



CASE #: 17

Class:	IRC Offshore		
Race:	1		
Fleet / Group	IRC Offshore		
Type:	Request for Redress		
Course:	Coastal	Leg:	Finish
Protestor:	Race Committee (Con Murphy)		
Protestee:	IRC Offshore Class		
	<b>Present</b>		
	Aquaplane (Mark Thompson)		
	Rebellion (John Hughes)		
	Tsunami (Alan Turner)		
	Flashback (Paddy Gregory)		
	Platinum Blond (Brian Butler)		
	Giggle (Phil Davies)		
	Aurelia (Chris Power-Smith)		
	Lively Lady (Keith Martin)		
	Magic Touch (Steve Hays)		
	Mermaid IV (Ben Duncan)		
	Wow (Michael Tyrrell)		
	Menapia (James Mc Jrefrey)		
	Katie-Anna (Fergul Fahy)		
Witnesses:	None		
Procedural matters:	Reopening of case 2		
	Observer: Denis Todd (PC)		
Date/Time of hearing:	08 July 2017 09:30		
Location:	Royal St George YC – Junior Room		
Validity:	Request for redress valid		
Facts found:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The sailing instruction C4 describes three possible finish lines.</li><li>2. The last part of the course board on the race committee vessel indicated “V40” and “finish”.</li><li>3. There was no visible finish line at or to windward of mark V40.</li><li>4. A finish line was laid according to SI C4.3 in the harbour.</li><li>5. There is no evidence that any boat did not round mark V40.</li><li>6. The boats proceeded towards the harbour.</li><li>7. Some boats, including mermaid IV requested clarification via VHF on the location of the finishing line. The race committee responded, giving details of the position of the finish.</li><li>8. As boats approached the harbour, some boats proceeded immediately to the finish, other boats started to sail towards their moorings and then later sailed to the finish line.</li></ol>		



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9. The race committee recorded the boats as they crossed the finish boat. Only three boats were recorded as DNF.

10. After racing, the race committee published an amendment making the “harbour finish” the default finish.

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Conclusion:

1. There was an improper action of the race committee in not designating clearly, before the warning signal, the finishing option that they intended to use as required by rule 27.1.

2. All boats except three, finished correctly by complying with SI C4.3 and the definition *finish*.

3. Three boats did not cross the finishing line and were correctly scored DNF.

4. The improper action of the race committee did not remove the obligation of the boats to sail the course and finish.

5. No boat’s score was made significantly worse, through no fault of their own, as a direct result of the improper action of the race committee.

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Rules applicable:

27.1, SI C4.3

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PC Decision:

Redress is not given.

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Boats are to be scored in their original finishing positions, as recorded by the race committee finish boat.

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Date of decision:

08 July 2017

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PC members:

Chris Lindsay (chair), Eunice Kennedy, Gordon Davies, Mike Butterfield, Cxema Pico

Signature

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**Note to Scorer**

Boats are to be scored in their original finishing positions, as recorded by the race committee finish boat.