

Protest – Task 5 GBM Scoring

Competitor: Jason Adams

Competition Number: 2

Task: Task 5 – Gordon Bennett Memorial (Rule 15.8)

Relief Requested: Score competitor using the recorded electronic mark in accordance with the published TDS and competition rules.

Statement of Protest

I protest the decision to invalidate my electronic mark for Task 5 GBM and be given a score, not a "No Result"

The published Task Data Sheet for Task 5 specified:

- **Scoring Area:** Entire contest area.
- **MMA:** See drawing.
- **Task:** Gordon Bennett Memorial (Rule 15.8).

My electronic mark was achieved within the contest area and within the scoring period and should therefore be considered a valid scoring position.

Grounds for Protest

1. The TDS specifically defined the scoring area as the entire contest area

Rule 12.14.2 provides that a competitor who does not achieve a scoring position inside the scoring area will not achieve a result. The applicable Task Data Sheet explicitly stated that the scoring area for Task 5 was the **entire contest area**. Therefore, any valid electronic mark within the contest area satisfies the published scoring-area requirement.

2. The rules expressly provide electronic scoring when a competitor misses the MMA

Rule 12.16.3 states:

“Competitors not achieving a physical mark within the MMA will be scored by electronic mark.”

This rule specifically contemplates a competitor failing to achieve a physical mark within the MMA and being scored instead by electronic mark. Therefore, failing to place a marker within the MMA cannot by itself invalidate the electronic mark.

3. An electronic mark is valid when it meets the criteria defined in the TDS

Rule 12.17.2 states:

“An electronic mark is considered valid if the recorded track point meets all scoring criteria defined in the TDS.”

Neither the Task Data Sheet nor Rule 15.8 states that an electronic mark must be within the MMA or within the rectangle shown in the drawing. The TDS only states that the scoring area is the entire contest area.

4. The rules provide a scoring limitation, not invalidation

Rule 12.18.3 states:

“A competitor's result based on an electronic mark cannot be better than the worst possible result in the MMA.”

This rule assumes that an electronic mark outside the MMA remains valid and scoreable. If such electronic marks were invalid, Rule 12.18.3 would have no practical application. The remedy provided by the rules is a scoring cap, not a no-result decision.

5. Previous GBM task data demonstrates that the Director distinguishes between a limited scoring area and the entire contest area

The TDS expressly said the scoring area was the entire contest area, and the organizers had already demonstrated in an earlier GBM that they know how to declare a limited scoring area when that is their intention.

The previous GBM task explicitly identified the scoring area as "Limited scoring area." For Task 5 GBM, the published TDS instead identified the scoring area as "Entire contest area." The rectangle shown in the drawing was therefore reasonably interpreted as the MMA referred to elsewhere on the same TDS. Under Rule 12.16.3, competitors not achieving a physical mark within the MMA are scored by electronic mark. No wording in the TDS stated that electronic

marks must be within the MMA or within a limited scoring area. Accordingly, the electronic mark should be considered valid and scored in accordance with Rules 12.16.3, 12.17.2 and 12.18.3.

Earlier in the competition, a GBM task #1 was published with:

“Scoring Area: Limited scoring area.” and no mention of an electronic mark.

For Task 5, the published TDS instead stated:

“Scoring Area: Entire contest area.”

Competitors are entitled to rely on the wording published in the current TDS. If the Director intended a limited scoring area for electronic marks, the TDS should have stated so explicitly, as was done in the previous GBM. The published wording created a reasonable expectation that the entire contest area was valid for electronic scoring.

Please attached copies of TDS

Requested Remedy

I respectfully request that:

1. My electronic mark be deemed valid for Task 5 GBM.
2. Task 5 be rescored using the electronic mark.
3. If applicable, Rule 12.18.3 be applied to limit the result to the worst possible result in the MMA rather than assigning a no-result score.

Respectfully submitted,

Name: Jason Adams

Competition Number: 2

Date/Time: July 4, 2026. 4pm (1600)