

Annex A To Competition Regulation – 9.6

IDBF INTERNATIONAL RACE OFFICIALS SCHEME

Training, Assessment, Grades

1. The International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF) recognises that the standards of officiating at International Competitive Events must be of the highest order if Race Officials are to earn credibility and respect, and if such competition is to develop in a full and meaningful way. The training and assessment scheme for National and International Dragon Boat Racing Technical Officials and the grading system associated with it have been formulated to ensure that such standards of officiating are introduced at National level by IDBF Members and developed Internationally by the IDBF.

2. IDBF Race Officials Training & Assessment (ROTA), covers training for officiating at National Level and four (4) levels of assessment and grading, at International level, as follows:

<u>Level</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Award</u>	
National	National Official	National Race Officials' Certificate	(NROC)
Grade 1.	International Official	International Race Officials Certificate	(IROC)
Grade 2.	International Official	International Race Officials Licence (Technical or Organisational)	(IROL)
Grade 3.	International Official	Senior International Race Official	(SRO)
Grade 4.	International Official	International Chief Official	(ICO)

3. The outline requirements for the different Grades of Race Officials are shown below.

4. **National Race Official (NRO).** Those people who wish to become a Dragon Boat Racing Technical Race Official are required to attend Race Officials Training (tutorial and/or practical), organised directly by the IDBF Race Officials Secretariat (ROS) or through an IDBF Member organisation. Such training should be followed by at least one seasons practical experience at dragon boat events, during which time the competence of the Official is assessed, before being confirmed as a qualified National Race Official. Those applying for International Race Officials Assessment, must first hold a **National Race Officials qualification.** (For more information on National Officials Training and Assessment – see paragraphs 15-22 below.)

5. **International Race Official (IRO) – Grade. 1 (Certificate)** Dragon Boat Officials with either an IDBF or IDBF Member's National Race Officials Certificate or Qualification or with at least two (2) years of officiating in Dragon Boat Races, at National Level, may apply to the IDBF ROS for IDBF International Race Officials Examination and Assessment. The examination and assessment consists of a timed written paper on the IDBF Statutes, Bye-Laws, Competition Regulations and Rules of Racing, followed by a

verbal 'one to one' interview to assess the candidates knowledge and experience of the sport and Race Officiating. During the written examination, Candidates are allowed to refer to the IDBF publications listed above and should bring with them a copy of the publications, for this purpose.

6. Successful candidates will be awarded the IDBF International Race Officials Certificate (IROC), which is the first Grade of the IRO scheme. Those holding a IROC will be entered on the IDBF Register of Officials as Grade.1 International Race Officials and authorised to officiate at International Races.

7. **International Race Official (IRO) Grade. 2 (License).** Those Grade 1 International Race Officials with at least three (3) years of officiating at National Level, including officiating experience in at least two (2) International Races or at three (3) National Championships, may apply to the IDBF ROS to be assessed for their International Race Officials Licence (IROL) – Grade 2 IRO.

8. There are two (2) classes of Grade 2 IRO, namely, TECHNICAL IRO and ORGANISATIONAL IRO.

- a. **Technical International Race Official** (Tech IRO). Those applying for Technical IRO status will have experience at International Races or National Championships, over a range of the officiating roles shown in the IDBF Rules of Racing. A TECH IRO will be qualified to act as the Technical Director at an International Race or National Championships, and to officiate at Continental or Regional Championships and International Races, as a Member of the Competition Committee.
- b. **Organisational International Race Official** (Org IRO). Those applying for Organisational IRO status will have a wide knowledge of the sport and proven experience in organising Dragon Boat Races at International Race level or National Championships and shall have a working knowledge of the IDBF Competition Regulations. They will be capable of co-ordinating the work of a team of officials in the delivery of a Sport Racing Regatta or Dragon Boat Festival. An ORG IRO will be qualified as an Event Organiser to conduct Continental; Regional Championships and International Regattas, under the appropriate IDBF Competition Regulations and the IDBF Rules of Racing

9. The Grade 2 IRO Assessment for both classes of the IROL, is a verbal interview and a practical test of a candidates technical abilities or organisational experience and knowledge of the sport. The IROL assessment is carried out at a nominated International Race or a recognised Championship event. Successful candidates will be awarded their IDBF International Race Officials Licence (IROL) Technical or Organisational, as appropriate. The IROL is the second Grade of the IRO scheme and a successful candidate will be entered on the IDBF Register of Officials as a Grade 2. International Race Official (Tech or Org or both, as appropriate)

10. **International Race Official (IRO) Grade 3 (Senior).** Those Grade 2, International Race Officials holding an IROL will be eligible to apply to the IDBF ROS or be nominated by the Secretariat, for assessment as a Senior International Race Official (SRO).

11. SRO candidates will have a wide range of experience of organising dragon boat events and officiating at both national and international level over a number of years, including carrying out the duties of a member of the Competition Committee at Championships or International Race level.

12. SRO candidates will be assessed, by a ROS Assessment Team, on their potential ability to carry out the duties of the Chief Official at Continental or Regional Championship level. Those granted SRO status will be entered on the IDBF Register of Officials as Grade 3 IRO – Senior Official. Only Senior Race Officials' will be appointed to the Competition Committee at a IDBF World Championship Regatta. The role of Technical Director at IDBF World Championship Regattas should always be carried out by an IDBF Senior Race Official (SRO) or International Chief Official (ICO).

13. **International Race Official (IRO) Grade 4 (Chief Official).** Grade 3, Senior International Officials will be eligible to apply to the IDBF ROS or be nominated by the Secretariat, for assessment at an IDBF World Championships Regatta, as an International Chief Official (ICO). ICO candidates will have officiated, over a number of years as a SRO, at World Championship Regattas, carrying out different roles as a member of the Competition Committee or as a Chief Official at Continental level.

14. ICO candidates will be assessed, by a ROS Assessment Team, on their ability to carry out the duties of the Chief Official at an IDBF World Championship Regatta. Those granted ICO status will be entered on the IDBF Register of Officials as Grade 4 IRO – International Chief Official. An ICO will always be appointed as the Chief Official at an IDBF World Championship Regatta.

National Race Officials Training and Appointments

15. **National Training.** National Race Officials Training should cover those aspects of event organisation and officiating that are needed to organise and supervise the actual races, that is, the technical organisation of a dragon boat regatta. Training can be undertaken through a tutorial course followed by practical training and experience over at least one competitive season or through practical training during a season.

16. **Exemption from formal Training.** The IDBF recommends that an experienced race official with a sound knowledge of the technical aspects of dragon boat racing (or an allied sport such as rowing) but who has not attended a Tutorial Training Course, may be assessed directly at events by an experience assessment team. **The IDBF is able to offer IDBF Members advice and help in conducting National Officials Tutorial Training Courses.** An example of a National Officials Training Course Programme, is shown below.

17. National Officials Training is designed to cover the following areas of race officiating:

Race Organiser; Chief Official; Chief Boat Marshal; Judge Time Keeper;
Starter; Race Recorder; Race Secretary; Umpire

18. These are the key officials at any Dragon Boat Race and are designated by the IDBF as Technical Race Officials. Other Race Officials, such as, Boat Marshals; Safety Officers; Press Officers; Aligners; Stewards and other non-technical officials do not

undergo formal training, specific to Dragon Boat Racing and are therefore not registered at National level or by the IDBF. Such Race Officials are designated as Supporting Officials.

19. **Appointments.** The IDBF recommends that all National Regattas and Championships should only be organised by Technical Race Officials, **registered with their IDBF Member Association.** Organisers of other dragon boat events both national and international, are advised to use only those Officials who have undergone training and assessment (tutorial and/or practical) at National or International level and are registered with their IDBF Member, or the IDBF ROS, to officiate at the appropriate level, especially the Race Organiser and Chief Official.

20. Most IDBF Members operate a Membership Scheme that requires qualified Race Officials to become members. The IDBF recommends that all such Membership schemes should give Race Officials both Public Liability Insurance Cover (PLIC) and Personal Accident insurance cover (PAIC), whilst they are officiating in competitive dragon boat events sanctioned by their IDBF Member.

21. The IDBF also recommends to IDBF Member organisations that only that National Officials with a depth of experience and knowledge of the sport at National level should be appointed as Race Organisers and Chief Officials, for races below National Championship level. The **IDBF IROC** would be the recommended minimum level. For National Championships or International Races, the minimum recommended qualification would be the **IDBF IROL.**

22. The IDBF also recommends to IDBF Member organisations that those Race Organisers and Chief Officials considered to be fully competent in all aspects of organising a Dragon Boat Race should hold a **National Race Organisers Licence (NROL).** The **IDBF SRO** would be the recommended minimum qualification for the granting of a NROL. The IDBF also recommends that a NROL should be subject to annual re-validation, on renewal of the license holder's national membership.