



Recommendation from the US Sailing Racing Rules Committee Concerning RRS 60.4(a)(2) – Protest Validity

The wording of RRS 60.4(a)(2) in the 2025-2028 *Racing Rules of Sailing* made an unintended change to the validity of “third-party protests.”

As currently written, the rule makes a protest invalid if it comes from a boat that witnessed but was not involved in an incident that resulted in a rule breach. This is a major and unintentional change in protest validity.

To remedy this, it is necessary to change the existing rule as follows: “...from a boat that was not involved in, ~~or~~ **and** did not see...”

The US Sailing Racing Rules Committee strongly recommends that the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions for your event include the following:

1.x - Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: (2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or

For an extended discussion of this issue, please see the [May 2025 issue](#) of the Judges newsletter, “RRS 68.”

US Sailing Racing Rules Committee
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