

Racing Rules Committee Decisions and Recommendations to Council

This “yellow paper” is a summary of the Recommendations made by the Racing Rules Committee on the 2023 Annual Conference Submissions

Decisions

All approved text is subject to editing and final approval of the Racing Rules Committee further to Regulation 28.2.4.

025-22 Rule A2
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject

042-22 Gender Neutral Terminology
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

Approve proposed changes to E2.3, G1.1, M3.2 and N4.2 unamended.

Conflict of Interest A conflict of interest exists if a person ~~A person has a conflict of interest if he~~

- (a) may gain or lose as a result of a decision to which that person ~~he~~ contributes,
- (b) may reasonably appear to have a personal or financial interest which could affect that person's ~~his~~ ability to be impartial, or
- (c) has a close personal interest in a decision.

49.2 When lifelines are required by the class rules or any other *rule*, competitors shall not position any part of their torsos outside them, except briefly to perform a necessary task. However, on ~~On~~ boats equipped with upper and lower lifelines, competitors ~~a competitor~~ sitting facing outboard with their ~~his~~ waist inside the lower lifeline may have the upper part of their ~~his~~ body outside the upper lifeline. Unless a class rule or any other *rule* specifies a maximum deflection, lifelines shall be taut. If the class rules do not specify the material or minimum diameter of lifelines, they shall comply with the corresponding specifications in the *World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations*.

63.4 Conflict of Interest

- (a) Protest committee members ~~A protest committee member~~ shall declare any possible *conflict of interest* as soon as they are ~~he is~~ aware of it. Parties ~~A party~~ to the hearing who believe ~~believes~~ a member of the protest committee has a *conflict of interest* shall object as soon as possible. A *conflict of interest* declared by a protest committee member shall be included in the written information provided under rule 65.2.

69.2 Action by a Protest Committee

- (d) When an investigator is appointed, all relevant information gathered by the investigator, ~~he gathers,~~ favourable or unfavourable, shall be disclosed to the protest committee, and if the protest committee decides to call a hearing, to the *parties*.

- (e) If the protest committee decides to call a hearing, it shall promptly inform the person in writing of the alleged breach and of the time and place of the hearing and follow the procedures in rules 63.2, 63.3(a), 63.4, 63.6, 65.1, 65.2, 65.3 and 66, except that:
 - (1) unless a person has been appointed by World Sailing, a person may be appointed by the protest committee to present the allegation.
 - (2) a person against whom an allegation has been made under this rule shall be entitled to **attend the hearing with** ~~have~~ an advisor and a representative ~~with him~~ who may act on **the person's** ~~his~~ behalf.
- (f) If the person
 - (1) provides good reason **for being** ~~why he is~~ unable to come to the hearing at the scheduled time, the protest committee shall reschedule it; or
 - (2) does not provide good reason and does not come to the hearing, the protest committee may conduct it without the person present.

E6.8 Taking Evidence and Finding Facts

Add new rule 63.6(e):

- (e) When the *protest* concerns an alleged breach of a rule of Part 2, 3 or 4, any witness shall have been in the control area at the time of the incident. ~~If the A~~ witness **who** is a competitor, **and** who was not acting as an observer, **must** ~~he shall~~ also have been scheduled to race in the relevant heat.

002-23 Race Signals, Abandonment Signals Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

Approve Proposal 1.

Approve Proposal 2 as follows:

N over H All races **in progress** ~~or not started~~ are *abandoned*. Further signals ashore.

N over A All races **in progress** ~~or not started~~ are *abandoned*. No more racing today.

003-23 Introduction, Terminology, 'Boat' Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

A sailboat ~~that has entered or intends to enter an event~~, and the crew on board, **that are subject to the rules**.

004-23 Introduction - Terminology Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

Reject Proposal 2.

Approve Proposal 1 as follows:

Other words and terms are used in the sense ordinarily understood in nautical or general use. For a source of the nautical sense of a word, a reader may refer to the Equipment Rules of Sailing. When describing parts of a boat, these racing rules are guided by Part 2 of the World Sailing Equipment Rules of Sailing when those definitions do not contradict the definitions or terminology of the racing rules.

005-23 RRS Terminology
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject

007-23 Definitions Obstruction and Continuing Obstruction
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject
Prefer decisions in 008-23.

008-23 Definition - Obstruction, New Definition – Continuing Obstruction Rule 19.2
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment
Approve Proposal 1 as follows:

(b) Add new definition:

~~Continuing Obstruction An obstruction where the smallest boat referred to in the rule would need a distance of three of her hull lengths to pass. However, the following are not a continuing obstruction: a vessel under way, a boat racing, and a race committee vessel that is also a mark.~~

~~Continuing Obstruction An obstruction is a continuing obstruction when a boat is passing it and will pass alongside it for at least three of her hull lengths. However, the following are not a continuing obstruction: a vessel under way, a boat racing, or a race committee vessel that is also a mark.~~

Approve Proposal 2. Put 'obstruction' in italics.

Reject Proposal 3.

009-23 Definition Proper Course
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

Proper Course A course a boat would choose in order to ~~sail the course and finish complete~~ complete ~~sail to the next mark of the leg she believes she is on to be sailing, or finish,~~ as soon as possible in the absence of the other boats referred to in the rule using the term. A boat has no *proper course* before her starting signal.

010-23 Definitions: Finish (including C2.1 and F), Proper Course, Sailing the Course
Rules: 28, 32.1, 35, A5, A10, B8 A5.4, F8 A5.2, S12.1
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

- (a) Change Definition of Finish (as agreed in 002-22) to:

Finish A boat *finishes* when, after her starting signal, any part of her hull crosses the finishing line from the course side. However, she has not *finished* if after crossing the finishing line she

- (a) takes a penalty under rule 44.2, or
(b) corrects an error in sailing the course made at the line, or
(c) continues to sail the course.

After finishing she need not cross the finishing line completely.

- (c) Change App F - Finish to:

Finish A kiteboard *finishes* when, after ~~her starting signal~~*starting*, while the competitor is in contact with the hull, any part of her hull, or the competitor, crosses the finishing line from the course side. However, she has not *finished* if after crossing the finishing line she

- (a) takes a penalty under rule 44.2,
(b) corrects an error in sailing the course made at the line, or
(c) continues to sail the course.

After finishing she need not cross the finishing line completely.

- ~~(d) Change Definition of Proper Course to:~~

~~**Proper Course** A course a boat would choose in order to sail the course and finish as soon as possible in the absence of the other boats referred to in the rule using the term. A boat has no proper course before her starting signal.~~

- (e) Change Definition of Sail the Course to:

Sail the Course A boat *sails the course* when:

(a) she starts;

(b) provided that a string representing her track ~~from the time she begins to approach the starting line from its pre-start side to start~~ until she *finishes*, when drawn taut,

- (a1) passes each *mark* of the course for the race on the required side and in the correct order (including the starting marks),
(b2) touches each *mark* designated in the sailing instructions to be a rounding *mark*, and
(c3) passes between the *marks* of a gate from the direction of the course from the previous *marks*; and then

(c) she finishes.

- (i) Change rule A5 to:

A5 SCORES DETERMINED BY THE RACE COMMITTEE

A5.1 When a race committee is satisfied determines that a boat:

- (a) that did not start, sail the course or finish, or
(b) did not comply with rule 30.2, 30.3, 30.4 or 78.2, or that or
(c) retired or took ~~retires or takes~~ a penalty under rule 44.3(a),
it shall score the boat ~~be scored~~ accordingly ~~by the race committee~~ without a hearing. Only the protest committee may take other scoring actions that worsen a boat's score.

- (j) Change rule A10 to:

A10 SCORING ABBREVIATIONS

These scoring abbreviations shall be used for recording the circumstances described:

NSC Did not *sail the course* (other than DNC, DNS, OCS and OCS DNF)

- (n) Change rule 90.3(a):

90.3 Scoring

- (a) The race committee shall score a race or series as provided in Appendix A unless the notice of race or sailing instructions specify some other system. A race shall be scored if it is not *abandoned* and if one boat ~~starts, sails the course and finishes~~ within the race time limit, if any, even if she retires after *finishing* or is disqualified.

(o) Change rule J2.1(6):

- (6) the race time limit, if any, for the first boat to ~~start, sail the course, and finish (see rule 35);~~

011-23 Definition On a Beat to Windward and Rule 18.1
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject

012-23 Rule 14
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve

013-23 Definition Mark Room, Preamble to Section C, Rule 18
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

Proposals 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 10 - Approve.

Proposal 2 amended as follows:

Preamble to Section C

*Section C rules do not apply **between boats** at a starting **mark** surrounded by navigable water or at its anchor line from **the time boats are approaching them to start their preparatory signal** until they have ~~passed~~ **started and left** them **astern**.*

Proposal 5 – Reject.

Proposal 8 – Approve Option B, reject Option A.

Proposal 9 – Reject.

014-23 Rule 20.1
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve

015-23 Rule 64.4(b)
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject
Reject. The term 'certification authority' as it is defined in the ERS is not easy to understand and can be interpreted different ways.

016-23 **Rule 37 and Race Signals**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject

017-23 **Rule 44.3(c)**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

- (c) The race score for a boat that takes a Scoring Penalty shall be the score she would have received without that penalty, made worse by the number of ~~places~~ **points** stated in the notice of race or sailing instructions. When the number of ~~places~~ **points** is not stated, the penalty shall be 20% of the score for Did Not Finish, rounded to the nearest ~~whole number~~ **tenth of a point** (0.05 rounded upward). The scores of other boats shall not be changed; therefore, two boats may receive the same score. However, the penalty shall not cause the boat's score to be worse than the score for Did Not Finish.

018-23 **Rule 50.1(b)**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject

019-23 **Rule 50.1(b), 50.1(c)**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

50 COMPETITOR CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

50.1

- (b) Furthermore, a competitor's clothing and equipment shall not weigh more than 8 kilograms, excluding a **crew harness (as defined in *The Equipment Rules of Sailing*)** ~~hiking or trapeze harness~~ and clothing (including footwear) worn only below the knee. Class rules or the notice of race may specify a lower weight or a higher weight up to 10 kilograms. Class rules may include footwear and other clothing worn below the knee within that weight. A **crew harness** ~~hiking or trapeze harness~~ shall have positive buoyancy **in fresh water** and shall not weigh more than 2 kilograms, except that class rules may specify a higher weight up to 4 kilograms. Weights shall be determined as required by Appendix H.

Proposal 2 – Delete Option A and use Option B as follows:

50 COMPETITOR CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

50.1

- (a) [no change].
- (b) [see proposal 1].
- (c) A **crew harness** **shall allow the competitor, at any time, to easily disconnect the harness from the trapeze or attachment to the boat.** ~~trapeze harness worn by a competitor which may be used to support the competitor on a trapeze~~ **shall be capable of being easily disconnected from the trapeze,** ~~shall be of the quick release variety complying with ISO 10862 which allows the competitor to detach from the hook or other method of attachment at any time. A class rule~~

~~may change this rule to permit trapeze harnesses that are not of the quick release variety, but a class rule may not change the requirement that a quick release harness comply with ISO 10862.~~

~~—————Note: Rule 50.1(c) does not take effect until 1 January 2025.—————~~

020-23 Rule 50.1(c)
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject

021-23 New Rule 56.3
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

**FOG SIGNALS AND LIGHTS; TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEMES;
~~AUTOMATIC TRACKING SYSTEMS IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM~~**

56.3 When a *rule* requires a boat to be equipped with an **A**utomatic **I**dentification System transponder, or **any other tracking device** ~~a specific tracker~~, **this it** shall not be turned off or its **effectiveness** ~~operation~~ intentionally **reduced** ~~worsened~~.

022-23 Introduction, Definition Party, Definition Protest, Part 5
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment
See Appendix to Yellow Paper.

The Committee approves the new text, subject to amendments being approved by email vote shortly after this meeting.

023-23 Rule 60.4(a)
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment
Approve Option 2, reject Option 1.

024-23 Rule 60.4
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Submission withdrawn

025-23 Rule 61.1(a)
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment
Change rule 61.1(a) as indicated:
(a) The protesting boat shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity. When her protest will concern an incident **that she became aware of observed** in the racing area, she shall hail ‘Protest’ and conspicuously display a red flag at the first reasonable opportunity for each. She shall display the flag until she is no longer racing. However,
[no further changes]

026-23 Hearing Start – Rules 61.2 and 63.5
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment
Reject Proposal 1.

Approve Proposal 2.

It is recognised this is a change, but the Committee considers it is a simplification that matches more modern practice.

In coming to this view, the Committee does not consider “the incident” includes where or when the incident occurred. This is for the protest committee to decide at the hearing.

027-23 Rule 62.2, 63.2 and the definition Party
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment
Reject Proposal 1, approve Proposal 2.

028-23 Rule 63.3(b)
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve

029-23 Rule 64.4(b)
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject

030-23 Rule 66.1
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject
The Committee recognises that there is an issue which needs addressing, but limiting ‘significant error’ in this way may place protest committees in very difficult positions where they cannot correct clear mistakes with the decisions. There needs to be a more fundamental review of this, along with the Case

031-23 Rule 66.3
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject
A hearing is not necessary under the current rules and the current wording provides flexibility.

032-23 Rule 67
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

LEGAL LIABILITY AND MONETARY DAMAGES

Questions ~~The question~~ of **legal liability, including or any claims for monetary damages,** arising from a breach of any *rule* shall be governed by the prescriptions, if any, of the national authority.

033-23 Rule 75
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

034-23

Rule 76

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

76.2 ~~However, the~~ The organizing authority or the race committee shall not reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude a competitor

(a) because of advertising ~~if, provided~~ the boat or competitor complies with the World Sailing Advertising Code, ~~or~~

(b) ~~at (76.2) At~~ world and continental championships ~~if the no entry is~~ within stated quotas ~~shall be rejected or cancelled without first obtaining~~ and the approval of the relevant World Sailing Class Association (or the Offshore Racing ~~Congress Council~~) or World Sailing has not been obtained.

76.3 A boat or competitor may request redress under rule 62 if they consider the ~~reason given for rejection or exclusion is improper or broke if it breaks~~ rule 76.2.

The Submissions Working Party must propose new wording for rule 76.3 to the Committee for approval.

035-23

Rule 78.1

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

Approve Proposal 1, reject Proposal 2.

036-23

Rule 78.1

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

037-23

Rule 78.2

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

038-23

Rule 78.2

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

78.2 When a *rule* requires a valid certificate to be produced or its existence verified before a boat ~~races races~~, and this cannot be done, the boat may *race* provided that the ~~race~~ appropriate committee receives a statement signed by the person in charge that a valid certificate exists. The boat shall produce the certificate or arrange for its existence to be verified by the ~~race~~ appropriate committee before the start of the last day of the event, or of the first series, whichever is earlier. The penalty for breaking this rule is disqualification without a hearing from all races of the event

039-23

Rule 86.1(c)

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve

040-23 Rule 86.2, E8.G1.2, G1.1(b)
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment
Approve Proposal 1.

Proposal 2

In Appendix G, change rule G1.1(b) as shown:

- (b) at all international events, except when the boats are provided to all competitors, national letters denoting her national authority from the table below. For the purposes of this rule, international events are World Sailing events, world and continental championships, and events described as international events in their notices of race ~~or and sailing instructions~~; and

Proposal 3

In rule E8 in Appendix E, change the last paragraph of rule G1.2 as shown:

For the purposes of this rule, international events are world and continental championships and events described as international events in their notices of race ~~or and sailing instructions~~.

041-23 Rule 87
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject

042-23 Rule 87
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject

043-23 Rule 89.1, 89.2, 91(a) and 92.1
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Submission withdrawn

044-23 Rule 92
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject

045-23 Rules A1 and A2.1
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve

046-23 Rule B2.16.1
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve

047-23 Rule Appendix B17
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

When, at the warning signal, the course to the first mark is approximately ninety degrees from the true wind, a board *overlapped* to *leeward* of another board on the same tack during the last 30 seconds before her starting signal shall not sail above ~~the~~ **her** shortest course **through the starting line** to the first *mark* while they remain overlapped if as a result the other board would need to take action to avoid contact, unless in doing so she promptly sails astern of the other board.

048-23 Rules B4.44.1
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve

049-23 Rules B5.62
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

- (1) a board that ~~broke~~ **was breaking** a rule of Part 2 and took an appropriate penalty or was penalized, or

050-23 Rule C2.7, MR Call D6
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve

051-23 Rule C2.9
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

- 18.2(c) If a boat obtained an inside *overlap* and, from the time the *overlap* began, the outside boat is unable to give *mark- room*, ~~she is not required to give it~~ **rule 18.2(a) does not apply between them.**

052-23 Rules C6.1 and C6.2
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

- C6.2** A boat may not protest another boat under
- (a) rule 14, ~~unless if no~~ damage or injury results;

053-23 Rule C8.5, New Rules C6.5 (c) and (d), C5.4
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

- ~~(a) Move rule C8.5 to new rule C6.5(c) and re-number C8.6 accordingly.~~
- (b) Add new rule ~~C6.5(d)~~ **8.6** and re-number C8.6 as C8.7:

When one boat retires after both boats in a match ~~have started~~, the umpires may signal under C5.4, identifying the retired boat. ~~The match is then terminated and awarded to the boat that did not retire.~~

- (c) Change rule C5.4:
A black flag with a blue or yellow flag and one long sound means 'The identified boat is disqualified or has retired, and the match is terminated and awarded to the other boat.'

- (d) Change C8.5:
When, after one boat has *started*, the umpires are satisfied that the other boat will not *start*, they may signal under rule C5.4, identifying the boat that has not started, ~~that the boat that did not start is disqualified and the match is terminated.~~

054-23 Rule D2.2
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment
Approve Proposal 1, reject Proposal 2.

055-23 Rule D5.4
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

When the race committee decides that the ~~team's boat's finishing position~~ **place score** was made significantly worse, that the breakdown was through no fault of the crew, and that in the same circumstances a reasonably competent crew would not have been able to avoid the breakdown, it shall make as equitable a decision as possible. This may be to *abandon* and resail the race or, when the boat's finishing ~~position~~ **place** was predictable, award her points for that ~~position~~ **place**. Any doubt about a boat's position when she broke down shall be resolved against her.

056-23 Rule E1.1 Definitions
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject
The Committee understands there is no consensus within the community, the Radio Sailing WP is split, and IRSA does not support the changes. In these circumstances, the WP is unable to recommend these changes be approved.

057-23 Rule E2.4
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject
The Committee understands there is no consensus within the community, the Radio Sailing WP is split, and IRSA does not support the changes. In these circumstances, the WP is unable to recommend these changes be approved.

058-23 Rule E4.2
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject

The Committee understands there is no consensus within the community, the Radio Sailing WP is split, and IRSA does not support the changes. In these circumstances, the WP is unable to recommend these changes be approved.

059-23

Rule E5

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

The Committee understands there is no consensus within the community, the Radio Sailing WP is split, and IRSA does not support the changes. In these circumstances, the WP is unable to recommend these changes be approved.

060-23

Rule E6.6

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

~~Delete rule E6.6 (f) approved in October 2022 and~~ Change E6.6 to read as follows:

E6.6 Redress

Rule 62.1(b) is changed to:

(b) injury, physical damage or becoming disabled because of the action of

(1) a boat that was breaking a rule of Part 2 and took ~~the~~ an appropriate penalty or was penalised, or

(2) a vessel not racing that was required to keep clear or is determined to be at fault under the IRPCAS or a government right-of-way rule;

Rule 62.1 is changed to add:

(e) external radio interference acknowledged by the race committee, or

~~E6.6 (f) becoming disabled because of the action of~~

~~**(1) a boat that was breaking a rule of Part 2 and took an appropriate penalty or was penalized, or of**~~

~~**(2) a vessel not racing that was required to keep clear.**~~

061-23

Rule E6.8

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

The Committee understands there is no consensus within the community, the Radio Sailing WP is split, and IRSA does not support the changes. In these circumstances, the WP is unable to recommend these changes be approved.

062-23

Rule E7

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

The Committee understands there is no consensus within the community, the Radio Sailing WP is split, and IRSA does not support the changes. In these circumstances, the WP is unable to recommend these changes be approved.

- 063-23 Rule E8**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject
The Committee would like IRSA to be asked to advise on edits for the final text of the RRS.
- 064-23 Appendix F Preamble**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment
*Kiteboarding course races shall be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing as changed by this appendix. The term 'boat' elsewhere in the ~~racing~~ **rules** means 'kiteboard' or 'boat' as appropriate.*
- 065-23 Appendix F Definition Keep Clear**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve
- 066-23 Appendix F Definition Mark-Room**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve
- 067-23 Rule F2 18.1(b)**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve
- 068-23 Rule F2 18.2(c)**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve
- 069-23 Rule F2.18.3 and Part 4 Rules Deleted**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment
18.3 Tacking ~~and~~ **or** Gybing **in the Zone**
- When an inside overlapped right-of-way kiteboard must change tack at a mark to sail her proper course, until she changes tack she shall sail no farther from the mark than needed to sail that course. Rule 18.3 does not apply at a gate mark or a finishing mark and a kiteboard shall not be penalized for breaking this rule unless the course of another kiteboard was affected by the breach of this rule.
- 070-23 Rule F2 18.3**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject
- 071-23 Rule F2 18.3**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:
Decision: Approve

072-23 Rule F2 20.4
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve

073-23 Rule F3 31
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve

074-23 Rule F4 44.2
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

After getting well clear of other kiteboards as soon after the incident as possible, a kiteboard takes a One-Turn Penalty by promptly making **a 360° ~~one~~** turn with her hull appendage in the water **with no requirement for a tack or gybe**. ~~The turn shall include one completed tack and one completed gybe.~~ When a kiteboard takes the penalty at or near the finishing line, her hull and competitor shall be completely on the course side of the line before she finishes.

075-23 Rule F5 61.1(a)
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve

076-23 Rule F5 63
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve

077-23 Rule F5 64
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject
The Committee does not consider this is the way to fix the problem and does not fix the intended issue.

078-23 Appendix G.1.2 (a) Regular typeface A
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject

079-23 Appendix H1
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject

080-23 Appendix H1
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

H1 Items of clothing and equipment to be weighed shall be arranged on a rack/~~hook/ hanger system~~. After being saturated in **fresh** water the items shall be allowed to drain freely for one minute before being weighed. The **rack arrangement** must allow ~~the water to drain freely from~~ the items, ~~i.e. to hang the items to hang~~ as they would hang from clothes hangers, ~~so as to allow the water to drain freely~~. Pockets that have drain-holes that cannot be closed shall be empty, but pockets or items that can hold water shall be full.

081-23 **New Rule J1.2(6)**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

(6) ~~in a statement~~ that rule 90.3(e) will apply, and any change in the '24 hours' time limit in that rule;

082-23 **Rule M1, M2, M3, M4, M6 and M7**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment
Insert M5 Discretionary Penalties as added by Submission 032-22.

Renumber Misconduct as M6, M6.1 etc.

083-23 **Rule N1.4(b)**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject

084-23 **Appendix P, rule P1.2**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve with the following amendment

P1.2 ~~If an observer appointed under rule P1.1 sees a boat breaking rule 42, the boat may be penalized by~~ decides that a boat has broken who ~~may penalize her,~~ as soon as reasonably possible ~~displaying a yellow flag, making a one long sound signal, pointing a yellow flag at her, and clearly identifying her by hailing, penalize her by, as soon as reasonably possible, making a sound signal, pointing a yellow flag at her and hailing her sail number,~~ displaying a yellow flag, making a one long sound signal, pointing a yellow flag at her, and clearly identifying her by hailing, even if she is no longer **racing**. A boat so penalized shall not be penalized a second time under rule 42 for the same incident.

085-23 **Appendix T, Preamble**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Approve

086-23 **Rule T1(b)**
Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee
Other Committee:
Decision: Reject
The current system gives an equitable penalty for all and is easier to explain. This can be changed in Appendix T if an event considers the default penalty is not appropriate.

087-23 **Appendix TS, Traffic Separation Schemes**

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve

088-23

Regulation 25.8.13 – Rules J1.1(7) – N 1.10

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Submission withdrawn

089-23

Gender Neutral Language in the Racing Rules of Sailing

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

Reject in favour of 042-22. However, the version from Australia should be worked on and presented as a submission next year.

090-23

New Case Based on Q&A 2021 AH

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

091-23

New Case Based on Q&A 2021.006

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

CASE XXX

Rule 21.2, Starting Errors; Taking Penalties; Backing a Sail

Rule 23.2, Interfering with Another Boat

Rule 44.2, Penalties at the Time of an Incident: One-Turn and Two-Turns Penalty

After getting well clear, a ~~A~~boat making penalty turns that interrupts her turns for just the time she needs to comply with rule 21.2 has made her penalty turns 'promptly'. When a boat interferes with a boat taking a penalty, she breaks rule 23.2 if she was not sailing her proper course at that time.

092-23

New Case Rule 19

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve

093-23

New Case Rule 28.1

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Submission withdrawn

094-23

Match Racing Callbook E11

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve

095-23

Match Racing Call G2

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve

096-23

Case 145 Revised

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

The Committee acknowledges that there is an issue of interpretation, but the proposed Case is not suitable (and nor should the current Case 145 remain). The WP recommends the current Case is withdrawn and further work is undertaken on the rule.

Case 145 is withdrawn as a consequence of this decision.

097-23

Match Racing Call A5

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Submission withdrawn

201-23

Definition 'Rule'

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

The Committee would support a submission for an urgent RRS change in early next year to amend rule 86.1.

202-23

Rule 16.1

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

This is not the solution to the problem and this wording creates other issues.

203-23

Rule 40

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

Reject Options 1 and 2. Approve Option 3 as follows:

40.2 When Rule 40.1 Applies

Rule 40.1 applies

- (a) if flag Y was displayed afloat with one sound before or with the warning signal, while *racing* in that race; or
- (b) if flag Y was displayed ashore with one sound, at all times while afloat that day.

~~However,~~ **Also,** rule 40.1 applies when so stated in the **class rules**, notice of race or sailing instructions.

204-23

Rule 89.2(a)

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve

205-23

Rule 91(a)

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

- (a) a committee appointed by the organizing authority or race committee. **A national authority may prescribe a minimum number of committee members and their qualifications for races specified events within its jurisdiction;**

206-23

Appendix B Preamble

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

*Windsurfing fleet races (including marathon races) shall be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing as changed by this appendix. The term 'boat' elsewhere in the ~~racing~~ **rules** means 'board' or 'boat' as appropriate. A marathon race is a race intended to last more than one hour.*

207-23

Rule D1.2(a)

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve

208-23

Rule D1.2(c)

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

Delete rule D1.2(c).

Change rule D2.1 as follows:

D2.1 When Rule D2 Applies: Redress and Breakdowns.

- (a)** Rule D2 applies to umpired races. Races to be umpired shall be identified in the notice of race or sailing instructions or by the display of flag J no later than the warning signal.

- (b) A boat requesting redress for an incident in the racing area or requesting a breakdown score change under rule D5.2 shall conspicuously display a red flag at the first reasonable opportunity after the incident or breakdown. She shall display the red flag until it is acknowledged by the race committee or by an umpire.**

Change rule D5.2 as follows:

When a boat suffers a breakdown in the racing area, she may request a score change ~~by displaying a red flag at the first reasonable opportunity after the breakdown until it is acknowledged by the race committee or by an umpire.~~ If possible, she shall continue racing.

209-23

Rules D4.2(a) and D4.5(b)

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

Proposal 3

D4.3 Scoring a Round-Robin Stage

[...]

- (c) Results from a previous round-robin stage shall only be carried forward if stated in the notice of race or sailing instructions.

210-23 Rule N1.4(b)

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

N1.4 (b) The chairman of a jury may appoint panels of at least three members each, of which the majority shall be International Judges. Members of each panel shall be from at least three different national authorities except in Groups M, N and Q, where they shall be from at least two different national authorities. If dissatisfied with a panel's decision, a *party* is entitled to a hearing by a panel composed in compliance with rules N1.1, N1.2 and N1.3, except concerning facts found, if requested within 30 minutes, or the time limit specified in the sailing instructions, after being informed of the decision.

211-23 Rule R2.1(c)

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve with the following amendment

- (c) when the protest committee fails to comply with ~~rule 65~~ rule s 65.1 and 65.2, the appellant shall, within a reasonable time after the hearing, send an appeal with a copy of the *protest* or request and any relevant correspondence.

212-23 Appendix S9.1

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

213-23 Rule D1.1(e)

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Approve

214-23 Rule B5.62

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

215-23 New Case Additional Requirements for Hails for Room to Tack

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

This should be an umpired fleet racing call. The Committee will begin the work to produce one, and look at a joint call book.

216-23 Rule F2 14

Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Committee

Other Committee:

Decision: Reject

Rejected because 012-23 has been approved.

Recommendations to Council

001-23 Racing Rules - Regulations 19.7, 20.4.3, 28.2.6 and 29.2.5

Reporting Committee: Constitution

Other Committee: Racing Rules

Opinion: Approve with the following amendment

Approve Proposals 1, 3 and 4.

Amend Proposal 2 as follows:

20.4.3 At all World Sailing events and at the World Cup Final events a bib, or its equivalent, shall be worn by the Competitors in accordance with the notice of race ~~and or sailing instructions~~. Advertising displayed on such bib, or its equivalent, is reserved for World Sailing unless previously agreed otherwise with World Sailing in writing.

In the RRS Terminology, amend "Revision" section to refer to notice of race only.

108-23 Olympic Sailing Competition

Appointment of Olympic Race Officials

Reporting Committee: Race Officials

Other Committee: Constitution, Events, Racing Rules

Opinion: Approve with the following amendment

23.3.1 The Board shall appoint the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Olympic Jury, Principal Race Officer and Deputy Principal Race Officer of the Olympic Race Committee, Chief Umpire and Deputy Chief Umpire of Olympic Medal Racing, Chair and Vice-Chair of the Olympic Technical Committee after having considered the recommendations of the Event Appointment Working Party, ~~and~~ the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee, and the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee. No recommendation from a person with a conflict of interest shall be considered.

119-23 Equipment Rules of Sailing

ERS Introduction, Abbreviations

Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee

Other Committee: Racing Rules, Classes

Opinion: Reject

The definition of TC should be amended to eliminate reference to RRS 92.

124-23 Equipment Rules of Sailing

C.2.5 Event Class Rules Authority

Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee

Other Committee: Classes, Racing Rules

Opinion: No opinion

Ana Sanchez
Chair, Racing Rules Committee

Authenticated by email

17 November 2023

INTRODUCTION

[...]

Each of the terms in the table below is used in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* with the meaning given.

<i>Term</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
Boat	A sailboat and the crew on board.
<u>Committee</u>	<u>The protest committee, race committee or technical committee.</u>
Competitor	A person who races or intends to race in the event.
National authority	A World Sailing member national authority.
Race committee	The race committee appointed under rule 89.2(c) and any other person or committee performing a race committee function.
Racing rule	A rule in <i>The Racing Rules of Sailing</i> .
Technical committee	The technical committee appointed under rule 89.2(c) and any other person or committee performing a technical committee function.
Vessel	Any boat or ship.

DEFINITIONS

A term used as stated below is shown in italic type or, in preambles, in bold italic type. The meaning of several other terms is given in Terminology in the Introduction.

[...]

Party A *party* to a hearing is

- (a) for a protest hearing: a protestor, a protestee;
- (b) for a redress hearing: a boat requesting redress or for which redress is requested; a boat for which a hearing is called to consider redress under rule **61.1** ~~60.3(b)~~; a ~~race~~ committee acting under rule 61.1 ~~60.2(b)~~; a ~~technical committee acting under rule 60.4(b)~~;
- (c) for a redress hearing under rule **61.4(b)(1)** ~~62.1(a)~~: the body alleged to have made an improper action or omission;
- (d) a person against whom an allegation of a breach of rule 69.1(a) is made; a person presenting an allegation under rule 69.2(e)(1);
- (e) a *support person* subject to a hearing under rule **62** ~~60.3(d)~~ or 69; any boat that person supports; a person appointed to present an allegation under rule **62.2** ~~60.3(d)~~.

However, the protest committee is never a *party*.

Protest An allegation made under rule 60 ~~61.2~~ by a boat **or a committee**, ~~a race committee, a technical committee or a protest committee~~ that a boat has broken a *rule*.

SECTION A

PROTESTS; REDRESS; SUPPORT PERSONS

60 PROTESTS

60.1 Right to Protest

A boat or committee may protest a boat.

60.2 Intention to Protest

(a) If a *protest* concerns an incident observed in the racing area:

- (1) At the first reasonable opportunity, a boat shall hail 'Protest' and, if her hull length is longer than 6 metres, conspicuously display a red flag until she is no longer *racing*.
- (2) A committee shall inform a boat after the race within the protest time limit of its intention to protest.

(b) However, if

- (1) the incident ~~did not occur~~ was not observed in the racing area,
- (2) a protestee is not within hailing distance at the time of the incident,
- (3) the incident was an error in *sailing the course* by a protestee, or
- (4) a protest committee decides to protest a boat under rule 60.5(a)~~(2)~~,

then the protestor shall instead inform the protestee of its intention to protest at the first reasonable opportunity and no red flag is required.

- (c) If at the time of the incident it is obvious to a protesting boat that a member of either crew is in danger, or that injury or serious damage has resulted, rules 60.2(a) and 60.2(b) do not apply, but she shall attempt to inform the other boat within the protest time limit of her intention to protest.
- (d) A committee may inform a boat of its intention to protest by posting a notice on the official notice board.

60.3 Delivering a Protest

- (a) A *protest* shall be in writing and identify the protestor, the protestee, and the incident when it is delivered. ~~In addition, it shall identify~~

- ~~(1) the protestor and protestee,~~
- ~~(2) where and when the incident occurred,~~
- ~~(3) any rule the protestor believes was broken, and~~
- ~~(4) the name of the protestor's representative.~~

~~Requirement (1) may be met at any time before the hearing, and requirements (2), (3) and (4) may be met before or during the hearing.~~

- (b) A *protest* shall be delivered to the race office (or by such other method as stated in the sailing instructions) within the protest time limit unless the protest committee decides there is good reason to extend the time. The protest time limit is

- (1) for *protests* about an incident observed in the racing area, two hours after the last boat in the race *finishes*, or
- (2) for all other *protests*, two hours after the relevant information is available to the protestor.

However, if the sailing instructions state a different protest time limit, then that time limit applies instead.

60.4 Invalid Protests

A *protest* is invalid if

- (a) it does not comply with the definition *Protest* or rule 60.2 or 60.3,
- (b) it is from a boat that alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 but she was not involved in ~~and-or~~ did not see the incident,
- (c) it is from a committee and is based on information from
 - (1) a request for redress,
 - (2) an invalid *protest*, or

- (3) a report from a person with a *conflict of interest* (other than the representative of the boat herself),
and the exceptions in rule 60.5 do not apply, or
- (d) as far as it alleges a breach of rule 69 or a Regulation referred to in rule 6, unless permitted by the Regulation concerned.

60.5 Committee Protests

Rule 60.4(c) does not apply to

- (a) a *protest* from the protest committee if
 - (1) it learns of an incident involving a boat that may have resulted in injury or serious damage, or
 - (2) during the hearing of a valid *protest* it learns that the boat, although not a *party* to the hearing, was involved in the incident and may have broken a *rule*.
- (b) a *protest* from the technical committee if it has first conducted an inspection and decided a boat or personal equipment does not comply with the class rules or rule 50. ~~it decides that a boat or personal equipment does not comply with the class rules or with rule 50.~~

60.6 Protest Decisions

- (a) The protest committee shall conduct a hearing as required by rule 63 to decide a *protest*.
- (b) A boat shall only be penalized
 - (1) at a protest hearing to which she is a *party*,
 - (2) under rules 60.7, 62.4 or 69, or
 - (3) under a *rule* which expressly states a penalty may be applied without a hearing.
- (c) If the protest committee decides that a boat has broken a *rule* it shall disqualify her whether or not the applicable *rule* was mentioned in the *protest*. However, a boat shall not be disqualified if
 - (1) she is exonerated or some other penalty applies,

- (2) the race is restarted or resailed, in which case rule 36 applies,
 - (3) the boat has already taken an applicable penalty, in which case she shall not be penalized further unless the penalty for a *rule* she broke is a non-excludable disqualification, or
 - (4) she broke a class rule and rule 60.6(d) applies.
- if a boat has broken a *rule* when not *racing*, her penalty shall apply to the race sailed nearest in time to the incident.
- (d) If the protest committee decides that a boat has broken a class rule:
 - (1) the boat shall not be penalized if any deviations in excess of tolerances specified in the class rules were caused by damage or normal wear and they did not improve the performance of the boat,
 - (2) the boat shall not *race* again until any deviations have been corrected unless the protest committee decides there is, or has been, no reasonable opportunity to do so,
 - (3) any breach of the same rule in earlier races in the same event may have the same penalty imposed for all such races without further *protest*, and
 - (4) the boat may compete in subsequent races without changes to the boat, but only if she states in writing she intends to appeal. If she fails to appeal, or the appeal is not successful, she shall be disqualified without a hearing from all subsequent races in which she competed.

60.7 Discretionary Penalties

When a boat reports within the protest time limit that she has broken a *rule* which is subject to a discretionary penalty, the protest committee shall decide the appropriate penalty having first considered the evidence that it considers appropriate. There is no requirement to hold a hearing.

61 REDRESS

61.1 Requesting or Considering Redress

The protest committee may call a hearing to consider redress and a boat or committee, other than the protest committee, may request redress.

61.2 Requesting Redress

- (a) A request for redress shall be in writing and identify the reason for making it.
- (b) A request shall be delivered to the race office (or by such other method as stated in the sailing instructions):
 - (1) if it is based on an incident in the racing area, within the protest time limit or two hours after the incident (whichever is the later),
 - (2) if it is based on a protest committee decision on the last scheduled day of racing, no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted, or
 - (3) for all other requests, as soon as reasonably possible after the relevant information is available.

However, the protest committee shall extend the time if there is good reason to do so.

61.3 Invalid Requests

A request for redress is invalid if it does not comply with rule 61.2.

61.4 Redress Decisions

- (a) The protest committee shall conduct a hearing as required by rule 63 to consider whether to grant redress.
- (b) A boat is entitled to redress if her score or place in a race or series has been made, or may be made, significantly worse through no fault of her own ~~caused~~ by
 - (1) an improper action or improper omission of a committee or the organizing authority, but not by a protest committee decision when the boat was a *party* to the hearing,

- (2) injury or physical damage because of the action of a boat that was breaking a rule of Part 2 and took an appropriate penalty or was penalized,
 - (3) injury or physical damage because of the action of a vessel not *racing* that was required to keep clear or is determined to be at fault under the *IRPCAS* or a government right-of-way rule,
 - (34) giving help (except to herself or her crew) in compliance with rule 1.1, or
 - (45) an action of another boat, or a crew member or *support person* of that boat, that resulted in a penalty under rule 2 or a penalty or warning under rule 69.
- (c) If a boat is entitled to redress, the protest committee shall make as fair an arrangement as possible for all boats affected, whether or not they asked for redress. This may be to adjust the scoring (see rule A9 for examples) or finishing times of boats, to *abandon* the race, to let the results stand or to make some other arrangement.
- (d) If there is doubt about the facts or probable results of any arrangement for the race or series, especially before *abandoning* the race, the protest committee shall take evidence from appropriate sources.

62 SUPPORT PERSONS

- 62.1** Upon receipt of a report from a boat or a committee, or based on its own observation or information from any source, the protest committee may call a hearing to consider whether a *support person* has broken a rule.
- 62.2** If the protest committee decides to call a hearing, it shall conduct a hearing as required by rule 63 and may appoint a person to present the allegations.
- 62.3** If the protest committee decides that a *support person* who is a *party* to the hearing has broken a *rule*, it may
- (a) issue a warning,
 - (b) exclude the person from the event or venue or remove any privileges or benefits, or

- (c) take other action within its jurisdiction as provided by the *rules*.

62.4 In addition, if the protest committee decides that

- (a) a boat may have gained a competitive advantage as the result of the breach by the *support person*, or
- (b) the *support person* committed a further breach after the protest committee warned a boat in writing, following a previous hearing, that a penalty may be imposed,

then the protest committee may also penalize a boat that is a *party* to the hearing for the breach of a *rule* by a *support person* by changing the boat's score in a single race, up to and including disqualification.

SECTION B

HEARINGS AND MAKING DECISIONS

63 CONDUCT OF ALL HEARINGS

Rule 63 applies to all hearings conducted by the protest committee.

63.1 Rights of Parties

- (a) All *parties* to a hearing shall be
 - (1) informed of the time and place of the hearing,
 - (2) given access to the *protest*, request for redress, or report to be considered at the hearing,
 - (3) allowed reasonable time to prepare for the hearing, and
 - (4) allowed to have a representative present throughout the hearing but, in a *protest* involving a breach of a rule of Part 2, 3 or 4, the representative shall have been on board at the time of the incident unless the protest committee decides otherwise.
- (b) If a *party* does not attend a hearing, the protest committee may proceed with the hearing in their absence.

63.2 Hearings

- (a) The protest committee shall hear all protests and requests delivered unless it allows them to be withdrawn.

- (b) The protest committee may combine hearings which arise from the same or very closely connected incidents into one hearing, but not a rule 69 hearing.
- (c) If the validity requirements are met, tThe protest committee may change the type of case if it is appropriate to do having considered the information in the case, including any evidence given during a hearing.
- (d) If the protest committee decides to protest a boat under rule 60.5(a)(2), it shall close the current hearing, deliver a *protest* in accordance with the *rules*, and then hear the original and new *protests* together.
- (e) A hearing involving *parties* in different events conducted by different organizing authorities shall be heard by a protest committee acceptable to those authorities.

63.3 Conflict of Interest

- (a) A possible *conflict of interest* of a protest committee member shall be declared by that member, or be notified by a *party* who is aware of it, as soon as possible.
- (b) A protest committee member with a *conflict of interest* shall not be a member of the protest committee hearing the case, unless:
 - (1) all *parties* consent, or
 - (2) the protest committee decides that the *conflict of interest* is not significant.

However, for World Sailing major events, or for other events as prescribed by the national authority of the venue, a person who has a *conflict of interest* shall not be a member of the protest committee.

- (c) When deciding whether a *conflict of interest* is significant, the protest committee shall consider
 - (1) the views of the *parties*,
 - (2) the level of the conflict,
 - (3) the level of the event,
 - (4) the importance to each *party* of the case, and

- (5) the overall perception of fairness.
- (c) Any written information provided under rule 63.6(b) shall include any *conflict of interest* declared by a protest committee, and any decision by the protest committee under rule 63.3(b)(2).

63.4 Hearing Procedure

- (a) The protest committee shall first consider validity. The hearing shall be closed if
 - (1) a *protest* or request is invalid, or
 - (2) a *protest* was made under rule 60.5(a)(1) and there is no injury or serious damage.
- (b) The protest committee shall take the evidence of the *parties* present at the hearing, their witnesses, and any other evidence it considers necessary. Hearsay evidence is admissible.
- (c) A *party* present at the hearing may question any person who gives evidence.
- (d) A member of the protest committee who is a witness shall ~~inform the parties of~~ declare this fact at the hearing as soon as reasonably possible, ~~after the start of the hearing~~.
- (e) A witness shall be excluded from the hearing when not giving evidence, except for a witness who:
 - (1) is also a *party*, or
 - (2) is a member of the protest committee..
- (f) The protest committee may exclude evidence which is irrelevant or unduly repetitive.

63.5 Decisions

- (a) The protest committee shall consider the evidence and decide what weight to give it. It shall then find the facts based on the balance of probabilities (unless a *rule* requires otherwise), and then apply the *rules* to those facts to make its conclusions and a decision.
- (b) Decisions shall be made by simple majority vote. When there is an equal division of votes, the chair of the hearing may cast an additional vote.

- (c) If there is a conflict between
 - (1) two or more *rules* that must be resolved before a decision can be made,
 - (2) those *rules* are valid *rules*, and
 - (2) those *rules* are in the notice of race, the sailing instructions, or any of the other documents that govern the event under item (g) of the definition Rule,then the protest committee shall apply the *rule* that it believes will provide the fairest result for all boats affected.
- (d) If there is doubt about the meaning of a class rule, the protest committee shall refer its questions, together with the relevant facts, to an authority responsible for interpreting the rule. In making its decision, the committee is bound by the authority's reply.

63.6 Informing the Parties and Others

- (a) The protest committee shall promptly inform the *parties* to the hearing of the facts found, the applicable *rules*, the decision, the reasons for it, and any penalties imposed or redress given.
- (b) If requested within seven days of being informed of the decision, the above information shall be provided promptly in writing to all the *parties* and the protest committee may, if relevant, prepare or endorse a diagram.
- (c) The protest committee may publish the above information after any hearing, including a hearing under rule 69, unless it decides there is good reason not to do so.
- (d) The protest committee may direct that the above information is to be confidential to the *parties*.
- (e) If the protest committee penalizes a boat under a class rule, it shall send the above information to the relevant class rule authorities.

63.7 Reopening a Hearing

- (a) The protest committee may reopen a hearing if requested, or of its own decision, if it decides
 - (1) a *party* was unavoidably absent from the hearing,

- (2) it may have made a significant error, or
- (3) significant new evidence has become available within a reasonable time.

However, a protest committee shall reopen a hearing when required to do so by the national authority under rules 71.2 or R5.

- (b) A *party* to the hearing may request a reopening by delivering a written request to the race office (or by such other method as stated in the sailing instructions) no later than 24 hours after being informed of the decision. The request shall identify the reason for making it. —However, on the last scheduled day of racing the request shall be delivered

- (1) within the protest time limit if the requesting *party* was informed of the decision on the previous day;
- (2) no later than 30 minutes after the *party* was informed of the decision on that day.

A request delivered outside these times is invalid.

- (c) The protest committee shall consider all requests to reopen a hearing and
 - (1) if based only on new evidence, a majority of the members of the protest committee shall, if practicable, be members of the original committee;
 - (2) if based on a significant error, the protest committee shall, if practicable, have at least one new member.

64 ~~DAMAGES AND COSTS~~ LEGAL LIABILITY AND COSTS

64.1 Questions of legal liability, including any claims for monetary damages, Any question of damages arising from a breach of a *rule* shall be governed by prescriptions, if any, of the national authority.

64.2 Any measurement costs in a *protest* involving a class rule shall be paid by the unsuccessful *party* unless the protest committee decides otherwise.

Note: There are no rules 65 to 68.

SECTION C

MISCONDUCT

69 MISCONDUCT

69.1 Obligation not to Commit Misconduct; Resolution

- (a) A competitor, boat owner or *support person* shall not commit an act of misconduct.
- (b) Misconduct is:
 - (1) conduct that is a breach of good manners, a breach of good sportsmanship, or unethical behaviour; or
 - (2) conduct that may bring, or has brought, the sport into disrepute.
- (c) An allegation of a breach of rule 69.1(a) shall be resolved in accordance with the provisions of rule 69. It shall not be grounds for a *protest*.

69.2 Action by a Protest Committee

- (a) A protest committee acting under this rule shall have at least three members.
- (b) When a protest committee, from its own observation or from information received from any source, including evidence taken during a hearing, believes a person may have broken rule 69.1(a), it shall decide whether or not to call a hearing.
- (c) When the protest committee needs more information to make the decision to call a hearing, it shall consider appointing a person or persons to conduct an investigation. These investigators shall not be members of the protest committee that will decide the matter.
- (d) When an investigator is appointed, all relevant information he gathers, favourable or unfavourable, shall be disclosed to the protest committee, and if the protest committee decides to call a hearing, to the *parties*.
- (e) If the protest committee decides to call a hearing, it shall promptly inform the person in writing of the alleged breach and of the time and place of the hearing and follow the procedures in rule 63, except that:

- (1) unless a person has been appointed by World Sailing, a person may be appointed by the protest committee to present the allegation.
 - (2) a person against whom an allegation has been made under this rule shall be entitled to have an advisor and a representative with him who may act on his behalf.
- (f) If the person
 - (1) provides good reason why he is unable to come to the hearing at the scheduled time, the protest committee shall reschedule it; or
 - (2) does not provide good reason and does not come to the hearing, the protest committee may conduct it without the person present.
- (g) The standard of proof to be applied is the test of the comfortable satisfaction of the protest committee, bearing in mind the seriousness of the alleged misconduct. However, if the standard of proof in this rule conflicts with the laws of a country, the national authority may, with the approval of World Sailing, change it with a prescription to this rule.
- (h) When the protest committee decides that a competitor or boat owner has broken rule 69.1(a), it may take one or more of the following actions
 - (1) issue a warning;
 - (2) change their boat's score in one or more races, including disqualification(s) that may or may not be excluded from her series score;
 - (3) exclude the person from the event or venue or remove any privileges or benefits; and
 - (4) take any other action within its jurisdiction as provided by the *rules*.
- (i) When the protest committee decides that a *support person* has broken rule 69.1(a), rules 62.3 and 62.4 apply.
- (j) If the protest committee
 - (1) imposes a penalty greater than one DNE;
 - (2) excludes the person from the event or venue; or

(3) in any other case if it considers it appropriate, it shall report its findings, including the facts found, its conclusions and decision to the national authority of the person or, for specific international events listed in the World Sailing Regulations, to World Sailing. If the protest committee has acted under rule 69.2(f)(2), the report shall also include that fact and the reasons for it.

- (k) If the protest committee decides not to conduct the hearing without the person present, or if the protest committee has left the event and a report alleging a breach of rule 69.1(a) is received, the race committee or organizing authority may appoint the same or a new protest committee to proceed under this rule. If the protest committee decides it is impractical to conduct a hearing, it shall collect all available information and, if the allegation seems justified, make a report to the national authority of the person or, for specific international events listed in the World Sailing Regulations, to World Sailing.

69.3 Action by a National Authority and World Sailing

The disciplinary powers, procedures and responsibilities of national authorities and World Sailing that apply are specified in the World Sailing Disciplinary Code. National authorities and World Sailing may impose further penalties, including suspension of eligibility, under that code.

SECTION D APPEALS

70 APPEALS AND REQUESTS TO A NATIONAL AUTHORITY

- 70.1** Unless rule 70.3 applies, a *party* to a hearing has the right to appeal the protest committee's decision or its procedures, but not the facts found, to the national authority. This includes when the protest committee has failed to hold a hearing or to make a decision.

- 70.2** A protest committee may request confirmation or correction of its decision by the national authority.

70.3 There is no right of appeal for decisions:

- (a) of an international jury properly constituted under Appendix N,
- (b) which are essential to promptly determine the result of a race that will qualify a boat to compete in a later stage of an event or subsequent event (and the national authority may prescribe that its approval is required ~~for such decisions~~),
- (c) made at an event open only to boats entered by
 - (1) an organization affiliated to the national authority, or a member of that organization, or
 - (2) a personal member of the national authority,and the national authority has granted its approval to the use of this rule, or
- (d) made at an event by a protest committee constituted as required by Appendix N except that only two members of the protest committee need be International Judges, and the national authority has granted its approval to the use of this rule after consultation with World Sailing,

However, (b), (c) and (d) shall only apply if specified in the notice of race or sailing instructions.

70.4 The national authority means the one to which the organizing authority is associated under rule 89.1. However, if boats will pass through the waters of more than one national authority while *racing*, an appeal or request shall be sent to the national authority where the finishing line is located, unless the sailing instructions identify another national authority.

70.5 Appeals and requests shall conform to Appendix R.

71 NATIONAL AUTHORITY DECISIONS

71.1 A person who has a *conflict of interest* or was a member of the protest committee shall not take any part in the discussion or decision on an appeal or a request for confirmation or correction.

- 71.2** The national authority shall accept the facts found by the protest committee unless rule R5 applies.
- 71.3** The national authority may:
- (a) uphold, change or reverse the protest committee's decision (including a decision on validity),
 - (b) order that the hearing be reopened, or
 - (c) order that a new hearing is held by the same protest committee or by a new protest committee (which may be appointed by the national authority).
- 71.4** If the national authority decides that a boat that was a *party* to a protest hearing broke a *rule* and is not exonerated, it shall penalize her, whether or not that boat or that *rule* was mentioned in the protest committee's decision.
- 71.5** The decision of the national authority is final. The national authority shall send its decision in writing to all *parties* to the hearing and the protest committee, who shall be bound by the decision.
- 71.6** If the national authority orders a hearing to be reopened, it may limit the scope of the reopened hearing to such issues as it considers appropriate.

72 INTERPRETATIONS

A club or other organization affiliated to a national authority may request an interpretation of the *rules* from the national authority, provided that no *protest* or request for redress that may be appealed is involved. An interpretation shall not be used to change a previous protest committee decision.