

Judges' Committee Minutes

August 18, 2025

7:00 PM EDT, 4:00 PM PDT

I. Call to order

Meeting called to order by Chair Wayne Balsiger at 7:01 PM EDT, 4:01 PM PDT

Attendees

Chair Wayne Balsiger Y

Vice Chair: Edith Collins Y

RAJs:

Mary Pierce, Area A Y

Giff Constable, Area B Y

Harry Foote, Area C Y

Jerry Thompson, Area D Y

Clark Chapin, Area E Y

Chris Luppens, Area F Y

Don Wieneke, Area G Y

Tom Pochereva, Area H

Steve Holmstrom, Area J Y

John Porter, Area K Y

Barbara Belt, Area L Y

Members at Large

Mark Townsend, Chair Judges Training and Testing Subcommittee

Bruce Martinson, Chair Club Judge Program Y

Bruce Cook, Protest Days Coordinator Y

Nancy Glover, Round Table Coordinator Y

Craig Daniels, Rule 42 Coordinator Y

Sarah Ashton, RRS 68 Newsletter Y

Steve Schupak, Chair, Umpires Committee Y

Darryl Waskow, IJ Candidate Mentor

Matt Hill, Race Administration Director Y

II. Approval of Minutes

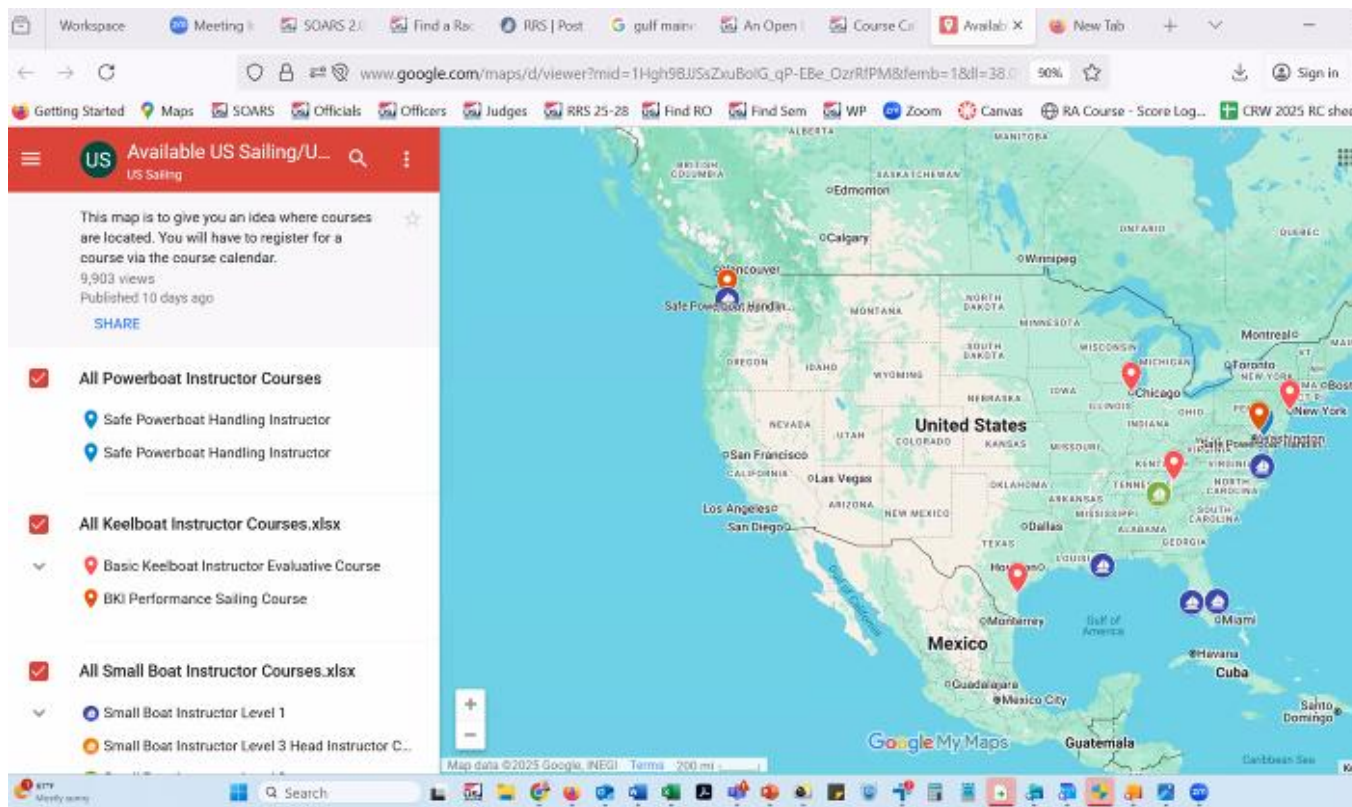
The June minutes were approved as written

III. Welcome and Announcements – Wayne Balsiger

- a. World Sailing has updated the Discretionary Penalties document.
- b. WS 2025-2028 Case Book is out
- c. Club Judge Recommendations: Clarified that Club Judge instructors may not write references from seminars. They may give references when acting as judges at events. Yes, you can get a reference from Protest Day.
- d. “Major” Race Committee Roles for Certification. “Major roles” is confusing. Committee agreed to revise wording to “roles such as flags, timing, scoring, mark set, finish recording, calling start or finish line, scoring, Mark setting, or such. Look at SOARs reports for RC work for roles. Recommend their SOARS entry include what they did.
 - i. Wayne to draft revised text.

IV. Race Admin Director Report – Matt Hill

- a. NASO Insurance: Renewal notices sent. ~107 renewals so far, fewer than last year. Some members reported renewal glitches (full rate vs. US Sailing discount). Telephone renewal is a reliable option.
- b. Summer is off season from training. Courses are starting back up. There are much fewer Club Judge classes, but that is market driven.
- c. Seminar Map tool: Judie has been working on a ‘pin on a map” tool for course locations. On-line courses will have purple color. The location will be where the presenter is. The link will go directly to the course list. It will be in the “find a course” section of the website. Purple for On-line seminars. All manually done. Click on link and will take you so the registration. Will be on find a seminar page



V. New Applications/upgrades

- a. Lisl Dunlop, NJ – Wayne Balsiger for Giff Constable. Exception granted allowing IJ test in place of US test for initial certification. - approved
- b. Gif Constable, NJ - Wayne Balsiger for Giff Constable Approved
- c. Cothran Harris, RJ - Jerry Thompson Inform RJ Approved
- d. Kristina McDavid, NJ – Mary Pierce Approved
- e. Nelson Pemberton, NJ – Harry Foote Approved
- f. Katie Maxim, NJ – Don Wieneke Approved

VI. IJ Candidate Mentor – Darryl Waskow:

- a. Amy Ferreira, IJ - Darryl Waskow – Next event has changed, and she plans to apply in December for the Spring appointment period.

- b. Upcoming IJ seminars

VII. Newsletter – Sarah Ashton

- a. The RRS 68 July issue deadline is August 27.
- b. Giff, Area B.
- c. Expedited hearings from Giff.
- d. Insurance from Matt
- e. Start thinking about subjects for the November issue.
- f. Discussion on ways to increase feedback and relevance of the newsletter content.

VIII. Education – Mark Townsend, Bruce Martinson and JETTS team

- a. AJS – Mark Townsend -not here
- b. CJS - Bruce Martinson
CJS in September (is already full). Study questions unknown who has control of them. In Class marker. Matt and Bruce will talk tomorrow.
- c. Round Tables - Nancy Glover More topical nights. Around rules about redress, Dave Perry again, need west coast protest days. New hearing form: will do another round table on using form tools.
Nancy asked for Tuesday Night series, Is it possible for single registration across all sessions? System limitations may not allow this. will continue with new facilitators and topical nights.
- d. Protest Days - Bruce Cook
- e. Advanced Rule 42 Endorsement Implementation Status– Jerry Thompson, Craig Daniels, Mark Townsend, Darryl Waskow, John Porter.
Our goal is to be ready to start presenting Advanced Rule 42 Seminars in late fall 2025. First will be for the JC and UC members and set a date of Oct 22 1900 EDT on zoom. In Dec or Jan will be available to rank and file judges.

Adding endorsements should be created at the Race Administration committee level into SOARS Endorsements may be used by other disciplines.

IX. Judges Manual Update – Wayne Balsiger

- a. Judges' Manual published on June 20 without 2025 Case book.
- b. 2025 WS Casebook is now out. Reviewing any case references that need adjustments
- c. Call book has issue on team racing

X. Umpire Committee – Steve Schupak

- a. Nothing to report.
- b. Call book now published (some errors noted that we will live with). Soon laminated bound books are being produced

XI. Work Parties from Annual Meeting – Status Updates

- a. Lack of Hearings for Judge Certification Requirements: Edith Collins will chair the team of Wayne Balsiger, Giff Constable, Chris Luppens, Mark Townsend, Bruce Cook, Nancy Glover, and Bruce Martinson. The idea of “pop up” protest days is being fleshed out.
 - i. Do like as pop-up protest hearing if no action at a regatta
 - ii. Talked about what should be in the hearing
 - iii. Good discussion on sailing the course
 - iv. What we want to have
 - 1. Sim to protest day
 - 2. I saw this should have been a protest
 - 3. What credits should they get
 - 4. Flush this out.
- b. RAJ Guide: Clark Chapin, Giff Constable, and Darryl Waskow will review and update the Guide. Don Wieneke added to the group.
 - i. Wayne said he would draft an update to get the process moving forward. Pending.
 - ii. Giff: “on RAJ Guide, I want a little more time in the seat before I go back and examine that doc.”
- c. Join the Protest Committee online document – Mark Townsend, Giff Constable, Edith Collins:
 - i. Mark is working on the latest draft.
 - ii. Latest sent out a few weeks ago. Giff had cartoon section and Mark T section.
 - iii. What do we want to do. Marketing only and get them involved.
 - 1. Elevator speech and get interested
 - 2. Graphic novel is good. The laminated card is a good way to do it. Short version of Appx M.
 - 3. Good feedback for Giff.
 - 4. The day after this meeting, Giff issued an updated version incorporating the recommended changes.
- d. Expedited Hearings: Giff Constable, Jerry Thompson, and Barbara Belt reviewed several NoR and SI documents that specify how to do expedited hearings. The RRS allow all the modifications needed and there are several good examples of language to do it. Training the judges and the sailors to accept, use, and hopefully prefer expedited hearings will be the bigger challenge. Good examples include RRS Appendix E for radio controlled boats, the SI s for the 2023 Championship of Champions held in RC boats, Appendix T for arbitration, Appendix C for match racing, and Intercollegiate Sailing team racing procedural rules.
 - i. Get to next steps, no progress.
 - 1. Giff view: Not able to do so without a US Prescription
 - 2. Guideline is fine. How to do and live by 86 and readable to sailors
 - 3. Can send to Peter Wilson about idea.
 - 4. Giff: Should we take off the agenda?
 - 5. College does for team racing only

6. Giff: we should put a pin in it.

- e. Technology Used by Race Officials: Matt Hill, John Porter, Darryl Waskow, and Sandy Grosvenor still working on what is feasible in the near term and using the current database. The group will ultimately require participation by the balance of Race Administration.
 - i. Will get Sandy Grosvenor involved and Matt. Resource constraints as well. This is “on Hold”.

XII. Hearing Decision Form – John Porter, relayed by Nancy Glover

- a. Status on forms, John is tweaking
 - i. Some ideas on procedure boxes
 - ii. Another box to validity for other validity comments
 - iii. Tweaking coming

XIII. National Judge – Retired

- a. John, Wayne, Sandy, Nancy, Matt have been working on this proposal. Will send current thinking in several days.
- b. Tabled until a later meeting pending more input from Sandy Grosvenor.
- c. Wayne to do item

XIV. 2026 JC Annual meeting – Edith Collins

- a. Austin, TX was selected as the Location.
- b. Date set to February 27, 28, 2026.
 - i. Harry Foote is helping determine a meeting location
 - ii. Wayne said he would provide Edith and Harry tips from last year.

XV. October JC Meeting date. Please fill out your preferences

- a. [October meet Date](#) Or send back excel attached to Friday’s email.

XVI. Meeting Adjourned at 8:52 PM EDT, 5:52 PM PDT

Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Balsiger