



3/25/2026

Committee Members Present: Letcher Ross, Eric Chiang, Liz Jenista, Bruce Doak, Jim Dwyer, Michael Murphy, Elaine Roden, Kathleen Crowe, Blake Ebright-Jones, Bryan Fraser

Committee Members Absent: Jess McAlear

Assistant Regional Coordinators Present: (None)

USRowing Present: Chris Bak

Guests: Andy Blackwood, Doug Jones, Frank McClintick, John White, Lorraine Baltzer, Mariah Foster, Patty Hyatt, Sam Chang, Sheila Tolle

1. Referee College's proposed IOP changes

- Motion to create IOP Subcommittee Passed
 - Confusion clarified: there was no existing formal IOP committee; Jim had been handling items ad hoc.
 - Motion passed to create an IOP subcommittee of the Referee Committee to:
 - Review proposed IOP changes.
 - Compare with the current IOP and Referee Committee responsibilities.
 - Recommend what to adopt/modify/reject.
 - Chair: Letcher
 - First task: Review the Referee College IOP proposal (Liz & Andy).
 - Subcommittee will report at every meeting on progress and outcomes.

IOP Old Language

L. Julian Wolf National Referee Training School

L-1. (60) The Committee sponsors the Julian Wolf National Referee Training School ("the School" or "Referee College" or "the College") to create, maintain, deliver, and own training materials related to national standards and applicable to all ranks of referees. The functions of the College include, but are not limited to:

- a. Create courses of instruction to promote national standards;
- b. Be responsible for the delivery of that instruction to referees including determining the method of delivery;



- c. Be responsible for the implementation of the chosen method to deliver each course;
- d. Have the discretion to identify instructors and the responsibility for training those instructors to deliver the courses in a nationally consistent manner;
- e. Ensure that all training materials are maintained with respect to the most recent rules and procedures;

L-2. The College shall be led by a referee who is designated as the Dean of the College. That referee may select other referees to assist them in the implementation of the duties of the College.

IOP Proposed New Language

L-1. The Julian Wolf Referee College (the “Referee College” or “College”) is an independent, self-governing, self-selected body that creates, maintains, delivers, and owns training, examination, and evaluation materials developed consistently for national standards, applicable to referee candidates and all ranks of licensed rowing referees.

The functions of the College include, but are not limited to:

- a. Creating training and evaluation materials to uphold national standards;
- b. Delivery of instruction to instructors and referees, including determining the method of delivery;
- c. Exercising discretion to identify, train, and support instructors to deliver the material in a nationally consistent manner;
- d. Ensuring training materials are maintained and updated whenever rules and procedures are changed.

L-2. The College Leadership shall self-select a referee who is designated as the liaison or representative of the College. The College Leadership may select other referees to assist them in the implementation of the duties of the College.

2. Governance & Subcommittees

- L1–L2 Leveling Guidelines



- The L1–L2 group hasn't met in the last two weeks; no new update.
- Still need to add marshaling and Control Commission language before finalizing.
- Liz to reconvene the group and complete the document.

2. Events & Planning

- National Championships Jury
 - Discussed in Executive Session.
 - Decision: Publish the Nationals jury list ASAP.
- LA 2028 Olympics
 - Sarah will work with LA 2028 personnel on referee and volunteer roles.
 - An April meeting will be largely dedicated to LA 2028 planning.
 - Intended as an open forum for referees to ask questions and learn about volunteer opportunities.
 - Despite a busy calendar, the committee wants to keep this in April to maintain momentum.

3. Training & Development

- Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) Training
 - PCA will provide a virtual webinar / soft-skills training template.
 - Sarah + subcommittee (Letcher, Mike, Kathleen) will:
 - Build rowing-specific scenarios into the training.
 - Ensure the material is relevant to referee realities.

4. Infrastructure & Communications

- Migration to Microsoft OneDrive
 - Moving from Google Drive to Microsoft OneDrive for security and continuity.
 - Committee members will receive onboarding emails from Team Logic / Edwin:
 - These are legitimate and should be accepted.
 - New addresses will be role-based (e.g., by region) under a domain like @usrowingreferees.org for continuity when people change roles.
 - At-large email naming is still TBD; Chris will follow up with Edwin.
- Regional Coordinator Checklist
 - Chris is developing a Regional Coordinator SOP/checklist.
 - It will include hyperlinks to key reporting documents and align with the OneDrive structure.



5. Membership Experience & Rules

- Referee Welcome Packages
 - Welcome packages have been backlogged.
 - Approval received to:
 - Send packages to those missing from 2025 (and some late 2024).
 - Include all new L1 promotions in 2026.
 - Chris will use the existing Google Doc list and add new 2026 L1s to bring everyone current.
- Rulebooks & Rule Changes
 - Questions raised on:
 - Status of 2026 rulebook printing.
 - Some rule changes approved by the committee that appear to lack USRowing comments in the master document.
 - Likely already at print, but:
 - Letcher will confirm printing status.
 - Investigate the missing comments/approvals and report back.
- Emeritus Status – Bill Howard
 - John White reported that Bill Howard has heard nothing on his Emeritus request
 - Letcher will follow up on the request and communicate back.

6. Summary of Key Decisions

1. Form IOP Subcommittee (Chair: Letcher) to handle all IOP changes and begin with the Referee College proposal.
2. Publish Nationals jury list ASAP (decision from Executive Session).
3. Proceed with:
 - a. PCA training customization for rowing.
 - b. April LA 2028 planning meeting.
 - c. OneDrive migration and role-based email setup.
 - d. Clearing backlog of referee welcome packages.