



# 2016 Spring Gold Cup NOTICE TO COMPETITORS March 19-20

Organizing Authority: Newport Harbor Yacht Club

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All competitors and coaches are requested to review rule 24. The race committee would like to bring attention to this because sailors often feel immunity from the rules while they are with their coach, particularly after finishing; however, rule 24 still applies, among others.

It is the goal of the race committee to run a fair race for everyone and they are prepared to file a protest under rule 24 if necessary to meet that goal.

Below is an interpretation from renowned rules expert, Dave Perry with respect to rule 24.

Note that any “interference” will potentially break this rule. **Particularly after finishing, boats need to be very careful where they sail so that their wind shadow and physical presence do not hurt boats still racing.** However, the rule’s opening phrase (“If reasonably possible...”) means that boats do not need to go to unreasonable measures to avoid interfering. If they are careful, they should have no problems. Remember, the preamble to Part 2 says “a boat not racing shall not be penalized for breaking one of these rules, except rule 24.1.” (Emphasis added.)

Posted 3/5/16