



# Information #11

## Information from PC to Competitors

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This document does not in any way modify or replace the rules of the competition.

### 1. Sportsmanship and the Rules

Competitors in the sport of sailing are expected to follow and enforce the rules.

- When a boat breaks a rule and is not exonerated, she shall promptly take an appropriate penalty which may be to retire, or take action, regardless of whether she is protested.

When the rule that she broke is subject to discretionary penalty, she shall report it within protest time limit to let the protest committee decide the appropriate penalty (RRS 64.6).

- 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.

Examples of breaches, where the protest committee will consider protesting, include:

- a. deliberately or knowingly breaking a rule without justification for exoneration and not taking the appropriate penalty,
- b. intimidating other boats, often evidenced by unnecessary shouting or foul language,
- c. team tactics, sailing to benefit another boat to the detriment of your own position,
- d. reckless sailing that results in, or is likely to result in, damage or injury.

### 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. A boat that broke RRS41 shall retire from the race.

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.

### 3. Propulsion

The current version of World Sailing Interpretations of Rule 42, Propulsion, can be found in the Online Documents section of the Racing Rules of Sailing page of the World Sailing website at:

<https://www.sailing.org/inside-world-sailing/rules-regulations/racing-rules-of-sailing/>

In addition to the World Sailing Interpretations of Rule 42, Propulsion, the following points may help you to understand the application of RRS 42.

- a. Although there are usually two judges in each Protest Committee vessel, a single judge will signal a yellow flag penalty when satisfied that a boat has broken RRS 42.
- b. Although judges will signal a RRS 42 penalty as soon as possible, this might be after the boat has crossed the finishing line.

A competitor and his/her coaches may ask the judges for an explanation of a penalty after the completion of the race. It can be done either on or off the water or by asking at the Protest Committee Office to arrange a meeting with the judges.

### 4. Giving Evidences in Hearing and RRS 69

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



## 5. 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. Other observers may be allowed to sit if all the parties agree.

## 6. 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. All these devices shall be kept in flight mode with the cellular, WiFi, and Bluetooth radios turned off.

## 7. Scoring Inquiry and Request for Redress

Competitors sometimes want to question how the race committee has scored them. In that case, they may complete [the online form "Scoring Inquiries"](#) and deliver a scoring inquiry to the race office. 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.

In the hearing of such a request for redress (against OCS, for example), a competitor must provide evidence that the race committee has made an error in scoring a boat. The relative positions of two boats scored differently rarely provides evidence that the race committee has made a scoring error, because it fails to prove the relative positions of the boat and the starting line at the starting signal. In finding facts, the protest committee will be governed by the weight of evidence. See World Sailing Case 136.

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

## 9. Questions on Jury Procedure and Policy

Competitors and support persons may submit questions in writing through [the online form "Questions"](#) or discuss with the Protest Committee Chairman on procedure and policy of the protest committee. All the questions and answers will be posted.

Kai Masuda  
Chairman, Protest Committee