

WORLD SAILING RACING RULES COMMITTEE PART 5 RE-WRITE – DESTINATIONS GUIDANCE

Following a two-year review project, World Sailing has completely revised Part 5 of the RRS for the 2025 – 2028 edition.

In doing so, World Sailing has addressed a number of long-standing issues with the current Part 5 and its structure. It is widely recognised that, despite its importance, Part 5 has been amended over several rule cycles in a piecemeal way and without wider thought about how best to explain and lay out these important procedural rules.

It is recognised that the re-write causes a very substantial amount of work in editing NORs, SIs, appeal cases, manuals, exams, and race official literature. Therefore, the Part 5 Working Party has produced this guide to explain where the current rules have been moved to in the current document.

Please note this document is not an official interpretation of the rules.

Any queries can be addressed to rules@sailing.org

Jon Napier
Part 5 Working Party

2021-2024 RRS		2025-2028 RRS	
Number	Notes	Number	Notes
60.1(a)	A boat may protest...	60.1	
	... but not for an alleged breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 unless she was involved in or saw the incident	60.4(a)(2)	
60.1(b)		61.1(a)	
60.1(c)	Make report to PC re. support person	62.1	
	Make a report to PC under rule 69	69.2(b)	
60.2(a)	A race committee may protest a boat...	60.1	
	...but not as a result of information arising from a request for redress or an invalid protest, or from a report from a person with a conflict of interest other than the representative of the boat herself	60.4(b)	60.4(b)(1) – from a request for redress 60.4(b)(2) – from an invalid protest 60.4(b)(3) – from a person with a conflict
60.2(b)		61.1(b)	
60.2(c)	Make report to PC re. support person	62.1	
	Make a report to PC under rule 69	69.2 (b)	
60.3	A protest committee may protest a boat...	60.1	
	...but not as a result of information arising from a request for redress or an invalid protest, or from a report from a person with a conflict of interest other than the representative of the boat herself	60.4(b)	60.4(b)(1) – from a request for redress 60.4(b)(2) – from an invalid protest 60.4(b)(3) – from a person with a conflict
60.3(a)(1)	However, it may protest a boat (1) if it learns of an incident involving her that may have resulted in injury or serious damage	60.4(c)(1)	
60.3(a)(2)	However it may protest a boat (2) if during the hearing of a valid protest it learns that the boat, although not a party to the	60.4(c)(2)	

	hearing, was involved in the incident and may have broken a rule		
60.3(b)		61.1(c)	
60.3(c)		69.2(b)	
60.3(d)		62.1	
60.4(a)	A technical committee may protest a boat...	60.1	
	... but not as a result of information arising from a request for redress or an invalid protest, or from a report from a person with a conflict of interest other than the representative of the boat herself.	60.4(b)	60.4(b)(1) – from a request for redress 60.4(b)(2) – from an invalid protest 60.4(b)(3) – from a person with a conflict
	However, it shall protest a boat if it decides that a boat or personal equipment does not comply with the class rules or with rule 50	60.4(c)(3)	By separate decision, it is no longer mandatory for TC to protest.
60.4(c)	Make report to PC re. support person	62.1	
60.4(c)	Make a report to PC under rule 69	69.2(b)	
60.5		60.4(a)(3)	
61.1(a)	The protesting boat shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity	60.2(a)(1)	If the incident is in the racing area
	The protesting boat shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity	60.2(b)	If the incident is not in the racing area
	When her protest will concern an incident 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.	60.2(a)(1)	
61.1(a)(1)	However, (1) if the other boat is beyond hailing distance, the protesting boat need not hail but she shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity	60.2(b)(1)	

61.1(a)(2)	However, (2) if the hull length of the protesting boat is less than 6 metres, she need not display a red flag	60.2(a)(1)	
61.1(a)(3)	However, (3) if the incident was an error by the other boat in sailing the course, she need not hail or display a red flag but she shall inform the other boat either before or at the first reasonable opportunity after the other boat finishes;	60.2(b)(2)	
61.1(a)(4)	However, (4) if at the time of the incident it is obvious to the protesting boat that a member of either crew is in danger, or that injury or serious damage resulted, the requirements of this rule do not apply to her, but she shall attempt to inform the other boat within the time limit of rule 61.3	60.2(c)	
61.1(b)	If the race committee, technical committee or protest committee intends to protest a boat concerning an incident the committee observed in the racing area, it shall inform her after the race within the time limit of rule 61.3.	60.2(a)(2)	
	In other cases the committee shall inform the boat of its intention to protest as soon as reasonably possible.	60.2(b)(3)	
	A notice posted on the official notice board within the appropriate time limit satisfies this requirement	60.2(d)	
61.1(c)	If the protest committee decides to protest a boat under rule 60.3(a)(2), it shall inform her as soon as reasonably possible	60.2(b)(4)	

	... close the current hearing, proceed as required by rules 61.2 and 63, and hear the original and the new protests together	63.2(d)	
61.2		60.3(a)	By separate decision, the requirements for a protest have been reduced.
61.3		60.3(b)	
62.1		61.4(b)	Note than existing 62.1(b) has been split into two. 61.4(b)(2) is for a boat racing and 64.1(b)(3) is for a vessel not racing
62.2	A request shall be in writing and identify the reason for making it	61.2(a)	
	If the request is based on an incident in the racing area, it shall be delivered to the race office within the protest time limit or two hours after the incident, whichever is later. Other requests shall be delivered as soon as reasonably possible after learning of the reasons for making the request. The protest committee shall extend the time if there is good reason to do so.	61.2(b)	By separate decision, 'learning of the reasons for making the request' is changed to 'the relevant information is made available'.
	No red flag is required	-	This has not been carried across as the rules should state negative requirements.
62.2(a)		61.2(b)	
63.1	A boat or competitor shall not be penalized without a protest hearing, except as provided in rules...	60.5(b)	The rule has been expanded – it is now permitted to penalize a boat under another rule if that rule expressly provided for a penalty. This means that NOR/Sis which provide for a penalty without a hearing no longer have to reference changing the racing rule itself.

	A decision on redress shall not be made without a hearing.	61.4(a)	
	The protest committee shall hear all protests and requests for redress that have been delivered to the race office unless it allows a protest or request to be withdrawn	63.2(a)	
63.2	All parties to the hearing shall be notified of ... the time and place of the hearing ...	63.1(a)(1)	
	...the protest or redress information or the allegations shall be made available to them ...	63.1(a)(2)	Note the new rule only requires that “access be given” - this means that it should be easier to provide the information via electronic platforms
	... and they shall be allowed reasonable time to prepare for the hearing.	63.1(a)(3)	
	When two or more hearings arise from the same incident, or from very closely connected incidents, they may be heard together in one hearing. However, a hearing conducted under rule 69 shall not be combined with any other type of hearing	63.2(b)	
63.3(a)	A representative of each party to the hearing has the right to be present throughout the hearing of all the evidence. When a protest claims a breach of a rule of Part 2, 3 or 4, the representatives of boats shall have been on board at the time of the incident, unless there is good reason for the protest committee to rule otherwise.	63.1(a)(4)	
	Any witness, other than a member of the protest committee, shall be excluded except when giving evidence.	63.4(e)	It has now been clarified that a party who is also a witness can remain in the hearing.

63.3(b)	If a party to a hearing does not come to the hearing, the protest committee may nevertheless proceed with the hearing	63.1(b)	
	If the party was unavoidably absent, the committee may reopen the hearing	63.7(a)(1)	
63.4(a)	A protest committee member shall declare any possible conflict of interest as soon as he is aware of it.	63.3(a)	
	A party to the hearing who believes a member of the protest committee has a conflict of interest shall object as soon as possible	63.3(b)	
	A conflict of interest declared by a protest committee member shall be included in the written information provided under rule 65.2.	63.3(e)	
63.4(b)		63.3(c)	
63.4(c)		63.3(d)	
63.4(d)		63.3(c)	
63.5	At the beginning of the hearing the protest committee shall take any evidence it considers necessary to decide whether all requirements for the protestor request for redress have been met	63.4(a)	
	If they have been met, the protest or request is valid and the hearing shall be continued. If not, the committee shall declare the protest or request invalid and close the hearing.	63.4(a)(1)	
	If the protest has been made under rule 60.3(a)(1), the committee shall also determine whether or not injury or serious damage resulted from the incident in question. If not, the hearing shall be closed.	63.4(a)(2)	

63.6(a)		63.4(b)	
63.6(b)		63.4(d)	A change has been made to clarify that the protest committee member's declaration is made to the parties attending the hearing
63.6(c)		63.4(c)	
63.6(d)		63.5(a)	
63.7		63.5(c)	
63.8		63.2(e)	
63.9	If the protest committee decides to call a hearing under rule 60.3(d), it shall promptly follow the procedures in rules 63.2, 63.3, 63.4 and 63.6, except that the information given to the parties shall be details of the alleged breach and a person may be appointed by the protest committee to present the allegation	62.2 63	62.2 – PC to call hearing and may appoint someone to present the allegations 63 – hearing procedures which apply (as for all other hearings)
64.1(a)		63.5(a)	
64.1(b)		63.5(b)	
64.1(c)		63.2(c)	
64.2		60.5(c)	
64.3	When the protest committee decides that a boat is entitled to redress under rule 62, it 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 some examples) or finishing times of boats, to abandon the race, to let the results stand or to make some\ other arrangement.	61.5(c)	
	When in doubt about the facts or probable results of any arrangement for the race or series, especially	61.5(d)	

	before abandoning the race, the protest committee shall take evidence from appropriate sources.		
64.4(a)	When the protest committee finds that deviations in excess of tolerances specified in the class rules were caused by damage or normal wear and do not improve the performance of the boat, it shall not penalize her.	60.5(d)(1)	
	However, the boat shall not race again until the deviations have been corrected, except when the protest committee decides there is or has been no reasonable opportunity to do so.	60.5(d)(2)	
64.4(b)		63.5(d)	
64.4(c)		60.5(d)(3)	
64.4(d)		60.5(d)(4)	
64.4(e)		65.2	
64.5(a)		62.3	
64.5(b)		62.4	
64.6		64	
65.1		63.6(a)	
65.2		63.6(b)	
65.3	Unless there is good reason not to do so, after any hearing, including a hearing under rule 69, the protest committee may publish the information set out in rule 65.1.	63.6(c)	
	The protest committee may direct that the information is to be confidential to the parties.	63.6(d)	
65.4		63.6(e)	
66.1		63.7(a)	
66.2		63.7(b)	

66.3		63.7(c)	
67		65.1	By a separate decision the concept 'legal liability' is added to this rule.
69	Not included in the reordering exercise. Only minor amendments made. No rule numbers change.		
70.1(a)		70.1	
70.1(b)		70.1	
70.2		70.2	
70.3		70.4	
70.4		72	
70.5		70.3	
70.6		70.5	
71.1		71.1	
71.2		71.3	NB: New 71.4 allows the MNA to limit the scope of any reopened hearing.
71.3		71.5	
71.4		71.6	