



International Sailing Federation

International Jury Internal Guidance
For the 2012 Olympic Sailing Competition

July 2012

2012 Olympic Sailing Competition

International Jury Guidance

1 Information from the International Jury to Athletes

The information from the International Jury to Athletes posted on the Official Noticeboard also contains guidance for the International Jury that is not included in this document.

Answering Questions

Ashore and afloat: The primary conversation should be between one of the judges or umpires and the competitor. The second judge should observe the discussion, and may help diffuse the situation as needed. Avoid conversations with athletes or coaches when alone or in private.

Ashore: Judges may answer questions on the application of racing rules that do not involve a protest, however, questions that involve an interpretation of a rule should be submitted to the Jury Secretary in writing. Questions relating to class rules or equipment inspection should be directed to and answered by the Equipment Inspection Committee.

Afloat: judges and umpires are free to explain their rule 42 penalties and match racing calls with competitors. If a conversation becomes lengthy or heated, ask the athlete(s) to come to the Jury Office to continue the discussion. If possible, talk to the competitor in English.

Fleet Racing Incidents and Protests on the Water

Please see Information to Athletes.

There are a number of reasons why the Jury does not usually protest for breaches of a rule of Part 2. Primarily this is to preserve the self-policing nature of sailing. Another is that the boat does not have an opportunity to take a voluntary penalty.

A judge that may be witness to an incident should record the incident, preferably on a voice recorder for replay in a hearing. Except with your partner in the boat or to decide if a protest by the International Jury is appropriate avoid a discussion of the incident with any other judge. A judge who witnesses an incident on the water should notify the International Jury Secretary (race number, leg, location, boats involved).

Promptly notify the International Jury Chairman or Vice-Chairman of any grounds for an IJ protest against a boat. The boat should not be informed until the IJ has decided to protest (rather than the individual judges believing there are grounds for a protest.) This must be posted before protest time limit expires, but may be extended if the judge cannot return to shore in time.

On the Water Incidents

Any member of the International Jury that observes an official boat or helicopter that may have substantially effected one or more boats racing will record details of the incident at the time and report the incident to the International Jury Chairman (or nominee) as soon as practical. When appropriate The International Jury Chairman (or nominee) will appoint a panel to decide if a request for redress is to be initiated. For medal racing, the Jury Chairman (or nominee) will communicate directly with the PRO who will decide if it is appropriate to abandon the race.

Managing Observers

In general, the jury policy is to allow observers in hearings. However, the size and seating arrangement may limit the number of observers invited. In this case, seats will be filled in this order:

1. One (1) observer nominated by each party.
2. One (1) media pool representative.
3. Any other competitors or their representatives (one per competitor), unless there is insufficient space to accommodate all requesting a seat, in which case, none will be allowed.
4. Event technical officials wishing to observe, as space allows.
5. Additional media representatives, as space allows.

See Information to Athletes regarding the 'rules for observers'. The Panel Chairman should remind observers of the 'rules' if no hard copy is available.

Permission to Withdraw a Protest

A decision to permit the withdrawal of a protest must be made by a properly constituted hearing panel. The panel may decide to permit withdrawal following a discussion by the full panel. It is an athlete's decision to protest, so normally a request to withdraw should be approved. However, approval should not be given if the panel believes the reason for withdrawing the protest may be to gain an advantage, to manipulate the results or if the protestor has been put under pressure to withdraw. If the panel is in doubt, consult the Jury Chairman or Vice-Chairman.

Redress

A boat should be scored in a finishing position when there the Jury is satisfied that the boat would have finished in that position. This is most likely to occur when the incident occurs late in the race or after the boat has finished. In most other cases, average points would be appropriate.

Recommended method for calculating average points:

Opening Series: For redress in any race before the last day of the opening series, award average points in accordance with rule A10(a) replacing 'in all races' with 'in all races from A through B' (where A is the first day of the opening series and B is the day before the last scheduled day of the opening series).

Opening Series: For redress in any race on the last day of the opening series, award average points in accordance with rule A10(a) replacing 'in all races' with 'in all races in the opening series'.

A panel should always consider if an upper and/or lower limit is appropriate and worded as 'but not worse than/or better than xxth place'. In any redress case, a majority of a boat's scores should be from races completed by the boat in the series (see ISAF Q&A F004 2007-001).

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If the panel decides another method for determining average points is more appropriate, it should, if practicable, consult the Jury Chairman or Vice-Chairman prior to announcing the decision. Report all redress decisions to the Jury Chairman or Vice-Chairman as soon as possible.

Discretionary Penalties (DPI)

Apply the Discretionary Penalty Guidelines. Notify the Jury Chairman or Vice-Chairman promptly of any discretionary penalties given. As with redress, the panel chairman should ask the parties to suggest what an appropriate penalty might be.

In determining the penalty, the starting point should be the mid-point of the suggested band in the Guidelines. If this is used, then no further explanation is needed in the decision. If the panel decides to adjust the penalty upwards or downwards in line with the Guidelines, then it must give its reasons in the conclusions. In all cases, it is important the facts found support the penalty given.

There is a form for competitors who wish to accept a discretionary penalty as permitted by the SIs. A panel (not necessarily an IJ, but including at least three judges) will record the facts and decide an appropriate penalty, which would normally be less than the penalty a boat would receive if she were protested and the protest upheld. The starting point should be the bottom of the suggested band in the Guidelines. The boat may accept this penalty and there will then be no hearing.

Video and TV Information

It is quite likely that the TV host broadcaster will have video coverage of incidents, especially at the start of televised races. A system will be put in place to enable the International Jury to access this information. For practical reasons, it will not be possible for the athletes or teams to do so, other than through the International Jury. Panel chairs should check the availability of this information through the Jury Secretariat prior to any hearing.

Use of Tracking System Information

See separate guidance on tracking.

Hearing Checklist

A checklist is to be completed for each hearing to record that the procedures required by the RRS and Guidance to the International Jury have been followed.

David Tillett
Chairman, International Jury
16 July 2012