 2 National Race Officer courses. The selected hosts included 4 courses in Africa, 2 in Europe, 2 in Asia, 3 in North America (including the Caribbean), and 3 in South America, with delivery offered in English, Spanish, French, and Arabic. MG noted strong participant satisfaction, with many highlighting the valuable hands-on learning experience and the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the rules and their practical application.

d. Foiling Race Management Program

MG shared a summary of the proposal to develop a continuous education course for existing international race officers seeking to upskill their knowledge and practice in foiling race management in partnership with Foiling Week.

MG noted that the proposal to trial a pilot in 2025 was received very positively by the IRO community, who expressed strong interest in having such training opportunities available for

existing officials. The RMSC confirmed its support for the proposal and for the project to be led by the Office, with Tim Hancock (WS) heading the development and drawing on the expertise of current IROs as needed for content.

MJ highlighted the need to retitle the program to avoid implying that completing the course equates to expertise in all foiling classes, acknowledging the variations and challenges across different classes.

e. Race Official Development Cohort

MG reported on the proposal developed in collaboration with the EDI Committee to host a Race Official Development Cohort focusing on a structured development programme providing targeted education, mentorship and international event experience to newly qualified international officials to foster development and progression at an accelerated pace.

All RMSC members recognised the need for further event opportunities to give experience to officials to improve without jeopardising an event, but many members were against the proposal targeting specific officials through gender and geographical and think the initiative should be available to all.

f. Development of Education

DB led a discussion on mentorship, noting that although it has been a recurring topic for many years, progress has been limited due to challenges in bringing officials together at events. It was agreed that effective mentoring does not require an official's physical presence at events, as significant support can still be provided through regular communication and close contact.

RMSC will explore the possibility of developing a mentorship workshop to help current IROs build the skills needed to better support others within the community.

4. Work Plan

a. To review the Race Management Sub-Committee work plan.

AM shared an update on the purpose behind the work plan and how workload had been identified across multiple work teams.

b. To receive reports from the following RMSC working teams:

(i) Policies

FB shared an update confirming the race management policies remain under review until Council approves the new forms and requirements for the Olympics.

(ii) Education

As reported in the above agenda item.

(iii) Document/Rules

MJ reported the focus of the work team had been on simplifying the content of the RQC document to make it easier to follow and understand the requirements to become an International Race Officer. MJ confirmed the priority in 2026 is the review of the Race

Management Manual and this project would commence in Q1.

(iv) IT and Digital

David Brookes advised the working team remained available but awaited further direction from the Executive Office on action required on the testing of the on water digital positioning equipment and how this is to be integrated into the scoring and OCS.

WS Tim Hancock discussed the required race management forms and process to be identified and reviewed to support the digitisation of the Race Office project. RMSC confirmed to advise to Tim the identified RMSC lead for this within the coming weeks post conference.

c. Race Officials Roles, Qualifications and Competencies Document (RQC)

Additional amendments to item 6.4 of the RQC document were finalised following circulation prior to the meeting, and the updated draft received RMSC approval to be passed to the Race Officials Committee for final endorsement.

5. Event Appointments

MG (WS) gave a report on Race Official Event Appointments made in 2025, identifying World Sailing made 152 appointments to 125 race officials. MG highlighted the core objective remains to provide the highest quality of service to events while promoting gender equality and geographical diversity, supporting the global development of race officiating. The report World Sailing continues to prioritise the IOC target of gender-equal ITO appointments, with a steady increase in the percentage of female officials appointed annually.

The report identified the current interim solution for Race Official appointments with the Executive Office leading appointments, supported by an Advisory Group representing key stakeholders. It was identified the advisory group had collectively identified existing and developing officials with focus on the World Sailing Championships being held in 2027. It was recognised this process had taken place and appointments for 2027 events would now proceed, with aim to conclude all 2026 appointments by the end of Q1.

6. Any Other Business

There was no additional business to discuss.

7. Closed Meeting

- a. The sub-committee received a report on performance investigations from 2025.
- b. The sub-committee reviewed the existing Instructors, Test Administrators and Performance Assessors list and finalised decisions on any changes to the list to recommend to Race Officials

Committee.

c. Race Official Appointments

The sub-committee reviewed applications for International Race Officer status and finalised recommendation in preparation for the Race Officials Committee.