

DECISION

Request No.: 01

Request for Redress

Event: 2024 J70 NSW and Australian Championships Race Number: 2
Hearing Schedule: 2024-01-14 10:00

PARTIES AND WITNESSES

Request No.: 01: AUS 1782 - James Sly

Race Committee

VALIDITY

Objection to Jury: No

Within Time Limit: Within Time Limit

Incident Identified: Yes

Proper Hail: N/A

Red Flag Displayed: N/A

Decision: Request Valid

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Neither party came to the hearing when the protest committee gave the decision.

FACTS FOUND

1. The incident occurred shortly after the starting signal for race 2 of the event.
2. Wind was 8-10 knots.
3. AUS 1782 carried bow number 82
4. Boat AUS 82 carried bow number 41
5. The event sailing instructions stated in cl. 11.3 *Boats subject to individual recall under RRS 29.1 or boats breaking RRS 30.3 (U Flag Rule) or RRS 30.4 (Black Flag Rule) will be broadcast on the VHF Channel using bow numbers as a courtesy.*
6. Immediately after the start signal, the race committee displayed the individual recall flag with one sound signal. A few seconds after this the RC advised by VHF radio that two boats were on the course side of the starting line at the starting signal. One of those was identified as in this broadcast advice as boat 82.
7. The Race Committee had intended to call sail number 82 rather than bow number 82.
8. Three boats commenced a return to the pre-start side of the line including sail number AUS 82 (bow number 41) and sail number and AUS 1782 (bow number 82).
9. The RC removed the "X" flag and advised on VHF Ch.74 that OCS boats were "clear". At that point AUS 1782 was close to the line, but had not returned to the pre-start side of that line. She immediately changed course to recommence the work to windward. This was approximately 40 seconds after the OCS flag was displayed.
10. AUS 1782 finished in 11th position in the race.

Diagram: Diagram not endorsed - Both parties agreed the facts found.

CONCLUSIONS AND RULES THAT APPLY

Rules: Sailing Instruction 11.3

1. AUS 1782's score was made worse by an improper action by the race committee in identifying OCS boats by their sail numbers hence breaking SI 11.3.

DECISION

Date & Time: 2024-01-14 10:50 AEDT

AUS 1782 is to be scored points equal to tenth place in race 2. No other boat's score is to be adjusted.

PROTEST COMMITTEE

Committee Type: Protest Committee

Chaired By: Ed Vincent (AUS)

Committee Members: Howard Elliott (AUS), Frederick Haes (AUS) Peter Lowndes

