

### **Pumping the Sails**

#### Racing Rule of Sailing 42.3

A submission from the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee

#### Proposal:

Rule 42.3 (c)

- (c) Except on a beat to windward, when surfing (rapidly accelerating down the leeward side of a wave) or planing is possible, the boat's crew may pull ~~the sheet and the guy controlling~~ any sail in order to initiate surfing or planing, **but each sail may be pulled** only once for each wave or gust of wind.

#### Current Position:

As above.

#### Reason:

A question submitted through the Q&A system under regulation 15.19.8(d) highlighted a problem caused by limiting how the sail is actually pulled. For example, under the current rule it is acceptable to pull the sail using the first part of a mainsheet attached directly to the boom, but it is not acceptable to pull the mainsail using a pulley around which the mainsheet is rigged or to pull the boom itself.

It is often impossible to judge how the sail is actually being pulled from a judges boat. The proposed change will make judging rule 42 easier and this will lead to greater consistency and fairness.

Further, the current wording is not clear. Does 'any sail' mean just 'one sail' or 'each sail'? It is also not clear that, if the sheet is pulled once, may the guy also be pulled once and if so, must they be pulled at the same time? Some of these issues are currently included in the ISAF rule 42 Interpretations. It is desirable to reduce the number of interpretations required by having clear rules.