



Referee Committee

Minutes of Meeting
November 12, 2014
Phone Conference Call

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

I. Call Meeting to Order (Tom Fuller; 5 Minutes)

- A. We have previously provided each of the Referee Committee and Regional Coordinators with a copy of the results of the review conducted by Glenn Merry, John Wik, Howard Meisner and Tom Fuller of the package of asterisked rules where part or all of them have been transferred from the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing* to the proposed Referee Procedures Manual and the proposed LOC Guidance Manual.

There was no comment on this topic.

- B. Tonight we will first review the outstanding issue from last Wednesday night's call regarding Page 13 of the "RulesOFRowing_Feedback_Form_2Nov.pdf" and the referral to Bob Appleyard to solicit input from the Referee College instructors; Howard was to follow up with Bob on this issue.

Tom had a conversation with Bob and this issue is regarding uniforms at control commission. When athletes are wearing raingear or cold weather gear, the Chief Referee will instruct the Control Commission to advise the athletes to remove their outer clothing to be identified during racing. CLOSED

- C. The Revised Breakage Rule states that broken equipment will only be officially acknowledged in the first 100 meters of the race. It now eliminates breakage in the warmup area. We are voting if we agree to the new language in the proposed restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* that limits breakage to the first 100 meters of the race. The vote was 9-1 to keep the new language in. Committee vote 5-0 to support the language to confine breakage to the first 100 meters.
- D. Who has the Authority to Suspend Racing? In the proposed restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing*, the new language states that any race official can suspend and restart a race. We are voting if we agree to the new language in the restructured *Rules of Rowing* that states any race official can suspend and restart a race. A vote taken of the Regional Coordinators and Referee Committee was 6-4 to keep the new language in. Committee vote 3-2 to support the language in the restructured *Rules of Rowing*.

II. Discussion of the Proposed Changes to the 2014 Rules of Rowing as Submitted by USRowing, the Referee Committee and people at large to the USRowing website. (A listing of all submitted rules is attached.) (All; 45 minutes)

A vote will be taken on each proposed change to the 2014 *Rules of Rowing*; as I have indicated previously, the process I am going to use is to ask all 10 of us to discuss the issues on which the Referee Committee will ultimately vote. If we are all in agreement on the issue, our recommendation to the Board will indicate the Regional Coordinators and the Referee Committee are in agreement with unanimous support on the topic at hand. If we all are not in agreement, the five Referee Committee members will vote, and the actual vote (not the people and how they vote) will be provided to the Board. For example, if a proposed rule change is not unanimously supported/rejected, then a vote will be taken and the result of the vote noted; e.g. "3 votes in

favor, 2 votes against; the Referee Committee recommends the Board approve the matter”.

1-202(bb) Other Definitions – Unsportsmanlike Conduct – This requested change has unanimous support from the Referee Committee and the Regional Coordinators.

1-202(ee) Other Definitions – Weigh-in Window – This requested change has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from the Referee Committee and Regional Coordinators if the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved. The vote is moot if the Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* is recommended by the Referee Committee and approved by the Board.

1-202(ff) Other Definitions – Adjusted Weigh-In Window – This requested change has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from the Referee Committee and Regional Coordinators if the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved. The vote is moot if the Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* is recommended by the Referee Committee and approved by the Board.

2-311 Broken Equipment – Lloyd McDonald withdraws this proposed rule change.

2-409 – Racing Cadence – This requested change has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from the Referee Committee and a 3-3 vote from the Regional Coordinators to support the proposed rule change to remove racing cadence from the *Rules of Rowing*. ACTION – If the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does get approved, rewrite this into the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing*. If the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved, rewrite this change into the “regular” 2015 *Rules of Rowing* document.

2-409 – Racing Cadence (Trials section) – This requested change from Matt Imes has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from the Referee Committee and the Regional Coordinators to support the proposed rule change to remove racing cadence from the *Rules of Rowing*. ACTION – If the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does get approved, rewrite this into the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing*. If the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved, rewrite this change into the “regular” 2015 *Rules of Rowing* document.

2-409 – Racing Cadence – A NEW recommendation was made by Chris Lang to the Board to remove Race Cadence from all versions of the *Rules of Rowing*. There was unanimous support from the Referee Committee and Regional Coordinators to approve the removal of all references to “racing cadence” in the *Rules of Rowing* by the Board. ACTION – If the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does get approved, rewrite this into the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing*. If the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved, rewrite this change into the “regular” 2015 *Rules of Rowing* document

2-411 – Unsportsmanlike Conduct – This requested change has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from the Referee Committee and the Regional Coordinators if the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved. The vote is moot if the Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* is recommended by the Referee Committee and approved by the Board.

2-503 Declaring the Race to be Official and 2-504 Placement of Crews – This requested change has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from the Referee Committee and the Regional Coordinators if the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved. The vote is moot if the Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* is recommended by the Referee Committee and approved by the Board.

2-504(c) Placement of Crews – This requested change has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from the Referee Committee and the Regional Coordinators if the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved. The vote is moot if the Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* is recommended by the Referee Committee and approved by the Board.

2-602 – Types of Penalties - Relegation – Proposal #1 – The penalty can only be used for underweight boat weights. This requested change has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from the Referee Committee and the Regional Coordinators if the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved. The vote is moot if the Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* is recommended by the Referee Committee and approved by the Board. ACTION – If the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does get approved, rewrite this into the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing*. If the proposed Restructured Rules of Rowing does NOT get approved, rewrite this change into the “regular” 2015 *Rules of Rowing* document.

2-602 – Types of Penalties – Relegation – Proposal #2 – Lloyd withdraws.

2-604 – Matters Subject to Protest – Lloyd withdraws.

2-607- Protest Hearing Procedures – This requested change has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from the Referee Committee and the Regional Coordinators if the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved. ACTION – If the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does get approved, rewrite this into the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing*. If the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved, rewrite this change into the “regular” 2015 *Rules of Rowing* document.

4-104.1(a)(2) Classification by Age – This requested change has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from the Referee Committee and the Regional Coordinators if the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved. ACTION – If the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does get approved, rewrite this into the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing*. If the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get

approved, rewrite this change into the “regular” 2015 *Rules of Rowing* document.

4-104.2(b)(2) Classification by Skill – This requested change has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from the Referee Committee and the Regional Coordinators if the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved. The vote is moot if the Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* is recommended by the Referee Committee and approved by the Board. ACTION – If the proposed Restructuring of the *Rule of Rowing* does get approved, rewrite this into the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing*. If the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved, rewrite this change into the “regular” 2015 *Rules of Rowing* document. (The change would be to add the word “designated” and to write the words “national rowing championship” in lower case so that it doesn’t become a defined term.)

4-106 – Weighing of Competitors – This requested change has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from four of the five Referee Committee members, (Chris Lang had to leave the conference call prior to this vote), and the Regional Coordinators if the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved. The vote is moot if the Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* is recommended by the Referee Committee and approved by the Board.

4-106 – Weighing of Competitors – Lloyd withdraws

5-101(a) (1) Types of Regattas – This requested change has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from four of the five Referee Committee members, (Chris Lang had to leave the conference call prior to this vote), and the Regional Coordinators if the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved. The vote is moot if the Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* is recommended by the Referee Committee and approved by the Board.

5-208(c) Illness of Competitor – This requested change has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from four of the five Referee Committee members, (Chris Lang had to leave the conference call prior to this vote), and the Regional Coordinators if the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved. The vote is moot if the Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* is recommended by the Referee Committee and approved by the Board. ACTION – If the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does get approved, rewrite this into the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing*. If the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approval, rewrite this change into the “regular” 2015 *Rules of Rowing* document.

5-304(a) National Champions – This requested change has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from four of the five Referee Committee members, (Chris Lang had to leave the conference call prior to this vote), and the Regional Coordinators if the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved. The vote is moot if the

Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* is recommended by the Referee Committee and approved by the Board.

6-203 International Classification and Eligibility Rules – This requested change to Article VI Trials of the *Rules of Rowing* has unanimous support for its approval by the Board from four of the five Referee Committee members, (Chris Lang had to leave the conference call prior to this vote), and the Regional Coordinators if the proposed Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* does NOT get approved. The vote is moot if the Restructuring of the *Rules of Rowing* is recommended by the Referee Committee and approved by the Board, and if the proposed Restructured *Rules of Rowing* include the recommended change to Article VI Trials of the 2014 *Rules of Rowing* as submitted by the HPC as part of the normal process to submit proposed change to the *Rules of Rowing*.

III. Final Discussion of the Proposed Changes to Article VI Trials Rules submitted by the HPC (All; 10 minutes)

- A. The purpose of this discussion is to solicit final comments and/or questions regarding the HPC's submission for changes to Article VI. (A copy of the proposed change is attached.)

Discussion. Before we make a decision on Article VI, we want to consult the Trials Directors and the HPC group again. They will all be invited to the beginning of our call on Monday November 17, 8:00 P.M. EST.

IV. Other Issues - None

- V. Adjourn** – Lloyd made a motion to adjourn. Marcus seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 9:55 P.M. EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Macnamara
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USRowing Referee Committee
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