



**Referee Committee Agenda  
February 13, 2019  
7:30 PM EST**

**Call In Details:**

*Note we are going to use Zoom for this meeting so you can either call into the numbers listed below or join on your computer. If you want to join on your computer please download Zoom (this takes about a minute) before the meeting.*

Jules Zane is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: February Referee Committee Meeting

Time: Feb 13, 2019 7:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

**AGENDA**

1. Lyn

a. Welcome – Meeting was begun at 7:32p Eastern

b. Roll Call

- i. Committee: Lyn Wylder, Chair; Bob Appleyard, Terry Friel Portell, Jessica McAlear, Bill Eldon, Josie McNamara, Dee McComb, John Musial, Derek Blazo, Howard Meisner*
- ii. Absent: Kris Thorsness*
- iii. Staff: Jules Zane, Manager of Referee Programs*
- iv. Guests: None*

c. Announcements – Meeting Style

- i. Lyn prefers to do work offline (prior to call) and provide updates during the call. It is challenging to get work done on the call.*

2. Referee Program Update - (Jules)

a. Events

- i. Jules recently participated in the Events Dept planning meetings In the past, there has been a disconnect between Events Dept and Referees. Susan and Patrick said that now any major events meetings/calls/planning will include Jules.*
- ii. Jules will go to all 5 Championships in 2019 and other major events as possible.*

b. Election Results

- i. Derek Blazo (MW) and John Musial (NE) were re-elected as Regional Coordinators.*

c. Lyn made a motion to move to Executive Session. Howard seconded. Dee made a motion to ascend out of Executive session; seconded by Howard.

d. Communication from USRowing to Referees –

- i. There will be a new monthly email newsletter coming from Jules to the referees.*
- ii. One monthly item they would like to do is the Referee Spotlight. First one was on Doug Jones.
  - 1. Committee should have input into what direction the Referee Spotlight should go and who should be included. Discussion regarding purpose and goals.*Please send Jules any thoughts on the Ref Spotlight and how we communicate with referees.*

2. Lyn: Goals seem to be to show athletes that we are people and we have a sense of humor and that we enjoy what we do and that we have training. We asked Bob Appleyard to respond to the article about what to tell athletes in the spring about racing is because athletes may not realize we have a Referee College. Several: Keep it diverse.

e. RefCorps Update

- i. Thanks to all who have been providing feedback in the test environment. We've moved a lot of data over for the first rollout. We are days away from sending it out for everyone. We found a few bugs and we're excited to get it up and out. Our goal is to rollout more features by late April.
- ii. Questions: What features will be included? Regatta participation, clinic participation. Do people need to maintain records in both RDS and new? Everything for this year we want in the new system. We will assist people and some events that may have occurred during the move may have to be re-entered into RefCorp. What is the communication and training plan? FAQ docs and webinars and training videos in RefCorp. Can we put a link on RDS to redirect people to RefCorp? Discussion.

f. Recruiting

- i. Jules will attend more events this year; working on the travel plan to have candidate receptions like were held at Masters' Nationals in '18. This year we tried a more needs-based recruiting and look where we need referees based on needs at venues and regions. Please communicate with the committee when your schedule is finalized so we are aware where you are going. Compliments to Kendall Chase who is helping Jules will following up on potential candidates.
- ii. Any update on the club excellence program and their enticement to have referees? A: The Club Excellence program is moving slowly but it is still the plan.

3. Discussion on IOP Update - (Kris)

- a. We think the update we were waiting for were if invitations had gone out and if the self-nominations email had been sent to allow the corp to self-nominate. **ACTION** – Jules share with full committee the draft email.

4. Update on National Championship Jury Selection - (John)

- a. Jury selection is completed. Coordinators have reviewed and AJ has reviewed and approved. The whole Committee needs to see and then Patrick needs to approve and then the names can be posted.
- b. Interest in participating did not go up the way we had hoped with some of the changes.
- c. Would like to work up a new procedure/policy to revise this process for 2020.
- d. Discussion how the process works and how selections are made: days worked in previous year, skill level, attitude, etc. Focus needs to be on how to get the top refs to go but with such long events, people don't want to do it. This needs to continue to be on the agenda so discussion and changes can be planned for 2020.
- e. Some Reg Coords need to be part of determining the new process but also USRowing. Criteria needs to be created – do we have to have a strict regional pull for each event, etc. The person who is doing the surveys and collecting reports from Chiefs needs to be part of that small group.
- f. Thanks to John for leading this effort.

5. Terms that Need to be Defined in RefCorps (Terms listed below) – (Howard)

- a. Howard received no updates or comments.
- b. What is the difference between a regatta practice day and a sanctioned regatta practice day? A: A sanctioned practice day will count toward total number of regatta days but an unsanctioned would not. Ex: A regatta has a published day of practice prior to the regatta start – that is sanctioned. If crews arrive a day early and the Chief decides to put someone out, then that would be unsanctioned.
- c. Travel day would be a legitimate day to include in the days count if we are trying to be comprehensive. It would be useful for USRowing to see how many days are given up by referees for travel.
- d. What about the rental car and deputy car? USRowing wants to track cars provided. This description should be updated.

6. FISA Liaison Selection – (Lyn/Jules)

- a. FISA announced juries today and USRowing did well getting people on juries. Exchange program has also wrapped up and we had 3 people participating in that. With that, the bulk of the current work for the year is completed. We postponed the discussion of the new FISA liaison to now for June or July 1 which works better with the FISA process and calendar.
  - b. The committee decided the best action is that the FISA umpires should select their liaison rather than having the committee select that person. The process was that people could nominate or self-nominate and then Jules would check with those individuals to explain the job and ensure their interest. After feedback, seems that it should just be self-nominations.
  - c. This whole committee should see the document Jules circulated. **ACTION** for Jules to send to current committee.
  - d. Committee will support the vote of the FISA umpires and then final approval of vote would be up to Patrick.
  - e. Relative to the IOP, the only thing we are changing is how the FISA Liaison will be nominated and selection process of the liaison. Per IOP, committees, timing, responsibilities of FISA liaison, etc. are not changed.
7. Rules for Coastal – (Jules)
- a. Discussion last month included that we will have 5 Coastal events in 2019. Is there anything we need to be doing to get rules out and train umpires? We need to get ahead of that.
  - b. Jules: In the coming weeks John Wik will have Coastal Rules for the committee to review. They are very close to FISA Coastal rules. Those referees who will work will be trained.
  - c. What format will those be? Jules: I assume written.
  - d. How do we qualify who is eligible or qualified to do this? Are there plans? Will we have refs certified or have an endorsement to do coastal, indoor, sprint, adaptive? Will it just be FISA referees? A: With FISA events, Coastal refs come in early to be trained. It could be another set of rules...Discussion.
8. Update on 2019 Clinics
- a. Discussion on use of the Developed PowerPoints – (Lyn/Bob)
    - i. Bob provides the PowerPoint when it has final approval. Several years ago, a policy decision was made that the distributed file was locked so clinicians could not edit. Discussion as to whether file should be locked or editable. Presenter notes are valuable. Maybe we should have a training session for clinicians so they know all the items to be delivered via the presentation.
  - b. Discussion on Online Availability - (Jules)
    - i. No date yet. **ACTION**: Jules will have person identified for the online clinic.
  - c. Feedback from Clinics That have been held – (All)
    - i. Anything critical? Reg Coord: We've gotten really good feedback on the presentations... a lot of involvement and engagement.
    - ii. Brief aside of strong endorsement of auto-inflating life vest by referee who utilized it this year. Comment we should discuss this later.
9. Any Other Issues or Questions – (All)
- a. When will we get rules books? In progress. **ACTION**: Jules will get a date.
  - b. What about ref gear store? In next few days JL will send a new store for Jules to approve. There should be something available to refs before long.
    - i. What about outerwear? Feedback is that we need Gore-Tex and JL does not have a source and their gear is not Gore-tex so there is not outerwear at this time. USRowing wants JL to do the outerwear. There is no leftover inventory at Boathouse. Lands End does still have our logo.
10. Next Meeting Wednesday March 13 @ 7:30 PM EST
11. Meeting Adjourns at 9:14p Eastern – John Musial moves to conclude regular meeting and go to Executive Session. Dee McComb seconds.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

2 Items

## TERMS IN REFCORPS

Term	Current Understanding of Term
Regatta Day	Regatta day that event runs. Counts towards base required number of regatta days
Canceled Regatta Day	Regatta Day that referee arrived on site, but event was canceled without any races being run. Counts as regatta day, but does not count towards base required number of regatta days
Practice Regatta Day	A day that a referee helps with practice, but does not gain credit towards their base requirement number of regatta days
Sanctioned Practice Day	Practice day at a regatta that gains credit towards base required number of regatta days
Desired Referees	Desired number of referees wanted for the event
Position Worked Count	Each position worked during an Active Regatta day [example: 4 shifts, 4 positions (Starter, Referee, Referee, Finish) gains count for 1 starter, 2 referee, and 1 finish for that day]
Classroom Clinic	Clinic that takes place only in person at a site
Blended Clinic	Clinic that takes place in a classroom, but also offered virtually with a link
Virtual Clinic	Clinic that takes place only in a virtual classroom
Active Referee	The referee rank structure requires all Referees to work a Nationally Recognized Regatta at least every other year.
License Suspended - USRowing Admin	User is missing Membership and/or Waiver
License Suspended - Safety Compliance	User is missing SafeSport and/or Background Check
License Suspended	User is missing Membership, Waiver, SafeSport and Background Check
Rental Car at USRowing Owned Event	Chief and Deputy's car only (2 cars total)
Assistant Referee	
Referee	
Clinician	
Chief Referee	

###