

# **Minutes of the IWWF Racing Council Meeting 2015**

## **Held in The Copthorne Hotel, Wellington, New Zealand 17th April 2015**

Meeting commenced 10.00am

### **Attendance:**

#### ***Racing Council Member in attendance:***

Dusty Schultz (Pan Am)	IWWF Racing Chairman
Meryl Lee (A & O)	IWWF Racing Secretary General
Glen Coles (A & O)	A & O Chairman
Mike Waterman (E & A)	E & A Chairman
Louis Simard (Pan Am)	Member
Greg Dutton (A & O)	Member
Vera Van den Bossche (E & A)	Member
Ted Hoffman (Pan Am)	Member
Francois Van den Bossche (E & A)	(standing in for Jules Leysen)
Cameron King (USA)	Athletes Representative

#### ***Non Racing Council Member in attendance:***

Kelly Ireland (USA)	2015 replacement for Ted Hoffman
Andrew Donehue (Australia)	2015 replacement for Glen Coles
Lyneen Vartha	(Chief Judge)
Emma Nasimi	(Co-Chair 2015 Worlds Committee)
Raewyn Mackie (NZ)	Minutes Secretary

#### ***Apologies:***

Jules Leysen

### **Meeting Opened**

Chairman Dusty Schulz welcomed everyone to the meeting and declared the meeting open.

### **Reports by Non Racing Council Members**

#### ***2015 World Championships Convenors Report***

Report read out by Emma Nasimi - Co-convenor of 2015 World Champs in Wellington, NZ  
Report attached.

Discussion held regarding medals, IWWF Fees, Budgets, communication between Jury, Racing Council and Organisers, Closing Ceremony.

Action:

Emma and Meryl to compile a procedures manual for further World Championships.

Report accepted.

Action: Emma & Meryl

### **2015 World Championships Chief Judge's Report**

Report read out by Lyneen Vartha, Chief Judge..

Discussion needed on Rule 8.14, regarding red flagged races. There were questions regarding the Women's Race Three, which was red flagged on the last lap.

Report accepted.

Lyneen and Emma left the meeting.

### **Minutes from previous meeting**

Matters arising from the previous meeting held at Tenerife, September 12th 2013.

1. Cameron to contact Des Burke Kennedy re: website or twitter. Meryl had sent information to Des for a press release. All event organisers need to contact him before an event if they want it on the official website. Not enough information on water ski racing on that website.
2. ECU tested in Belgium, paid for from protest funds and IWWF allotment.
3. Are ECUs being collected this time? Mercury is to check all ECUs onsite.

Motion: That the minutes be accepted.

Moved: Mike

Second: Vera

Vote: Unanimous

### **Correspondence:**

1. A letter was handed in at the A & O meeting. It regards excluding family members from being Jury Members and/or being Chief Judge or Assistant Chief Judge.

#### Discussion points

- Vera said a new rule exists in Belgium regarding family being on the jury
- Should we have jury members declare whether or not they have a family member who is a competitor.?
- Should we have a reserve member of each jury to replace a member with conflict of interest?
- We should therefore get someone to put together a rule regarding family members being on the jury.

Dusty asked Vera and Louis to write up a suggested rule.

Action: Vera & Louis

Glen would like an official acknowledgement of this letter from A & O. Dusty will send answer to Meryl as Oceania Secretary.

Action Dusty

2. Belgium President to NZ Organising Committee, regarding the media is not being informed of the results of racing.

## Reports from Racing Council Members:

Chairman: Dusty Schultz.

Written report attached.

Safety Issues. The safety committee would like to compile a list of the injuries that occur in each region. The committee will also be looking into helmets and helmet safety, and a \$5000.00 grant is available from the IWWF for helmet testing.

E & A Region: Mike Waterman.

Written report attached.

Media report by Jonas Garcia Hernandez also attached.

Question: Is Jonas paid? No, he is not. He works in IT and has a personal interest in compiling these statistics.

A website exists but it doesn't function well. Mike will get Jonas to contact Kelly Ireland (USA) to try to link the IWWF website with each of the regions social media.

Action: Mike

Pan Am Region: Dusty Schultz.

Written report attached.

A & O Region: Greg Dutton.

Written report attached.

Question: Length of boats? This will be discussed in General Business.

SRA: Meryl Lee.

Written Report attached.

Question from Dusty to Andrew. Is there now a problem with design limits? Is there is now a need to restrict boats in regard to the power to weight issue?

Meryl explained that the SRA Membership Card was not to be mistaken for an International Licence. As per the rule book SRA recommended members for an International Licence and they were then endorsed by AO Region. Meryl had issued all the Australian licenses. There is a rookie system in NSW and Victoria.

AA Region: Glen Coles.

AA Region is now Oceania Region. Andrew Donehue is the new chairman,

Athletes Representative: Cameron King.

Discussion points brought up during the Competitors Meeting.

- Separate flagging - works well
- F2 Juniors – first championships using F2 boats (mixed opinions).
- Increasing membership through a buddy country system
- Safety, specifically helmets
- Sanction fee to IWWF.
- Racing Council website needs updating

- F2 Skier Eligibility.
- 1000 point system. Is there a better system? Cameron is working on a hybrid system.
- Team Trophies. Competitors would prefer a single team trophy with top 4 competitor's points over all categories going toward a single team trophy.
- Clarify Wetsuit Rule. Action: Meryl
- Can HP be limited for Open Class? Greg and Andrew look into limiting the horsepower for Open. Action: Greg and Andrew
- Happy with 3 members from each competing Federation present at competitors meeting.
- Racing Council succession - the need for new people to come up through the ranks was talked about.
- A quarterly report from Racing Council would be a way of communicating to the wider membership.

## **Committee Reports:**

### ***Glen Coles – Historian***

Verbal report

Less and less people are supplying this information. Minutes/programs etc are important, but so is the history. Guidelines are needed. Vera has all the history for Belgium back to 1973, and the Diamond Race back to 1984. Glen has history back to the race across the English Channel. 1948 was the first Catalina. The World Waterski Union was started in 1946. Dusty suggests that history begins in 1937, and that we start with the Waterski Racing beginning in the 70's. Vera is to collate her information and give it to Glen/ Mike King to collate the USA ski racing information, and Louis to collate the Canadian information.

### ***Greg Dutton - Technical Report***

Verbal report

Andrew and Greg are going to identify the new engines and check with Mercury about the 300xs and its production longevity. We need 5 years notice if it is to be superseded. Also will the new engines be more or less complicated? Andrew says that the computer programs will be the hardest to manage, and research is needed. Boosting is easy, at present the Mercury 300 is easy to keep an eye on and control.

Andrew and Greg are going to come up with recommendations with regard to the age of motors, preferring that motors to be no older than 5 years old.

Action: Andrew & Greg

### ***Vera Van den Bossche - New country involvement.***

Have been trying to get other countries involved ie. Holland, Germany etc with no luck.

### ***Mike Waterman - Hall of Fame***

There has been no headway with IWWF at recognising our athletes. We are resubmitting Debbie Norblads name to the Hall of Fame. Any other bid needs to be done properly. John and Glenda Newton were pioneers of NZ skiracing.

### ***Louis Simard - International Judges***

Standardise test, there are 39 questions. Follow up is needed by Chairman for the results of the Judges Test. What are the criteria to become a Chief Judge for the World Champs? If there are any changes to the rules remember there will need to be a change to the questions.

### ***Matters arising from reports***

Cameron asked questions re the procedure taken in handling protests and refunding of protest fees. Dusty stated monies would not be returned. The process of handling protests would be clarified and procedures reinforced with Jury.

## **Agenda Items:**

### ***1. Succession process for World Racing Council - Dusty Schultz.***

Oceania has exercised their process. Andrew Donehue is the new racing council member. E & A region has elections. Pan Am has only one country doing ski racing at present, and has three members on the council.

Dusty would like each region to begin to groom new members, so there can be a natural evolution of racing council members.

### ***2. Succession process for Judges.***

9 European International Judges are qualified, with only 5 for World Judging.

The requirement by IWWF is that you stay on for 3 years. We do need to keep moving through new judges. Great to see Brady is here at the Worlds learning and assisting the Chief Judge. Travel is expensive but we need more judges.

Dusty - Meryl and Dusty will work on writing the requirements for the Organising Country for the Judges role.

Action: Meryl & Dusty

Cameron - We should have more competitors is judging. This will keep costs down and they could be assistant judges to gain experience.

Motion:

When Judges are asked to be nominated for the World Championships, we also ask for 3 Assistant Competitor Judges, who are fully qualified.

Moved: Cameron

Seconded: Vera

Vote: Carried

### ***3. Skiers Helmets***

Dusty has started a Safety Committee, with the primary focus being Helmets.

Andrew - Australia has a sub-committee dealing with helmet safety. Andrew has kept a variety of helmets, and is keeping anecdotal evidence of the helmet. The one he showed (Cookie) was made of carbon fibre, and had a lot of the forehead exposed. Also noted that none of these are made for ski racing and are often sky diving helmets.

Cameron - He has spoken to Bill Chillcott from the Snell Corporation, and tests have been done. His research found the issues of bucketing where the water enters the helmet from the back. He is also testing neck restraints. Tania Teelow has a balaclava made of neoprene

that is used for water deflection. Wizard has made one that Andrew showed, for wearing over a helmet. Head restraints are also lauded. Peter Proctor uses a Bonehead helmet, with head restraint straps. It is important that D clips are not used on chin straps. Australia does not use D clips, but uses a plastic chin strap that can come off easily.

Once testing has been done the safety committee needs to be informed. All these findings will need to be recommendations. If recommendations are made then it needs to be done carefully as there will be liability.

Discussion took place re any place for D clips.

Andrew - Peaks, are these allowed? Apparently if the region deems it to be okay then they can be used. More testing is needed of the carbon fibre which is strong but sharp when it breaks.

Safety Committee report is to be an Agenda Item for all future meetings,

#### **4. Alcohol testing at the World Championships.**

Meryl - Alcohol is prohibited by the rules for all competitors and officials in Racing. It was therefore decided to test for alcohol as per procedures used in 2011. All competitors would be breath tested before each race at this World Championships.

Meryl will add this to the rule book.

Action: Meryl

#### **5. Criteria for skier of the year, in the off years.**

2014 Ellen Jones and David VanStellant were chosen. They met the criteria. IWWF has put forward a criteria, and whilst it is difficult at times it is decided to continue to follow this criteria.

#### **6. Medals for World Championships.**

This time NZ supplied all of their own medals. Should we continue with this? Dusty is to check with Emma and Brad, and continue with this as it appears to be a cheaper option.

#### **7. World Championships every 4 years instead of 2.**

Costs for hosting are large, but interest in our sport and the World Champs would be lost if we changed. Agreement to keep it as is.

#### **8. Juniors.**

Possible change to being under 18 instead of under 17. Decided to keep rule the same.

#### **9. Future bids**

2017 USA. Kelly Ireland reported that after 6 months of investigation they had been able to sign the LAO for the bid to hold the 2017 World Championships in Seattle. They are working with the Seattle Sports Commission, and also looking into working with the Catalina race, to line up dates for July 2017.

There will be 2 freshwater races and 2 sea races. The weather is variable in July, often with the wind coming up in the afternoon..

Funding is not going to be an issue having multiple sponsors on board.

### ***10. Election of Chairman and Secretary General.***

Mike proposes the incumbent remain in their positions.

President: Dusty Schultz

Secretary: Meryl Lee

Dusty says that he will stay, but will step down at the next World Champs.

Moved: Mike Waterman

Second: Glen Coles

Vote: Unanimous

Glen also formally handed over his position as A & O Chairman to Andrew Donehue.

Dusty presented Glen with a plaque from the IWWF Racing Council. Glen has enjoyed his time on the Racing Council from 1981 to present.

Ted Hoffman also handed his position as Pan Am representative onto Kelly Ireland.

## **General Business**

### ***Pink flag.***

This needs to be much brighter, and more fluorescent as it is hard to see. Australia uses a pink and green flag which is very easy to recognise. Replace pink flag with a pink and green flag. The flag will be 1/2 pink and 1/2 green (separated diagonally) on each side.

### ***F2, restricting eligibility.***

Discussion took place re ways to restrict eligibility to compete in F2.

Can we prevent previous Open winner from being able to compete in F2.

Kelly - Thinks that changing the rule will bring in new people to the sport.

Greg - Likes the idea of changing the rule, and it will bring in more Open boats.

Andrew - Would like to see the new people coming in, but Australia has an abundance of skiers

Vera, Meryl, Francois, Ted, Louis and Mike prefer to keep it as is. Rule will be kept as is.

Motion: To not allow the current F2 Champion to defend his/her title.

Moved: Cameron King

Second: Greg Dutton

Vote: For 3

Against 5

Motion failed

Motion: An amendment added to existing rule to require the Open World Champion to have to wait 5 World Championships before being eligible to step down a class.

Moved: Cameron King

Second: Louis Simard

Vote: Unanimous

Motion: To have one Federation Team Trophy - where points are counted for each country's top 4 scorers, from each race day.

Moved: Cameron King

Second: Vera Van den Bossche

Vote: Carried 1 abstained

Dusty suggested that a new Perpetual trophy be made.

***Blue/green flag.***

Could we make sure that the green flag comes down when the blue flag goes up.

***Catalina.***

The race at Catalina is not an IWWF sanctioned event. From now on the participants need to have the permission of their own federation, to attend Catalina.

***F2 Rule.***

This new rule was relaxed for this event only, and reverted back to the original rule regarding length. This rule is now back in play for the next World Championships..

Discussion held about length of boats.

Motion: NZ be given dispensation at the 2017 World Champs, so that boats in F2 can comply with the old rule in regard to length.

Moved: Greg Dutton

Second: Andrew Donahue

Vote: Unanimous

Glen has asked to remain on the mailing list for the next two years. ▫

Thanks given to Julie Dever who came in as a replacement for the Pan Am Judge,

Motion: To adjourn meeting.

Moved: Cameron King

Second: Andrew Donehue

Vote: Unanimous



President's Report  
2015 IWWF World Racing Council Meeting  
Wellington, New Zealand

April 16,2015

1. IWWF E. Board Meeting – Santiago, Chile. November 2013

Two items that affect racing – the sanction fee for the Racing Worlds was raised to a new total of \$29,000.00. All disciplines were raised + -20%. The approval to begin the search for a paid administrator for IWWF. In 2014 a research firm was to do the actual search for the individual who would run the IWWF on a daily basis.

2. Social Media

How do we arrange this?? Des Burke Kennedy works on the IWWF World Cup and other IWWF disciplines. Racing has provided very little information for Des to put on the official website. E&A has a good report on how they are conducting their social media. Discussion

3. Hall of Fame

In January Debbie Norblad was once again nominated. The selection committee was asked to have their decision finalised by the end of March. No ward as of April 5,2015. Mike Waterman will have his report on the IWWF Hall of Fame.

4. 2017 World Championships

Seattle, Washington USA has been awarded the contract for the 2017 Worlds. The Organising Committee is headed by Kelly Ireland, who will give a short report regarding this venue.

5. Any value in having the World Championships contracted out for 2 or 4 years? Discussion.

6. Safety Issues and establishing an official and permanent committee? Detail meeting at Long Beach in 2014 and follow up with Snell Foundation regarding helmet construction and safety.

Dusty Schulz  
IWWF Racing Council President

## 2015 PAN-AM RACING REPORT

April 16, 2015

The NWSRA has been struggling for some time now. In 2014 we barely had 100 active members. Even with those historically low numbers they have added new races and revived others.

A new race was born with the addition of a "Small Boat Catalina Race." This is a race for boats that fit into the NWSRA Marathon rules. Boats of 27 ft or less. No modified 50 ft boats made to measure 43 ft with a detachable bow in order to fit into the rules. A good turnout for a first time race. It will run again in 2015. The Parker International Marathon and the US Open are still the best attended races on the calendar.

The Catalina Race in 2014 was the most intense racing ever seen in the 65 year history of this classic open ocean ski race. Todd Haig and Wayne Mawer raced side by side for the entire distance at speeds of 90 mph and more. Todd edged Wayne by 1 second and set an all time record of 46 min and 36 sec. Todd also broke the total victories record of 11 wins, shared with the legendary Chuck Stearns. Todd now has 12 overall victories.

Pan-Am is hoping that some additional interest will be generated with the 2017 Racing World Championships being awarded to Seattle, Washington.

Respectively submitted,

Dusty Schulz

E & A REGION RACING COUNCIL REPORT TO THE WORLD RACING COUNCIL  
MEETING IN WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND, APRIL 2015

Just over 18 months ago I tabled my report for Tenerife. It is once more my privilege to pen some notes for the 2015 meeting.

Since Tenerife the Region has enjoyed a busy 2014 season here in Europe, and we are of course planning to do the same in 2015. Entry levels across the spectrum seem to be holding up pretty well.

In 2014, the Region as usual enjoyed full National programmes of racing in Austria, in Belgium/Holland and GB, with another good Europe Cup series.

The highlight of the season within the Region was our European Championships staged in two venues in France, firstly in Vichy which many will remember as a successful venue for the 1993 Worlds, (and several other Europe Cup events in the interim), and for the final two rounds, Eguzon Chantome, which is north of Limoges and South of Chateauroux, in central France.

Eguzon has become a firm favourite amongst our racers in the last 5 years.

We had excellent racing in contrasting conditions at both venues, with the more telling and trying waters in Vichy, and then the rapid option at Eguzon making for a good test of overall team abilities over the 8 day, 4 round Championships.

France has an exceptional pedigree in water skiing, and it was great to have a high level Water Ski Racing competition there once again.

Thanks to the French Federation for their keen and key support of the two Local Authorities who both did us proud.

(So successful was the event, that France is currently working hard on a bid for the 2019 World Titles, at the same dual locations, now that the Worlds venue for 2017 has been sorted as Seattle, Washington State, in the USA).

In recent years Belgium has frequently proven itself as by far the strongest Nation in our Division of the sport, in Europe, but this time, it was Great Britain who took out the coveted 2014 Team Trophy in France by the smallest of margins.

In whichever Region the World Championships are staged this will present difficulties of cost and access for the teams furthest away, which in some measure affects the level of entries, but I am pleased to report that for the successful Worlds in Tenerife in 2013 there were some 70 entries, which pretty much mirrors the level achieved in Belgium in 2009.

I am very mindful indeed of the very low entry level from Europe for the 2015 Titles in New Zealand. It is very disappointing indeed not least to all the European Federations, and also to the many missing teams from Europe, who would like to be there, but for their own respective reasons are not.

This does not in any way reflect badly on the sterling efforts and hard work of the group in New Zealand who have done so much in order to host these Championships- we salute you. The 2007 Titles in NZ were brilliant and I am sure that the 2015 event will be the same.

Whilst it is very disappointing to us in Europe to see only a token entry from our countries, I do not apologise because entry is always a personal matter governed by many factors, but key is the fact that it is always at the personal cost of those who compete.

Federations and officials can do their utmost to work with their athletes and teams to help them prepare for World Championship, as has happened this winter, and even offer in some

cases a financial stimulus, but ultimately the bulk of the cost still falls on the individual Skiers, Drivers and Observers, particularly if a boat transit is involved.

After incurring huge expense to just get to NZ, charging them a race entry fee does not go down well either, although I agree that it is important to keep that observation in perspective. Perhaps we do need once again to review this principle?

This time round, with all due respect to the Organisers, who must of course have control, the timing is also not ideal from the European standpoint as it falls in pre-season for us, so in a cold climate, preparation for peak performance cannot be easy, and the loss of a boat for between 3 and 4 months whilst in transit also presents its own problems- i.e. it is not back here in Europe when our own season is in full swing!

Thus not only the location of a World Championship, but also the timing is a critical consideration as we look to the future.

I have mused over the lack of European teams this time and one explanation could be that the results in Tenerife with all 9 titles going to Australia, reinforced the knowledge that with a few notable exceptions, for the skiers from many nations to compete they need to be at a substantially higher level than they were in 2013.

Otherwise they will simply be making up the numbers in their respective classes, which either acts as a spur to drive for self improvement, or as a deterrent to them taking part this time (in addition to the time and financial considerations already cited). There seems no easy answer to this conundrum.

In 2014 the annual E & A congress was held in Milan, where the E & A Council were re-elected en bloc apart from the arrival of Jonas Garcia from Tenerife to replace the retiring Pepe Escoda, (also Spain) who had served us so well over many years. Jonas has proved a very welcome addition to the Council with his fresh approach and his excellent IT skills.

12 months on we were in Toulouse, France, for the 2015 Congress ( no elections this year) where in a busy schedule we all took a two hour trip around the Airbus factory and saw the A 380 installation- rather impressive to put it mildly.

Well you must mix a little culture with the water skiing occasionally.

The new WARAC computer programme which was unveiled a couple of years ago is now fully operational, but is under constant review as regular upgrades are now incorporated. New facilities are being worked on all the time to give even greater functionality. It is working very well, and is now available for other Regions/Federations at very reasonable cost.

We are in Europe ever mindful of the need to try and get more countries involved in Racing- there are many European countries who are very active in other disciplines who are missing out and it was refreshing in Toulouse to show a short promo video kindly prepared by Jonas ( from Tenerife) which met with unilateral approval, with IWWF President Kuno Ritschard amongst others requesting a copy.

The door is open to new countries but it's not easy to get them involved- we are happy to give demonstrations etc- but it is hard to break the ice- we fight on.

Our Officials seminar is deferred one year to 2016, but our junior Coaching Camp is scheduled for Eguzon in late July 2015, lead by our Athlete's Rep Chris Rydl who also runs, "Skiers Corner" on our Regional Website where Chris monitors their views, and brings ideas to Council on a regular basis.

I wish to record my thanks to all members of the Region E & A Racing Council, for their ongoing efforts on behalf of the discipline in Europe and particularly to Vera Van Den Bossche, our Secretary General who keeps our documentation up together-already in 2015 alone-

2015 Racing Rules, & 2015 Technical Bulletin,

2015 Homologation Document, and the new Drivers boat engine declaration form, Judges Roster, and of course, the Council Meeting Minutes.

A word of gratitude here too, for the many other Judges, Timekeepers, Scrutineers and Officials and helpers and not least our generous Sponsors, who make our events happen. We could not do it without you.

We have been so disappointed with the custodians of the IWWF Hall of Fame which frankly is a virtual Tournament closed shop, largely administered by Tournament Council personnel. We have therefore established our own Region Europe & Africa Racing Hall of Fame and we will be honouring our first 3 recipients in Belgium this June at the Diamond Race, which in itself is also celebrating an amazing 30 years in 2015.

As a Council we consider it is important and entirely fitting that Racers of distinction be recognised for their significant contributions to the Sport, so we are doing it ourselves! You will no doubt here much more re the Hall of Fame and the Viersel anniversary in due course.

Although it is not a World category (yet), you might be interested to know that we are restricting our Masters/Seniors skiers (over 35 years) to F2 boat power from 2016 in an effort to persuade more of the Old Boys to stay racing!!

With very best wishes and as ever

Yours in Water Ski Racing

Mike Waterman,

President,

IWWF Region Europe & Africa Racing Council,

10/03/2015

# **A&O Report to 2015 IWWF Racing Council**

## **Meryl Lee**

### **Ski Racing Australia**

In the 2014/15 Season a new classic race, the Ted Hurley Classic, was added to the calendar. We now have 9 classic races plus the Bridge to Bridge One Up which is run in conjunction with the Bridge to Bridge Power Boat Race. The GPS tracking system, Race Safe, is used in all boats in these races. There are positive aspects in the use of this system but it has come as a cost to the competitors in the form of a fee added to the entry fee. We still conduct State and National Championships as well as a point score series in each state. We also held a series of 7 races to select the Australian Team for the 2015 World Championships.

There has been another slight decrease in membership, most likely due to increasing costs, but we appear to be in a very healthy position compared to other federations.

Since our last meeting there have been some very unfortunate incidents resulting in the death of competitors. These incidents have been thoroughly investigated by the appropriate authorities but the findings have not yet been released. The Coroner's report on Sarah Teelow's death is not yet complete.

The NSW Maritime Authority is conducting a safety audit on all water based activities. The review of High Speed Racing includes:

1. Legislative Requirements
2. Aquatic Licence Process
3. Conditions of Aquatic Licences
4. Cross Government Collaboration
5. Exemptions
6. Compliance with Relevant Standards
7. Peak body Collaboration
8. Event Organiser Personnel Training
9. RMS Staff Training
10. Risk Plans
11. Skill Progression – Staged Licences
12. Vessel Monitoring Systems
13. Insurance & Public Liability
14. Emergency Response Plans
15. Divers & Paramedics
16. Scrutineering
17. Scrutineer Training
18. Interstate / International Collaboration

This is an ongoing review and we have not yet received a report.

Meryl Lee Oceania

## Greg Dutton New Zealand

IWWF Racing Council Report 2015

April 2015 Wellington

In New Zealand we have had an eventful last year or so organizing the World Championships to be held in Wellington 2015

Whilst in lots of ways, this event has been easier to set up from the knowledge gained in 2007; the main issues that have arisen revolve around the funding for the event. Our funding streams that were available back in 07 have all dried up and indeed any sort of funding has been very difficult to obtain. We had a forthcoming sponsor in the Wellington City Council and after a lot of work, Mercury and Hirepool came on board, however it also should be noted that the costs of running an event such as this have increased dramatically, costs including event management, health and safety, logistics and insurance are now very significant and couple these with the un-realistic sanction fee (given the scale of the event) imposed, we have not been able to provide many of the "nice extra things" as we did back in 2007, In fact this event will make a loss for our association

I have stepped aside from the organising committee this time and have only been involved in an advisory role, but huge thanks need to go to Bevan Scott and Emma Nasimi for putting this event together in such a short time frame and such a restricted budget

Aside from the Worlds, Ski Racing in New Zealand over the last 2 years has been good, with neither a decline nor an increase in members, We ran all events with good fields of boats in our National Series and Classic events, Bridge to Bridge, 100 Miler and Twin Rivers events, The once again successful Trans Tasman event was also again run with Victoria, Australia.

Our Ski School, that has been part of our ski racing culture for 25 years was not done this year due to lack of commitment to run this event so I would like to focus to get this vital component of our growth back on our calendar again

# INTERNATIONAL RACING JUDGES TEST

## Report 2015 - Wellington New Zealand

Objective.....Create a standard IWSF Racing judges test.

1. Select a committee chairman from the racing council. Additional committee members can be selected from existing council members, or anyone outside the existing racing council.

Chair Louis Simard,

Committee members from regions Jan Thurgar, Vera Van Den Bossche, Ted Hoffman

2. Finalize a standard test for ALL International Racing Judges. This is to include both multiply choice and essay questions based upon the current rule book. Questions on race course set up and knowledge of the various technical rules class structure, timing and safety, shall be included.

- *The choice was for questions and answers, a first example came with 50 questions test revise to a 30 question test not involving technical aspect. After consultations with members, it came to a 40 questions test. An amendment was made by the committee in Tenerife in 2013, one question was taken out concerning scrutinizing. That aspect was add on the chief judge check list related to who should be present at the boat check.*

In 2015, since that the amendment to the rules in 2014 was not concerning the judging, the exam does not need to be revise.

3. Update the “Role and Responsibility of Chief Judge” Make this document a part of the judges handbook.
  - *Work was done on that list since 1997. The list was update and approve in 2007 by the council. The 2009 chief Judge Check list was send to the members of the committee in 2013. I receive from Vera the one that is use in EU. I compare with the 2009 version, made a version that was given to the members of the committee.*



*A final revision was done in Tenerife on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September for the racing council meeting.*

It was well received by the council members at the World Racing Council meeting in Tenerife

4. Coordinate with the Secretary General to constantly update the judge's test to remain current with the rule changes and modifications.

- *The final version has 39 questions.*

2015 Reference question 2.

5. Coordinate with Region Presidents, or their representative, to verify that this test is used for IWSF Racing Judges. If a region chooses to use this as their local regional judges test, that it is approved. However – a local region test is not accepted as the official IWSF Racing Judges Test.

*The regions presidents will be keep inform of any change in the judge test in the future.*

6. A list of nominated judges from each region shall be passed on to this committee, this committee shall verify all nominated judges as having passed this test and eligible to sit on the proposes World Championships jury.

*That has to be done for the next World. The follow up is the responsibility of the regions. A list of judges that has passed the test should be send to the secretary general and the chairman of the committee.*

Work in progress —

Criteria use for Tournament in Canada, was submit to the members of the committee as an example. I have done some adjustment for the members, it need to be simplified. They will send their suggestions where and when it became applicable.

This has to be done for 2016

We should also determine that the test is good for how many years and what it takes to be selected as assistant chief judge and chief judge.

This has to be done for 2016

Suggestion from members of the committee:

To hold a judges meeting with all the judges who attend the Worlds, it can be at the same time as the competitor's meeting.

The region should send to the chair their own criteria's for the selection of judges at regional and national events.

This has to be done.