



## Referee Committee



Meeting Minutes  
December 15, 2015  
Telephone Conference

### Attendance:

#### Referee Committee:

Tom Fuller – Co-Chair  
Chris Lang – Co-Chair  
Ruth Macnamara – Vice Chair, Secretary  
John Musial – Regional Coordinator  
Marcus McElhenney – Athlete Representative

#### USRowing:

John Wik – Director of Referee Programs

Tom Fuller called the meeting to order at 5:33pm PST.

Tom shared with the Committee that the Board unanimously elected Terry Friel Portell to take the At-Large position on the Referee Committee vacated by Chris Lang. Terry will take her position on the Committee as of 1/1/16. We all look forward to welcoming Terry and having MW representation on the Committee.

### 1. Rules Discussion:

- a. 2016 Rule Changes – It was discussed and decided that the rule changes for 2016, voted on by the Board at the Convention, will be made to the 2015 Rules of Racing and sent to the printer to be published.
- b. Para/Adaptive Rules – It was discussed and decided that the Para/Adaptive Rules will be posted on the USRowing website until January 31, 2016 for a public comment period. USRowing will notify membership and the Para/Adaptive community that they are posted for public comment. The Referee Committee, Regional Coordinators and Rules Committee will review all comments and present a set of Para/Adaptive Rules to the Board by February 28, 2016. Part of the proposal will be that the Para/Adaptive Rules will be posted on the USRowing Website as an Addendum to the published 2016 Rules of Racing. They will be in an advisory capacity for 2016. After the initial year of use and any modifications necessary, they will be included in the Procedures for Rules of Racing proposed rule changes for 2017.
- c. Coastal Rules – It was discussed and decided that the Coastal Rules Subcommittee will work on a draft of Coastal/Open Water Rules. They will present the draft to the Referee Committee; they too will be posted on the USRowing website for a comment period. All comments will be reviewed by the

Referee Committee, Regional Coordinators and the Rules Committee. After review, the Coastal/Open Water Rules will be forwarded to the Board for approval. As part of the proposal, it will be suggested that the Coastal/Open Water Rules be posted on the USRowing website as an Addendum to the published 2016 Rules of Racing. They will be in an advisory capacity for 2016. After the initial year of use and any modifications necessary, they will be included in the Procedures for Rules of Racing proposed rule changes for 2017.

2. Referee Evaluations Working Group

It was discussed and decided by a vote of 4-0-1 (Chris recused herself): Chris Lang will Chair this working group. In addition, Mike Rosenbaum will be a member of the working group. Bob Appleyard will serve in an advisory capacity. Chris and Mike will populate the rest of their working group and bring back to the Committee their proposed scope of work.

3. Open –

Ruth Macnamara reminded the Committee that the Safety Subcommittee’s “Ask List” is on our January agenda.

John Musial wanted to thank the Committee for working with him this past year. He has enjoyed his time as the Regional Coordinator representative to the Committee. Next year Howard Meisner will be their representative to the Committee. John emphasized the necessity for the Committee to have open lines of communication. He also reiterated his suggestion that the Committee meet twice a year in person. John is happy to continue to lend a hand where needed and would be happy to facilitate better lines of communication.

Tom Fuller – Thanked John for his service this past year. Tom believes that the Committee will continue to move forward in a positive manner.

Ruth Macnamara made a motion to adjourn. Chris Lang seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:02pm PST.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Macnamara  
Vice Chair, Secretary  
USRowing Referee Committee  
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