

Judges' Committee Minutes

April 25, 2022

- I. The Meeting was called to order by Chair Wayne Balsiger at 7:03 PM EDT, 4:03 PM PDT
 - II. Attendees

Chair Wayne Balsiger

RAJs:

 - Mary Pierce, Area A
 - Bruce Cook, Area B
 - Jim Walsh, Area C
 - Nancy Zangerle, Area E
 - Michael Gross, Area G
 - Don Wieneke, Area G – Incoming RAJ
 - Steve Schupak, Area J
 - John Porter, Area K
 - Craig Daniels, Area L
 - Bill Simon, Chair Judges Training and Testing Subcommittee
 - Bruce Martinson, Chair Club Judge Program

Members at Large:

 - Sarah Ashton, Judges' Committee Newsletter
 - Nancy Glover, Round Table Coordinator
 - Darryl Waskow, International Judge (IJ) Candidate Mentor
 - III. The February minutes were approved as read.
 - IV. Announcements – Wayne Balsiger
 - The new RAJ for Area G is Don Wieneke. Wayne and the Committee thanked Mike Gross, the outgoing RAJ for Area G, for several years of service on the JC.
 - There is an entry in SOARS for CEUS for those that attended the JC Annual Meeting.
 - We have added documents to the Useful Protest Committee documents section, such as several World Sailing (WS) Misconduct hearing checklists.
 - Wayne is compiling a list of past JC Chairs.
 - Rule 18 experimental rules will be available soon for testing.
 - Wayne suggested *VisualPing.io* as a method to monitor Judges' Seminar schedule changes.
 - V. Wayne introduced IJ Candidate Mentor Darryl Waskow. Darryl discussed his approach to mentoring. Steve Shupak noted that World Sailing (WS) is in flux, so there is conflicting info on the web, in the RO requirements, and information given by staff. As to deadlines, requirements, etc. The US Sailing deadline for applications is June 1 and the WS deadline is September 1.
 - VI. Sarah Ashton gave a brief overview of RRS 68, the Judges' Committee Newsletter. The RAJs will continue to circulate the newsletter to their constituents. As suggested, she will send the newsletter to the Race Management chair.
 - VII. The following certifications were approved:
 - Mays Dickey, RJ – Michael Gross
 - Tony Weiner, RJ– Bruce Cook
 - Britt Hall, NJ – Bruce Cook
 - Russ Sobotta, RJ – John Porter
 - Geoff Pedrick, RJ – John Porter
- Wayne reminded the RAJs to check on those with the six-month grace period

- VIII. Nancy Glover discussed the new Federal law addressing Engine/propulsion Cut-Off Switches (ECOS) (kill switches). She discussed the proposed language for a US Sailing Prescription on ECOS and the need for a culture change on using them as Race Officials. She will forward two versions of the prescription that are being developed to JC. She requested that OAs begin adding the requirement in the NOR so that it becomes a rule.
- IX. Nancy updated US Sailing's Misconduct Reporting. The below motions were passed at the December JC Meeting and are in effect:
- Motion 1; 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.
 - Motion 2; 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 the party as well from US Sailing.
 - Motion 3; JETTS will create and offer training opportunities to allow judges to gain adequate experience in 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.
- Bill Simon noted that these motions are for guidance only and that through training, the newsletter, etc., the JC needs to get the word out about this policy/best practice. If everyone complies with these policies, no US Sailing prescription will be required. He also added that the Clinic on Misconduct had been successfully tested.
- X. Craig Daniels update on Rule 42 training and endorsement. He reminded the JC that the Committee approved to create an endorsement system for rule 42 with the basic framework of:
- with a series of clinics
 - with tracking in soars and find a race official
 - may have endorsement by resume for appropriate candidates, but taking the seminar will be encouraged
- The first rule 42 Clinic for those at the entry-level is to be held May 9 and will be free. Bill Simon commented that Craig has put in a tremendous amount of work on this project.
- XI. Wayne gave an update on the Judges Manual. The newest changes are SafeSport, background checks, and misconduct.
- Craig presented the changes to the Certification Guidelines. One correction is needed; the test score for RJ and NJ needs to be changed to 84%. Once corrected, the document will be circulated to the JC for one last check and posted.
- After the substantial changes are approved, John Porter has offered to take the Judges Manual document and add working links for easy navigation on a phone without excessive scrolling.
- XII. John Porter is waiting for the Plan of Improvement/Complaints section of the RAJ guide.
- XIII. Bill Simon stated that education is winding down as the sailing season ramps up. People are still requesting club judge seminars.
- XIV. Wayne will send out a poll to determine the date of the June JC.
- XV. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:39 EDT, 5:39 PDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Ashton