2019 RS AERO NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

# INFORMATION TO COMPETITORS FROM THE JURY

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

# Propulsion (Rule 42) and Appendix P (Special Procedures for Rule 42)

The latest World Sailing Rule 42 Interpretations are available online: <https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/documents/event?event_id=562>

In addition to the World Sailing Rule 42 Interpretations, the following points may help you to understand the application of rule 42 at a Laser Class event:

* Although there are usually two judges in each jury boat, a single judge will signal a yellow flag penalty when satisfied that a boat has broken rule 42.
* Although judges will signal a rule 42 penalty as soon as possible, this might be after the boat has crossed the finishing line.
* A boat may not request redress for a penalty under this system - however, the jury may initiate a redress hearing when they find reasons to do so.

A competitor 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 Jury Office to arrange a meeting with the judges.

1. **On The Water**

Sailing is a self-policing sport. The jury 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 jury. However, the jury may lodge protests in accordance with RRS 60.3. They may also give evidence in protests; however, jury evidence may not always be available.

The jury will not usually protest for a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 unless they observe an apparent breach of good sportsmanship (RRS 2). Examples of such breaches are:

* deliberately breaking a rule without taking the appropriate penalty.
* intimidating other boats – often evidenced by unnecessary shouting or foul language.
* team tactics – sailing to benefit another boat to the detriment of your own position.
* reckless sailing – sailing that results in, or is likely to result in, damage or injury
1. **Requests for redress, claiming race committee error in scoring a boat OCS, UFD or BFD**

Boats sometimes want to challenge the race committee’s decision to score them OCS, UFD or BFD by requesting redress under rule 62.1(a). The line judge’s recording will be made available prior to filing for redress. For a boat to be given redress, the competitor must provide ***conclusive*** evidence that the race committee has made an error in identifying the boat as OCS. In the absence of conclusive evidence to the contrary, the jury will uphold the race committee’s decision. Video evidence is rarely conclusive. Evidence of the relative positions of two boats that are scored differently is not conclusive evidence that either boat started properly.

1. **Video Evidence**

If a party to a hearing wishes to bring video evidence it is their responsibility to provide adequate equipment to view the video.

1. **Gross Misconduct (Rule 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 and a very severe penalty. Other examples of behaviour that would justify action under rule 69 include, but are not limited to:

* Bullying, intimidation or discriminatory behaviour
* Fighting and assaults
* Theft, or damage or abuse of property
* Abuse of any participant or official
* Using foul or abusive language inappropriate to the occasion / location
* Intentional refusal to comply with the OA, RC or jury requirements or requests

**Michael Turner, IJ (Can)**

**Chief Judge**

**June 2019**