

2020 Judge's Committee Conference Call
October 14, 2020
Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order

Meeting called to order by Chair Sarah Ashton at 7:02 PM EDT, 4:02 PM PDT

II. Roll Call

Attendees

Chair Sarah Ashton

Wayne Balsiger, JC Secretary

RAJs: Mary Pierce, Area A

Bruce Cook, Area B

Jim Walsh, Area C

Edith Collins, Area D

Nancy Zangerle, Area E

Chris Luppens, Area F

Michael Roth, Area H

Steve Schupak, Area J

Mike Kaspar, Area K

Craig Daniels, Area L

Matt Hill, Race Administration Director

Bill Simon, Chair Judges Training and Testing Subcommittee

Bruce Martinson, Chair Club Judge Program

Randy Draftz, Chair Race Administration Committee

III. Approval of August Minutes

The minutes were approved as written

IV. JETTS

a. Virtual Education – Bill Simon, Bruce Martinson

Club Judge is ready to do more seminars. Much interest. We need to be sure we have a good guide for what is expected of the instructors. 3 sessions – two 2hr and one 1hr may try two 3 hours. Intro then 1 – 2 weeks to go through the materials, the first 2 hour session – validity and first protest, 5 – 7 days, more protests redress, make sure they are ready for test.

Includes Around the Race Course and study questions.

No negative comments from students. Fair amount of homework and self-study.

Instructors feel it goes on forever. Looking for ways to tighten it up.

Judge virtual – Roundtables were first to go virtual and quite successful.

Protest Day is also virtual with growing interest.

Developing a clinic on how to do virtual hearings – 1 a week from tonight. 15 people.

Focus Nov – Feb on running a lot of seminars. Not limited to area. Please start scheduling. Don't let the absence of all the instructors/supervisors stop you from hosting a seminar. Can use the US Sailing Zoom account. Bill, Nancy G, Bruce M and Bruce C will help

- b. Increase in all seminars – RAJ's
Every RAJ charged to host at least 3 CJ seminars, 2 Round Tables, a Protest Day and a Virtual Hearing clinic. You don't need to run it just organize it. Study/Test Questions – Bill/Craig
- c. Study questions – Bill - still the old ones; looking at new rules to assess whether questions are still good and if answers are still valid. Working with Sandy Grosvenor.
- d. Instructor Application/Education – Bill – We can't reasonably evaluate instructors and act on applications since the evaluation process is broken.

The Task Force Survey questions did not ask about the quality of the instructors thus we did not receive useful information and should not assume that the answers indicated that we need additional training / certification for our instructors.

Are we leaning toward requiring certification for instructors? Not yet. US Power Squadron certifies instructors and Edith Collins can/will share information on that. Whatever we do, it should be consistent across all disciplines – judges, race committee, umpires, and measurers.

We don't have new applications for people who want to be instructors.
Link to renew as instructor isn't working.

- e. Student evaluation of seminars – Matt Hill - Trying to develop a better way to get evaluations as now that they are online, only a few students per seminar fill them out.
 - f. Requests for Rules seminars – There are plans to create a rules seminar course on the US Sailing website. Royal Yachting Association (GB) did a great seminar this spring online.
- V. IJ Seminar – Sarah Ashton – October seminar isn't happening. Hoping for one in April in Atlanta – one of the last two weekends in April. More info to come.

VI. Judges Manual – Wayne Balsiger

Wayne reviewed what chapters have not been submitted yet; asking they be submitted within two weeks. Other chapters already combined into the draft. Several changes in appendix will want feedback from JC on. e.g. New Procedures guides for Protest hearings and new Time/Distance charts. Draft has both new and similar ones that were in 2017 version.

Will get draft to JC within 30 days for review by all.

Note: The Protest Procedure and Distance cards have been redone and gone to press.

Background Checks – Matt - Creating a page so applicants and RAJ's can request background checks. Updating the Judges Manual to reflect this

VII. RAJ Manual – Wayne Balsiger

Anyone with suggested improvements let Wayne know. Did you look for something that was not in it that you think should be in it?

VIII. Umpired events/CEEs – Craig Daniels– Not for Club Judges, Regional Judges or initial certification

How many umpired events can count toward NJ recertification? Does that make recertification more confusing or less? Would it be better to look at the requirements for recertification and make them more straight forward?

Steve Schupak moved to approve the recommendation on the screen as is. Not seconded – motion denied

Bruce Cook moves that proposal be distributed ASAP to be decided on at the December meeting. Seconded, Motion carried.



NJ Requirements
using Umpire and RO

IX. 2021 Meeting – Craig Daniels – recommended Zoom meeting; one or two days: Feb 20 (Saturday) or Friday 19th and 20th

Two 3 hour sessions or 4? Need 8 hours plus cocktail hour

Suggestion: Cocktail hour the night before, three 3 hour sessions the next day
2 hours Fri; 3 hours Sat; 2 hours Sun?

What time of day? Remembering we have 4 time zones

Decision in December.

X. Review Board renovation – Justin Stark

Email from Justin

Meeting tomorrow to bring regulation 15 into line with how we do business now.

Justin Stark, Fred Hagedorn, Jim Walsh working on it

Request that draft recommendation be presented to Judges before it is finalized for comments. That will happen.

XI. Plan of improvement – Jim Walsh – Jim, Matt Hill, Dave Pyron and Justin Stark are working on this. Getting close to releasing something for all to see.

XII. RRS 69 warning/penalty tracking – Bruce Cook /Sarah Ashton (recommendation to Rules Committee) – When considering penalty, according to RRS 69, you're supposed to take into account previous Rule 69 hearing and other factors that would suggest a penalty should be aggravated or mitigated. Question was how do I find out if any prior history? There is not a tracking mechanism or database now so the Protest Committee would only find out about any previous hearings if it came out during the current hearing, or personal knowledge. Reporting to US Sailing is not required unless penalty meets the threshold for reporting to MNA.

Should this go to the World Sailing Rules Committee or Judges Committee if this is an issue they want to address? Or should we go to our own Rules Committee?

Maybe it falls to Race Admin that all RRS 69 hearing be reported to Race Admin; a US Prescription?

Bill Simon moved that Bruce Cook send the issue to the US Rules Committee and asks how they want to handle this because mitigating and aggravating factors we don't track.

Seconded by Michael Roth

Motion carries

Bruce Cook will contact Chairs of US Rules Committee. Rob Overton, outgoing and Peter Wilson, incoming.

Discussion- Does World Sailing know of any MNA's that already have such a tracking system in place and how is it working? Then we take it to the Rules Committee.

XIII. Renewals by Area

The JC reviewed the tracking lists of expiring certifications by area.

XIV. New Applications/upgrades

a. Farquhars – Judge Emeritus - Edith Collins

Approved Barbara Farquhar and Tom Farquhar as Judge Emeritus.

XV. Other Business

RAJ's need to organize more seminars, protest day, roundtables so judges have the opportunities to participate in one or more of the JETTS offerings.

Protest day can have multiple hearings in one day that can be used to meet initial certification requirements.

If instructor needs to get up to speed on seminar, sent them to Bill Simon. RAJ can assist and then be trained to run on their own.

Thanks to Mary Pierce with help on meeting minutes.

Meeting adjourned by Sarah, at 9:04 PM EDT, 6:04 PM PDT

Wayne Balsiger
JC Secretary