



# Volvo Dun Laoghaire Regatta

## Question for Officials

**Date: 2025-07-14**

---

**Question No: 02**

**Question For: Protest Committee**

**Question:**

Question to Jill Fleming and Cormac Bradley

I have today read the written Decision regarding my protest No11

The written decision is completely inaccurate regarding the facts found and the decision arrived at in the protest room.

Craig Mitchel stated that my failure to fly a protest flag on the water at the time of the incident rendered my protest invalid.

You are both aware that i strongly protested at the protest that this decision was ridiculous and i intended to appeal.

Now i find that the protest committee have altered the facts in the written decision.

Do you Jill Fleming and Cormac Bradley agree 100% that the written decision is an accurate record of my protest or do you concur with my assertion that the written decision is not an accurate record of the facts found at the protest.

I fully intend to appeal but i now have a very serious second appeal namely that the protest committee have failed to record the decision given at the protest hearing and the rules quoted.

I wish for both Jill Fleming and Cormac Bradley to state whether they stand with Craig Mitchell and the accuracy of the written decision OR they agree that the written decision is significantly inaccurate.

I remind you both that there were several witnesses to the protest who heard the proceedings other than the protest committee.

---

**Answer:**

I am Michael Butterfield, the Chief Judge for the event, and I am replying to your enquiry, it being my responsibility to do so on behalf of the members of the committee.

I have inspected the decision on protest 11 and find nothing there I would not have expected, having considered the protest form.

I am afraid you have just failed to follow the protest procedures, on the water and ashore, which meant the Protest Committee were not allowed to consider the merits of your claim.

As you are aware, if you remain unhappy, you, as a party to the hearing, have the right to appeal under the provisions of the Racing Rules of Sailing and any Irish Sailing Prescriptions. Be aware, however, there are again strict time limits on the procedure.

In any appeal, you will state your case and then (but not now) the Protest Committee will make any further comments considered appropriate.

Mike Butterfield IJ IU IRO GBR

---

