

INFORMATION FROM THE PROTEST COMMITTEE TO COMPETITORS

This notice does not modify or replace the rules of the competition or the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)

Dear sailors.

We will use the app <https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/> for all Protests, Requests for Redress or Scoring Enquiries. No paper please.

This is new for many sailors and the Protest Committee is here to help you. If you are having any trouble, please contact one of the Race Committee and I will personally speak with you.

Protest times

- Protests will be heard the morning after the race concerned. For example, if you submit a Protest on Monday, the Protest Hearing will be on Tuesday morning. The times will be posted on <https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/>
- Protests submitted on Thursday, 22.07.2021 will be heard as soon as possible after racing.

Protest Hearings

We will be on Zoom. It is a little slower than normal and it has some challenges but we want to help you get the right decision and back to enjoying the event. If the technology stops, don't worry. We all know how video calls can be! We can wait for people.

Observers at hearings

Each party may bring one person to observe at a hearing, unless Protest Committee decides it is not inappropriate. Observers must sign and comply with the requirements in the document titled Information for Observers.

Translators may come to a hearing if required.

Arbitration

Arbitration, as detailed in Appendix T of the *Racing Rules of Sailing*, is available for appropriate protests under a rule of Part 2 (when boats meet). This is a quicker and less contentious means of resolving rules disputes. Arbitration carries a maximum penalty of a 30% scoring penalty. All protests not resolved by arbitration will go to a full Protest hearing, where the potential penalty is disqualification.

Requests for Redress, Claiming RC Error in Scoring a Boat OCS, ZFP, UFD or BFD

Boats sometimes want to challenge the race committee's decision to score them OCS, ZFP, UFD or BFD by requesting redress under RRS 62.1(a).

Competitors are advised to consult the Race Officer prior to a hearing, to learn the Race Committee's evidence that the boat was OCS, UFD or BFD. Evidence beyond a video or the relative positions of two boats that are scored differently is usually needed for the Protest Committee to find that the race committee made an error in scoring the boat OCS, UFD or BFD and to award redress.

8. Failure to attend a hearing

Competitors should be aware that the Protest Committee may proceed with a hearing [under RRS 63.3(b)] in the absence of one of the parties. This will not be grounds for reopening unless the Protest Committee is satisfied that the competitor had made every reasonable effort to find out the time of the hearing and to attend.

Competitors are reminded that on the last actual day of any qualifying series, it is the intention of the Protest Committee to hear all protests relating to the qualifying series on that day, including any request for redress based on decisions made that day or any requests for reopening of any case from the previous or same day. It is the responsibility of the competitors to monitor the official notice board until all hearings are concluded for the day.

9. Protest Committee Members

The members of the protest committee are:

Emmet Dalton – IRL (IRLED2)

Thomas Koenig - GER

Gill de Bruyne – BEL

Cécile Depayras

You will see that some of the Protest Committee comes from the fleet as we do not have sufficient experienced Judges available at the event. If they are a party to the protest, they will not be on the Protest Committee. The Protestor and Protestee will retain their rights under RRS 63.4 (Conflict of Interest).

I wish you a fun regatta, good weather and some excellent après-sail!

Emmet Dalton
Protest Committee Chairman
(In a sunny Howth, Ireland)