



Protest Hearing Procedures

(Consult Appendix M and the US Sailing Judges Manual for more guidance.)

1. Introduce PC and parties. Be sure protestee has a copy of the protest and time to prepare.
2. Does any party object to any member of PC?
3. Was protest timely? Is there good reason to extend?
4. Did protestor notify RC at finish (if required by SI)?
5. Is incident, including where and when it occurred, identified in protest?
6. "Protest" hailed (close enough to hear?) or notified at first reasonable opportunity?
7. Flag flown (if ≥ 6 m) at first reasonable opportunity?
8. Decide if protest is valid (deliberate if necessary).
9. If valid, take evidence from parties:
 - a. protestor tells his/her story
 - b. protestee tells his/her story
 - c. protestee questions protestor
 - d. protestor questions protestee
 - e. PC questions protestor, then protestee
10. Take evidence from witnesses (protestor's first):
 - a. set the stage and ask, "Tell us what you saw."
 - b. protestee questions protestor's witness first (and vice versa)
 - c. PC questions witness
11. Invite each party to give a brief summation.
12. Excuse parties and deliberate:
 - a. find facts (write them down)
 - b. decide what rules apply to whom
 - c. decide which boat (if any) broke a rule
 - d. decide the relevant penalty (DSQ or other)
13. Call parties back and announce decision.
14. Give copies of decision to parties if requested.