



INFORMATION FROM THE JURY TO COMPETITORS

This notice does not modify or replace the rules of the competition

1. Propulsion (Rule 42) and Appendix P (Special procedures for Rule 42)

The latest ISAF Rule 42 Interpretations are posted on the official noticeboard.

In addition to the ISAF 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.
- When a boat is penalised for a breach of rule 42 in a race that is subsequently postponed, recalled or abandoned, the boat may **ONLY** compete in the restarted race if this was the boat's **FIRST** penalty. The penalty still counts in the boat's penalty total.
- Although judges will signal a RRS 42 penalty as soon as possible, this might be after the boat has crossed the finishing line. If this was the boat's **FIRST** penalty, she will be given an 8 points scoring penalty without a hearing.
- If a boat has retired as a result of a penalty, or has been disqualified as a result of a second (or subsequent) penalty, and the race is restarted or resailed - the boat may **NOT** start in the restarted or resailed race if it has the same race number as the race in question.
- 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. See the sailing instructions for further details.

2. On the Water

Sailing is essentially 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, in addition to taking action under Appendix P, the jury may lodge protests in under rule 60.3.

The jury will protest breaches of a rule of Part 2 where the breach is difficult for other competitors to protest or they observe an apparent breach of good sportsmanship (rule 2). Examples of such breaches are;

- apparent deliberate breaches of rules;
- knowingly breaking a rule and not 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 that results in, or is likely to result in, damage or injury.

The jury may blow a whistle when they see what they believe to be a breach of a rule, to encourage boats to take penalties afloat. They may also give evidence in protests; however, jury evidence may not always be available.

3. Observers at hearings

Each party may bring one person to observe at a hearing, unless the jury panel decides in a particular case that it is inappropriate. Observers must sign and comply with the requirements in the document titled Information for Observers. Observers may not normally be witnesses.

Representatives of the media may be permitted to attend a hearing as an observer after reporting to the jury office.

4. Arbitration

Arbitration, as detailed in the sailing instructions, is available for appropriate protests under a rule of Part 2 (when boats meet) of the *Racing Rules of sailing*. This is a quicker and less contentious means of resolving rules disputes. Arbitration carries a maximum penalty of a 30% scoring penalty. All protests not resolved by arbitration will go to a full Jury hearing, where the potential penalty is disqualification.

5. Requests for Redress, Claiming RC Error in Scoring a Boat OCS, ZFP, UFD or BFD

Boats sometimes want to challenge the race committee's decision to score them OCS, ZFP, UFD 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.

6. 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 heavy penalty. Other examples of behaviour that would justify action under rule 69 include:

- 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 offending, or inappropriate to the occasion/location.
- Intentional refusal to comply with OA, EI, RC or IJ requirements or requests.

7. Video Evidence

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

8. Failure to attend a hearing

Competitors should be aware that the jury may proceed with a hearing [under rule 63.3(b)] in the absence of one of the parties. This will not be grounds for reopening unless the jury is satisfied that the competitor had made every reasonable effort to find out the time of the hearing and to attend.

Competitors are reminded that on the last actual day of any qualifying series, it is the intention of the jury to hear all protests relating to the qualifying series on that day, including any request for redress based on decisions made that day or any requests for reopening of any case from the previous or same day. It is the responsibility of the competitors to monitor the official notice board until all hearings are concluded for the day.

9. International Jury

The members of the International Jury are:

Doug Elder NZL (Chairman), Andrus Poksi EST (Vice Chairman), Mohsin Al Busaidi OMA, Sandy Grosvenor USA, Saleh Al Jabri OMA, Eric Mehlbaum NED, Jean-Luc Michon FRA, Takao Otani JPN.

Competitors, team leaders and coaches may discuss procedure and policy with the Jury Chairman. The Jury Chairman may be contacted through the jury office and will be available each day before and after sailing.