

Judges' Committee Agenda and Minutes Template  
August 30, 2022 7:00 PM EDT  
Agenda

I. Call to order

Meeting called to order by Chair Wayne Balsiger at 7:18 PM EDT, 4:18 PM PDT

II. Roll Call

Chair Wayne Balsiger

RAJs: Mary Pierce, Area A  
Edith Collins, Area D  
Nancy Zangerle, Area E  
Chris Luppens, Area F  
Don Wieneke, Area G  
Tom Pochereva, Area H  
Steve Schupak, Area J  
John Porter, Area K  
Craig Daniels, Area L

Members at Large

Sarah Ashton, Judges' Committee Newsletter  
Nancy Glover, Round Table Coordinator  
David Pyron, Chair Umpires Committee  
Matt Hill, Race Administration Director

III. Approval of June Minutes

The June Minutes were approved as written.

IV. Announcements – Wayne Balsiger

- US Sailing received two complaints about Judges. Per the Race Official Report and Complaint Policy, I have named Bruce Cook, Steve Wrigley and Bill Stump to a sub-committee to determine a recommendation to the JC.
- Sailing Athletes Committee meeting
  - CEO Alan Ostfield said they are reviewing IT Systems.
  - They know IT has been underfunded and are about halfway thru a review of the IT systems at US Sailing.
  - There have been many very positive personnel changes at US Sailing since Alan took over last year.
- Feedback to Rules committee on US Sailing proposed rule changes for 2025
  - US Sailing Proposed RRS changes.
  - As members of the JC, we do get a unique opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed rule changes and it is important to try to do so. Usually we have several weeks, not several days Leadtime.
    - Wayne did provide feedback and got a nice response from Peter Wilson detailing reactions to my feedback.
    - The BOD did approve the changes proposed for submitting to WS.

## V. Race Admin Director Report – Matt Hill

- Insurance
  - Meetings are ongoing with insurance providers with an emphasis on getting coverage for race officials by the first of 2023. Not there yet.
- SOARS changes
  - It was suggested that a button be implemented to allow a check box for on-line hearings.
  - Due to ongoing issues with replication, IT is making no changes to the database other than critical fixes at this time.
  - There may be a way to do this in the future, and Matt will update if it becomes possible, but this type of request is on hold for the time being.
  - Matt suggests that those doing SOARS simply note it's an on-line Zoom hearing.
  - Craig Daniels noted it makes vetting Zoom hearings more difficult as the database can't be sorted for it and necessitates reading the details of event notes.
  - There is a major overhaul of the database software coming possibly by 2025.

## VI. Sarah Ashton – Newsletter

- November Newsletter is in progress and new article ideas are needed along with writers to do it.
- Newsletter goes to RAJ's and they should send to their email lists for race officials and other people of interest, cc'ing Sarah and Wayne.
- Some items in the Newsletter like misconduct are so important that RAJs should send the Newsletter along with email noting their significance.

## VII. New Applications & Upgrades

- Liesl Mordhorst, RJ – Craig Daniels: Approved.
- Ray Groble, NJ – John Porter: Approved.
- James Hunter, RJ – Edit Collins: Approved.
- Carol Robinson, NJ - Edith Collins: Application is tabled.
  - Wayne to create response.

Reminder to check in with Judges whose certification expire this year.

Our aim this year should be to have very few grace period candidates.

Let's work hard on getting all the boxes checked before the end of the year.

Preference was noted in an effort to reduce duplication on subject matter that instead of repeating, paraphrasing or summarizing, a simple reference to the appropriate part of the Judges Manual be used.

## VIII. Update on Rule 42 Clinic and Endorsement – Craig Daniels

- Close to ready on revised content for beta test.
- Sometime in fall or early winter 2023 for presentation.
- Focus on 5 or 6 of the most common calls.

## IX. RAJ Guide – John Porter

- RAJ guide revision forthcoming for review by JC.

## X. Judges Manual Update – Wayne Balsiger

- Update status on JM; draft JM sent out 7/31 for JC member review.
- Incorporating received suggested changes and a new version for review; should be out shortly.
- Misconduct was discussed along with guidelines for RRS 69 hearings and further action by US Sailing.
- In reference the JM it was noted in an effort to reduce duplication on subject matter that it be summarized and instead of repeating or paraphrasing in the judges manual, a simple reference to the appropriate document be used.

## XI. Education – Bill Simon, Bruce Martinson, Bruce Cook

- List of Educational offerings is being posted to website.

## XII. New Business

- Jim Walsh – Heads-up on what is being sent to Review Board on misconduct.
  - Some reports are incomplete, as if the PC expects the Review board to issue the penalty.
  - Reports should suggest further action if needed.
  - Notes about new misconduct process not getting to all judges.
  - Rule 69 process to be added again to the guidelines area.
  - Special purpose easy to find documents should be discussed.
  - Email telling judges about it.
  - Add steps to what we did earlier on misconduct and JM refer to doc on guidelines.
  - Discussion on what goes to Matt to reduce duplication.
- Wayne Balsiger: Clean-up of old forms.
  - Need volunteers to look at forms and references to forms to be sure only the latest is available.
  - Craig found an old reference form link in the Secure Area on the RAJ checklist for Certification.
- John Porter: Make sure the Recert Spreadsheet is the latest and the older versions are not available. He is sending our current version of Recertification Tracking Form
- Wayne Balsiger: October meeting dates.
  - Wayne suggests Wednesday October; 12 not good for Chris and Edith and others.
  - Other possible dates include the week of October 9th, 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - Will send request for all to reply for best dates.
  - BOD meetings: only possible conflicts are October 14, 15 and December 5.
  - RO 2nd Tuesday of March, June, September, December.
  - Race Mgmt. 3rd Tuesday of March, June, September, December
  - Wayne proposes December 6<sup>th</sup> ARO, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup>.
- David Pyron: ZOOM vs. In-Person Hearings
  - Do we want a JC position paper on Zoom versus in-person and lead time of finding judges for events?
  - In-person usually better than Zoom, especially if boats to move around.
  - If not possible can use zoom.
  - Issue about the OA wanting zoom instead of in-person.

- In Hawaii, Zoom has encouraged more protest follow through and not letting things slide as much.
- Zoom may leave out local persons getting experience toward certification.
- Could be newsletter topic.
- Can send info via Matt to the Quarterdeck publication reminding OAs to find PC earlier.
  
- IU Seminars: in New Zealand and IU manual may be in works with David.
  - IU seminar in US.
- Matt Hill:
  - IRO seminar 9-23 to 25 in Long Beach YC.
  - Open seats if anyone interested.
- Next agenda items:
  - Discussion on accepting a Canadian Judge's reference for US certification.
  - Chris Luppens: Issues getting references for CJs to get certified in big Areas without many judges near them.

### XIII. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 9:07 PM EDT, 6:07 PM PDT

Respectfully submitted,  
Donald K. Wieneke