



US Sailing Judges' Committee

Meeting 22-Feb-2025

Denver, CO

The Judges' Committee met on Saturday February 22, 2025 at the Embassy Suites Hotel near Denver International Airport.

The meeting was called to order by Wayne Balsiger at 8:30 AM MST, 10:30 AM EST.

1. Attendance

The following people were present:

Name	Position	In Person	Via Zoom
Wayne Balsiger	Chair	X	
Edith Collins	Vice Chair	X	
Sarah Ashton	At-large, Rule 68 Newsletter	X	
Barbara Belt	Area L RAJ	X	
Henry Brauer	US Sailing President (Guest)		X
Clark Chapin	Area E RAJ	X	
Giff Constable	Area B RAJ	X	
Bruce Cook	At-large, Protest Day Coordinator		
Craig Daniels	At-large, Rule 42 Coordinator		X
Harry Foote	Area C RAJ		X
Nancy Glover	At-large, Round Table Coordinator		X
Sandy Grosvenor	Race Administration Committee Chair (Guest)	X	
Kevin Hawkins	US Sailing delegate to World Sailing		X
Matt Hill	US Sailing Race Administration Director		X
Steve Holmstrom	Area J RAJ	X	
Chris Luppens	Area F RAJ	X	

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Name	Position	In Person	Via Zoom
Bruce Martinson	Chair, Club Judge Program		X
Mary Pierce	Area A RAJ	X	
Tom Pochereva	Area H RAJ	X	
John Porter	Area K RAJ		
Steve Schupak	Chair, Umpire Committee		X
Jerry Thompson	Area D RAJ	X	
Mark Townsend	Chair, Judges Training and Testing Working Party		X
Darryl Waskow	At-Large IJ Candidate Mentor	X	
Donald Wieneke	Area G RAJ		X
Steve Wrigley	At-large, Clinics Coordinator		X

2. Minutes

December 2024 Minutes were approved as written and circulated.

3. US Sailing Status

3.1. Rule Books

The 2025-2028 Racing Rules of Sailing books will be shipped at no charge to all race officials. The books are currently at the printer.

3.2. Hearing Request and Decision Forms

The new Hearing Request Form is available at [New Hearing Request form](#), and the Hearing Decision Form is unchanged.

4. US Sailing President Henry Brauer

4.1. Workforce Reduction

There was a workforce reduction at US Sailing on Friday, February 21. Senior management, the finance committee and the board has spent the last 60-90 days reviewing the business and concluded that approximately \$2 million in expenses needed to be reduced due to a reduction in revenue. Ten positions were eliminated. The public announcement will be made the week of February 24. Four positions were vacant and will not be filled, and six people will leave.

Positions eliminated were in the following areas:

- Staff Counsel
- SVP for Sponsorship
- Human Resources
- Event Coordinator
- Staff Accountant
- Marketing
- Partnership Relations
- Web Maintenance
- Education

Some staff will move into new roles and outside contractors will be hired as needed. The announcement the week of February 24 will include more information about who will fill which roles.

In the meantime, legal questions that are not compliance related should be directed to Matt Hill. Compliance questions should go to Matt and will then be directed to another US Sailing employee or outside counsel.

The expense reduction was driven by a reduction in revenue. The 5 main sources of revenue are:

Membership Dues: Total membership has been steady for several years.

Program Fees: Most programs break even and don't contribute net revenue.

US Olympic and Paralympic Committee: They provided a grant of \$860,000, which is similar to previous years and represents about 25% of the Olympic Development Program budget.

Private Donations: This provided a large part of the Olympic budget, and was significantly reduced in 2024, in part driven by a lawsuit.

Sponsorship: This has declined significantly. For example, Chubb Insurance has experienced natural disaster losses. Individual donations have also declined.

Meetings are ongoing to repair relationships with various stakeholders, with the USOPC advising on this front.

4.2. Priorities for 2025

4.2.1. Find a New CEO

The process is down to the last six candidates, interviewed last week, from a group of 90 candidates. The candidate list will be reduced to three this week.

4.2.2. High Performance Program

The new High Performance Pathway has recently been released and has been well received. The Olympic and Youth Team Development Programs have restarted after a short break following the 2024 Olympics. Since November 2024, 370 athletes have participated in Development Program events. The High Performance staff are working with the Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association (ICSA) to ensure college sailors are aware of High Performance sailing opportunities.

4.2.3. Information Technology

Another priority is updating the database, which is twenty-five years old. An ad-hoc committee evaluated new options available and has recommended a product and a system integrator to help with implementation. The recommended option (including implementation cost) is \$1.2M. Thus far, about \$360K has been raised for this effort. After implementation, annual support cost would be about the same as for the current system.

4.2.4. 4-year Strategic Plan

The new CEO will complete the plan in order to have ownership. The new budget will be balanced at about \$9.9 M. Expenses will be reduced by \$2.2M compared to 2024. US Sailing intends to retain the core services to members, but there may be some impact from the staff reduction.

4.3. Legal advice

If needed, legal advice will be provided by outside counsel.

4.4. Canvas Learning Management System Software Conversion

Matt Hill, Henry Brauer, and Mark Townsend discussed the change from Canvas to another platform New Start Mobile Coach. Cost of converting to the recommended platform is estimated at \$5K to \$10K. The new platform is not 100% ready to meet all our needs, and no time frame has been specified for the change. The first step will be to convert the first chapter of Basic Race Management.

Sandy Grosvenor discussed the plan from the National Faculty to create introductory videos for the public to get them interested in sailing, and for US Sailing members to get them interested in race officiating.

4.5. Value of Membership

In response to a question by Craig Daniels, President Brauer talked about how to pitch the value of membership to people who see the only value as a rule book and official certification.

Other valuable resources that US Sailing provides are:

- Adult Instruction, including Learn to Sail, Cruising, Navigation, Safety at Sea, Safe Powerboat Operation, Adaptive Sailing
- Youth Instruction, including Learn to Sail and the Reach STEM curriculum.
- Training for adult and youth sailing instructors (5000 instructor certifications per year)
- Training for Race Officials
- Handicap rating services
- National Championship Regattas – 10 Adult and 6 Youth
- Selection and support of athletes for the Pan Am Games and Olympic Games

President Brauer noted recent contacts with the ICSA about encouraging college sailors who are knowledgeable about the rules to pursue becoming Club Judges and Umpires.

5. Sandy Grosvenor, Chair of Race Administration Committee

Sandy, who is a former Chair of the Judges' Committee, thanked the current committee and asked for questions. Discussions centered on piquing the interest of sailors in being a race official, recruiting new race officials and training them.

5.1. Recruiting New Race Officials

Mark Townsend related discussion at the National Faculty Meeting about a "Level 0" online Race Official training program so people could watch a video, take a test, and become a basic race official. There are Judges-In-Training and Umpires-In-Training; a similar Race-Officer-In-Training status would help aspiring Race Officers and Organizing Authorities find each other.

President Brauer asked if highly experienced racing sailors could have a shorter path to becoming a Club level Race Officer or Judge. Matt Hill noted that the requirement to be a Principal Race Officer for four events within four years to qualify for Club Race Officer

may be burdensome. The language used to describe the requirements may be daunting and overly complex and imply more experience than is needed.

Tom Pochereva suggested that people from your area who are attending or assisting at regattas or donating to US Sailing are good race official candidates.

Darryl Waskow noted how highly siloed US Sailing is. Training for Safety at Sea, sailing training, and race administration training don't acknowledge training or expertise in the other areas.

Matt Hill, Sarah Ashton, and Sandy Grosvenor discussed the task force survey conducted a few years ago.

Clark Chapin suggests adding a QR code to the protest committee process laminated card that would lead to information about becoming a certified judge. (After the sailor is no longer mad at the protest committee, of course.)

Sandy suggested that wearing US Sailing Certified Official gear makes the certification program more visible to sailors.

5.2. Training New Race Officials

Wayne mentioned various ideas about racing rules training that will be discussed later in the day.

Barbara Collins of Keowee Sailing Club in Seneca, South Carolina already has a series of short videos about various aspects of race management. It would be great to have that available.

Annapolis YC is going to try some short video training. The first video is "How to use a Mark Set Bot".

There's no Racing Rules of Sailing training targeted at race officials provided by US Sailing. The assumption is that judges, umpires, and race officers already know the rules – but none of us are at 100%, especially at the start of every quadrennium when a new Racing Rules of Sailing edition is issued. US Sailing does have the "Around the Race Course" training for sailors on the Judges webpage. Jerry Thompson has a rules course he presents for sailors. It would be great to have that available for race officials to use to refresh on the rules themselves and to use to teach sailors.

6. Race Administration Director Report – Matt Hill

6.1. National Faculty Meeting

Matt reported that the Faculty met at San Diego Yacht Club for a day and a half in February, just before the Sailing Leadership Forum.

6.2. Role of the National Faculty

The Faculty discussed the need for greater clarity on the role of the National Faculty on curriculum decisions versus certifying committees.

The Faculty's major goal is to develop a five-year strategic plan, including a plan for supporting the sport by developing volunteer race officials. The goal is to have a Club-level certified official at every club.

Within one year, develop a marketing plan targeted at areas with fewer race officials to provide Club level training and certification. This is intended to be an on ramp to becoming an official, not a high bar to be surmounted.

Jeff Johnson also requested hard data on the legal liability that race officials are likely to encounter. The National Association for Sports Officials (NASO) is the natural source for that data.

6.3. SOARS

There were discussions on the purpose and utility of SOARS. It is intended to be a logbook, not a database – although its data is stored in the main US Sailing database. When the new US Sailing member database is implemented, SOARS will be revised to access it.

6.4. Training

The goal of the Education Department is to move all training onto a single learning management platform by 2029, but there is not a rush to move the race administration training. The new model is similar to SafeSport training – a set of tests and slides, but no instructor involved. Steve Wrigley asked if the new platform would include the creation of webinars, a long-standing request. Matt affirmed that this is included in the new plan.

6.4.1. Level Zero Training

Part of the National Faculty discussion was the video-based training on race management tasks that can lead to a simple recognition of training. (See Race-Officer-in-Training status suggestion, above.)

6.5. Race Management Handbook

Jerry Thompson pointed out the need for an updated Race Management Handbook. A new version of "Join the Race Committee Team" is in the pipeline, but behind some other projects and will be delayed due to the recent staff cuts. The Sailors Guide to the Racing Rules is also helpful for race management.

6.6. Rulebook Status

The books are being processed and Matt hopes that the first batch will be received within a week or two. He is preparing to send the first batch to the certified officials as soon as they are received.

6.7. The Appeals and Case Books

Consideration is being given to returning to a 3-ring binder format to deal with the updates that occur during a quadrennium. The indices have been vastly improved.

6.8. Insurance

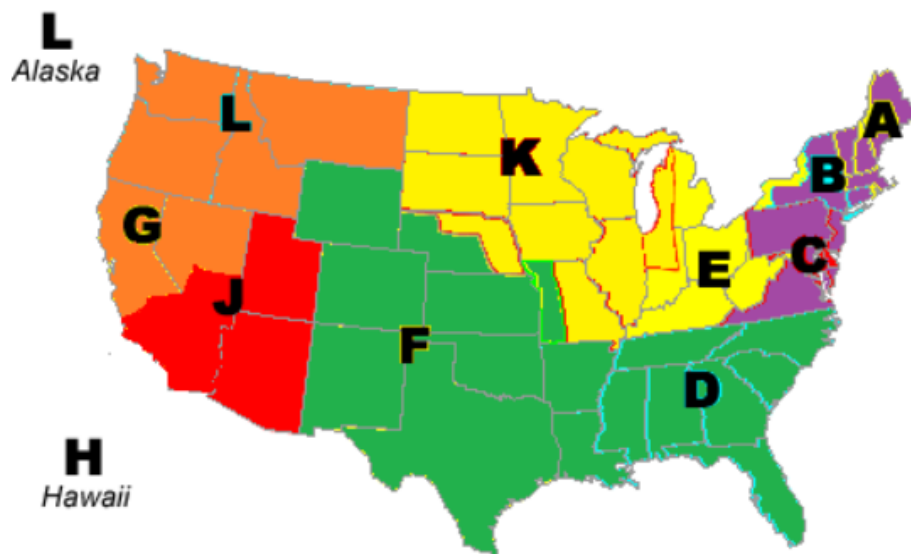
Matt said that about 120 officials have become members of NASO that gives \$6M in liability coverage, as well as coverage for bodily injury and errors and omissions. The renewal period is the same for everyone – all the US Sailing members have a 31-Jul expiration. There is more information on the Insurance for Race Officials web page. NASO officials also get a 25% discount at Marriott Hotels.

7. Umpires Committee – Steve Schupak

Steve Schupak reported. Members are listed on the US Sailing website. There are currently about fifty certified umpires, which is not enough to meet the demand from high school, college, and regional events. The objective is to recruit new umpires into the Umpire-in-Training program and encourage them to develop further. The committee is working on video training and developing a list of events that need umpire support. There's an on-the-water umpire training seminar in Vancouver, BC this weekend.

Based on the success of the RAJ structure, the Committee is establishing Regional Administrative Umpires, with five or six regions. See map, below. For 5 regions, L, G, H, and J are one umpire region, or with 6 regions, L and G are one region and J and H are another.

Just a fun thing but here is what the RAU regions would look like if J were separate.



The Umpire Committee is working on a Regional Umpire guide.

7.1. Tuna Fund

The Arthur “Tuna” Wullschleger Umpire Fund’s purpose is to promote quality umpiring in support of match and team racing in the United States and around the world. Matt Hill noted that there were no requests for funds in 2024 and so far, none in 2025. The Deed of Gift has been updated. Matt noted that the fund has often been used, not by younger judges, but by older judges who may not have so great a need for reimbursement.

8. Review of Areas

8.1. Area A – Mary Pierce

Mary reported that there are currently 58 Certified Judges. Her report is attached. Most of the judges in Area A are on the coast, rather than inland.



2025-02 Area A
Judge Report.docx

8.2. Area B – Giff Constable

Giff reported. There is additional interest from Larchmont YC, Cedar Point, and other clubs. His report is attached.



2025-02 Area B
Judge Report.pdf

8.3. Area C – Harry Foote

Harry noted there is a “Judge Desert” in Area C almost everywhere except Annapolis. He noted that there were several events last year where no protests were filed.

8.4. Area D – Jerry Thompson

There are 59 judges, which is down slightly, but there are some prospects developing. The Committee discussed whether Protest Day materials could be used at an event if there are no protests so that the judges can gain experience and required hearings even if there are no filed protests.



2025-02 Area D
Judge Report.docx

8.5. Area E – Clark Chapin

Clark discussed his report. The US Sailing guidance on Zoom meetings is going to be used for the Canadian Melges 24 Nationals with a hearing room on each side of the border because there will be both US and Canadian competitors.



2025-02 Area E
Judge Report.docx

Mark Townsend questioned whether International Juries could use Zoom meetings.

8.6. Area F – Chris Luppens

Chris discussed his report. Half of the Judges in Area F expire in 2025. Several the JITs will drop off because they have not progressed. He noted that JITs who do not take the test, or do not pass it, can remain as JITs,

which are almost as useful.



2025-02 Area F
Judge Report.docx

He also questioned the utility of requiring judges to take the test every four years. Sandy Grosvenor stated that the requirement was meant to show the sailors that we require our judges to demonstrate their competence every four years. The committee discussed this topic at length.

Chris also said that he holds quarterly Zoom meetings with the judges in his area.

8.7. Area G – Don Wieneke

Don discussed his report. He actively promotes the use of Zoom protest hearings. He noted the decline in protests. His goal is to have one certified judge at each club. Thus far, he has 10 clubs out of 15 in the Bay Area.

8.8. Area H – Tom Pochereva

Tom discussed his report. He is encouraging his judges to help with rules seminars. There are several regattas on tap this year, including the TransPac. He developed a presentation on changes to the rules for 2025 which has been well received.



2025-02 Area H
Judge Report.pdf

8.9. Area J – Steve Holmstrom

Steve discussed his report and several of the issues that had been noted by other Areas.

8.10. Area K – John Porter

John's report notes the status in Area K. John was judging on the water today.



2025-02 Area K
Judge Report.docx

8.11. Area L – Barbara Belt

Barbara discussed her report. Four Club Judge seminar participants took and passed the test. All can become JITS as soon as they complete SafeSport and create their SOARS accounts.



2025-02 Area L
Judge Report.docx

9. International Judge (IJ) Mentor – Darryl Waskow

Darryl reported that World Sailing considers IJ applications twice a year now: in March and September. US Sailing deadlines for submitting applications for recommendation to World Sailing are December 1 (for March) and June 1 (for September), to allow enough time for the Judges Committee to review and for the US Sailing Board to approve. Now that there are two dates per year for IJ certification, certification will last four years from the date of certification. It will no longer last till the end of the calendar year four years from certification.

The most recent IJ seminar had an excellent pass rate (14 of 18 test takers).

Sandy Grosvenor noted the need for improved communication between the IJ Seminar organizers and Darryl so that the results of all the attendees can be monitored.

Darryl noted that the Chief Judge's recommendation for a candidate can be successful if the judges were on the water, even if on-the-water Rule 42 was not used at the event.

Darryl is helping to match IJ candidates with suitable events for experience and recommendation and asks the Judges Committee to keep him aware of opportunities in their areas. He also noted that there is ongoing demand for more female IJs.

10. World Sailing – Kevin Hawkins

The US is ahead of other areas on the use of Protest Days to assist in certification and renewals due to the overall decline in the number of protests, which is not unique to the USA. He also noted our leadership in holding open hearings and removing the mystery about protest hearings. There is not yet a concrete date for update World Sailing Case and Call Books.

11. New Applications

- 11.1. Giff Constable for Regional Judge – Approved
- 11.2. Doug McKnight for Regional Judge – Approved
- 11.3. John Dieselman for Judge Emeritus – Approved
- 11.4. Fred Hagedorn for International Judge – Approved to send to Board for MNA Endorsement, pending receipt of his third successful recommendation before the March Board meeting

12. 2025 US Sailing International Official Process and Timeline

The Committee discussed Matt Hill's suggestion that a group from Judges, Umpires, and Race Officers work on the steps. The Race Administration Committee will take the lead on this.

13. Rule 68 Newsletter

The next deadline is February 28.

Sarah always welcomes articles, 500 to 600 words, and landscape-format photos.

Topics coming up:

- 3-minute justice by Giff Constable
- Area J by Steve Holmstrom
- Annual Judges Committee Meeting by Wayne Balsiger
- State of US Sailing by Henry Brauer
- A link to choosing race officials for LA 2028 Olympics
- The perils of using only electronic protest forms by Wayne Balsiger and Sandy Grosvenor
- Rules that did not change in 2025 – Clark Chapin

The Committee reviewed the current distribution process in which the newsletter is sent to the RAJs for distribution to their flock. A suggested change is to use Mailchimp from the US Sailing office, but anyone who has opted out of the US Sailing Mailchimp will not receive an issue. The Committee decided to maintain the current distribution method.

14. Judge Certification Requirements

The Committee reviewed the new requirements chart with the change to add Discretion (3) to the Required Hearings section. The requirements were approved.

There was discussion about Discretion (3) that only allows one of the required hearings for certification to be a virtual hearing. There was also discussion about allowing judges (at an event where there are no protests) to run a mock hearing which would count toward certification (see below).

14.1. Lack of Hearings for Judge Certification Requirements

A team was assembled to examine the problem of too few hearing opportunities for timely judge certification and suggest solutions. Wayne Balsiger, Giff Constable, Chris Luppens, Mark Townsend, Bruce Cook, Nancy Glover, Edith Collins, and Bruce Martinson are the team. (Note that youth, high school, and college events can often be protest-rich environments.)

15. Judge Education

The Committee reviewed the Club Judge, Advanced Judge, and Continuing Education events for 2024. Matt Hill provided the 2023 totals verbally which showed that both total events and participants were up for 2024.

Year	Club Judge Seminar	Advanced Judge Seminar	Continuing Education
2023 events	10	1	19
2023 students	84	16	192
2024 events	17	2	27
2024 students	142	36	383

Mark Townsend noted that there is a need for more online Club and Advanced Judge Seminars to reduce the need to travel.

Rule 42 training is still in the pipeline (see item 16, below), as well as the “Join the Protest Committee” brochure, similar to “Join the Race Committee Team.”

15.1. Club Judge Seminars

Bruce Martinson has almost finished updating the CJ Seminar; he is only awaiting the update to the World Sailing Case Book.

15.2. Advanced Judge Seminar

Mark Townsend is updating the AJ Seminar, focusing on improving the true/false questions to better test whether students know the rules, not just how to identify a trick question. Bradley Schoch can help review questions for effectiveness.

15.3. Round Tables

Nancy Glover reports that the Zoom round tables are popular and efficient with up to 50 participants at a time. She recommends scheduling more Round Tables targeted for evenings on the West Coast. She notes that some participants will sign on, but leave their cameras and microphones off, making it impossible to tell if they are learning or napping. She recommends requiring cameras to stay on to earn continuing education credit.

US Sailing doesn't charge for Round Table instruction, although there may be a lunch fee for in-person Round Tables. Classes with a paid instructor aren't eligible for Round Table continuing education credits.

15.4. Protest Days

The Committee reviewed Bruce Cook's report. Protest Days continue to receive positive reviews. Bruce solicited new, interesting hearings to add to his 66-case library. He will make them anonymous before adding them to the library.

15.5. Clinics and Webinars – Steve Wrigley

Steve described that there are multiple training modules prepared and available already. These are in PowerPoint with some instructions for the instructor. It helps if the instructor knows the material already and has some conversation with previous presenters. These are intended to be shorter than Protest Day or the CJS and AJS.

A new "Investigator" module has been developed to support people conducting misconduct hearings. The first beta test was successful, but additional sessions are necessary. Sandy Grosvenor suggested a video of the Investigator module be made available so that people who are appointed as investigators could have on-demand training.

There are also misconduct incidents in the Protest Day library.

Mark Townsend suggested that the leader for a misconduct clinic should already have experience in rule 69 hearings.

Steve plans to develop some Rule 42 training material.

15.6. Training the Trainers

The path to becoming an approved trainer is to assist an approved trainer a few times and then be recommended.

15.7. Testing Status Report

Ric Crabbe will send his report about testing status to the Judges Committee in the next day. The Club Judge test questions will be available soon.

Ric's Report 3/2/25: I have uploaded the questions to the advanced test and it should be ready to go under the new rules.

Test Questions: of the 293 existing questions, we modified 178 in some way, deleted 6 and added 16. Give me feedback on any issues with the questions in case I made an error so I can fix them.

One final item: The advanced test draws randomly from 3 pools of T/F questions, and 3 pools of diagram questions. (pools have different difficulty) The club judge test draws from the same T/F pools with a different distribution focusing on the easier questions. For the club judge test diagrams, there is an entirely different set. I don't have ownership of that set, and I just want to make sure someone is on that. Who does own those questions? I think it used to be Wrigley.

If necessary, I can take possession of the club diagram questions, but it might take me some time to get them checked and updated.

Oh, and one more thing, there are study questions and practice questions that I've never touched or even looked at. Is someone looking after those questions? Those used to be kept updated by whoever was in charge of the seminar.

I'm sorry, this all should have been discussed at the meeting.

16. Rule 42 Endorsement

The Committee discussed the plan developed by Mark Townsend, Jerry Thompson, and Craig Daniels to develop a rule 42 optional endorsement for Regional or National Judges. The endorsement will appear in SOARS, and the "Find A Race Official" feature will include a Rule 42 Endorsement pick.

The next steps are:

- Developing the Rule 42 seminar
 - Jerry Thompson is working on seminar materials and obtaining videos with signed releases from the participants.
- Developing a written test
- Developing an assessment plan, including:
 - Assessment criteria and procedure

- Assessor training criteria and procedure
- Appointment of the initial Rule 42 Endorsement assessors
- Defining the duration of the endorsement and recommending a recertification plan if needed.

There are judges who are already extremely qualified in applying Rule 42. Some of them may be endorsed without taking the seminar, the test, or an on-the-water assessment. These people are a great resource! It was already agreed that all certified umpires should be Rule 42 endorsed, based on their on-the-water training and experience.

Mark Townsend, Jerry Thompson, Darryl Waskow, Barbara Belt, and Craig Daniels were appointed to develop the materials.

17. 2025 Judges Manual

The Committee approved the new Judges Manual contingent upon updating the Case Numbers in the World Sailing Case Book and some of the links in Chapter 13.

18. RAJ Guide

There are updates needed to the RAJ Guide. Clark Chapin, Giff Constable, and Darryl Waskow were appointed to review and update the Guide.

19. Join the Protest Committee

The Committee discussed this pamphlet, similar to "Join the Race Committee Team." Giff Constable, Mark Townsend, and Edith Collins will work on it.

20. Expedited Hearings

The Committee discussed developing training and reference materials for accelerated protest hearings, such as "3-Minute Justice". A previous World Sailing Appendix LE might be helpful. Giff Constable, Jerry Thompson, and Barbara Belt were appointed to work on this.

21. Minimum US Sailing Prescriptions

Sandy Grosvenor suggested a list of the US Sailing Prescriptions that cannot be changed should be provided to the Organizing Authority for international events held in the United States, along with a short explanation of why they cannot be changed. Sandy volunteered to create this document.

22. Technology Used by Race Officials

The Committee discussed the issues raised by John Porter, such as jotforms and SOARS. The data that SOARS displays lives in the main database and improvements have been hard to justify with the looming prospect of changing the main database. Matt Hill, John Porter, Darryl Waskow, and Sandy Grosvenor were appointed to a work group to investigate what is feasible in the near term and using the current database. The group will ultimately require participation by the balance of Race Administration.

They will develop a list of:

- What the system HAS to have
- What WOULD BE USEFUL if the system had

23. “Level Zero” Race Official Status

To help lower one of the barriers to entry for new race officials, the Committee discussed the concept of a potential race official viewing an introductory video, clicking a link, and setting up their SOARS Account, with a Level 0 Judge (even fewer requirements than JIT) status. There could be corresponding Level 0 RC and Level 0 U notations. They would then show up on the administrative reports of the RAJ or ARO, who can then help with finding development opportunities.

24. New Hearing Decision Form

John Porter developed a new Hearing Decision Form that has the World Sailing Standard Wording built in and has several other features. Matt Hill suggested that this should be approved by the Rules Committee as well as the Judges Committee since the Rules Committee developed the current form. Porter's communication with Pete Wilson of the Rules Committee indicated that the Rules Committee was willing to consider a new form. Nancy Glover will contact him to distribute it to the Rules Committee for feedback.

25. US Standard Wording – John Porter

The Committee discussed a US Standard Wording form since World Sailing is not going to update its Standard Wording document.

26. 2026 Annual Meeting

The Committee discussed a location for next year's meeting. Suggestions for both Atlanta and Hawaii were floated. Wayne reviewed the recent history. Clark Chapin suggested scheduling the meeting around the National Sailing Program Symposium or Sailing Leadership Forum. Matt Hill said that it should not be on the NSPS Saturday, but

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Sunday would be OK. A concern about coordinating with the SLF is cost, since it's usually held in a resort location. Phoenix and Seattle were also suggested. A different coast every year was suggested. Edith Collins is the lead on site selection.

27. Adjournment

Wayne thanked the Committee and promised a swag bag from US Sailing. The meeting was adjourned at 4:19 PM MST. 6:19 PM EST.

Respectfully Submitted by Barabara Belt, Clark Chapin and Giff Constable