

Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 2

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose

To align rule 2 with current practice of International Judges and to clarify the rule.

Proposal 1

Change Rule 2 as follows:

2 FAIR AND RESPONSIBLE SAILING

A boat and her owner shall compete in compliance with recognized principles of sportsmanship and fair play, **and the boat shall not be sailed in a reckless manner**. A boat may be penalized under this rule only if it is clearly established that these principles have been violated. The penalty shall be either disqualification or disqualification that is not excludable.

Current Position

As above.

Reason for Proposal 1

For many years, International Judges have protested boats under rule 2 for incidents in which they observed irresponsibly dangerous or reckless boat handling. The proposal aligns the wording of rule 2 with this practice. Also, the proposal enables a protest committee to penalize a boat that is handled in such a manner when the committee decides that the incident does not rise to the level required for a hearing under rule 69.

Proposal 2

Change Rule 2 as follows:

2 FAIR SAILING

A boat and her owner shall compete in compliance with recognized principles of sportsmanship and fair play. **The standard of proof to be applied is the comfortable satisfaction test in rule 69.2(g).** ~~A boat may be penalized under this rule only if it is clearly established that these principles have been violated.~~ The penalty shall be either disqualification or disqualification that is not excludable.

Current Position

As above.

Reason for Proposal 2

Rule 2's current second sentence does not clearly specify a particular standard of proof, although it seems to require a stronger standard of proof than is required for a penalty under a rule Part 2. To avoid a proliferation of standards of proof in the rulebook, the proposal uses the same standard as is used in a rule 69 hearing.

Proposal 3

Change Rule 2 as follows:

2 FAIR SAILING

A boat and her owner shall compete in compliance with recognized principles of sportsmanship and fair play. A boat may be penalized under this rule only if it is clearly established that these principles have been violated. The penalty ~~may shall, at the discretion of the protest committee,~~ be either disqualification or disqualification that is not excludable.

Current Position

As above.

Reason for Proposal 3

Housekeeping. To use the same language in rule 2 as is used when the concept of a discretionary penalty is introduced in the Notation paragraph in the Introduction.

Clean version of Rule 2 if all three proposals are accepted

2 FAIR AND RESPONSIBLE SAILING

A boat and her owner shall compete in compliance with recognized principles of sportsmanship and fair play, and the boat shall not be sailed in irresponsibly dangerous or reckless manner. The standard of proof to be applied is the comfortable satisfaction test in rule 69.3(g). The penalty may be, at the discretion of the protest committee, either disqualification or disqualification that is not excludable.
