



International Sailing Federation

International Jury Information to Athletes
For the 2012 Olympic Sailing Competition

July 2012

2012 Olympic Sailing Competition

Information to Athletes from the Jury

This document does not in any way modify or replace the rules of the competition

1 On the Water

Sailing is essentially a self-policing sport. The International 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 International Jury. However, in addition to taking action in accordance with Appendix P, the International Jury may lodge protests in accordance with RRS 60.3.

The International Jury will not usually protest for a breach of a rule of RRS Part 2 or rule 31 unless they observe an apparent breach of good sportsmanship (RRS 2). Examples of such breaches include:

- Deliberately breaking a rule without taking the appropriate penalty.
- Failing to take a penalty after knowingly touching a mark, with no justification for exoneration.
- Intimidating other boats – often evidenced by unnecessary shouting or foul language.
- Team tactics – sailing to benefit another competitor to the detriment of your own position.
- Reckless sailing – sailing that results in, or is likely to result in, damage or injury.

2 Propulsion

The ISAF Rule 42 Interpretations 2009-2012 are posted on the ISAF website:

<http://www.sailing.org/35483.php>

In addition to the ISAF Rule 42 Interpretations, the following points may help you understand the application of rule 42.

- Although there are usually two judges in each jury boat, a single judge will signal a yellow flag penalty when satisfied a competitor has broken rule 42.
- Although judges will signal a rule 42 penalty as soon as possible, this might be after the boat has crossed the finishing line. If this is her first penalty, she must complete her penalty turns, and return to the course side of the finishing line before finishing.
- If a boat retires after receiving a second or subsequent series penalty but then unavoidably crosses the finishing line, she must promptly retire from the race by informing the race committee.

An athlete may ask the judges for an explanation of a yellow flag penalty after the completion of the race. The request can be made on the water or by asking the Jury Office to arrange a meeting with the judges. A request for redress claiming the judges made an error when penalizing a boat is strictly limited in accordance with RRS P4. If granted, the redress will be limited to the removal of the penalty from the boat's record and the award of average points for the race in question if the boat retired in accordance with Appendix P2.2 or P2.3. Redress will not include any allowance for penalty turns taken.

3 Outside Help – RRS 41

Sailing Instruction 1.7 changes RRS 41 to permit outside help for a crew member in danger. The International Jury would normally consider a crew member to be in danger, for example, when in the water, clearly separated from the boat, and having some difficulty returning to it. However, a boat that continues in the race while the crew member is receiving help may break RRS 47.2. To comply with RRS 47.2, a boat must take positive action to avoid making progress in the race. Other boats racing still have an obligation under RRS 1 to provide help to any person or vessel in danger. Athletes receiving outside help while racing are required to report this to the International Jury in accordance with SI 2.10.

2012 Olympic Sailing Competition

Information to Athletes from the Jury

This document does not in any way modify or replace the rules of the competition

4 Sportsmanlike Actions

ISAF Question and Answer 2011-022 A001, available on the ISAF website at <http://www.sailing.org/37435.php>, refers to a boat attempting to hinder another boat's progress in a race. The Q&A permits such actions provided there is a genuine sporting reason for doing so. If protested, athletes will be required to satisfy the International Jury of the sporting reason in order to avoid a penalty (DNE) under RRS 2.

5 Requests for redress, claiming a 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 RRS 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 or BFD. Evidence of the relative positions of two boats that are scored differently is not conclusive evidence that either boat started correctly. Video or tracking system evidence is rarely conclusive. In the absence of conclusive evidence to the contrary, the International Jury will uphold the Race Committee's decision.

6 Recording Equipment and Observers at Hearings

Recording equipment may not be used in a hearing without the permission of the panel chairman. Each party may bring one person to observe at a hearing, unless the panel chairman decides in a particular case that it is inappropriate. Observers will be required to sign a form confirming that they understand their obligations. They sit further back from the parties and unless authorised by the panel chairman, observers are not permitted to speak, communicate with the parties, use cellular phones, or use photographic or recording equipment. Observers leave the hearing with the parties while the panel is deliberating.

7 Video and Tracking Evidence

A party wishing to bring video or tracking evidence to a hearing is responsible for providing the equipment required to view the evidence. Internet connection will not be generally available during a hearing. It should be possible for all parties and the panel to view the evidence at the same time.

Tracking system information, if available, may be presented, but is of limited accuracy. The images produced are enhanced from the actual data as an aid to the viewer. The system may be used to get an indicative position of the boats for visualization, but it is not sufficiently precise to be used for race management purposes or jury decisions that require exact positioning information.

8 Requests for Reopening

It is the intention of the International Jury to hear requests for reopening as soon as practical, especially on the last day of the opening series when the time limit for requesting a reopening is reduced.

9 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 RRS 69 and a very heavy penalty.

10 Questions on Procedure and Policy

The best time to raise questions is at the team leaders meeting, but athletes, team leaders and coaches may discuss procedure and policy with the International Jury Chairman who is based in the Jury Offices.

David Tillett

Chairman, International Jury

16 July 2012