

Date: April 13, 2026
Time: 7:00 p.m. EDT
Location: Zoom
Recorded by: Don Wieneke

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. EDT by the Chair, Edith.

A quorum was established.

2. Roll Call

Present: Edith Collins, Bill Collins, Giff Constable, Harry Foote, Jerry Thompson, , Darryl Waskow, Craig Daniels, Sarah Ashton, Barbara **Belt**, Bruce Martinson, Mark Townsend, Shannon Wood, Nancy Glover, Donald Wieneke, and others.

Absent: Matt Hill, John Porter, Tom Pochereva, Steve Schupak, Ruth, and others as noted.

Late/Intermittent: Nancy Glover (intermittent); Bruce Martinson (joined after roll call).

3. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were presented as corrected.

Motion: To approve the minutes as corrected.

Moved by: Barbara

Seconded by: Mark Townsend

Result: Motion carried by unanimous consent.

4. Applications and Renewals

a. Pat Stedell – National Judge Recertification

Motion: To recertify Pat Stedell as a National Judge.

Moved by: Bill Collins

Seconded by: ???

Result: Motion carried without objection.

b. Gary Thorn – Regional Judge Recertification

Motion: To recertify Gary Thorn as a Regional Judge.

Moved by: Steve Holstrom

Seconded by: Giff Constable

Result: Motion carried without objection.

c. Joanna Sachs – Upgrade to Regional Judge

Motion: To approve the upgrade of Joanna Sachs to Regional Judge.

Moved by: Mark Townsend

Seconded by: Jerry Thompson

Result: Motion carried without objection.

5. International Judge Seminar Update

Darryl reported on the upcoming World Sailing International Judge Seminar (September, Manitika Bay).

- Five applicants approved (2 Canadians, 1 Chinese, 2 Americans: Warren Collier and Joanna Sachs).
 - Matt Hill to circulate application materials to RAJs.
 - Additional RJ seminar planned for the fall.
 - Coordination ongoing with Cliff Black regarding training materials.
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6. Newsletter Report

Sarah Ashton reported that the next newsletter is in preparation.

- Mark Townsend, Donald Wieneke, and Shannon Wood will submit articles by end of month.
 - Members were encouraged to submit additional content and photos.
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7. Certification Requirements / Appendix P

Mark Townsend presented proposed revisions to certification requirements.

Discussion Highlights:

- Clarification of “hearing” definition
- Revision of race committee experience criteria
- Refinement of Appendix P / Rule 42 endorsement
- Avoiding unnecessary barriers for entry-level judges

Committee Direction:

- Revise definitions and language for clarity and practicality
- Maintain reasonable standards for Appendix P endorsement
- Circulate revised draft for further review

8. Reports

a. Bruce Cook

Reported continued success of Protest Day programs.

b. Nancy Glover

Reported progress on educational programming and IJ Prep Round Table logistics.

c. Jerry Thompson

Reported on Appendix P clinics (three completed; one upcoming).

9. Work Parties

a. Testing Policy Work Party

No substantive progress reported due to scheduling conflicts.

b. Pop-Up Protest Work Party

No substantive progress reported due to scheduling conflicts.

c. Judges Manual – Offshore Section

Work continues (Nancy and John Porter).

d. Recruitment Initiatives

Discussion on engaging younger participants and challenges in volunteer recruitment.

10. New Business

a. Certification Testing Standards

Discussion initiated regarding:

- Passing score equivalency (Regional vs National)
- Advancement timing between levels
- Role of references and evaluation

Action: Topic referred for further review, including coordination with Race Administration Committee.

11. Strategic Planning Subcommittee

Darryl was tasked with leading a subcommittee on recruitment and pipeline development.

Initial Members: Darryl, Craig, Mark (additional members TBD)

Scope Includes:

- Entry pathways (Club Judge)
 - Certification standards
 - Growth and retention strategies
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12. General Discussion

Key themes included:

- Need for judges at all clubs
 - Value of remote hearings for training
 - Importance of mentoring and retention
 - Supporting new judges in gaining hearing experience
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13. Next Meeting

Tentatively scheduled for:

June 8, 2026 – 7:00 p.m. EDT

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m. EDT.

Action Items Summary

- Certification paperwork and notifications (Edith Collins / Steve Holstrom)
 - IJ seminar coordination (Matt Hill, Daryl Waskow)
 - Newsletter submissions (Sarah Ashton, Mark Townsend, Shannon, Donald Wieneke)
 - Certification document revisions (Mark Townsend)
 - Work party scheduling (multiple leads)
 - Strategic planning subcommittee (Daryl)
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