

RS200 Rooster Summer Championships 2018

Protest Committee Policy

At the request of the Class Association the policy of the Protest Committee is one of non intrusive observation with minimal initiation of action. The PC will be afloat each day in a rib with identification flag "Jury" observing, recording and in some cases videoing what they see.

General – The PC will not initiate protests in respect of boat on boat incidents, if the competitors do not want to protest that is up to them. The PC will be available as witnesses to any incident that they observe and that results in a protest. A member of the PC may give evidence even though they are sitting on the Protest Committee – see rule 63.6.

The exceptions to this policy will be where there is an incident that results in injury or serious damage and no valid protest is lodged. In those circumstances the PC may lodge it's own protest – see rule 60.3(a)(1). Furthermore if the PC observes a boat breaking a rule unobserved by other competitors (most likely rule 31 touching a mark or rule 28 failing to sail the course) it may lodge a protest -see rule 60.3(a). If that happens, although not required the PC will attempt to inform the boat at the time so that they can take the appropriate penalty but if unable to do so will inform the boat after racing – see rule 61.1(b).

Rule 42 – There is no "on the water" judging of rule 42 at this event but competitors may of course protest each other for breaking this rule. If the PC observes a boat getting close to breaking this rule it will inform the boat of that fact. If the boat continues and breaks rule 42 the PC may protest the boat, informing them after the race. There is no turns penalty available for breaking this rule and the only penalty will be DSQ following a protest hearing. It is worth bearing in mind that in a protest hearing the witnesses will be members of the PC who have observed the rule breaking.

Exoneration Penalties – At this event exoneration penalties will be available after racing. If a competitor after coming ashore decides that they have broken a rule they may accept an exoneration penalty of 20% added to their score and calculated as set out in the sailing instructions. Once a boat has accepted a scoring penalty she may not be penalised further for the same incident.

If the PC believes that a competitor is misusing this facility and has knowingly broken a rule and is only retiring to avoid the inevitable disqualification the PC may continue with the protest hearing. If the facts found are that the boat knowingly broke a rule and did not promptly take an appropriate penalty (see Basic Principles, Sportsmanship and the Rules) then the PC may act under rule 2 to impose a penalty of disqualification which may not be discarded (DNE).

Bill Handley – National Judge.