

Annual Judges' Committee Minutes

February 10, 2024

8:30 AM CST, 6:30 AM PST

Annual Meeting Schedule

Friday 2/9 Central Time
Harken Tour 4:00 PM
Pre-Dinner social hour 6:00 PM
Dinner for in-person 7:00 PM

	CST	EST	PST
Saturday Meeting 2/10	8:30 AM	9:30 AM	6:30 AM
Meeting End	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	3:00 PM
Saturday Dinner	7:00 PM		

Sunday depart, if not before. Other activities available include Pewaukee town & YC tour, Gina's for Lunch.

- I. Assemble for Annual Meeting
- II. Call to order: by Chair Wayne Balsiger at 8:30 AM CST, 6:30 AM PST
- III. Roll Call

Attendees		In Person	Zoom	Active Sailor
Chair Wayne Balsiger				Y
RAJs: Mary Pierce	Area A	Y		
	Bruce Cook		Y	
	Harry Foote		Y	
	Jerry Thompson	Y		
	Nancy Zangerle	Y		
	Chris Luppens	Y		
	Don Wieneke		Y	
	Tom Pochereva	Y		Y
	Steve Holmstrom	Y		
	John Porter	Y		Y
	Craig Daniels		Y	Y

Special Guests

Rich Jepsen, President	Y
Tom Hubbell, Chair Ethics Committee	Y
Kevin Hawkins, US Rep - WS Judges' Committee	Y
Jess (Jessica) Haverstock, Major Gifts Officer	Y

Members at Large

Sarah Ashton	Judges' Committee Newsletter	Y	
Bill Simon, Chair	Judges Training & Testing Subcomm.	Y	
Bruce Martinson	Chair Club Judge Program		Y
Nancy Glover	Round Table Coordinator	Y	
Steve Schupak	Chair Umpires Committee		Y
Darryl Waskow	IJ Candidate Mentor	Y	
Ric Crabbe	Testing Coordinator		N
Steve Wrigley	Chair, Clinics Program		N
Matt Hill	Race Administration Director	Y	

IV. Approval of Minutes

The December Minutes - Approved as written.

V. Welcome and Announcements – Wayne Balsiger

- Welcomed everyone to the annual meeting.
- Committee Surveys – Review presented. Detailed regional statistics available.
- Active Sailor. We need everyone to let me know if you are considered a Sailor Athlete and let US Sailing know. We are required to have a minimum of 33% of committee members be Sailor-Athlete.
<https://www.ussailing.org/about/our-organization/get-involved/sailor-athlete/>
Several RAJs said they will fill out the form as they are active and not recorded as active.

VI. Review of the State of the Areas - RAJs.

Please cover Judge Counts, Challenges/issues, Strengths/What is working well. If you want to submit a report ahead of time that works well.

- Discussion on late renewals, the term 'extension' vs 'renewal grace period' (aka RGP).
 - Brief discussion on in-person vs video seminars.
 - Comments related to attendance and test results. Test hesitancy and increased performance after a test debriefing.
 - Issues of people wait too long before beginning recertification (i.e.. 3.5 years into term).
 - Note that with 'RGP' you do not start over with certification.
 - What does recertification during 'RGP' mean? The Judge loses insurance during 'RGP'.
 - Should the tracking spreadsheet have an 'RGP' with judge intending to renew?
 - 'Umpire' community has a 6-month renewal period.
 - World Sailing does not give 'RGP'.
 - There is a working party (committee) supposed to be unifying/similar parameters across US Sailing disciplines (Race Management vs Judges, vs Instructors etc.)

Area A - Mary Pierce

It would help to increase the quantity of Judge Seminars and have a 'push' to encourage judges to recertify.

There are currently 40 judges or judges in training listed on the Find a Race Official page plus 5 more who have been dropped from the list because they are on an extension (3) or because they let something expire. I expect to get all of them back. Counting all of them, we have 8 JIT's, 19 CJ's, 5 RJ's, 13 NJ's and 2 IJ's. 2 of the RJ's are dual citizens in Area D or E and 1 of the NJ's is a dual citizen in Area F. One of the NJ's is an IJ and we have 1 Canadian IJ. I expect 6 renewals this year - 3 NJ's and 3 CJ's. To date I've heard of 3 CJ's who wish to upgrade to RJ and a JIT who may go straight to RJ plus a lapsed NJ who wants to recertify as an NJ.

What is working? We're beginning to get OA's at traditionally self-contained clubs to ask for help getting certified judges in to help with their events. Part of that pressure is coming from their own people who realize they need recommendations from other judges to upgrade. More OA's are contacting me to get names for them to contact for their events as well.

Online offerings for continuing ed still seem to be the favorite choice for our judges. We are very fortunate to have the queen of the Round Tables based in Area A and the number of those sessions

available is amazing. Our judges are also accessing the online clinics, protest days and the Thursday night series.

We still need to make a concerted effort to help our Club Judges and JIT's get events and hearings. We all tend to invite other judges we know we can count on and like to work with and that leaves our newer folks out in the cold. So particularly with events with more than one panel, I urge all of us to reach out to at least one club judge or JIT to invite them to join so they can gain experience.

Area B - Bruce Cook

As clubs plan their events for the year, and as needs arise during the year, opportunities to judge exist. The Administrative Judges on the Judges Committee (RAJs) have occasion to circulate opportunities to other RAJs who pass that information along to you using their mailing lists. The +1 Program started in Area B in 2022 and continued in 2023 has had some success making opportunities available thanks to the clubs and organizing authorities. US Sailing has a new program on the US Sailing website called the Race Official/Organizing Authority Connection Board where you can post your availability and interest in officiating as well as the officiating needs of your club's events. Opportunities to officiate do exist and these methods of communication are helping you identify them.

According to US Sailing's Find a Race Official, Area B had 3 International Judges, 7 National Judges (3 of whom are also International Judges), 9 Regional Judges, 7 Club Judges, and 4 Judges in Training in 2023. The Area mailing list consists of 69 names. This represents a slight increase in the total number of judges from the total number in 2022 and a sizeable increase in the number of people on the 2023 mailing list. Hopefully, this is a good sign for the future and the growth of the judges' corp.

Area C - Harry Foote Report VERBAL REPORT WITH DETAILS.

Area D – Jerry Thompson Large number of states (9), 213 clubs, 59 judges, long distances. Rule 42 concerns.

Judges NJs - 13, RJs - 15, CJs - 25, JITs - 6,	Total 59	Sailing clubs 213	Judges per club .3
North Carolina: NJs – 2, RJs – 2, CJs – 3, JITs – 1	Total 8	29 sailing clubs	.3
South Carolina: NJs – 2, RJs – 1, CJs – 2, JITs – 2	Total 7	14 sailing clubs	.5
Georgia: NJs – 1, RJs – 1, CJs – 2, JITs – 0	Total 4	16 sailing clubs	.2
Florida: NJs – 8, RJs – 7, CJs – 15, JITs – 3	Total 33	115 sailing clubs	.3
Alabama: NJs – 0, RJs – 1, CJs – 0, JITs – 0	Total 1	10 sailing clubs	.1
Mississippi: NJs – 0, RJs – 0, CJs – 1, JITs – 0	Total 1	8 sailing clubs	.1
Louisiana: NJs – 0, RJs – 3, CJs – 1, JITs – 0	Total 4	8 sailing clubs	.5
Arkansas: NJs – 0, RJs – 0, CJs – 0, JITs – 0	Total 0	4 sailing clubs	0
Tennessee: NJs – 0, RJs – 0, CJs – 1, JITs – 0	Total 1	9 sailing clubs	.1

Carol Robinson Area D Regional Sailing Association Representative.

Yacht Racing Associations/Regional Sailing Associations:

Florida Sailing Association, Fort Myers

Gulf Yachting Association, Biloxi

South Atlantic Yacht Racing Association, Atlanta

Clubs in Arkansas and Tennessee do not belong to a RSA.

	JITs	Club Judges	Regional Judges	National Judges	Total
Feb. 2022	13	8	2	6	30
Feb. 2023	14	9	2	6	31
Feb, 2024	12	12	2	6	32

Challenges:

1. Currently some Area D clubs do not have easy access to a certified judge.
2. The number of qualified Rule 42 judges is not sufficient to meet the needs of clubs especially during the February thru March time frame.
3. Five judges retired in 2023 (2 NJ, 1 RJ, 1 CJ, 1 JIT). Reasons: Insurance, US Sailing policies, health.
4. Thus far four judges will be retiring (not recertifying) in 2024 (3 RJ, 1 CJ). Reasons: Health, insurance.

Goals :

1. Increase judge numbers in Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee which combined have a total of 3 judges. There are 31 sailing clubs in these states and .1 judges per club. The GYA was asked at their recent annual meeting to actively recruit and identify potential judges. Sailing clubs in Arkansas and Tennessee have been contacted and requested to recruit and identify potential judges.
2. Commence tracking qualified Rule 42/Appendix P judges.
3. Increase the number of judges with Rule 42 knowledge and experience. Training and mentoring at events for those who have little or no experience. Continuing education in on the water enforcement of Rule 42.

Area E - Nancy Zangerle

Discussion 'Are we making it too difficult to be a judge. Issues for judges, expense reimbursement term, matching judges close to events.

Area F - Chris Luppens

Over six states, many centers of concentration makes it difficult to support. Discussion followed about online, zoom availability for meetings and/or hearings. Other RAJs volunteered to support virtual meetings. Also, to bring in JITs for experience.

There are Currently 20 certified judges and 12 JITs in Area F. 12 Club Judges, 2 Regional Judges and 6 National Judges, one of whom is an International Judge. Combine this with the 12 JITs, and we have a total of 32 "recognized" people supporting judging activities in the area. That is an increase of 3 certified and overall, 1 recognized official in Area F!

Actively supporting judges, especially JITs and CJs is paying off! This past year we gained 3 Club Judges while dropping 2 JITs. We just had a CJ seminar at Lakewood YC in Houston and 9 people attended along with one Race Committee observer, and I am very confident most of the 9 will become at least JITs. Another CJ seminar is set for Corpus Christi in May.

Area F covers 6 states from Texas to Wyoming and parts of 2 other states. It is a huge area with focused sailing locations. Just getting recommendations can be a big issue. There is only one NJ/IJ in Colorado and all the other RJs and NJs are in Texas. Making a recommendation can entail huge distances, comparable to driving to 3 different areas on the East Coast. Offerings like Protest Day is a major help in a spread-out area like ours. More concessions may be necessary to better enable promoting JITs and CJs.

Area F has 9 judges up for renewal in 2024. 2, CJs, 1 RJ, 2 NJs and 4 JITs. I know 1 CJ is not renewing and possibly one more. There are currently at least 2 JITs getting ready to apply for CJ. I suspect we will lose at least 2 JITs dependent on how or if they can renew. I have noted need for renewal of JITs and general consensus appears to be, well JIT is to help on path to CJ and if they don't do that in 4 years, bye, bye. I believe having somebody with at least some training and experience is way better than picking up a PC out of the bar and hoping. I fully believe that taking and passing a test should not be required at this level as many people just cannot take tests. Getting a minimum number of CEUs that include hearing practice, and showing activity in SOARS combined with RAJ approval should be enough to renew as JIT. Of course, membership and Safe Sport required. My goal is to have at least one trained person at every location holding open events.

Area G – Don Wieneke

Provides active promotion of judges with emphasis on setting goals to ACHIEVE.

Area G currently has:

1 JUDGE IN TRAINING

4 CLUB JUDGES

2 REGIONAL JUDGES

7 NATIONAL JUDGES

1 INTERNATIONAL JUDGE

15 JUDGES

AREA G

- Area G covers northern California and Nevada.
- Area G is actively exposed to judge seminars both in-person and via Zoom.
- In addition, an active list of all judges available (certified and not) for jury work is maintained and all are invited to any hearings managed by the RAJ.

RENEWALS

2023 We had 4 renewals.

2024 We'll have 2 renewals.

GOALS FOR 2024

1. USS Certified judges in all Bay Area Yacht Clubs.
2. Increasing number of Club and Regional judges.
3. Supporting recertification and NJ certification.
4. Availability of certified judges via zoom for any Area G hearing requests.

5. Active promotion of judge seminars and educational opportunities.

Area H - Tom Pochereva

Reported judges not completing SafeSport, Background checks and thus falling off. 11 Months of continuous sailing leaves little time for training. Craig Daniels and Bill Simon to assist in brainstorming and plans for promotion of training events.

Area J - Steve Holmstrom

Successful Round Table programs in Los Angeles. He has questionnaire soliciting members for training. The US Sailing list provides members only, but not the missing clubs. Discussion on JITs requirements.

JIT: 1 Steve would like to somehow streamline the process from taking the course to JIT

CJ: 10

RJ: 8

NJ: 16 (NJ Betty Sherman informed me that she will not be renewing)

IJ: 5

Education events in your area: Roundtable scheduled March 7th and May 30th

Challenges/issues: Very busy trainer, spread thin, need more!

What is working well: I sent out a letter to the area judges which was well received. Also immediate response from those four who took the Club Judge Seminar, and they should be in the JIT pipeline shortly.

Area K - John Porter

Prompt report expressing challenges faced include geographical based distance issues. Travelling to events with no hearings, feels that embracing technology such as an 'owl' for hearings would help (cost vs time and travel). Recommend/encourage clubs to have conference rooms, use digital submissions, HIGHLIGHT major events, chief judges should look at mentors, roundtables, protest days etc.

Area L – Craig Daniels

16 certifications. Working on funneling more sailors into JITs positions. Seattle area well covered with special significance to youth and high school events. Craig and Wayne have had success with seminar/protest day events. Discussion about particular issues facing RC & Judges with VTS Lanes, and clubs missing the invocation of RRS in the NOR.

Matt Hill gave a report on the judges, active, renewing etc. – SEE SECTION XIV.

Transition/Break Time,

VII. Thomas 'Tom' Hubbell – Chair, Misconduct Work Party, Chair of Ethics Committee

a. RRS 69 Misconduct Work Party

Review Updates to Regulation 15 on how US Sailing handles Complaints and RRS 69 filings.

Question 1 – Is there a process to follow for an ethics QUERY? Matt Hill noted there is a file, JOT form, but it has a file size limitation.

Question 2 – If process, is there a commitment timeline (90 days) and a time limit.

Question 3 – Is there (should there be) a date of THE ANNUAL review of the Review Board to be completed by a specific date.

The Judges' committee Thanks the committee for their time and effort on this committee.

- b. RAJ Conversations with Judges related to performance or ethics.
 - A Guideline? On recommended best ways to handle the situation
 - Topics to start this discussion
 - i. A Conversation? A complaint form? When to do so? If grumblings, how to handle? Do you give a pass on first one and then on second time, talk about both instances?
 - ii. Reference document: Updated Race Official Reports and Complaints Policy Revised 10/24/2023.
 - iii. Conversation or Complaint form: Escalation or is form the best method?
 - iv. HR issues often have two people on the call with the person being informed of the 'issue'.
 - v. Explore various ways a person may react.
 - vi. Plan of improvement option

Two Related Topics

- c. Wayne Balsiger - RAJ process If RAJ thinks they are ok for CJ but will never be good enough for RJ: Does RAJ approve as JIT or CJ?
- d. RAJ process with JIT or Club Judge Judicial Temperament and performance issues
 - i. Discussion on Club Judge Judicial Temperament
 - ii. Follow up to last meetings on Club Judge and JIT temperament issues.
 - iii. Steps Craig has used.
 - iv. Discussion on: Does RAJ make decision and then send to ethics committee or go to JC first for additional input from wisdom of the JC, and then to the ethics committee? Where is the decision made, solely by RAJ, or with the JC?
 - v. Lots of responsibility for RAJ on their own.
 - vi. Sitting on a JIT application.
 - vii. Talked with person, no improvement plan.
 - viii. RAJ Thinks they should not be a judge.
 - ix. Discussing with JC gives RAJ the experience and perspective of the committee not just one RAJ.
 - x. Consider Technical attributes.
 - xi. Consider Personal attributes.
 - xii. JC discussions vs. ethics committee discussions
 - xiii. Example cited of an IJ using ChatGPT to write a decision: ChatGPT included the statement that the "parties should go back and read the rule book".

Discussion on point xiii: complaints, recognition of race official, time to prepare, privacy, put more info, e.g. who, when, where; similar to a corporate HR process. Verify if situation actually occurred. i.e. is it gossip or fact? Compare with WS process. Review penalties i.e. not enough versus too harsh. More discussion of review of the review board and mechanism for accountability.

VIII. **Break and transition** time to add guests to meeting.

IX. Rich Jepsen, President

- a. Items of Note from the President

General news. Jan Olympic trials in Miami went very well. Additional trials in Feb. Details on US Sailing website. National Sailing program symposium, largest in attendance and sponsorship dollars. Working hard to raise dollars. Number of dollars up. Membership revenue flat.

- b. Insurance updates: No insurance found for US Sailing that will cover at any price, volunteers volunteering should be covered by the OA. National Organization of Sports Officials NASO.org focused on field of play calls. Still looking for short-term solutions. USSA where withal to pay? No budget in this year.
- c. Education and JC: Canvas updates, webinar software, evaluation forms. FONTIVA is the new software vendor, researching how to pay for it. New start Learning Management System (LMS), no info on when. Roll out? It takes time, needs new database. Weeks, months? Integration issues. Priority? Each dept considered, some will be served first due to urgency. Matt Hill will meet with Andrew Clouston and Bill Simon. Admin rights for volunteers? Low head count issues in professional staff. Careful selection of the right people.

We received a round of applause for all of our hard work and the state of our education program.

There was unanimous support of what we have done and the directions we are headed.

Prior to the meeting Wayne had spoken to Rich Jepsen and gave him a list of the items we are looking for from US Sailing to support our efforts. Realizing the importance of these requests Rich has asked that we meet with Stu Gilfillen and Matt Hill to go over how the new Learning Management System (LMS). "New Start" will meet our needs. Matt will organize a meeting with one of the New Start experts, Stu, Matt and those of you that want to join. The important feature of this meeting will be so we can start thinking of how New Start works and we can tailor our offerings to that functionality. Specifically, we are told there will be self-lead journeys (somewhat like webinars like SafeSport). I see us putting homework and prep work in these offerings initially. Please let me know if you want to join this meeting. Matt will open it up to the Race Officers and Umpires as well. It is expected that New Start will start to roll out in 9 months. We were told by Matt that we will receive appropriate position in line and that the back log of 100 projects in front of us has been significantly reduced.

We have been promised much improvement in automation from the new Salesforce Fontina database combined with New Start. Reportedly they are designed to interface.

- d. Promoting membership of US Sailing: Where do your dues go?
 - i. After the last meeting, Craig Daniels asked where do our dues go? and ways to explain when promoting US Sailing membership at events dues, donations and sponsorship spread over programs, staff support, SafeSport, membership services, admin, education, Olympics
 - ii. Pick support donations and sponsorship spread over admin, race admin = 1% of dues. Two full time staff. Headcount leads to lack of timeliness in response. Attention during budgeting process in the fall. Die to ted stevens act USSA is a service organization. Value

in safety (instructor training and SafeSport), safety at sea. Race admin benefits from other departments.

e. Topics back and forth among us

X. Jessica (Jess) Haverstock – Major Gifts officer

a. Meet Jess and discuss 'items' funding is needed for. Sometimes donors want to cover a specific need. Give Jess some needs to use when she talks to donors. Jess wants to understand what we do. Complements judges good work. Travel reimbursements for race officials, especially at events with USSA as the OA.

XI. IJ Candidate Mentor - Darrell Waskow TP

a. Updates New Report Informat Improved, WS Planning New Courses

XII. WS Judges - Kevin Hawkins, US Sailing IJ Rep to WS

a. Notes about WS from Kevin

Travel to WS events can be expensive due to distances, but easier when in Europe. WS treatment of rule 15 misconduct vs rule 2 fair sailing. Give rule 2 more consideration.

XIII. Lunch - Introduction and thanks to David and Canvas Porter – Lake Beulah YC for helping Bruce Cook gave an update on insurance options through NASO.org \$124.00/year providing gap coverage with \$6m/incident, \$14m aggregate, etc. NOTE: This has not been announced yet because US Sailing is seeing if it is feasible to get a discounted group rate. 4

Bruce Martinson – software & education. migration of training programs expected in 3rd qtr.

XIV. Race Admin Director Report – Matt Hill

a. Topics for 2024

b. Insurance covered by Rich Jepsen. Matt will take comments back to Andrew Clouston.

c. Education software in 2024 LMS training will be held.

d. IT changes in 2024 covered by Rich Jepsen, Does Jotform application change? Do not know yet.

e. Do I need to request a background check when mine expires? An email is sent with a respond to consent form sent by US Sailing.

f. A request that when a new Appeals decision is posted that notice be sent to all judges when published. Hopefully automated in the new software.

XV. RRS 68 Newsletter – Sarah Ashton

March issue deadline is February 25

Upcoming topics may be Appeal 126

Any suggestions for topics, let Sarah know.

XVI. New Applications/upgrades

a. Peter Fanta, RJ – Harry Foote - Approved

XVII. Judge Emeritus

a. George Griswold – Nancy Zangerle - Approved

- XVIII. Discuss recognition of long-time good judges below Judge Emeritus, but worthy of recognition
- a. Understood, but then we really need something for people who have worked for 20, 30 or more years locally and poof are gone.
Thank you letters? A certificate? Something else? RAJ notes them during December Recert meeting as retiring and should be thanked at what level?
- XIX. 2025 Judges' Manual Updates – Wayne Balsiger
- a. 2023 Version Updated version is published and posted on the website using the same link. When opened, the first page shows Version: February 7, 2024
 - b. 2025 JM Revision review for Jan 1, 2025 Quad rules change.
 - i. RRS 2025-2029 rules go final on July 1, 2024
 - ii. We can review text and recommend changes before the rule changes come out.
 - iii. Goal to have first draft of (non-rule) changes by June 30.
 - iv. July 1: Review rule changes and the effects on JM and finish draft review by August 30. Review all rule number references in the JM to make sure they are still correct. There are always a surprising number of changes as we refer to many rules in the JM.
 - v. Approve most changes at the October meeting
 - vi. Chapter Review assignments
 1. Each chapter assigned to a RAJ or JC Member-at-Large See list.
 2. Review if any text changes are needed to improve chapter.
 3. Check any rule number changes.
 4. Changes to misconduct
 5. Changes to certification parameters on soft skills
 6. Missing topics? Careful when on social media?
- XX. Judges' Committee Terms of Reference
- a. Charlie Arms for the Board of Directors requested that Chairs update the Committee Roles and Responsibilities (2006). I updated it and created draft changes to the Terms of Reference sent out on 1/24/24. Wayne updated this. Comments due in one week.
 - b. Discuss any changes needed to the Terms of Reference.
- XXI. Education – JETTS Chair - Bill Simon
- a. Chair and AJS Bill Simon Emphasis on good debrief preceding retests. Evidence points to significant pass rates after debriefs. Looking for increase evaluation return rates.
 - b. Club Judge Bruce Martinson
Bruce Martinson, please submit to Judie "standard" wording for the Club Judge in person and online calendar listings to be used in the meantime. Please let Bill know if there are any issues with getting this set up.
Many RAJs are reporting success from the Club Judge programs they are running.
 - c. Testing Ric Crabbe 87-90% pass rate on retest when debrief occurs.
We will have a lot to do when the new rules quad comes out to update all of our offerings including the Study Questions and the Test.

- d. Round Tables Nancy Glover Is working with Don Wieneke on increasing roundtables, training leaders, pop up style events, additional topics.
She made a push that the RAJs try to schedule in person offerings where feasible. The busy racing areas like Newport, RI, Annapolis, MD, Florida, San Diego, CA and San Francisco, CA are prime for these. There are many judges taking our online offerings. Many take repeated offerings, and they are mostly filled. There is also a large group that are not taking many except what they need for certification. In person may help get some of these judges in our offerings.
- e. Protest Days Bruce Cook 60 plus cases and more to come, simple to increasingly more difficult. More referrals for Judges needed.
- f. Rule 42 Craig Daniels Major vs minor focus on Rule 42

Your work all year round is really appreciated and because of this we are leading race official training and education not only at US Sailing but in the World. Thanks for everything you do.

XXII. New Business

General discussion by all: Tests currently do not test what is taught... Change some questions. More on Part 5 as it is changing in 2025.

Better notifications to RAJ's on who takes education classes such as Round Tables, Seminars, Clinics. Thoughts on 'journey-based courses' similar to SafeSport series.

Are one page protest forms better (diagram space, Non-leading questions.

Evaluations and References: OK for reference have served with the judge applicant 4 or more times, when to submit reference?

Judge quality of those who race versus non-racers? Judge temperament? Club Judges may not wish to go higher. Their reasons may include travel, testing, etc.

- a. Discuss in the Judges' Manual: John Porter thinks we should add that it is bad practice to deny video evidence. Many juries deny all video and GPS evidence. I think our group should take a stand on this and list what we believe to be best practice.
- b. Improve running of Judges' Committee – Wayne Balsiger
 - i. Preferred emails
 - ii. Pick meeting dates sooner? Suggestions on improving my methods?
2024 JC Meeting Schedule plans
 - iii. Judges' Committee every two months: February, April, June, August, October, and early in December.
- c. Judges at events without SafeSport – Craig Daniels
In particular, I have noticed that at some events we have JITs (or UITs) that have no certifications. In fact it is common at local events, but I also saw it last year at the Opti Nationals. What should we do?

d. Rules Committee Input request

i. Request from Peter Wilson sent Feb 2nd.

ii. Hearing forms revisions input

1. Create plans to review and respond.

2. Current responses so far:

Preferred Standard Wording document in Word as well as PDF

Easily editable Microsoft Word fillable form

Easily editable Microsoft Word version

Please make sure that all the fonts are normally included and not something that needs downloading.

ask "did you hail" differently. What, if anything, did you do to inform the other party? Don't ask a leading question.

a checkbox on decision for no diagram endorsed.

a procedure section on the decision form.

iii. US Prescriptions input

1. Create plans to review and respond.

XXIII. Meeting Adjourned at 4:12 PM CST, 2:12 PM PST

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Pochereva

Nancy Glover