



2026 Lake Mac Open SKiFF & ILCA Champs

Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th March 2026

Notice of Race

Speers Point Amateur Sailing Club
(Organising Authority)

Presents the



For Open Skiff's and ILCA



Notice of Race for 2026 Lake Mac O'pen Skiff Champs



The picture above shows the bridge of doom used in our main adventure race. It's challenging to get under it, requiring great teamwork and communication. Ilca sailors will sail on Open Skiffs for the adventure races.

Owners and charterers of eligible boats are invited to enter the regatta on the conditions of this Notice of Race.

Dates: Saturday 28 & Sunday 29 March 2026

Location: Speers Point Amateur Sailing Club, 20b Park Road, Speers Point (in grounds of Speers Point Park).

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (RRS).
- 1.2 Australian Sailing Special Regulations - Part 2 (for off the beach boats) shall apply.
- 1.3 It is the responsibility of all competitors to ensure that life jackets comply with a standard equivalent to those listed in the regulations.
- 1.4 It is recommended that competitors wear a safety helmet to the minimum standard of EN1385 or EN1077 whilst afloat.
- 1.5 **Gold Fleet:** World Sailing Appendix UF as modified by Australian Sailing for Open Skiff events shall apply. Refer to Attachment #4.
- 1.6 **Silver Fleet:** The regatta will be governed by the World Sailing Introductory Rules for Racing. Refer to Attachment #3
- 1.7 **Green Fleet:** Refer to Attachment #2
- 1.8 **ILCA Fleet:** The regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 and ILCA Class Rules. 2.1.2.

2 ADVERTISING

- 2.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority.
- 2.2 The organising authority reserves the right to refuse advertising by a boat or competitor when it conflicts with an event sponsor or government regulations.

3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1 The regatta is open to boats complying with the current O'pen Skiff, ILCA4, and ILCA6 class rules.
- 3.2 Open Skiffs are available for charter. The charter fee is \$160 and can be booked online during entry. Charter boats can be booked online during entry via revSPORT link hereunder.
- 3.3 The use of the North Sails manufactured, 3.2m Russell Coutts training sail is allowed for Silver and Green Fleets.
- 3.4 All sailors shall be financial members of a yacht club that is affiliated with Australian Sailing or their MNA and must have a current Australian Sailing (AS) Number.
- 3.5 Each boat shall be covered for a minimum \$10 million of third-party liability insurance. The organising authority will require proof of insurance at registration.
- 3.6 Competitors and guardians shall abide by the Australian Sailing Member Protection Policy and Procedures.
- 3.7 Entry into Silver and Green Fleet must be approved by the AUS O'pen Skiff Class Association.
- 3.8 Entry fees are as follows:
 - \$80 until March 16, 2026
 - \$100 after March 16, 2026
- 3.9 Eligible boats should enter via the Online Registration Form via the link to the SPASC revolutioniseSPORT website [2026 'Lake Mac' O'pen Skiff Champs](#), which provides online payment by EFT or credit card. EFTPOS payment will also be available at registration.
- 3.10 Entries close Thursday 26 March, 2026.

4 PROPOSED SCHEDULE (NOTE: An updated version may be available at registration)

Date	Time	Event
Sat 28 March 2026	08:30	Registration & Charter boat allocation.
	09:30	Competitor & Support boat Briefing.
	10:00	Racing/On water activities
	18:30	BBQ Dinner (no charge for competitors)
Sun 29 March 2026	9:15	Competitor & Support Boat Briefing.
	9:45	Racing/On water activities

- 4.1 No more than 3 races will be sailed back-to-back in any session.
- 4.2 A number of non-scoring adventure type races may be sailed during the event which will not count towards the overall point score.
- 4.3 No warning signal will be made after 1430 on March 29.

5 MEASUREMENT

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the rules as defined in the RRS.

6 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions (SI's) will be posted on the Speers Point Amateur Sailing Club revSPORT website at <https://www.revolutionise.com.au/spasc/events/293471> on or before Friday, 13 March and will also be available to view in hard copy on the notice board in the clubhouse.

7 VENUE AND COURSE AREA:

The regatta will be conducted at Speers Point Amateur Sailing Club on the waters of Lake Macquarie shown in Attachment 1.

8 COURSES

- 8.1 Will be a mixture of windward/leeward, trapezoid or slalom as described in the Sailing Instructions.
- 8.2 The target time for the first Gold Fleet boat in each race is 20-25 minutes.

9 SCORING

- 9.1 4 races shall be completed to constitute a series.
- 9.2 A boat may drop her worst score after 6 races, her worst 2 scores after 8 races and her worst 3 scores after 10 races are completed.

10 SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

- 10.1 All support person vessels shall register with the OA and may be required to display an identifying flag which will be provided at registration. Life jackets compliant with RRS Special Regulations Part 2 shall be worn by all persons on support vessels at all times whilst afloat.
- 10.2 Support boats shall be covered for a minimum \$10 million of third-party liability insurance. Proof of cover will be required by the OA at registration.
- 10.3 Support boats shall monitor the course VHF channel for safety information, provide assistance, if requested and follow any instructions given by the race officer.
- 10.4 Support boats shall remain at least 50m outside the course area unless providing safety assistance to a competitor.
- 10.5 Silver and Green fleet boats may receive coaching assistance from the official coach boat(s) and any such communication shall not be considered outside help. This changes rule 41.

11 BERTHING

All trailers may be stored in the areas designated by the Host Club. Any trailers left within the boat park may be moved / relocated at the discretion of the Organising Authority/Host Club.

12 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

Except in an emergency, a competitor shall neither make nor receive radio transmissions, text messages or cellular phone calls while afloat except in an emergency or when using equipment provided by the race committee.

13 MEDIA RIGHTS

In participating in this event, a competitor or their guardian automatically grants to the organising authority and the sponsors of the event, the right in perpetuity, to make, use and show, from time to time and at their discretion, any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or film television and other reproductions of them during the period of the competition for the said event in which the competitor participates and in all material related to the said event without compensation.

14 PRIZES

Gold Fleet

Overall: 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Silver Fleet

Overall: 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Green Fleet - Prizes may be awarded for 'encouragement' and 'taking part' as well as placing for positions.

ILCA Fleet

Overall: 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Other prizes may be awarded by the Organising Authority.

**SPASC ACKNOWLEDGES AND APPRECIATES THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF
LAKE MACQUARIE CITY COUNCIL AND VAIKOBI OCEAN PERFORMANCE**



Love The lake



Sponsorship

15 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk (refer RRS 3 - Decision to Race). The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the event.

The boat's decision to enter will be testament that:

- the boat complies with the event entry eligibility requirements within this Notice of Race.
- the skipper fully understands the meaning and intent of the RRS PART 1 – FUNDAMENTAL RULES.
- the skipper has the necessary knowledge and skills to safely participate in and complete the event
- the participants indemnify the organizing authority, its agents, and volunteers from any responsibility for any matter relating to the boat's participation in the event.

This consideration is made in relation to the application of the Civil Liability Act 2003 to dangerous recreational activities.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Location. SPASC is located at the northern end of Lake Macquarie. It may be reached from the south and north by taking the Toronto turnoff from the M1 and continuing until Toronto. Turn left at Carey St lights and continue along till you reach a large roundabout. Turn right here and then the next right into Park Rd. Turn left at the next small roundabout and follow road through the carpark to SPASC.

Boat Storage. Boats may be stored at the club overnight at your own risk.

Canteen. Food and drinks will be available all day from our canteen.

(Bacon & Egg Rolls, Ham Salad Rolls, Salad Rolls, Sausage Rolls, Pies, Chips, Lollies, tea, coffee, ice blocks and more)

Accommodation/Camping.

- We will allow participants to sleep in swags in the upstairs area of the SPASC Clubhouse by prior booking at no cost – contact Dale Sims, email spascsailing@gmail.com.
- Camping is available onsite on club grounds. 6 tent sites are available by prior appointment and the cost payable to SPASC is \$35 per night – contact Dale Sims, email spascsailing@gmail.com.
- SPASC will host a free dinner for the competitors with dinner available for everyone else at \$18 per person.
- The club toilets and showers will be left open overnight for campers' use.
- If you are staying a minimum of 2 nights, the following local motels / apartments will provide a 10% discount on accommodation for this regatta. Contact is Kerry Cooper: kerry@lakemacAG.com.au - Phone: 02 4935 8888

<https://www.theesplanademotel.com.au/rooms.html>

<https://www.warnersbayapartments.com.au/rooms.html>

- Pippi's at The Point – Walking Distance to the Sailing club - <https://www.pippis.com.au/>
- Macquarie 4 Star – Nearest Motel to the Club – Waiting for info about a regatta Discount - <https://clubmacquarie.com.au/stay/>
- Warners at the Bay Motel – 7 minute Drive to the club - <https://www.warnersatthebay.com.au/stay/>
- Belmont Lakeside Holiday Park – 20 Minute Drive to the Club - <https://lakemacholidayparks.com.au/belmont-lakeside-caravan-park/accommodation>

Marine Outlet: Will be setting up a pop-up shop at the club for this event on Saturday 28th March. Please contact them in advance if there is something specific you would like to try on. www.marineoutlet.com.au

Other. SPASC is enclosed by Speers Point Park featuring plenty of activities for non-sailing family members, such as an open-air Olympic pool complex, parklands, walking pathways, jetty and a large, enclosed children's playground.

USEFUL LINKS:

SPASC website is www.spasc.org.au

A guide to accommodation in the Lake Macquarie region is on the Lake Macquarie City Council website <https://www.visitlakemac.com.au/plan/accommodation>

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact:

Speers Point Amateur Sailing Club – Andy Clark

Ph. 0468 440 030 or Email: spascsailing@gmail.com

The Australian O'pen Skiff Association Inc.

Ph. 02 9949 1322 or Email: info@openskiff.org.au

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

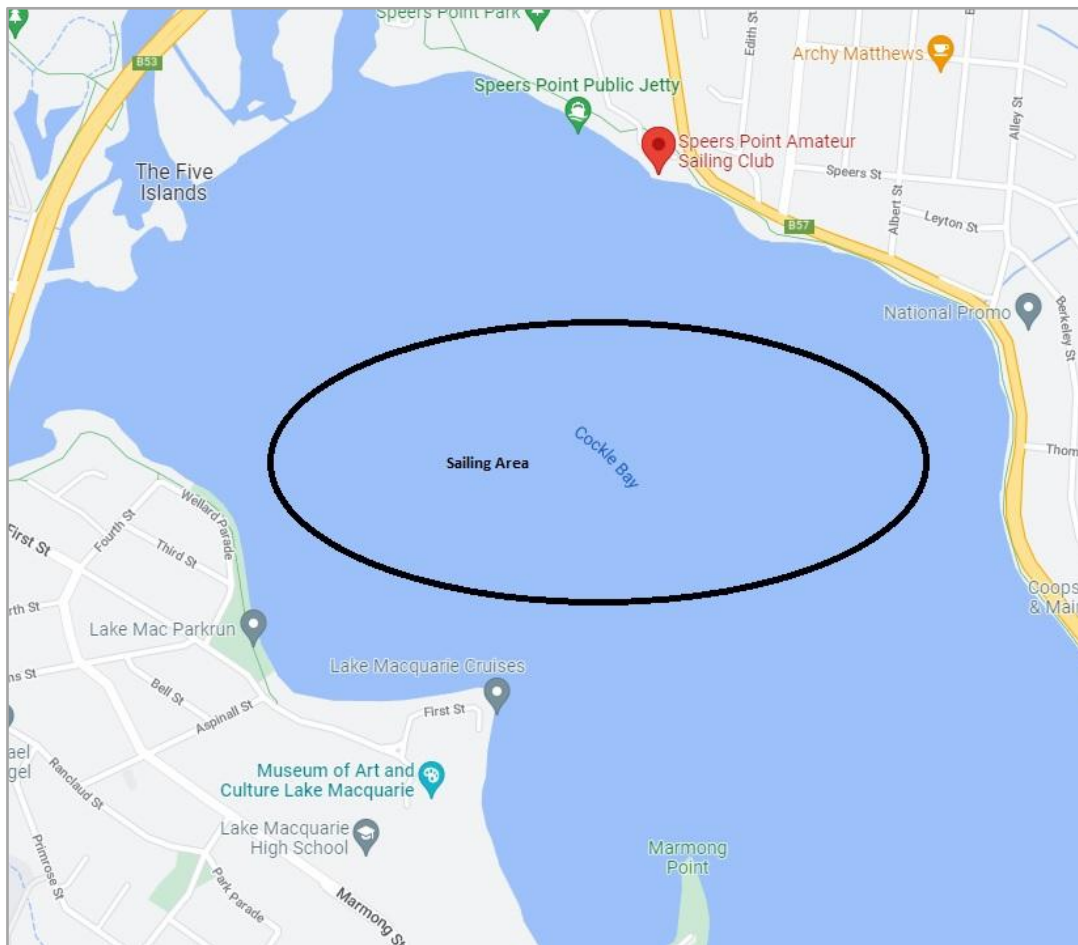
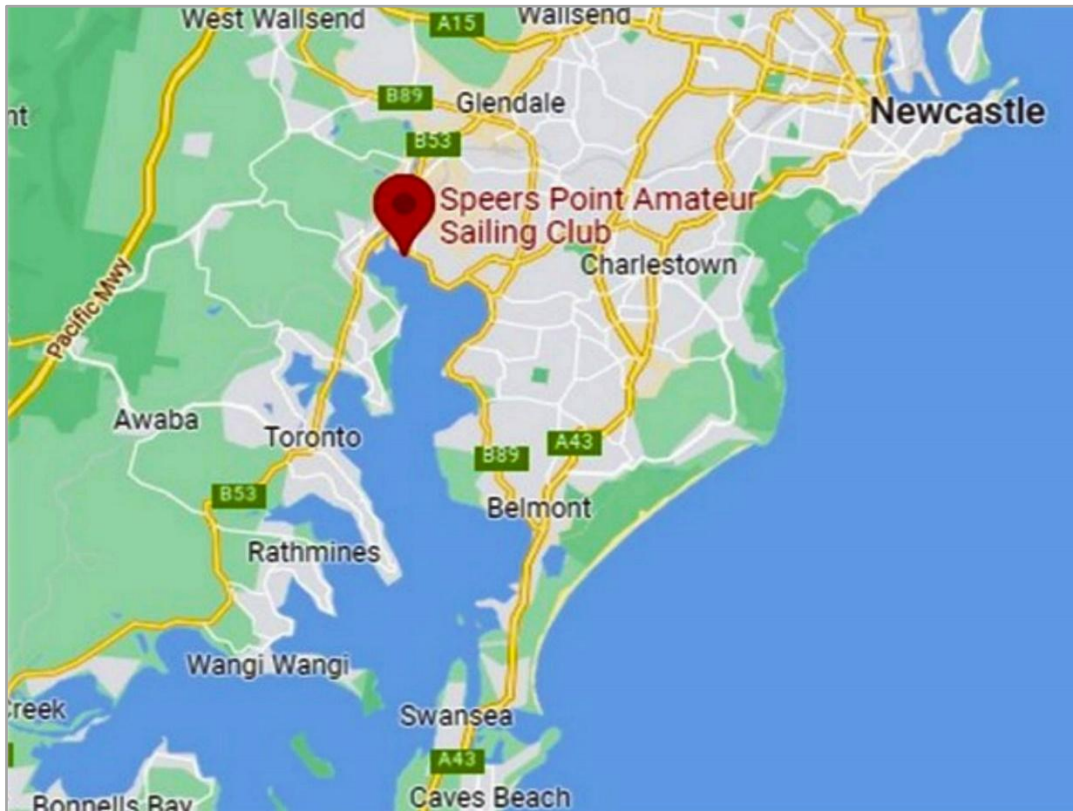
Attachment 1 - Club location and sailing area

Attachment 2 - Green fleet Guidelines

Attachment 3 - Introductory Rules for Racing

Attachment 4 - Appendix UF – Umpired Fleet Racing

Attachment 1: Regatta Venue and Racing area



Attachment 2:

Green Fleet Guidelines

1. In the Green Fleet emphasis is on fun. The objective of this regatta is to offer younger and less experienced sailors the opportunity to sail and participate at the O'pen Skiff events without feeling the need or burden to sail in the more competitive and arduous Gold and Silver Fleets.
2. Sailing will be a mixture of adventure sailing, racing, freestyle and any other form of sailing that the organisers deem fit.
3. Sailors will benefit from a high level of coaching throughout the event.
4. Sailors entering the Green Fleet should be of a level of sailing similar and/or equal to Tackers 2.
5. Green Fleet racing is intended to be run dependent on weather forecasts and prevailing winds. Should the conditions be such that racing is an option this will be conducted on a separate course.
6. The Green Fleet will consist of a variety of activities, led by appropriately qualified activity leaders/rules advisors (in an approximate ratio of 1:10 on the water). These activities may include both shore and on-water based skills, coaching and on-water games.
7. Prizes may be awarded for 'encouragement' and 'taking part' as well as placing for positions. Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.
8. Parents, guardians and friends are encouraged to come and spectate but please refrain from coaching/communicating with sailors and allow the qualified coaches to deal with any issues/circumstances that arise.

Attachment 3:



Introductory Rules for Racing

Version 1.01 - February 2008

Some Explanations

Windward and Leeward: The *leeward* side of your boat is the side where your mainsail lies. The *windward* side is the other side.

Port and Starboard tack: You are on *port* or *starboard* tack according to your *windward* side.

Advisor: A person appointed by the race organizers to assist competitors in understanding the rules and, when appropriate, to penalize a boat.

Basic Rules

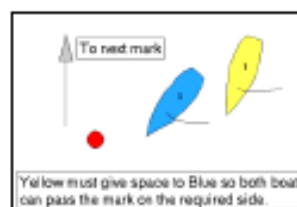
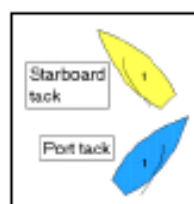
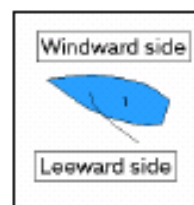
1. You must comply with the principles of good sportsmanship.
2. You must try not to collide with another boat.

Rules When Boats Meet

3. When you and the other boat are on opposite *tacks*, if you are on *port* tack you must avoid the boat on *starboard* tack.
4. When you and the other boat are on the same *tack*, you must avoid the other boat
 - (a) if she is in front of you, or
 - (b) if she is on your *leeward* side.
5. After starting, when you and the other boat approach a mark or an object that both boats need to avoid, and the other boat is between you and the mark or other object, you must give her sufficient space to pass it safely on the same side. However, when the boats are on opposite *tacks* at a windward mark, this rule does not apply.
6. When the other boat is required to avoid you, if you change course, you must give the other boat an adequate opportunity to avoid you.

Other Rules

7. At the starting signal you must be behind the starting line.
8. After the starting signal, you must sail the course described by the race organizers.
9. You must not touch a mark of the course that is a committee vessel.
10. If you think you or another boat has broken a rule or if you are unclear about the rules at any time during the race, you must describe the incident to the *advisor* after the race. The *advisor* may then add two points to the score of any boat that has broken a rule. If the offence is serious, the *advisor* may add extra points to the boat's score.



Attachment 4:

APPENDIX UF UMPIRED FLEET RACING

Australian Open Skiff Edition

Version: November 2021

Umpired fleet races shall be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing as changed by this appendix. Races shall be umpired. The rule changes in UF1 have been approved by World Sailing under Regulation 28.1.5(b) on the condition that only the provided options are used. This appendix applies only when it is referred to in the Notice of Race and made available for all competitors.

Competitors are encouraged to ask the Umpires after racing about a decision made on the water to assist with learning outcomes. This can be done between races or on shore. Attempt to identify the umpire that made the decision to speak with about the incident.

UF1 CHANGES TO THE DEFINITIONS, THE RULES OF PART 1 AND 2, AND RULE 70

UF1.1 Add to the definition *Proper Course*: 'A boat taking a penalty or manoeuvring to take a penalty is not sailing a *proper course*.'

UF1.2 Add new rule 7 to Part 1:

7 LAST POINT OF CERTAINTY

The umpires will assume that the state of a boat, or her relationship to another boat, has not changed, until they are certain that it has changed.'

UF1.3 Blank

UF1.4 When rule 20 applies, the following arm signals are required in addition to the hails:

- (a) for *room* to tack, repeatedly and clearly pointing to windward; and
- (b) for 'You tack', repeatedly and clearly pointing at the other boat and waving the arm to windward.

UF1.5 Rule 70 is deleted.

UF2 CHANGES TO OTHER RULES

UF2.2 Rule 31 is changed to:

31 TOUCHING A MARK

While *racing*, a boat's hull shall not touch a starting *mark* before *starting*, a *mark* that begins, bounds or ends the leg of the course on which she is sailing, or a finishing *mark* after *finishing*.

UF3 ON WATER PROTESTS AND PENALTIES

UF3.1 In this appendix, 'a penalty' will mean the following:

If a boat promptly acknowledges breaking a rule: A One-Turn Penalty taken in accordance with rule 44.2; or

If an umpire penalizes a boat: A Two-Turn Penalty taken in accordance with rule 44.2.

UF3.2 The first sentence of rule 44.1 is changed to: 'A boat may take a penalty when, in an incident while *racing*, she may have broken one or more of the *rules* of Part 2 (except rule 14 when she has caused damage or injury), rule 31 or rule 42. However, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 and rule 31 in the same incident, she need not take the penalty for breaking rule 31'

UF3.3 On the Water Protests by Boats and Penalties

- (a) While racing, a boat may protest another boat under a rule of Part 2 (except rule 14) or under rule 31 or rule 42; however, a boat may only protest under a rule of Part 2 for an incident in which she was involved. To do so she shall hail 'Protest', raise a hand in the air, and identify the other boat(s) involved at the first reasonable opportunity for each.
- (b) A boat that protests as provided in rule UF3.3(a) is not entitled to a hearing. Instead, a boat involved in the incident may acknowledge breaking a rule by voluntarily taking a penalty. An umpire may penalize any boat that broke a rule and was not exonerated, unless the boat took a penalty voluntarily.

UF3.4 Penalties and Protests Initiated by an Umpire

- (a) When a boat
 - (1) breaks rule 31 and does not take a penalty,
 - (2) breaks rule 42,
 - (3) gains an advantage despite taking a penalty,
 - (4) commits a breach of sportsmanship, or
 - (5) fails to comply with rule UF3.6 or to take a penalty when required to do so by an umpire,
 - (6) breaks a rule of Part 2 and there is physical contactan umpire may penalize her without a protest by another boat. The umpire may impose a penalty or more, each signalled in accordance with rule UF3.5(b), or disqualify her under rule UF3.5(c), or report the incident to the protest committee for further action. If a boat is penalized under rule UF3.4(a)(5) for not taking a penalty or taking a penalty incorrectly, the original penalty is cancelled,
- (b) An umpire who decides, based on his own observation or a report received from any source, that a boat may have broken a rule, other than rule UF3.6 or a rule listed in rule UF3.3(a), may inform the protest committee for its action under rule 60.3. However, he will not inform the protest committee of an alleged breach of rule 14 unless there is damage or injury.

UF3.5 Umpire Signals

An umpire will signal a decision as follows:

- (a) A green and white flag with one long sound means 'No penalty.'
- (b) A red flag with one long sound means 'a penalty is imposed or remains outstanding.' The umpire will hail or signal to identify each such boat.
- (c) A black flag with one long sound means 'A boat is disqualified.' The umpire will hail or signal to identify the boat disqualified.

UF3.6 Imposed Penalties

- (a) A boat penalized under rule UF3.5(b) shall take a penalty.
- (b) A boat disqualified under rule UF3.5(c) shall promptly leave the course area.

UF4 RACE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

- UF4.1** After boats have finished, the race committee will inform competitors about the results on the official noticeboard.

UF5 PROTESTS; REQUESTS FOR REDRESS OR REOPENING; APPEALS; OTHER PROCEEDINGS

- UF5.1** No proceedings of any kind may be taken in relation to any action or non-action by an umpire.

- UF5.3** A boat intending to
- (a) protest another boat under a rule other than rule UF3.6, or a rule listed in rule UF3.3(a),
 - (b) protest another boat under rule 14 if there was contact that caused damage or injury, or
 - (c) request redress
- shall inform the race committee or an Umpire within two minutes of finishing.
- UF5.5** The race committee will promptly inform the protest committee about any protests or requests for redress made under rule UF5.3.
- UF5.6** The third sentence of rule 61.1(a), all of rule 62.1(a), and all of rule 61.1(a)(2) are deleted.
- UF5.7** The first three sentences of rule 64.2 are changed to: ‘When the protest committee decides that a boat that is a *party* to a protest hearing has broken a rule, it may impose penalties other than disqualification, and may make any other scoring arrangement it decides is equitable. If a boat has broken a *rule* when not *racing*, the protest committee shall decide whether to apply any penalty to the race sailed nearest in time to that of the incident or make some other arrangement.’
- UF5.8** Hearings
- Except for a hearing under rule 69.2
- (a) Protests and requests for redress need not be in writing.
 - (b) The protest committee may inform the protestee and schedule the hearing in any way it considers appropriate and may communicate this orally.
 - (c) The protest committee may take evidence and conduct the hearing in any way it considers appropriate and may communicate its decision orally.
 - (d) If the protest committee decides that a breach of a rule has had no effect on the outcome of the race, it may impose a scoring penalty of points or fraction of points or make any other arrangement it decides is fair, which may be to impose no penalty.
 - (e) If the protest committee penalizes a boat in accordance with rule UF5.7 or if a standard penalty is applied, all other boats will be informed about the change of the penalized boat’s score.
- UF5.10** The protest committee may protest a boat under rule 60.3. However, it will not protest a boat for breaking rule UF3.6, a rule listed in rule UF3.3(a), or rule 14 unless there is damage or injury.
- UF5.12** Rule 66.2 is changed to ‘A *party* to the hearing under this appendix may not request a reopening.’