



## Referee Committee

Minutes of Meeting  
May 9, 2018  
Conference Call  
**FINAL**

### Attendance

#### Referee Committee:

Andrew Blackwood – Chair  
Lyn Wylder - Secretary  
Bob Appleyard – Referee College  
Dee McComb, NW – Regional Coordinator Representative to Committee  
Terry Friel-Portell – Safety/Referee Utilization

#### Regional Coordinators:

None

#### USRowing Staff:

Jules Zane, Manager Referee and Membership Programs

#### Absent:

Rachel Le Mieux – Trials Coordinator  
Jean Reilly – FISA Coordinator  
Gevvie Stone – Athlete Representative  
Marcus McElhenney – Athlete Representative

#### Guests:

Patty Hyatt, NW  
Sandy Killian, NE

Andy called the meeting to order at 8:34 PM EDT

1. Andy Blackwood
  - a. Welcome
  - b. Roll Call and Identified guests (noted above)
    - i. Rachel Le Mieux is traveling and is not expected on the call
    - ii. Jean Reilly has a work conflict and may either not be on the call or will leave early
    - iii. Gevvie Stone has a work conflict and is not expected on the call
  - c. Announcements
    - i. The results of the San Diego Crew Classic protest have been transmitted to the Chief Referee, Lloyd McDonald. Andy thanked Dee and Bob for working through the process
2. Referee Program Update (Jules Zane)
  - a. SafeSport Compliance – Today Jules sent the Regional Coordinators an updated list of referees that aren't SafeSport compliant. People who

are on the list will be temporarily suspended. Jules asked the coordinators to let him know if anyone on that list is also on an upcoming jury so he can reach out to the referee and the chief referee and let them know that that person can't serve on a jury until they complete SafeSport training and update their background check. The NW and SW regions are 100% compliant. Jules noted that across all regions referees we are 95% compliant.

- i. Bob stated that he didn't think that the chief referee should be the one to ask people if they are compliant and shouldn't be the person to police this. He also wanted to know how would a chief know, especially in the next 2 weeks when we are really busy, if someone is or isn't compliant? Jules said that USRowing doesn't want to put this on the chief referees. He will ask chiefs for list of referees working their regattas. Jules will review the list and follow-up with the specific person.
  - b. Recruiting – Jules noted that we have 14 new assistance referees since January 1 and thought that two more people have been promoted but haven't been put in RDS. He also said that there are several people in process that have finished their observations, have had their clinic and only have the to take the test.
    - i. Jules attended SW Juniors and got a dozen or so names of potential candidates. The thought that it was a good experience with good results. He talked with a lot of people specifically at Oakland Strokes and Redwood Shores and thought that he had generated a lot of interest from them. They also give him lots of good ideas for specific people to recruit.
    - ii. Jules got seven people from recruiting at the Crew Classic to go into the candidate pool with 5 from the SW and 2 from the NW.
    - iii. Andy asked if he was still thinking about trying to get people through the entire training process in one weekend at the Convention this December? Jules responded that there may be some issues with this, especially since the scheduled regatta is a head race. But USRowing is also scheduling a national ID camp on the Saturday of the Convention which includes sprint racing, so this is a possibility. Jules is working with the LOC for the races and the Convention.
    - iv. Terry asked if Sharon was working on recruiting? Jules responded that she was but that due to an illness in the family she can't really travel much. She is going to local regattas and spends a lot of time working with candidates in the RDS.
  - c. Andy asked if we have any other questions for Jules. Terry asked if there had been any progress on sharing the budget for referees with the committee? Jules said the he hadn't received approval but will check on it.
3. Discussion related to reinstating lapsed licenses (please review the IOP) (Andy Blackwood)

- a. Andy asked us to review Internal Operating Procedures (IOP) Sections 39 and 40. Both sections discuss how a referee returns to good standing after an absence. Section 39 relates to a referee that has failed to meet the criteria to maintain a license and now meets those requirements and Section 40 relates to a referee that has requested a leave of absence. Andy questioned if the requirements should be the same in terms of time frame, observations, clinic and examination.
- b. Terry suggested that the requirements should be the same.
- c. Lyn agreed and suggested that the requirements should be based on how long a referee was out of the loop. If they were out up to one year then they would only need to take a clinic. If they were out for one to two years they would need clinic and to take the exam. Any more than two years maybe they should start the process over again.
- d. Bob suggested that there should be a difference between how we treat a referee who let their license lap and one who had requested a leave of absence. He thought that if the license had lapsed then the referee should have to take the exam but the exam wouldn't necessarily be needed if the referee had requested a leave of absence.
- e. Andy noted that Section 40 has time frames of up to one year; one to two years and over two years, but that Section 39 doesn't say anything about time.
- f. Bob said that usually a referee requests a leave of absence if they know that they can't meet the requirements in Section 36 in the upcoming year. But he thinks that they should have to take a clinic during the year of absence. He noted that we should look at a rewrite of the IOP Sections to work toward consistency.
- g. Dee asked what defines a clinic in this case or for that matter what defines the clinic required in Section 36 to keep an active license? In returning to service are we talking about a rules clinic like what we give to candidates, the annual clinic or is there a specific clinic that goes over all of the rules changes since the referee became inactive? Terry noted that Section 36 doesn't define what should be included in the clinic and for that matter we don't really have the content of any clinic defined. She suggested that it should be THE clinic - the four to six-hour clinic that each region holds annually.
- h. Lyn suggested that the nature of all clinics and what should be covered in them should be defined by the Referee College. She also noted that a referee should have more than one opportunity a year to take the clinic.
- i. Andy suggested that we have a small group take the time to discuss this after thoughtful reflection. This would include the definition of a clinic to meet the requirements noted in Section 36 and a clarification of the language to deal with the discrepancies between Sections 39 and 40. Bob, Lyn and Andy will to work on the language while Dee, Terry and Andy will seek input from Regional Representatives and others.

4. New Business – Andy Blackwood
  - a. No new Business
5. Executive Session – Andy adjourned the Regular Committee Meeting at 9:10 to go into Executive Session
6. Executive Session was adjourned at 9:38
7. Our next meeting is scheduled for 8:30 EDT on June 13, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

Lyn Wylder  
Secretary, USRowing Referee Committee  
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