Referee Committee Minutes - FINAL
October 12, 2022
7:30 PM EST

AGENDA

1. **Welcome (Lyn)**
    a. **Call to Order** – *7:32pm*
    b. **Roll Call**
        i. Attendees – *Bob Appleyard, Dee McComb, Derek Blazo, Eric Weir, Howard Meisner, Jess McAlear, Lyn Wylder, Mike Murphy, Terry Friel Portell*
        ii. Absent – *Elaine Roden, Kris Thorsness*
        iii. Staff – *Sarah McAuliffe (departed at 8:23pm), Jules Zane*
        iv. *Jules Zane started the recording of the meeting.*

2. **USRowing Update (Jules)**
    a. **Update on Incident in Orlando and any fallout from that**

    b. **Update from Board Meeting**

    c. **Upcoming USRowing Elections**
        i. *(Lyn) The regions up for election are the Northeast and the Northwest. There will also be soliciting for an At-Large position on the Board. That is mine.*
        ii. *(Jules) In the call for nominees, the letter outlines what the regions are for the referees. They are clarified in the call for nominations.*
        iii. *(Terry) If they're not defined anywhere, they could change every time the election rolls around.*
        iv. *(Lyn) Howard's terms are up, and Dee's terms are up, and I'm not reapplying. My term ends at the end of December. The two regional positions start on March 1st.*
        v. *(Terry) Wasn't it last that At-Large are appointed, not elected?*
        vi. *(Lyn) That's right, the At-Large is appointed by the CEO, and it doesn't have to be approved by the Board.*

d. Confidentiality Agreement Update

e. Referee Apparel - How did the store do?

f. Referee Assistant Package Status

g. Insurance FAQ

h. Update on Annual Convention

i. *(Sarah) Where we are in the Events world, the Indoor Championships will be happening in Hall A of the Convention Center. Brett and I will be working together so that coaches can watch athletes in the morning, and sit in on seminars in the afternoon. Brett is in the very early stages of planning.*
ii. *(Jules) This all came together very quickly. Content just isn't planned yet. We were getting more and more inquiries.*
iii. *(Howard) If you're actually holding indoor championships that are national championships, you need a chief referee and a jury.*
iv. *(Sarah) Lyn, if you don't mind, I'll start reaching out to you, and we'll go from there.*
v. *(Jules) Fortunately there are a lot of people in Jersey and Pennsylvania that are a short road trip away.*

i. Status of Longevity Awards (watches and oars) see item 4(b)

j. Rule Changes

3. Short Executive Session for Update on Master's Nationals Issue (Jules)

a. *Eric **MOVED** to go into Executive Session; seconded by Terry. All in favor. 8:24pm.*
b. *Dee **MOVED** to go out of Executive Session; seconded by Terry. All in favor. 8:39pm.*

4. **Referee Awards (Jules)**
    a. **Julian Wolf, Jack Franklin and Mama Z**
    b. **Longevity Awards –** *I've been in touch with RegattaPrint, and they'll be done before the end of the year.*

5. **Data Call (Lyn/Mike)**
    a. **Discussion on Consequences for non-compliance with IOP - Continuation of Discussion from Last Meeting**
        i. *(Lyn) We said at the beginning of the year that you have to do x, y, and z to maintain your license. If they don't meet it, are we going to let them off the hook again?*
        ii. *(Howard) The wording says they'll be given an opportunity to make themselves whole. We've always interpreted that, in terms of regatta days, to be a year. That's when we're measuring the next set of regatta days.*
        iii. *Howard **MOVED** that If you have been licensed for a full year or longer:*
        1) If you missed the clinic, you have 30 days to take the clinic online
        2) If you didn't meet the 4 days, you have to take a recertification exam.
        iv. *Terry seconded.*
        v. *(Mike) You're going to lose a lot of people.*
        vi. *(Eric) When we finally do this, they'll learn it's easier to do it the right way first of all. It's not an immense barrier to take the recertification exam. I don't think that's going to be a problem in my region at all.*
        vii. *(Howard) We would throw in a few additional questions. These won't be over-the-top PhD level rules questions. In lieu of their on-the-water experience, this is the next best thing.*
        viii. *(Mike) They're going to hit the bricks.*
        ix. *(Lyn) If they're not going to spend an hour doing it, then maybe we want them to hit the bricks.*
        x. *(Eric) Make it 30 days for both items. It's more than reasonable.*
        xi. *(Lyn) We've waived requirements in the past couple years during Covid. In my opinion, this is the first year. We'll count this as Year One.*
        xii. *(Lyn) Calls the question – 5 for – 1 against – 2 abstentions. **MOTION** carries.*

    b. **Clinicians Evaluations (Mike)**
        i. *Dee **MOVED** that we suspend clinician evaluations this year; seconded by Eric.*
        ii. *(Lyn) We're talking about suspending the one that's required in the IOP.*
        iii. *(Dee) Calls the question – 6 for – 2 abstentions (Bob & Mike). **MOTION** carries.*

6. **IOP Update (Lyn/Howard/Eric) (deferred to next meeting)**
    a. **Changes Approved at Last Meeting**
    b. **More Minor Changes Proposed**
    c. **Those Changes Approved by Mail Vote**
    d. **Questions from Eric**

7. **Status of USRowing Owned Regattas (Jules/Eric)**
    a. **Dates and Locations for 2023 (Sarah promised that this would be announced the first week of October)**
        i. *(Sarah) Tomorrow we're going to announce the 2023 & 2024 regatta schedule. I'll start with two goals for the next two years. The two goals based on feedback from member surveys and discussions are 1) improve planning and communication. 2) Safety and fairness. This was presented in our venue plan. If you didn't see that Townhall, I'm happy to share it afterwards. As we come into 2023 and 2024, we're dividing the 2023 and 2024 regatta season, and the 2025+ era. We're seeing where we can make adjustments financially and people-wise to do things more effectively. In 2024, we want to be in a place where we can say we have more options.*
        ii. *(Howard) Does this extend to regional events as well?*
        iii. *(Sarah) Yes, both regional and national. Is there anything else?*
        iv. *(Jules) People just want to know where we're going. If you can book your plane tickets now, or your bus tickets now, it can be a lot less expensive than booking three months in advance.*
        v. *(Sarah) Some venues can't secure permits until one year out, so we'll be working with our venues as we move forward to get the final permits. Five areas we really focused on are 1) delivering more masters racing opportunities. 2) secure a second location for Youth Nationals. 3) Build out expertise at additional venues. 4) Unify our summer national championships. 5) Bring our values everywhere. This is being spearheaded by Jenny.*



2023 Schedule

- May 5-7 – USRowing Southwest Youth Championships (Gold River, Calif.)
- May 6-7 – USRowing Central Youth Championships (Oklahoma City, Okla.)
- May 13-14 – USRowing Mid-Atlantic Youth Championships (West Windsor,
- May 13-14 – USRowing Southeast Youth Championships (Gainesville, Ga.)
    - Chief- Peter San Juan
- May 19-21 – USRowing Northwest Youth Championships (Vancouver, Wash
- May 20-21 – USRowing Northeast Youth Championships (Worcester, Mass.
- June 8-11 – USRowing Youth National Championships (Sarasota, Fla)
- June 23-25 – USRowing Northwest Masters Regional Championships (Lowe
- June 24 – Stars & Stripes USRowing Central Masters Regional Championshi (Oklahoma City, Okla.)
- June 24-25 – USRowing Southeast Masters Regional Championships (Aiken
    - Chief - Sam Dempsey
- June 24-25 – USRowing Southwest Masters Regional Championships (Chul Calif.)
- June 24-25 – Diamond States Masters Regatta in partnership with USRowi (Townsend, Del.)
- July 13-16 – USRowing Summer National Championships (Bethel, Ohio)
- July 20-23 – USRowing Masters National Championships (Indianapolis, Ind



2024 Schedule

- May 3-5 – USRowing Southwest Youth Championships (Gold River, Calif.)
- May 4-5 – USRowing Central Youth Championships (Oklahoma City, Okla.)
- May 11-12 – USRowing Mid-Atlantic Youth Championships (West Windsor, N.J.)
- May 11-12 – USRowing Southeast Youth Championships (Sarasota, Fla.)
- May 17-19 – USRowing Northwest Youth Championships (Vancouver, Wash.)
- May 18-19 – USRowing Northeast Youth Championships (Lowell, Mass.)
- June 6-9 – USRowing Youth National Championships (Sarasota, Fla.)
- June 21-23 – USRowing Northwest Masters Regional Championships (Lowell, Ore.)
- June 22 – Stars & Stripes USRowing Central Masters Regional Championships (Oklahoma City, Okla.)
    - Chief - N/A
- June 22-23 – USRowing Southeast Masters Regional Championships (Aiken, S.C.)
- June 22-23 – USRowing Southwest Masters Regional Championships (Chula Vista, Calif.)
- June 22-23 – Diamond States Masters Regatta in partnership with USRowing (Townsend, Del.)

- July 13-21 – RowFest Summer Championships (Oklahoma City, Okla.)

b. **Next Meeting is with 2022 Chiefs and Deputies**

c. **Concerns from Eric**

8. **RefCorps Update (Dee) (deferred to next meeting)**

9. **Action Items (Jess) (deferred to next meeting)**

10. **Other Items or Issues for Discussion**

11. **Next Meetings**
    a. **October 26 – National Championship Chiefs and Deputies**
    b. **November 9 – Regular Meeting - Must Include Discussion on Proposed Rule Changes**
    c. **December 14 – Regular Meeting – Must Include Review of Clinicians, New Emeritus Referees, Retirements, Regattas, etc.**

12. **Adjourn –** ***MOTION*** *to Adjourn by Jessica; seconded by Derek. All in favor. 9:47pm.*