

XXII International Regatta "Rudens Vejas 2012"
05-07.10.2012 Kaunas, Lithuania

Protest Committee report.

On 7.10.2012 Protest Committee conducted a protest hearing LTU617 (Danas Dvilevicius) vs. LAT38 (Dags Ambots), both competing in Optimist class.

During the hearing, following facts were found:

1. 30 seconds before the start of Race 7, LAT38 collided from astern with LTU617. Both boats were on the same tack and not overlapped.
2. There were no attempts by LAT38 to avoid contact and she did not change her course.
3. After being informed by LTU617 of her intention to protest, LAT38 helmsman responded with gesture, showing his middle finger.
4. LAT38 helmsman has admitted his actions.
5. There was no damage to LTU617.

Protest Committee arrived at following conclusions:

1. By making contact with LTU617, LAT38 broke Rules 12 and 14.
2. By not making any attempt to avoid contact with LTU617, LAT38 broke these Rules deliberately and hence her helmsman have committed a gross breach of a rules.
3. By showing inappropriate gesture after the incident, LAT38 helmsman have committed a gross breach of a good manners.
4. Although admitting his actions by LAT38 helmsman could be considered as mitigating circumstance, no apology to LTU617 helmsman prior or during the hearing was offered.
5. Actions by LAT38 helmsman are subject to penalty according to Rule 69.1(b)(2).

Protest Committee's decision was as follows:

LAT38 is to be scored DGM (disqualification, non-excludable for gross misconduct) for Races 7 and 8.

This report is to be sent to Lithuanian Sailing Union (LBS), Latvian Yachting Union (LZS) and Yacht Club "Auda".

Protest Committee also would like to recommend not to take any further disciplinary actions against the penalized competitor.

Protest Committee:
Alberts Rozins (LAT), chairman.
Ojars Rancans (LAT)
Vilius Tamkvaitis (LTU)