

# Request to Reopen

Protest No: 02

Received At: 2023-04-08 17:05 PDT

## 1. Event Name: 53rd Annual Southern Straits Classic Yacht Race

Protest On: 2023-04-08

Race No: 53rd Annual Southern Straits Classic Yacht Race West Vancouver Yacht Club April 7 – 9, 2023

## 2. Hearing Type

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Protest       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request to Reopen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Protest by RC | <input type="checkbox"/> Reopening by PC              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Protest by PC | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Redress          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Protest by TC | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Redress by RC    |

## 3. Protestor

Beneteau First 35 - PHRF 3 - CAN 172 - Skywalker - Paul Thompson

## 4. Protestees

1. Race Committee

## 5. Incident

**Time Place:** 6:00am 8th April 2023

**Rules:** Request for redress rule 62, 62.1 (c)

**Witnesses:** Seance and all boats and the Race committee monitoring channel 16

## 6. Informing Protestee

Hail:

Hail When:

Hail Comment:

Red Flag:

Red Flag Comment

Other:

Other Comment: By contacting the PRO over the designated radio channel

## 7. Description Of Incident

6:00am. Within the vicinity of Howe Sound and Bowen Island: Wind conditions 18 - 35 knots; Sea state 3' - 6' heavy chop.

As Skywalker was racing towards the finish line for Southern Straits, a fellow competitor, Seance, broadcast distress messages over channel 16 for immediate assistance. The Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) requested boats within the vicinity to Seance to provide assistance.

Skywalker was the closest boat and responded to the CCG call immediately, moving towards Seance and upon nearing had to make an emergency maneuver to avoid a collision (damaging our Jib in the maneuver). Skywalker engaged their engine and took down all sails to be ready to provide assistance. Skywalker then motored and stayed in the vicinity of Seance as they headed up Howe Sound towards the back end of Passage Island. Skywalker then awaited the CCG vessels to arrive safely from Kitsilano and Richmond. At the point of being told to stand down by the CCG, Skywalker made the difficult decision, due to the safety to crew and craft, not to rehoist sails due to the further potential safety concerns with putting up sails that were hastily brought down along with the current wind and water conditions within Howe Sound. We contacted the Race committee and informed them that we shall be applying for redress and then headed back to the safety of our dock.

## 8. Damage Or Injury

Jib damaged during emergency avoidance and takedown.

## Attachments

Protest No: 02 Printed: 2023-04-08 17:05  
[RacingRulesOfSailing.org](https://www.RacingRulesOfSailing.org)