



TORBAY SAILING CLUB

RACING RULES GUIDANCE

Rules Dispute Procedure

INTRODUCTION

Sailing is a self governing sport relying on self regulation of the rules. No one in the sport should condone disregard for the rules. If an incident on the water during club racing is not resolved by a boat taking a penalty on the water then the following options are available;

- a. A boat retires after finishing
- b. An advisory meeting
- c. A protest hearing which may result in a disqualification
- d. Request for redress

a. RETIRING AFTER FINISHING

If you become aware of a rule infringement but have not taken a penalty on the water a sailor can choose to retire after finishing. This may include sailing an incorrect course, becoming aware at an advisory meeting of an infringement etc. Retiring after finishing encourages sportsmanship & self-regulation of the sport. Points for RET are lower than DSQ. The sailor must notify the Race officer of their intention to retire.

b. AN ADVISORY MEETING

Its purpose is to discuss incidents with an adviser and resolve them promptly in an informal but positive way, so that competitors understand the rules better. It is available only where there is no injury, serious damage, or a related protest. When an Advisory Meeting is requested, an adviser will hear quickly what the parties have to say, decide whether the issues are clear enough without further evidence and, if so, give an opinion whether any boat may have broken a rule and, if so, which and why.

ADVISORY MEETING PROCEDURE

- a. Competitor asks the race office for an Advisory Meeting and informs the other competitor(s).
- b. The race office or protest committee logs the request and informs the adviser, who checks that there is no intention to lodge a protest or ask for redress. A meeting is convened. The adviser can decide if it is an open or closed meeting.
- c. Each competitor takes a few minutes to say what they think happened. Normally, only the adviser may call witnesses.
- d. The adviser asks questions and gives their opinion. If the facts are clear, the adviser uses the rule book to explain the rules that apply and whether a rule may have been broken. If a boat agrees that it broke a rule, the boat should consider retiring. If the facts are not clear, the adviser will try to advise how the rules would apply to possible variations of the facts.

c. PROTEST HEARING



d. REQUEST FOR REDRESS

Because of the often complex nature of redress requests, as well as potential implications of their outcome for other boats and also appeal procedures, requests for redress must be heard by a protest committee.

PROTEST HEARING & REQUEST FOR REDRESS PROCEDURE

- Refer to RRS part 5 PROTESTS, REDRESS, HEARINGS, MISCONDUCT AND APPEALS
- Refer to APPENDIX M RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROTEST COMMITTEES

2021/22 Sailing Season Advisors/ Protest committee members are:

- Mark Orams (TBC)
- Graham Fleury
- David Wright
- Linda Shaw
- Courtney Reynolds-Smith