



2024 Phyllis Kleinmann Swiftsure Regatta

Question for Officials

Date: 2024-08-18

Question No: 01

Question For: Protest Committee

Question:

Regarding Protest No 1 of the 2024 Phyllis Kleinmann Swiftsure Regatta (filed 6:42 PM, USA 644 vs. USA 46):

I learned late last night that a protest was filed against us and that a hearing occurred after racing. I found emails about the protest on my computer when I arrived home after a fellow skipper mentioned something about a protest to me as I was leaving the club around 845.

We have no idea what transpired but see that the results of the racing now show us as DSQ and have read the statement that Godot filed on the regatta web site Jury page. Please be advised that the jury page states that the "hearing is pending" yet the results have been altered.

This whole episode is strange and we don't really know what to ask for here but here are the facts:

USA 46 was never informed of the protest either on the course or after the protest was scheduled. No flag was flown on the race course by USA 644, and she never hailed US 46 to inform of a protest at any point during the first race or during the entire day of racing, despite a number of reasonable opportunities to do so during the following two races. Further, I was chatting with one member of the US 644 crew at the post-racing social who had ample opportunity to notify US 46 of the pending protest, but didn't mention it; and we were talking about the incident of the protest itself!

We apologize to the committee for not attending the scheduled protest meeting at 7:15 pm on Saturday, August 19th. But we had no idea that a protest occurred nor that a hearing was being conducted. The regatta venue, St. Francis Yacht Club, does not allow for the use of mobile phones inside, making access to the email sent by US 644 an impossible form of notification of a hearing and we never had any reason to check the board. Please note that I was easily available at the regatta venue social until 8:45 pm.

Thank you for your time to rectify this situation and consideration.

Answer:

Good Afternoon Charlie,

Chief Judge Greg Meagher here, I hope you're well.

Please be advised that yesterday's hearing schedule was posted on the official notice board at approximately 6:52PM, shortly after the posted protest time limit. As you note, the hearing was scheduled for 7:15PM. When no representative from Box of Rain appeared at 7:15PM, the protest committee attempted to contact you by text message at 7:19PM, using the phone number provided at registration. Absent a response, the committee opened the hearing at 7:30PM, per RRS 63.3.b.

Naturally, if you have any additional questions, please feel free to meet me at the Jury Desk after racing today.

Best Wishes,

Greg