



Referees & Judges Committee Meeting – 6th December 2021. Zoom

Attendees to the meeting

Chair	Chris Roberts OBE
Vice-Chair	Séverine Gosselin Godavarisingh Rajcoomar Leonardo D’Gama Wayne Rose Omar Saleh Aljaberi Rafael Vega Rodriguez Terezie Krejbychová Jakob Ragimov Waldemar Mencil Mohamed Kamel Shbib
Apologies	Anna Laukkanen Paiboon Srichaisawat Juan Tomás Tejera Juan Milan Ponce

1. Welcoming remarks by the Chairperson – Chris Roberts

The Chairperson welcomed all the committee members pointing out that many events and improvements had happened and made since the last committee meeting, with a really busy period leading up to and beyond the AIBA Men’s World Championships in Belgrade. He noted that all these updates and steps forward would be discussed during this meeting.

2. AIBA Referee and Judges Manual

Some changes have been added to the manual since October 2021. In terms of the new scoring system, respective amendments will be added to the document by the sub-committee, if the pilot study was found to be a really positive step change forward for AIBA. It was emphasized that it is planned to publish the manual on the website after Christmas and New Year holidays; hopefully by the end of January 2022.

3. AIBA Auditor

It was noted that in terms of improving organizational governance and transparency during the championships in Belgrade, the Committee invited GB Boxing Director and International Technical Official, Mr Michael Norford to observe and audit some of the work that was being conducted in Belgrade. Mr Norford provided the AIBA HQs with the report which proved to be a really positive piece of work from an assurance perspective. It was pointed out that the work of Mr Norford as an external observer, had created another layer of Audit, Assurance and Inspection work, which enabled a greater oversight of the daily work conducted by all appointed officials and delegates.

4. AIBA Instructor Toolkit

It was emphasized that the work with the Toolkit had almost come to a conclusion. It was said that further steps should include developing the teaching characteristics, delivery of the content and necessary changes in line with our current development roadmap. It was noted that the Toolkit consisted of different modules, for example, Code



of Conduct and the Evaluation/Observer system. One of the key parts of the document should become the 'New' Scoring System that should be integrated at the beginning of 2022, dependent on the findings provided by the Pilot Study Tiger Team. It was agreed that the assessment for the instructors would include Written and Practical exams, to include video analysis.

5. AIBA 3-Star R&J Refresher Course

It was mentioned that the first 3-Star R&J Refresher Course had been successfully organized before the AIBA Men's World Championships in Belgrade. It was pointed out that next courses could also be delivered using e-platform technology for online courses as well as both formats – online and physically depending on the competition schedule and travel restrictions around the world.

6. McLarens Vetting Process (actions on)

It was noted that a very comprehensive assessment process of R&Js and ITOs had been organized by the McLaren's team during the AIBA Men's World Championships in Belgrade. The assessment included background investigation, media checks, including local news, and a cognitive assessment on site. 50 R&Js and 25 ITOs went through the process. As a result, 4 R&Js were excluded due to their 'high-risk rating. It was emphasized that each R&J who went through the assessment in Belgrade now has his/her own profile that could help the committee during the selection process of R&Js for the next major championships.

The question was raised about those sanctioned R&Js. There is ongoing work in this area to better understand the legal requirements, and how these R&Js are to be re-educated (or not) through a series of ethics and behavior modules.

It was noted that those R&Js who have not proved their efficacy at international level should be highlighted to Confederation R&J Committees; and those who have not participated at the championships at international level for 2 years +, will have to attend refresher course training again at their respective level. It was agreed that secondary background checks should be organized for these R&Js, dependent on activity. In terms of suspended R&Js, a special investigation task force group should investigate each case. The question of involvement of the AIBA Ethics and Disciplinary Committee was raised in this regard. It was decided to discuss this process with the AIBA legal team to agree on the most appropriate procedure from this perspective.

The suspension period of the sanctioned R&Js should also be discussed with the AIBA legal team. It was decided to first understand what the high-risk label means, with further advice required from the McLaren's team, to advise the on this matter.

7. New Scoring System

The Chairperson of the R&J Committee explained the reasons for a new scoring system pilot. The main reason being the fact that the 10 point system had been originally designed for Professional Boxing with 5 rounds +.

It was explained that the pilot study could take up to 6 months and possibly beyond. The process works around 3x3 minutes rounds, each round being broken down into 3 x 1 minute sections. The judge would then be required to score each minute, set against the scoring criteria (to be confirmed), but likely to remove the third criteria of 'competitiveness'. Currently, the 10 point system is still in place, and will continue to be unless the finding of the Pilot Study Tiger Team suggest otherwise. The National Federations will also be consulted during this process, with regular updates to be provided.

It was emphasized that the R&J Committee would make a final decision regarding the efficiency of the system during and after the trial whilst partaking in various competitions through 2022. It was agreed that the new system must



have the ability to be integrated at gross root and club level boxing. The Tiger Teams (new scoring system pilot trail personnel) will consist of 20-25 judges from across the confederations; those judges must be able to add value at every level, with the ability to communicate their findings in writing regarding the system. This will assist when producing the individual project reports.

It was agreed that the new system should eradicate the use of cables under the ring, in order to ease the process of set up (to be considered). The use of iPads is a possibility to use as part of the new system, and is much cheaper for NFs to purchase, as opposed to the whole Swiss Timing System.

It was agreed that special educational modules or programs should be developed and integrated in the existing R&J Courses, or be taught separately for the National Federations and key stakeholders.

8. Bout review

The bout review is currently being addressed by the committee, particularly with the number of reviews that took place at the Men's Elite World Championships in Belgrade. We need to ensure that the management of this process is more efficient.

9. Additional business

The Committee spoke about the ring movement of the referees in the World Championships; some referees appeared to be very robotic in movement, with a lot of stop/start taking place and considerable interruption for the boxers. It was agreed as an action point, that we should revert to having the ability to touch the boxers, with cautions on the move, therefore allowing the bout to flow more freely. This was something that was done in the past and will be brought back with immediate effect.

Additionally, the color of R&J shirts was discussed. It was decided to remain with white for the time being, but in some instances, the color could be changed for certain events, dependent on contract availability and costings. Coming back to the McLaren's assessment it was stressed that all the National Federations/Confederations should be communicated about their suspended R&Js.

10. Closing remark of the Chairperson

Mr. Roberts thanked all the committee members for a productive meeting saying that one of the key areas of future work is integrating New Scoring System Pilot Study around the world at different levels. The Chairperson congratulated everyone for their hard work during 2022, to have a restful period over the upcoming holidays, and reminded that the next R&J Committee Meeting should take place early in the New Year.

Chairperson of the IBA Refereeing & Judging Committee

Chris Roberts OBE

AIBA International Relations Manager

Anna Utkina