Question 1
Do the Regulations require the Ethics Commission to have a minimum of 7 members in order to be properly constituted?

Answer 1
Yes. As Regulation 8.14.2 provides that ‘There shall be at least seven members of the Commission…’ (emphasis added), it is clear that the minimum number of members required for the Commission to be properly constituted is 7.

Question 2
Can the Ethics Commission act and/or make any decisions when they have less than 7 members?

Answer 2
No, the Commission cannot act and/or make any decisions which are decisions of the Ethics Commission for the purposes of the Constitution or Regulations when it has less than 7 members. If the Commission has less than 7 members, it may only meet informally.

Question 3
If decisions are made by the Ethics Commission when it has less than 7 members, are those decisions valid and enforceable?

Answer 3
The Constitution Committee cannot answer questions about whether any particular decision or act is valid or enforceable. The Committee can only interpret the Constitution and Regulations as it has above.

Note: Dieter Neupert and Manuel Dominguez did not take part in the preparation of this interpretation. Balazs Hadju did not provide an opinion on the questions.

Constitution Committee
World Sailing
14 September 2020