Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 61.3

A submission from the Fédération Française de Voile

Purpose

To clarify the time limit to request a redress and the protest time limit.

Proposal

Change rule 61.3 as follows:

61.3 Protest Time Limit

A protest by a boat, or by the race committee, technical committee or protest committee about an incident observed in the racing area, shall be delivered to the race office within the protest time limit stated in the sailing instructions. If none is stated, the time limit is two hours after the last boat in the race finishes. Other boat, race committee, technical committee or protest committee protests shall be delivered to the race office no later than two hours after the boat or committee receives the relevant information. The protest committee shall extend the time if there is good reason to do so.

Current Position

As above.

Reason

Under the current wording of RRS 61.3, the time limit for a boat's protest is the protest time limit, usually defined by the time this boat or the last boat finishes the race. Boats may also protest for any rule which apply when the boats are not on the water or racing, for example rules in the sailing instructions or the notice of race, RRS 1, racing rules of Part 6, or appendix G. This proposal gives a reasonable time limit for these grounds to protest which is two hours, as for race officials. It limits the number of cases where the extension of the protest time limit is left at the discretion of the protest committee assessing the reasons to extend it.

The new rule does not extend the limits of protests by boats, as she is still required to have been involved in the incident or saw it of breaches of the rules of Part 2 and rule 31 and is still required to inform the protested boat.