



## Referee Committee

Minutes of Meeting  
December 5, 2014  
Annual Convention

### Attendance:

#### Referee Committee:

Tom Fuller – Chair  
Chris Lang – Vice Chair  
Ruth Macnamara - Secretary  
Lloyd McDonald – Regional Coordinator  
Marcus McElhenney – Athlete Representative

#### Regional Coordinators:

John Musial, MA  
Jorge Salas, SE  
Roger Frederick, MW  
Howard Meisner, NE  
Dee McComb, NW  
Lloyd McDonald, SW – Regional Coordinator to Committee

#### USRowing:

John Wik – Director of Referee Programs

#### Guests:

Open to the Convention Attendees; 5 of 6 regions represented (11 signed in)

Tom Fuller called the meeting to order at 9:06 A.M. Tom welcomed the members of the Committee, Regional Coordinators, and guests.

Members and Guests introduced themselves to the group.

Glenn Merry joined the group and gave a summary of what has happened in 2014 and the direction USRowing is headed in 2015. He touched on:

- SafeSport
- Rules restructuring: Glenn acknowledged the amount of effort and time put into the process; the opportunity to rebrand; and how it will be user friendly.
- 100 new Referee Candidates this year
- New Venues in the US – the opportunities and access points they present.
- Goal is to double the size of the sport by 2017
- Training and Retention of our Referees
- Increase in the 2015 Budget

- New Corporate Sponsor will be announced soon
- Increase Membership by 5000 in 2015
- In 2015 up to 45 owned regattas; 18 new owned events
- VA Grant – 5 sites

John Wik gave an overview of the Agendas for Friday and Saturday. He announced that Marcia Hahn would be hosting the Referees in attendance at her home Friday night.

### **Regional Coordinators Report – Lloyd McDonald**

John Musial was elected as the Regional Coordinator Representative to the Referee Committee for 2015

Lloyd gave an overview of statistics of the Referee Corps as a whole and region by region.

#### Annual Clinic Topics for 2015

- Reorganization of the Rules to include changes to the Rules and changes to Article VI
- Referee Evaluation Process – transparency and National implementation
- IOP Introduction to the Referee Corps
- Lloyd made a motion to accept the 3 topics for the 2015 Annual Clinic.
- Ruth seconded the motion.
- Discussion
- Power Point Outline for the three topics will be provided by the Regional Coordinators to be used by the Clinicians at the 2015 Annual Clinics.
- Tom called for a vote: 4-0 **Approved** (Marcus was absent)

#### National Championships

##### 1. Second Deputy

In the past, the coordinators had recommended the second deputy concept and for it to be a funded spot. It was in place for 2014 and will remain in place for 2015.

For 2016, the coordinators unanimously recommended that the second deputy that is currently in place for Youth, Club and Masters Nationals be removed but that the funded spot remain as part of the jury.

Discussion.

Lloyd made a Motion to Eliminate the Second Deputy at Youth, Club and Masters Nationals but continue to provide that extra funded slot.

Ruth seconded.

Discussion.

Tom called for a vote:

LM: Yes

TF: Yes

RM: Yes

MM: No

CL: No

**Motion Approved 3-2**

## 2. Allocation of funded slots per region/ Staffing National Championships

Points to consider:

- 3 extra slots for 2016 and going forward with the elimination of the second deputy designation.
- 30% of the referees nominated for National Championships don't end up going.

**Action:** Dee and Jorge will come back to the Regional Coordinators and Referee Committee by the end of March 2015 with a recommendation/proposal regarding the distribution of the 3 deputy slots, proportional juries, staffing levels and the use of alternates.

Clinics:

- What clinics meet the requirements to count towards the referee's requirement to attend a clinic annually? Smaller clinics that are regatta specific? Referee College?
- Discussion
- The Regional Coordinators would like to specify that the Annual Clinic be the only one that counts towards the Referee Requirements to maintain their license.

Regional Coordinator Summaries:

Howard Meisner – NE – challenges in getting senior leadership outside of Massachusetts. Goal is to build strength in experience and numbers in other states within the region.

Dee McComb – NW – smallest region in numbers but very strong in experience. Goal is to recruit candidates and get them trained to be assistant referees. Use mentorship program and utilize the clinicians more. Noted that adaptive rowing is building in the NW and dealing with the need to have procedures in place for LOC, Referees and Athletes when running adaptive races.

Lloyd McDonald – SW – needs to focus on recruiting; has two geographical areas – Long Beach and San Diego that need to build the referee corps and develop referees to Chief regattas. Junior rowing is exploding in this region.

Jorge Salas – SE – large geographical area – has mostly junior and scholastic rowing. Most racing is concentrated in Sarasota and Orlando. It is difficult getting referees to major events due to distance of travel.

Roger Frederick – MW – largest geographical area; referees have to travel large distances to work regattas.

John Musial – MA – it has the largest number of referees and regattas in this region. The region currently has 157 active referees. Goal is to continue getting referees in compliance with the requirements to maintain their license; getting assistants promoted to fully licensed referees; need to develop more referees to take leadership roles as Chiefs; and keep pushing recruiting. Typically have larger attendance at clinics in the Phila/NJ and DC/VA/MD areas. Began clinician meetings in 2014.

Tom Fuller acknowledged the extraordinary undertaking all the Regional Coordinators took to get their Region's referees in compliance with SafeSport and the NCSI background checks the past 12 months and specifically pointed out the amount of effort it took John Musial to get his list pared down to just active referees.

Tom Mannle – Suggested that serious effort needs to be put into providing training using webinars. Materials can be standardized when using webinars.

Chris Lang – E Learning Modules; 4-6 each year; the content driven by the Regional Coordinators and Referee Committee; testing at the end of each module, it should be a prerequisite to attend the annual clinic.

11:15 – Tom Fuller excused anyone who is not a Regional Coordinator or not on the Referee Committee.

Lloyd made a motion to descend into Executive Session.  
Chris seconded.

1:50 Motion to ascend out of Executive Session  
Marcus seconded

Tom Fuller made a motion to accept the NRR List as presented by the Regional Coordinators.  
Lloyd seconded.  
Approved 5-0

Tom Fuller made a motion to accept the Emeritus List as presented by the Regional Coordinators.  
Marcus seconded.  
Approved 5-0

Tom Fuller made a motion to accept the Clinicians List as presented by the Regional Coordinators.  
Lloyd seconded.  
Approved 5-0

Tom Fuller made a motion to accept all other items discussed in Executive Session.  
Lloyd seconded.  
Approved 5-0

Lloyd made a motion to adjourn the meeting.  
Marcus seconded.  
Meeting adjourned 2 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Macnamara  
Secretary, USRowing Referee Committee  
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