

INFORMATION TO SURFERS FROM THE JURY

Steps to lodge a protest

Of course all the competitors are racing according the rules, but sometimes incidents happen between competitors during racing. As there is no referee like in football the competitors have to launch a protest if they feel that anybody infringed their rights. After the races the jury then will handle these protests by hearing the involved competitors. In this hearing the competitors have to explain what happened so the jury can make a picture of the situation by finding facts. When all facts are found the jury will make a decision.

To make a protest you should make the following steps.

Step	Protestor	Protestee
1.	Hail "Protest" <u>immediately</u> after the incident (rule 61.1a)	If you think you made a mistake take a one-turn penalty (the board has to turned 360 degrees) (rule 44). – Acknowledgement form will be available in race office
<i>If the protestee has taken the one-turn penalty the case is closed unless there is damage. If not, continue with step 2.</i>		
2.	Inform the race committee <u>immediately</u> after finishing the race. (normally on the finishing line) (rule 61.1a)	
3.	Try to find witnesses	Try to find witnesses
4.	Fill in the protest form and bring this to the race office within the protest time limit displayed on the notice board (rule 61.3 or SI).	
5.	After the protest time a hearing schedule will be posted on the notice board.	
6.	Prepare your case	Prepare you defence
7.	Be sure you are in time at the jury room for the hearing. It is your own responsibility that your witness(es) is/are available for the jury.	

The hearing in the jury room is a fixed procedure under RRS Appendix M:

1. The protestor and protestee (without the witnesses) will be invited into the jury room
2. The jury will introduce themselves and will ask if you have any objections against one of the jury members. (Is one of the members an interested party)
3. The jury will decide if the protest is valid (in time, did the protestor hail "protest", was the race committee informed immediately, is all the information mentioned in rule 61 described)
4. When the jury decide that the protest is valid the hearing will start and the protestor can tell what happened.
5. After the protestor's story, the protestee will be asked to tell his side of the case.
6. The protestor can ask questions to the protestee and then the protestee can ask questions to the protestor.

7. After this the jury members can ask questions to the protestor or protestee.
8. Now the witnesses are asked to come in the jury room where they can tell what they saw.
9. The protestor, protestee and after that the jury members can ask questions to the witness.
10. The protestor and protestee are invited to make a final statement
11. The protestor and protestee are asked to leave the jury room
12. The jury will discuss about the facts found and according to facts make a decision.
13. The protestor and protestee will be invited in the jury room where the jury will tell them which facts they found, what their conclusions are and which decisions they made.

Requests for redress, claiming race committee error in scoring a boat OCS or BFD

Boats sometimes want to challenge the race committee's decision to score them OCS or BFD by requesting redress under rule 62.1(a).

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. Even video evidence is rarely conclusive. In the absence of conclusive evidence to the contrary, the jury will uphold the race committee's decision.

Evidence of the relative positions of two boats that are scored differently is not conclusive evidence that either boat started properly.

Rule 69

Any form of cheating, including not telling the truth in a hearing is considered to be a breach of sportsmanship which may result in a hearing under rule 69 and a very heavy penalty.