

Royal Prince Edward Yacht Club

REQUEST for REDRESS

Bushfire/AUS1250 vs Race Committee **Fathom/AUS1337 vs Race Committee**

Hearing at the RPEYC on Wednesday 22nd October 2008.

Event: RPEYC Mini Scratch Series, Heat 2.
RSYS Mini Regatta – SCR, Heat 5.
RSYS Mini Regatta – HCP, Heat 5.
International Etchells Class, Worlds Qualifying Series, Heat 5.

Bushfire, represented by; Jervis Tilly
Fathom, represented by; Rupert Henry
Race Committee, represented by; Tony Denham

FACTS FOUND

1. There were 22 Starters in the International Etchell Mini Series conducted by the RPEYC.
2. The start line was laid square to the wind, which was light, for an on wind start with the tide running almost in the opposite direction, forcing the starting boat to face towards the on coming tide.
3. The Race Officer displayed code flag 'P' as the preparatory signal in the sequence for the second race of the day in which there was a general recall.
4. About 70% of the fleet were over the starting line at the starting signal due to the influence of the tide.
5. For the second starting procedure for the second race of the day, the Race Officer displayed a Black Flag for the preparatory signal.
6. Following the display of the preparatory signal for the recalled start the Race Committee used propulsion to reposition the starting boat for up to a minute and a half after the preparatory signal was displayed.
7. There was a second general recall in which there were 10 boats identified as being on the course side of the starting line including BUSHFIRE and FATHOM.
8. The Race Officer stated that there were other unidentified boats that were not disqualified under rule 30.3.

CONCLUSION

1. The Race Committee moved the starting mark after the preparatory mark was displayed.
2. The race committee could not apply rule 30 after the movement of the starting boat by propulsion and therefore the start of the race should have been postponed.
3. The race could not be considered a fair race with almost half the fleet disqualified and now entitled to redress and other boats not being identified as being on the course side of the starting line

RULES APPLICABLE

27.2, 62.1(a).

DECISION

Race 2 RPEYC Mini Scratch Series, Heat 5 RSYS Mini series and Heat 5 International Etchells World Qualifying Series is abandoned.

Lister Hughes

Chairman

22nd October 2008.

Protest Committee; Lister Hughes, Erica Kirby, Sean Kirkjian, Colin Marshall.