



## **Judges Committee Report – Congress 2019** **by Jozef Kytka, Chair of Judge Com.**

13 & 15 May, Tully, Queensland, Australia

In the period since last congress the committee has worked with a consist line up of: Jozef Kytka (Slovakia), Amalia Yunita (Indonesia), Eric Boudreau (Canada), Pieter Bekkers (Netherlands), Stan Hajek (Czech Rep.), Goran Lolic (Bosnia-Herzegovina) – all IRF Assessor Judges.

The Committee focused on two main goals, raise the quality of judging and race organization.

The actions supporting these main goals:

- Revising and updating of the Judge`s Handbook, workbook and materials for judge workshops
- Proposing new rules and rule adjustments based on evaluation of each event, especially A and B level events
- Organising and carrying out of Judge Workshops at events
- Carrying out of new judge training and exams and issuing IRF judge certificates
- Updating the judge evaluation sheet and using it after each major event
- Collecting judge Log Sheets, proposing a judge list and selecting judges for major events
- Updating Timing Scoring System Requirements
- Cooperating with race organizers and helping them to prepare for the event and improve the technical level of judging
- Handling and responding to the claims of National Rafting Federations concerning their National Selection races
- Analysing and preparing the official response to post event protests of national federations and teams

The Judge Committee recorded positive feedback after events and the perception of judges in rafting community has improved. Recruiting of new judges is also very positive in the sense of quantity and new territory (China, Nepal, Argentina) and also it is gratifying that many new judges come from racers.

Negatives - the technical level of judging only made a small improvement. We need to focus our effort to meet the target of having a video judge. The IRF need to look into cooperating with event organizers on the technical development of judging.