

SB20 Asia Pacific Championships 2024

Protest Committee Policies

INFORMATION FROM THE PROTEST COMMITTEE TO THE COMPETITORS

1. Protests by the Protest Committee for Incidents on the Water

Sailing is essentially a self-policing sport. The protest committee (PC) expects that boats will take a penalty promptly when appropriate. The primary responsibility for protesting breaches of the rules is with the competitors, not the PC. However, in addition to taking action in accordance with Appendix P, the protest committee may lodge protests in accordance with RRS 60.3.

The Protest Committee will not usually protest for a breach of a rule of Part 2 unless they observe an apparent breach of good sportsmanship (RRS 2). Examples of breaches where the Protest Committee will consider protesting, include but are not limited to:

- deliberately or knowingly breaking a rule without being exonerated and not taking the appropriate penalty;
- intimidating other boats, often evidenced by unnecessary shouting or foul language directed to other boats;
- team tactics, sailing to benefit another boat to the detriment of your own position; and
- sailing that results in, or is likely to result in, damage or injury or gaining a significant advantage.

2. Outside Help

A boat that receives instructions or transfers sailing gear with a support vessel after the preparatory signal breaks RRS 41, even if the transfer starts before the preparatory signal.

When support vessels are prohibited from entering the racing area, a boat not racing that needs to receive help must sail to the support vessel outside the racing area, unless she is unable to do so.

3. Propulsion

There will be no on the water judging of RRS 42 at this event.

4. Video and Tracking Evidence

A party wishing to bring video or tracking evidence to a hearing is responsible for providing the equipment required to view the evidence. Internet connection will not be generally available during a hearing.

It should be possible for all parties and the panel to view the evidence at the same time.

Publicly available tracking system information (if available) may be presented, but it usually has limited accuracy. The images produced are enhanced from the actual data as an aid to the viewer. The system may be used to get an indicative position or movements of the boats for visualization, but it is not sufficiently precise to be used for race management purposes or for Protest Committee decisions that require exact positioning information.

5. Requests for Redress, Claiming RC Error in Scoring a Boat

Competitors sometimes want to question how the race committee has scored them. In that case, they may complete and deliver a scoring inquiry to the race office or online using the RRS online system used by the event within the time limit detailed in the Sailing Instructions.

The race committee may arrange to share its evidence with the competitor before responding to the inquiry. If the competitor is not satisfied with the race committee's answer to the scoring inquiry, the competitor may deliver a request for redress within the time limit of RRS 62.2.

Competitors may deliver a request for redress within the protest time limit or as soon as reasonably possible after the results have been published. In the hearing of such a request for redress, a competitor must provide evidence that the race committee has made an error in scoring a boat. Video evidence or the relative positions of two boats scored differently rarely provides evidence that the race committee has made a scoring error. In finding facts, the protest committee will be governed by the weight of evidence. See World Sailing Case 136.

6. Remote Hearings

Protest/redress hearings will be conducted remotely. The hearings will be heard via video call (e.g. Microsoft Teams or Zoom) as scheduled by the protest committee.

The link to The RRS event site is: <https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/documents/6924/event>


Parties to the Hearing will be allowed to submit diagrams and other supporting information in writing by email or other electronic method prior to any hearing.

It is intended that Parties to any hearing will meet in a designated Protest room with a video link to the remote jury. There will be a position for parties to use models to describe their situation in turn as per a normal hearing.

Protest Hearings at the event are intended to be conducted electronically preferably over a suitable video link such as a Microsoft Teams or Zoom.

Protests are being managed through the event website, [Racingrulesofsailing.org](https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org) as listed in the NoR/ Sis

Protest Time limits shall be posted online for your information.

Protests should be lodged by using the  button on the Official Notice Board but if necessary with the Race Office by an electronic means, e mail, or directly through the [Racingrulesofsailing.org](https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org) portal (enter an select your event)/app or via the event website.

Parties: Shall provide contact details for themselves and any witnesses to facilitate the correct sequencing of the entry of witnesses and re-invitation following the Protest Committee deliberations.

DIAGRAMS: are often vital to the resolution of a protest. There is difficulty seeing "Models" and other aids when using Zoom, so lodging a protest with a better diagram is helpful.

Protestor, it is recommended that a diagram is submitted with the protest, this can be a graphics file of a diagram, or a photograph taken on a phone of something handwritten.

Protestee, you would have traditionally given your evidence (only) at the hearing but you might consider it expedient to lodge a statement of your case and a diagram, like that of the Protestor.

Hearing times will be posted on theracingrulesofsailing.org website, so please check. This is your responsibility.

7. Appendix T Arbitration.

An arbitration will be considered before any hearing.

If a “Post Race Penalty” is accepted before a hearing an e mail needs to be forwarded to the Race Office before the hearing. This may be submitted through the jury links.

8. Observers at Hearings

Each party may bring one person to observe at a hearing, unless the Protest Committee panel decides in a particular case that it is inappropriate. Observers must sign and comply with the requirements in the document titled Information for Observers.

9. Use of Electronic Devices During Hearings

The use of electronic devices (e.g. tablets, smartphones, similar devices, etc.) by parties, observers and witnesses to take notes, check rules, cases, etc. is allowed during the hearings, provided the device is not used to record or communicate with other persons. Before the start of a hearing a Protest Committee member or onsite assistant may check that all these devices are in flight mode with the cellular, Wi-Fi, and Bluetooth radios turned off.

10.RRS 69

Any form of cheating, including not telling the truth in a hearing, is a breach of sportsmanship and may result in a hearing under RRS 69.

9 Questions on Protest Committee Procedure and Policy

Competitors, team leaders and support persons may submit questions in writing or discuss procedure and policy with the Protest Committee Chairman. The Protest Committee Chairman will usually be available online or by telephone during protest time or can be contacted through the Protest Committee Office. Contact details for the Protest Committee Chair are given in the Event RRS page

10 Discretionary Penalty Policy for Competitors

Discretionary Penalties will be given in accordance with the event Discretionary Penalties document.

If you have any questions, please call the Protest Committee Chair, Craig Evans on +44 7714 125381 or Email: craig.evans505@gmail.com