

Judges' Committee Conference Call  
December 14, 2021  
Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order

Meeting called to order by Chair Wayne Balsiger at 7:10 PM EST, 4:10 PM PST

II. Roll Call

Attendees

Chair Wayne Balsiger

RAJs: Mary Pierce, Area A  
Bruce Cook, Area B  
Edith Collins, Area D  
Nancy Zangerle, Area E  
Chris Luppens, Area F  
Michael Gross, Area G  
Steve Schupak, Area J  
John Porter, Area K  
Craig Daniels, Area L  
Mike Kaspar, retiring Area K RAJ

Members at Large

Sarah Ashton  
Bill Simon, Chair Judges Training and Testing Subcommittee  
Bruce Martinson, Chair Club Judge Program  
Nancy Glover, Round Table Coordinator

III. Approval of October Minutes

The October Minutes were approved as written.

IV. Announcements – Wayne Balsiger

- Sarah Ashton is appointed Member at Large and has volunteered to edit a Judges' newsletter every couple of months. Content will be solicited from RAJs, JC Committee members, and other knowledgeable sources. The RAJs will distribute to their constituents.
- Congratulations to our U.S. IJs renewed by World Sailing for 2022.
- Sandy Grosvenor has been appointed the US Sailing Race Administration Committee Chairperson.

V. Renewals' needing Approvals- Sarah A

All RAJs reviewed their respective renewals. Sarah will forward them to US Sailing Race Administration along with a list of those regional and national judges not renewing so that US Sailing may send them a letter of appreciation for their service. Those judges who have not met all the renewal qualifications will automatically get a 6 -month extension without certification.

John Porter will update the renewal spreadsheet layout for next year.

## VI. New Applications/upgrades

One application was deferred due to a missing requirement.

Separately, it was noted that there is a new procedure in place that will allow the Committee, once it approves the technical specifications of an applicant, to request that the US Sailing Ethics Committee review the personal requirements to determine if that applicant meets the criteria established by US Sailing.

It was reiterated that applicants request references within a few weeks, not years, of an event.

## VII. Update on Misconduct Subcommittee – Nancy Glover

The Misconduct Subcommittee has completed the training outline and wants to vote for the database idea.

Motion 1 amended to: Create a confidential database at US Sailing to track any actions taken under rule 69.2(h) or 69.2(i) and make reporting to US Sailing mandatory. The motion was approved as amended.

Nancy stated that US Sailing might add a prescription to the RRS in the next quad. It will be counted as a guideline and added to the Judges Manual.

Motion 2 amended to: When the protest committee decides that a competitor, boat owner, or support person has broken Rule 69.1(a), the protest committee shall request any facts found, conclusions, and actions related to the party from the US Sailing Misconduct Database. US Sailing will provide any such records or respond with "no record in the database," with the understanding that the report goes to party as well from US Sailing. The motion was approved as amended.

Motion 3 amended to: JETTS will create and offer training opportunities to allow judges to gain adequate experience for investigating, being a protest committee member, and chairing rule 69 hearings. The Judges Committee on the US Sailing Website will create a list or database of qualified judges. The motion was approved as amended.

Zoom training for misconduct procedures, hearings, guidance will be forthcoming. See attachment. Wayne thanked the people who worked for months on this; Nancy Glover, Matt Hill, Steve Wrigley, Craig Daniels, John Porter, Bruce Martinson, Bruce Cook, Dick Rose, Rick Mallinson and Darryl Waskow. And she consulted Leo Reise, IJ Canada, and Eliot Levy, IJ Venezuela.

## VIII. Judges Manual Update – Wayne Balsiger

The draft is being sent soon to JC. Updates include sections on Misconduct, SafeSport, Background checks, and the new US Sailing Policy on Personal Attributes Requirements. Updated Judge Certification Requirements, updated Rule 14 Decision tree, detailed PC Hearing procedures, updated resource links, and other minor changes.

John Porter says: On Judges Manual: Before publication (after the substantial changes are approved), I can take the Judges Manual document and add working links for easy navigation on a phone without excessive scrolling.

IX. IJ Seminar Update –Wayne Balsiger

The WS International Judges' Seminar is February 11 -13, 2022.

The potential US applicants have been reviewed and approved to attend the seminar. Matt sent them an email with links to the registration and the hotel on November 13.

All attendees are requested to stay at the Hilton to meet the room minimum to get the meeting rooms priced as expected.

X. Race Admin Director Report – Matt Hill relayed this to Wayne:

US Sailing Stakeholder Summit JC-related items included discussions, which covered improving the volunteer experience. IF anyone has ideas, let Wayne and Matt know.

At the beginning and end of the summit were discussions on Leadership

Andrew Clouston was hired as Senior VP for Program and Services and is responsible for youth and adult programs, competition, education, offshore, race administration, and information technology. He comes from Yachting NZ (the NZ NGB) and Maritime New Zealand's Operations Manager for the 36<sup>th</sup> America's Cup. He is well familiar with Race Officials and is a team race umpire.

He supports our programs. Matt reports to him and the other "wet departments" mentioned above. Andrew takes a broad view of programs and how whole programs can work better.

Judges Seminars: not many on the calendar, but more coming shortly. Both in-person and online seminars. Cautiously on in-person because of Covid. We plan to continue to offer both methods. No distance for zoom. In-person has some advantages as well for instructors and students.

We are working on Canvas adjustments for in-person seminars. AJS not in canvas. Just PPT.  
More seminars coming

The Education Department is looking at other platforms to utilize possibly. Another one has a much better test solution included: Club Judge and Class marker for AJS. In about 18-24 months, likely new program. Don't know much about the new platform and how it will look similar to Canvas.

If RAJs have not scheduled in-person seminars yet, please plan them. Bill Simon noted that in-Person instructors could renew their instructor certifications by being assistant instructors at current online seminars.

Roundtables: Nancy Glover commented that new topics options are available. Please talk to Nancy to schedule more roundtables. 8 of 20 spots are available in a February Roundtable.

XI. February meeting plans – Wayne Balsiger, Craig Daniels

Wayne proposed the same format we used in 2021, as shown here. JC members agreed to this format.

a. Zoom meetings Friday to Sunday, February 18,19,20, 2022

i. Friday 2/18 6 – 9 PM EST

3 – 6 PM PST

Saturday 2/19 3 PM – 6 PM EST

12 PM – 3 PM PST

Sunday 2/20 3 PM – 6 PM EST

12 PM – 3 PM PST

b. Potential Topics for Annual meeting

- i. Review of the state of the Areas - RAJs
- ii. US Race Admin Director Report – Matt Hill
- iii. Judges' Plan of Improvement process – Jim Walsh
- iv. JM Manual - Wayne
- v. RAJ Guide – Make it more useful
- vi. Club Judge Program – Bruce Martinson
- vii. Advanced Judges Seminar – Bill Simon
- viii. Continuing Education
- ix. Protest Day – Bruce Cook
- x. Round Tables – Nancy Glover
- xi. Clinics – Steve Wrigley
- xii. Webinars -
- xiii. Training issues in General
- xiv. Testing – Ric Crabbe
- xv. IJ Mentor -
- xvi. Misconduct - Nancy Glover
- xvii. Umpire Committee Update – David Pyron
- xviii. Instructor Qualifications /application – Bill Simon
- xix. Certification / Recertification – Craig Daniels, Mary Peirce
- xx. WS Judges – Kevin Hawkins
- xxi. Judge-in Training
- xxii. Rule 42 on the water training – Craig Daniels
- xxiii. One hundred eighty virtual miles for 2022?  
2/2021: The 180-mile requirement can be fulfilled by video conferencing for 2020  
and 2021.
- xxiv. Old Business
- xxv. New Business

Judge Forum created 2/2021. Not many people using

XII. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 10:06 EST, 7:06 PST

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Ashton and Wayne Balsiger