

RRS 68

The Latest News from
the Judges' Committee



In This Newsletter:

Chairman's Corner

Page 02

Clinic for Rule 42 Enforcement

Page 03

Race Administration Committee

Page 04

Happenings in Area C

Page 06

Useful Links

Page 08

WELCOME TO THE JUDGES' NEWSLETTER

Sarah Ashton

The summer sailing season is commencing! I hope you have your summer filled with sailing, judging and fun.

If you have any tips for your fellow judges, I will start a JUDGE TIP section with your contributions. Please feel free to send me your ideas for preparing for an event, working with the OA and RC, organizing hearings, etc.

If you have any topics you would like addressed or articles to include in the newsletter, please send them to your RAJ or me. Pertinent photos will also be appreciated.

Thanks to Priscilla Parker for the fabulous action shots.

ashtonsh@bellsouth.net

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Wayne Balsiger

For many of us in the more northern climes, the boat is now back in the water and racing.

RAJ Area G - Don Wieneke: I am pleased to announce that Don Wieneke has accepted the appointment as RAJ for Area G and started his new role. Don is a National Judge and Regional Race Officer who recently sold his J105. I think Don will do a fine job, and we welcome him to the Judges' Committee. Thank you to Michael Gross for his RAJ service. One of the items the JC is working on is new training for Rule 42. The Alpha test clinic in May is full. This clinic is designed for Certified Judges. Watch the Judge seminar calendar for more offerings.

Recent additions to the [Judges page](#) Guidelines section are the updated Judges Certification Requirements (updated April 2022). This two-page PDF lists most but not all the requirements for certification and renewal as Club Judge, Regional Judge and National Judge. It is a much easier method to see the quantitative requirements than before.

Items added to the Useful Protest Committee Documents section include several WS Misconduct Hearing checklists.

It pays to explore the web pages to see what is new or updated.

Experimental Rule 18: The WS Racing Rules Committee has commissioned a Rule 18 Working Party made up of international sailors and rules experts to try and find ways to simplify rule 18 without significantly changing the way the game is currently being played. The Rule 18 WP is looking for fleets willing to test a new rule 18 between May 1 and July 15, 2022. Any fleets, clubs, sailing organizations or classes, etc., ready to help the Rule 18 WP by testing a new rule 18, please get in touch with Dave Perry at davperry@optonline.net.

As always, our meeting minutes are posted on the [website](#).

Thanks for all you do as Judges.



CLINIC FOR RULE 42 ENFORCEMENT

Craig Daniels

JETTS, the US Sailing Judges Education Training and Testing subcommittee, is developing a Clinic for rule 42 enforcement via Appendix P. The clinic's goal is to help beginning and intermediate judges get better at enforcing rule 42 on the water (hereon called rule 42). The best way to become good at rule 42 is through practice under the tutelage of an experienced judge, but our goal is to speed up that process with off-the-water training.

The clinic assumes little to no knowledge of enforcing rule 42. intermediate-level judges will find some good information as well.

When on the water with a more experienced judge, one gets to practice picking out violations from a group of boats, and likely, most of all, these boats will not be breaking rule 42. Because of this, one might not see a particular infraction throughout an entire event, so it can take a lot of time to program your brain with the necessary pattern recognition. We want to speed up that process by seeding your brain with knowledge of the rule through reading and discussion and video examples of some common breaches. We also hope to have videos of boat groupings within which boats may or may not be breaking rule 42.

In addition to reviewing the rules and learning from a video, the clinic will cover driving strategies so that the judges are seen and positioned at the most likely rule-breaking areas. Also covered will be the philosophy of giving the competitor the benefit of the doubt, which means the judges must be sure a competitor broke a rule before penalizing.

We could use more footage of boats that are possibly, but not necessarily, breaking rule 42 and video of boats in fleets. Our most likely source is coaches, so please let me know if anyone has that kind of video or knows of coaches who are willing to contribute. My email address is sailing@craigdaniels.com.

For those that don't have a rule 42 reference list, here it is. This is most of the required homework before the clinic. The quiz is an old World Sailing quiz, and we anticipate creating our own in the future.

Follow this link to the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS). Rule 42 starts on page 27.
[https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/RRS20212024Finalwithbookmarks-\[27255\].pdf](https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/RRS20212024Finalwithbookmarks-[27255].pdf)

Watch this Royal Yachting Association video: [TOP 5 RULE 42 MISTAKES and how to avoid them in Single-Handed Dinghy Racing](#).

Read the World Sailing Interpretations:
[https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/Rule42InterpretationsMay21-\[27359\].pdf](https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/Rule42InterpretationsMay21-[27359].pdf)

Read the World Sailing ILCA Common Breaches:
[https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/Rule42Laser201320032014-\[16804\].pdf](https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/Rule42Laser201320032014-[16804].pdf)

Take the Quiz: [https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/Rule42Quiz2013-\[15823\].pdf](https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/Rule42Quiz2013-[15823].pdf)

Check your quiz answers and be prepared to discuss them during the clinic:
[https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/Rule42Quiz2013-\[15823\].pdf](https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/Rule42Quiz2013-[15823].pdf)

Craig Daniels
Area L RAJ and Umpire Committee

RACE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Sandy Grosvenor

Greetings from the Chair of the Race Administration Committee,

SAQ - (Sometimes Asked Question, not to be confused with frequently asked)

(1) WTH is the Race Administration Committee?

The Race Admin Committee (RAC) is made up of the Chairs of Judges, Umpires, Race Officers, Classifiers, Measurers, Appeals, and Racing Rules. As defined in the Regulations (section 4.06, if you care), it "proposes products and programs that promote quality race administration, and coordinates the common activities of the committees within the Race Administration Office."

(2) Where does the RAC fit into US Sailing?

The RAC is also a committee within the Race Administration Division (RAD). Said RAD is one of the 6 "Operating Divisions" defined in the By-laws (Bylaw 501). The Regulations define the RAD as being composed of all the above-mentioned committees plus the RAC. The Chair of the RA Division also gets to be Chair of the RC Committee.

But wait, there's more. On the staff side of US Sailing, we have the Race Administration Office (RAO?). That is headed up by Matt Hill, staff member with the title Race Administration Director. And working under Matt is Judie McCann, Race Administration Coordinator.

In effect, the RA Committee/Division oversees the "volunteer side" of all things race administration related. And we work hand-in-hand with the "staff side".



Race Administration Committee Continued

(3) Why do I care as a Judge?

If you are only a Judge with US Sailing, then you can leave the above details to the Chair of the Judges Committee. But while each of our officiating disciplines has its criteria for certification, renewal, and training, there is a lot common in each discipline. Many of us have more than one certification, and keeping track of it all is (I think) unnecessarily complicated.

Secondly, I have found that regattas work best with the judges, race officers, umpires, classifiers, and measurers all understand, respect and work with each other - before and during an event. Working together, we can avoid a mess of problems (conflicts in NoR/SI, confusing clauses, confusing decisions) that can maximize the chances of a protest committee eating dinner during an event instead of conducting hearings all night. Succeeding at that involves all of us talking together.

(4) What is the RAC up to?

In 2020, the US Sailing Board formed a Race Administration Task Force to evaluate how Race Administration Division could meet its goals and what improvements could be made. That resulted in the "Race Administration Task Force Report" published in late 2020. It made a series of recommendations on improving training (including better training for our instructors), streamlining certification processes, improving communications both within the RAD and between RAD and its stakeholders, and promoting better leadership and recognition for our dedicated officials. You can find the full report here: <https://drive.google.com/open>

We are now starting to look at how to implement the recommendations of that Report. You are welcome to read the report and send feedback to me directly (sandy@gromurph.org) or Wayne.

I also welcome suggestions on how US Sailing can better serve our race officials and our end customers - the sailors.

Thanks for reading,
Sandy

Chairman of the Race Administration Committee



HAPPENINGS IN AREA C

Jim Walsh

Area C includes New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Northern Virginia. We have five sailing associations (NJYRA, BBYRA, CBYRA and DCLSA), 28 Judges, 3 International Judges, 15 National Judges, 6 Regional Judges, and 4 Club Judges, along with judges in training.

The educational offerings provided by the Judges Committee are available by signing up on the US Sailing website. The offerings currently include a virtual Existing offerings can be found at:

<https://www.ussailing.org/competition/rules-officiating/resources/find-a-seminar/judge-seminar-calendar/>

More programs are being added to the calendar soon, so keep checking the calendar or request a workshop through your Regional Area Judge. There will be a Club Judge workshop in the Raritan Bay area this spring, and others will be scheduled as requested.

To help promote new judges in Area C, I have asked Organizing Authorities to try to offer one extra spot on their hearing panels to people seeking to become certified judges or upgrade their certification.

Yacht clubs are finishing up finalizing their season schedules and events. Judges are reviewing event documents for Organizing Authorities. Yacht clubs in southern Area C are actively racing, and the northern sections of Area C will begin racing in May.

Jim Walsh, Regional Administrative Judge, Area C



USEFUL LINKS

- [US Sailing Judges' Page](#)
- [The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 with the corrections and updates for Jan 1, 2022](#)
- [SOARS](#)
- [Safesport](#)
- [World Sailing](#)

RESOURCES

- [Find a Seminar](#)
- [US Sailing Judge Certification Requirements](#)
- [2021-2024 US Prescriptions to The Racing Rules of Sailing](#)
- [Appendices KG & LG - NoR and SI Guides & Templates](#)
- [The Judges' Manual for 2021-2024](#)
- [Guidelines for Online Hearings](#)
- [Continuing Education Events and CEUs Table](#)
- [Race Officials Certification Forms](#)

SAFESPORT EXPIRING?

Check your Annual Report in SOARS
under CURRENT CERTIFICATIONS AND TESTS:
for SafeSport and Background Check expiration dates.

