

## **Minutes of the Technical Committee Meeting Held by Zoom on July 22, 2024**

### **Attendance**

Sam Coffa (Chairman), Heather Allison, Horst Sayler, John Ogolla, Maritza Ortiz, Milan Mihajlovic, Olga Solovyeva, Dr. Mustafa Mahdi, Pedro Sanchez, Manareddin Eshelli, Italo Barattini, Forester Osei (Athletes Commission), Tina Beiter (EUR).

In attendance also: Mr. Mohamed Jalood (IWF President), Mr. Achilleas Tsogas (IWF CEO), Matyas Lencser, Zoltan Veres (IWF Staff), Reiko Chinen (Guest).

### **Apologies**

Joe Triolo (PanAm), Maude Charron (Athletes Commission)

### **Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone and invited the IWF President to make some opening remarks.

The President in his welcome stated the importance of the Technical Committee and its work, especially for the future qualification to Los Angeles Games. He reinforced the fact that the IWF hopes zero doping in Paris and indeed for the future in general. We are now in a good space, and we want to maintain such. He commented on some posting on social media about the results of the re-examination of doping controls in Rio, but as we all know the ITA is now in total control of all decisions concerning doping, the IWF just acknowledges the situation but does not interfere. One of the rules we need to make clear is that when any athletes arrive in competition, they are under the competition rules.

The President hoped that the Committee has a productive meeting.

### **Agenda 1**

Question was asked for further clarification on item 3.3.7.2 of the TCRR by Milan Mihajlovic. The Committee proposes the following rewording:

3.3.7.2 It is obligatory to apply the VPT for all events on the IWF Calendar.

***The Committee agreed with the rewording.***

### **Agenda 2**

Changes were proposed to Rule 6.4 Weigh-in of the TCRR by several members with the Chairman stating that the Rule must be changed so that athletes must not be allowed to weigh-in with costumes they do not intend to compete in.

Discussion ensued with Milan Mihajlovic suggesting that this is now a matter of integrity, and a solution could be to introduce a standardised costume, manufactured by a licensed supplier under contract by the IWF.

The President also supported this suggestion which could also bring revenue to the IWF.

Pedro Sanchez brought an alternate proposal suggesting we could weigh the costume of the Athlete before being weighed themselves.

The Chairman stated that all the suggestions had merit, however, it would take time to achieve what has been proposed, which can only be brought to fruition by the Executive Board. He proposed that the current Rule be amended minimally to take care of the current situation and that the whole item be referred to the Executive Board for consideration.

Proposal: 6.4 Weigh-in: Proposed by Olga Solovyeva, Sam Coffa, Pedro Sanchez.

10 Athletes must be weighed in the weightlifting costume that they will be competing in. Athletes must not wear shoes or socks or any other footwear during weigh-in. If an athlete is over their officially entered bodyweight category, 250 grams can be deducted from the weight shown on the scales to allow for the weight of the Costume. If the athlete is within their officially entered bodyweight category the weight on the scales will be recorded as shown.

***The Committee agreed with the rewording.***

***The Committee agreed to refer the item of standardizing the Weightlifting costume to the Executive Board.***

### **Agenda 3**

The item was withdrawn by the proposer, Pedro Sanchez, pending the Executive Board decision.

### **Agenda 4**

Milan Mihajlovic proposed that in response to the increasing number of objections by athletes, coaches, and National Federation officials during competitions, to recommend the introduction of a Yellow Card system as a deterrent to unsportsmanlike conduct. This system would involve penalties for repeated infractions, ultimately leading to the loss of accreditation for individuals. He suggested also tightening the rules surrounding the use of social media where many people make disparaging remarks.

It was argued that the Jury has control over the conduct of anyone within the field of play. The use of a yellow card was not agreed by the Committee, however, the concern over the social media was real and it was suggested we urge the Executive Board to examine this problem.

***The Committee agreed to refer the matter of social media to the Executive Board for consideration.***

### **Agenda 5**

Milan Mihajlovic suggested adjusting the function of the Jury to protect the reputation of the referees. The proposal is for the Jury simply to notify referees of disputed attempts, giving referees the opportunity to reverse (if necessary) their own decisions. Referees would evaluate the videos again and make their final decision.

The Chairman stated that the Jury has control over all the rules and regulations, and nothing stops the President to invite the referees over to look at the Video Playback, but the matter of reversing the decision of the referees is surely the Jury's function.

***The Committee agreed with the Chairman.***

### **Agenda 6**

Milan Mihajlovic suggested improving the definition of the Field of Play (FOP) to clearly outline boundary lines, such as whether the line is directly behind the Jury or how far it should be behind and other boundaries.

Matyas Lencser shared the design of the generic FOP as included in the TCRR and stated that to a degree each FOP is determined by the venue, however, that does not mean we could not set minimum measurements.

***The Committee agreed with the suggestion that we should review the design and determine where possible to make changes to reinforce the rules.***

***It was also agreed that the members of the Committee at the Olympic Games might find time to meet and discuss this matter.***

## **Agenda 7**

Milan Mihajlovic stated that as the number of media representatives increases at our competitions, we should adopt media policies that clearly define who these people are and where they stand during the competition. Therefore, it is vital to specify the FOP's border lines. This would ensure that media representatives are positioned appropriately during competitions. *The Committee agreed with the argument and suggested that the matter be included in the discussion of the Committee members in Paris.*

## **Agenda 8**

Reiko Chinen suggested that by way of clarification, the addition of the NOTE would be useful:

### **4.7.1 OTHER OUTFIT**

Only one unitard may be worn under the costume. The unitard must comply with the following criteria:

- be one piece or two pieces
- be tight fitting
- be collarless
- may cover both elbows and / or knees
- may be of any one colour
- no pattern or design permitted

NOTE: Where the unitard is made up of two pieces, the colours of each of the two pieces can be different, but no pattern is allowed.

*The Committee agreed.*

## **Agenda 9**

Missing texts

### **6.8 CLASSIFICATION OF ATHLETES AND TEAMS**

#### **6.8.2 Factors to decide the classification of athletes in Snatch and Clean & Jerk:**

(Current) Factors to decide the classification of athletes in Total:

1. best result – highest first; if identical, then:
2. best Clean & Jerk result's attempt number – the Athlete who achieved the Total result earliest according to the Calling Order

(Should be) Factors to decide the classification of athletes in Total:

1. best result – highest first; if identical, then:
2. best Clean & Jerk result - lowest first; if identical, then:
3. best Clean & Jerk result's attempt number – the Athlete who achieved the Total result earliest according to the Calling Order

This suggestion from Reiko Chinen requires attentive study. The Chairman suggested we should look closely at the former text and come up with a new text if necessary.

*The Committee agreed to defer this item for a later date, following a study of the situation.*

## **Agenda 10**

Reiko Chinen suggested that 7.5.7 regarding the reversal of a decision by the referee should be amended to further clarify the rule.

The Chairman stated that the rule is quite definite, however, there are other suggestions being made and therefore he recommended that this item be deferred, and, in the meantime, Pedro Sanchez said he would like to study this item as well.

*The Committee agreed with the recommendation.*

## **Agenda 11**

Reiko Chinen highlighted the inconsistency between texts and practical application

(Suggestion)

~~8.9 World / Olympic Record(s) can only be broken in the bodyweight category and the age group where the athlete is entered.~~

~~8.10 8.9 ...~~

~~8.11 8.10 ...~~

~~8.12 8.11 ...~~

Or, amend 8.9 in order the texts allow to register new Junior/Senior World Record(s) established by youth athletes having competing in youth-specific bodyweight categories (i.e., W40, M49, W+81 and M+102).

The Committee agreed that there was some inconsistency within this item which required attention before the Olympic Games to avoid embarrassment or legal ramifications.

Much discussion ensued at the end it was decided that the Chairman, Matyas Lencser, Pedro Sanchez, Milan Mihajlovic and Reiko Chinen work out an agreed text to be put to the Committee, the Athletes Commission and the Executive Board to change 8.9 of the TCRR.

***The following proposal was sent and agreed by email by the members of the Technical Committee, the Athletes Commission and the Executive Board.***

Current Rule:

8.9 World / Olympic Record(s) can only be broken in the bodyweight category and the age group where the athlete is entered.

Proposed Rule:

8.9 Where all the IWF bodyweight categories are contested at an event, World Records can only be broken in the bodyweight category and the age group where the athlete is entered. Youth athletes (competing in Senior/Junior events) can break Youth Records based on the bodyweight category of the athlete's registered bodyweight and the age group of the athlete at the weigh-in.

Junior Athletes (competing at Senior events) can break Junior Records based on the age group of the athlete at the weigh-in.

Olympic Record(s) can only be broken in the bodyweight category from the Olympic Games program where the athlete is entered.

At events where only a number of the IWF bodyweight categories are contested, World records in a bodyweight and age group category not being contested can be broken based on the bodyweight category of the athlete's registered bodyweight and the age group of the athlete at the weigh-in.

***As a result, the new TCRR (with the revised 8.9 point) was published before the Paris Olympics.***

## **Agenda 12**

Inconsistency

Regulation to 3.3.7 VIDEO PLAYBACK TECHNOLOGY (VPT)

### a) (Inconsistency)

... the 4th camera to be positioned at the back edge of the stage in line with the centre of the platform but behind the restraining bar at the rear of the competition platform. Three (3) cameras located in front of the stage should be positioned at a height of 30cm above the competition platform, and the side camera should be at the height of the competition platform. Also, practically, IWF is currently locating the 4<sup>th</sup> camera at the back edge of the stage but not at the centre of the platform in order the 4<sup>th</sup> camera to shoot both athlete and the down signal so that the camera can show athlete's lowering the barbell before the down signal.

Zoli Veres and Matyas Lencser are aware of the situation and in control of it.

## **Agenda 13**

Suggestion by Reiko Chinen for amendment of texts to follow actual application:

Regulation to 6.4

In case more than one athlete by nation is / are competing in the session, or the number of athletes is more than the number of warm-up platforms, the ~~Technical Controller / Technical Delegate~~ Competition Secretary allocates the warm-up platforms with flexibility. In case of disagreement / conflict between / among the teams, Technical Controller / Technical Delegate will solve.

The Committee believes there is no need to make any changes to the Rule because no major conflict has erupted among Nations in the warm-up area.

## **Agenda 14**

Requested by India MF

4.5.1.2 One-piece elastic bandages, neoprene / rubberised kneecaps, or patella protectors which allow free movement, may be worn on the knees. Kneecap bandages / protectors may not be reinforced by way of buckles, straps, whalebone, plastic or wire.

Bandages neoprene / rubberised kneecaps or patella protectors must be in one colour and no design is permitted. In case kneecaps or patella protectors, their edges and stitches may be in different colour(s).

***The Committee did not agree with the proposal***

## **Agenda 15**

Requested by India MF

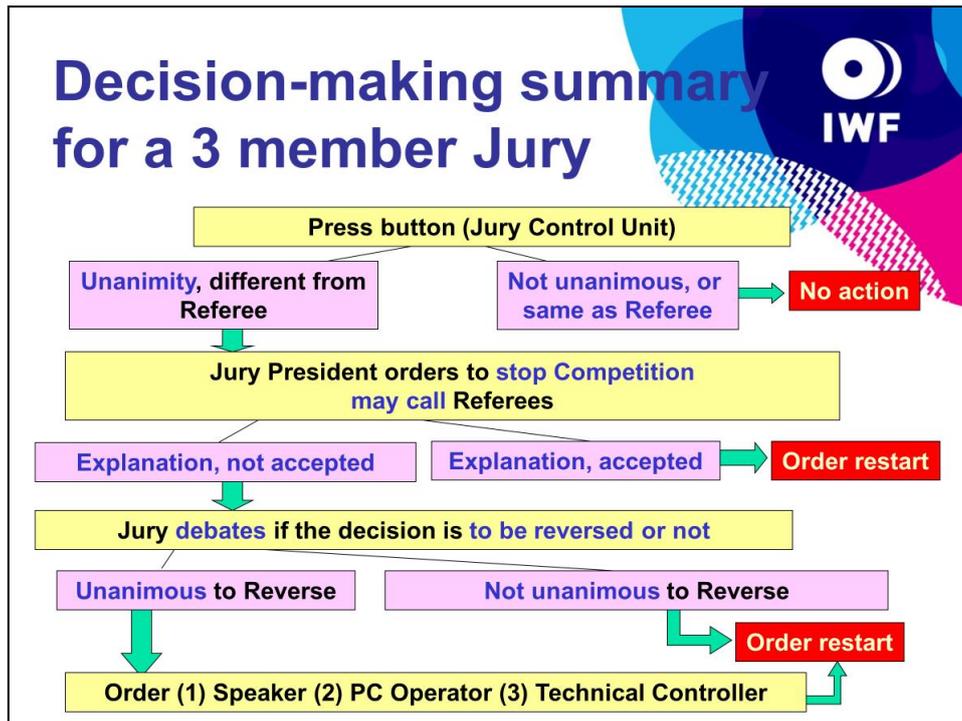
6.9.1 At all IWF Events, at the conclusion of each bodyweight category, a Victory Ceremony is presented. Proxy attendance at Victory Ceremony is not permitted.

***The Committee did not agree with the proposal***

## **Agenda 16**

Opinion from India MF for below explanatory slide for Jury's reversal

In the event of where the composition of a three (3) member Jury (differently from 5 Jury) is appointed, the process of "Jury debates if the decision is to be reversed or not" is not needed, and Jury should reverse the decision immediately explanation of the Referees are not accepted.



*The Chairman asked the Committee to allow him to deal with this matter.*

### **Agenda 17**

The Chairman and Pedro Sanchez brought up the question of ITO Selection Policy. This was because in the selection of ITOs for Leon-Spain more female than male were nominated and yet only 14 females were selected and of the females not selected 5 are under 50 years old. The policy is clear, both on the gender and age when it comes to Youth and Junior Championships, and he urged everyone to adhere to the policy or the matter might have to be brought to the attention of the Executive Board.

As there were no other items to be discussed, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

Sam Coffa  
*Chairman*