

# DECISION

Request for Redress

Request Number: 07

Heard Jointly With Number(s): 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13

Event: 2018 Etchells World Championships Race Number: 8  
Hearing Date: 2018-10-26

## PARTIES AND WITNESSES

**Initiator:** ETHELLS - USA 1464 - Skanky Gene - Jay Cross

**Respondent(s):** Race Committee

**Witnesses:** Steve Benjamin, Mark Taylor

## VALIDITY

**Objection to Jury:** No

**Within Time Limit:** Within Time Limit

**Incident Identified:** Yes

**Proper Hail:** Hail not required

**Red Flag Displayed:** Not required

**DECISION:** Request Valid

## PROCEDURAL MATTERS

### FACTS FOUND

1. On the first downwind leg for Race 8, the wind was decreasing and shifting to the left.
2. At the gate marks, a Race Committee mark vessel signalled C, red and minus. The next leg of the course was 1.3NM in length on an axis of 010 degrees.
3. After the leading boats rounded the gate, the wind speed dropped to 3-4 knots at the gate and the wind shifted right from 010 to 140 degrees.
4. Some of the leading ten boats were able to fly their spinnakers for a period of time during leg 3 following the wind shift.
5. The Race Committee signalled shortened course at Mark 1 before the first boat crossed the finishing line.
6. The first four boats crossed the shortened course finishing line with less than 5 knots of wind.
7. At the time the first four boats were finishing, there was insufficient wind for the majority of the fleet to make way to the finishing line.
8. There were significant differences between wind conditions across the racing area.
9. The Race Committee stated that they looked at the whole fleet and they considered that the conditions at that time were unfair for racing.
10. The Race Committee abandoned the race.

**Diagram:** Diagram not endorsed

### CONCLUSIONS AND RULES THAT APPLY

The Race Committee considered the consequences for all boats in the race or series when deciding to abandon for reasons directly affecting the fairness of the competition.

In abandoning the race after boats had finished, the Race Committee did not make an improper action or omission.

### DECISION

Redress is not given.

**Date & Time:** 2018-10-26 21:35 AEST

### PROTEST COMMITTEE

**Chaired By:** Philippe Mazard (FRA)

**Committee Members:** Jerrold Ng (SGP), Patricia Stadel (USA), Rosemary Collins (AUS), Nev Willis (AUS)

**Written Decision Requested By:** Mike Buckley

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