

# EXPERIMENTAL MATCH RACING RULES

for visually impaired sailors

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*Match races for visually impaired sailors shall be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing as changed by this appendix.*

*These rules are evolving. Organizing authorities are urged to use the most recent version. The ISAF Racing Rules Committee and the IFDS would appreciate suggestions for improving these match racing rules.*

*Unless the notice of race and sailing instructions state otherwise, matches shall be umpired and one observer shall be on board each boat while racing.*

*Each boat shall be provided with an acoustic recognizing device and a transceiver radio set operating on the race committee communication channel.*

*Each mark shall be provided with an acoustic recognizing device.*

*Any signal made by the race committee or by the umpires will be communicated by radio. The failure of a radio emitting or receiving communication shall not be grounds for a request for redress by a competitor, however, the protest committee may decide to initiate a redress hearing. This changes rule 62.*

## **CBS 1 TERMINOLOGY**

‘Sailor’ means visually impaired sailor according to the IFDS’ Functional Classification System. ‘Boat’ means a boat sailed only by visually impaired sailors. ‘Competitor’ means the skipper, team or boat as appropriate for the event. ‘Observer’ means any person onboard a *racing* boat other than the competitors. ‘Flight’ means two or more matches started in the same starting sequence.

## **CBS 2 CHANGES TO THE DEFINITIONS AND THE RULES OF PARTS 2 AND 4**

### **CBS 2.1** The definition *Finish* is changed to

A boat *finishes* when any part of her hull crosses the finishing line in the direction of the course from the last *mark* after completing any penalties. However, when penalties are cancelled under rule CBS 7.2(d) after one or both boats have *finished*, each shall be

recorded as *finished* when she crossed the line.

**CBS 2.2** Add to the definition *Proper Course*: ‘A boat taking a penalty or manoeuvring to take a penalty is not sailing a *proper course*.’

**CBS 2.3** The definition *Mark* is changed to

An object emitting a specific acoustic signal that the sailing instructions require a boat to leave on a specified side, and an object emitting a specific acoustic signal surrounded by navigable water from which the starting or finishing line extends. An anchor line and an object attached temporarily or accidentally to a *mark* is not part of it. A *mark* not emitting its specific acoustic signal is an *obstruction*.

**CBS 2.4** Rule 13 is changed to

### **13 WHILE TACKING OR GYBING**

**13.1** After a boat passes head to wind, she shall *keep clear* of other boats until she is on a close-hauled course.

**13.2** After the foot of the mainsail of a boat sailing downwind crosses the centreline she shall *keep clear* of other boats until her mainsail has filled.

**13.3** While rule 13.1 or 13.2 applies, rules 10, 11 and 12 do not. However, if two boats are subject to rule 13.1 or 13.2 at the same time, the one on the other’s port side or the one astern shall *keep clear*.

**CBS 2.5** Rule 16.2 is deleted.

**CBS 2.6** Rule 18.3 is changed to

If two boats were on opposite *tacks* and one of them changes *tack* and as a result is subject to rule 13.1 in the *zone* when the other is *fetching* the *mark*, rule 18.2 does not thereafter apply. If, once the boat that changed *tack* has completed her *tack*,

- (a) the other boat cannot by luffing avoid becoming *overlapped* inside her, she is entitled to *mark-room*, the boat that changed *tack* shall *keep clear* and rule 15 does not apply;
- (b) the other boat can by luffing avoid becoming *overlapped* inside her, the boat that changed *tack* is entitled to *mark-room*.

**CBS 2.7** Not used

**CBS 2.8** Rule 23.1 is changed to ‘If reasonably possible, a boat not *racing* shall not interfere with a boat that is *racing* or an umpire boat’

**CBS 2.9** Add new rule 23.3: ‘When boats in different matches meet, any change of course by either boat shall be consistent with complying with a *rule* or trying to win her own match.’

**CBS 2.10** Add to the preamble of Part 4: ‘Rules 40, 41 and 42 shall also apply between the warning and preparatory signals.’

**CBS 2.11** Rule 42.2(d) is changed to ‘sculling: repeated movement of the helm to propel the boat forward;’

**CBS 2.12** Rule 62.1(a) is changed to

- (a) an improper action or omission of the race committee, the observers, the protest committee or the organizing authority, but not by a protest committee decision when the boat was a *party* to the hearing.

### **CBS 3 RACE SIGNALS AND CHANGES TO RELATED RULES**

#### **CBS 3.1 Starting Signals**

The signals for starting a match shall be as follows. Times shall be taken from the acoustic signals, and the 10 seconds count down will be transmitted by radio. If more than one match will be sailed, the starting signal for one match shall be the warning signal for the next match.

<i>Time in minutes</i>	<i>Visual signal</i>	<i>Sound signal</i>	<i>Countdown</i>	<i>Means</i>
7	Flag F displayed	One	10 seconds	Attention signal
6	Flag F removed	None	None	
5	Numeral pennant displayed*	One	10 seconds	Warning signal
4	Flag P displayed	One	10 seconds	Preparatory signal
2	Blue or yellow flag or both displayed**	One**	None	End of pre-start entry time
0	Warning and Preparatory signals removed	One	10 seconds	Starting signal

\* Within a flight, numeral pennant 1 means Match 1, pennant 2 means Match 2, etc., unless the sailing instructions state otherwise.

\*\* These signals shall be made only if one or both boats fail to comply

with rule CBS 4.2. The flag(s) shall be displayed until the umpires have signalled a penalty or for one minute, whichever is earlier. The observers shall inform the crew about such signal(s).

### **CBS 3.2 Changes to Related Rules**

(a) Rule 29.1 is changed to

- (1) When at a boat's starting signal any part of her hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line or one of its extensions, the race committee shall promptly display a blue or yellow flag identifying the boat with one sound. The flag shall be displayed until the boat is completely on the pre-start side of the starting line or one of its extensions or until two minutes after her starting signal, whichever is earlier.
- (2) When at a boat's starting signal no part of her hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line or one of its extensions, and before she *starts* she sails to the course side across an extension, the race committee shall promptly display a blue or yellow flag identifying the boat. The flag shall be displayed until the boat is completely on the pre-start side of the starting line or one of its extensions or until two minutes after her starting signal, whichever is earlier.

The RC shall promptly announce by radio any flags being displayed or removed.

- (b) In the race signal AP the last sentence is changed to 'The attention signal will be made 1 minute after removal unless at that time the race is *postponed* again or *abandoned*.'
- (c) In the race signal N the last sentence is changed to 'The attention signal will be made 1 minute after removal unless at that time the race is *abandoned* again or *postponed*.'

### **CBS 3.3 Finishing Line Signals**

The race signal Blue flag or shape shall not be used. When the first boat *finishes*, the Race Committee will display her colour flag and make a sound signal, and repeat the notice by radio.

### **CBS 3.4 Shortening or Abandoning Signals**

Add to rule 32.1: (f) For any reason thought appropriate by the Race Committee; the observer will guide the crew through the execution of the instructions transmitted by radio."

**CBS 4 REQUIREMENTS BEFORE THE START**

**CBS 4.1** At her preparatory signal, each boat shall be outside a line that is at a 90° angle to the starting line through the starting *mark* at her assigned end. In the race schedule pairing list, the boat listed on the left-hand side is assigned the port end and shall display a blue flag at her stern while *racing*. The other boat is assigned the starboard end and shall display a yellow flag at her stern while *racing*.

**CBS 4.2** Within the two-minute period following her preparatory signal, a boat shall cross and clear the starting line, the first time from the course side to the pre-start side.

**CBS 4.3** A boat shall not receive physical help from the observer between her attention signal and her warning signal.

**CBS 5 COMMUNICATION BY UMPIRES AND ACTIONS BY OBSERVERS**

**CBS 5.1** A green and white flag with one long sound means ‘No penalty.’

**CBS 5.2** A blue or yellow flag identifying a boat with one long sound means ‘The identified boat shall take a penalty by complying with rule CBS 7.’

**CBS 5.3** A red flag with or soon after a blue or yellow flag with one long sound means ‘The identified boat shall take a penalty by complying with rule CBS 7.3(d).’

**CBS 5.4** A black flag with a blue or yellow flag and one long sound means ‘The identified boat is disqualified, and the match is terminated and awarded to the other boat.’

**CBS 5.5** One short sound means ‘A penalty is now completed.’

**CBS 5.6** Repetitive short sounds mean ‘A boat is no longer taking a penalty and the penalty remains.’

**CBS 5.7** A blue or yellow flag displayed from an umpire boat means ‘The identified boat has an outstanding penalty.’

**CBS 5.8 Actions by Observers**

a) While *racing*, a boat shall not receive help by the observer, except as stated in rule 41 and this rule. A clear breach will be considered as a breach of sportsmanship in which case the umpires will act under rule CBS 8.3 and penalize the boat in accordance with rule CBS 5.4.

b) Rule 41 is modified to allow an observer, upon request from a crew, to

- (1) give information about boats entering or exiting the *zone*,
  - (2) display flags,
  - (3) give information about signals, and
  - (4) give information about umpire decisions and outstanding penalties.
- c) When a boat is approaching an *obstruction* that is not a boat she is required to *keep clear* of, give *room* or *mark-room* to, or under rule 22, avoid, the observer may hail '**Obstruction**', and may suggest suitable actions to avoid the *obstruction*.
  - d) When there is risk of collision with another boat that is either not *keeping clear*, or not giving *room* or *mark-room* to which the boat is entitled, the observer may give help by either hailing '**Collision course**' and suggesting a course change, or acting directly to avoid the collision.
  - e) When there is risk of collision with a right-of-way boat or a boat entitled to *room* or *mark-room*, the observer may give help by hailing '**Collision course**'. If needed, the observer may suggest a course change or act personally to avoid the collision, in which case the umpires shall be informed promptly about the help given.
  - f) The observer on a boat that is *clear ahead* and less than one of her hull lengths from another boat will hail '**Clear windward**' if the other boat is approaching on a course to establish a windward *overlap*, or '**Clear leeward**' if an *overlap* will be to leeward. The word '**Clear**' will be repeated until the distance between the boats is more than one hull length or until the boats become *overlapped*. If the boats become *overlapped*, the observer will hail '**Overlap**'. If the *overlap* is then broken, the observer will hail '**Clear**' once. The observer will announce the distance between the boats at any time it changes significantly.
  - g) When the boats are less than one hull length apart while approaching a *mark*, the observers will hail '**Zone**' when the first boat enters the *zone*.
  - h) When rule 18.3 applies and the boat that did not change *tack* cannot by luffing avoid becoming *overlapped* inside the boat that changed *tack* after the tack is completed, the observer will hail '**Next overlap**'. If the other boat can by luffing avoid becoming *overlapped* inside her, the observer will hail '**Next Clear**'.
  - i) In the event of injury to a competitor, the observer may report to the match umpire and the race committee and may request a postponement or an abandonment of the match in order to ascertain

the extent of injury. The responsibility for the competitor's decision whether to continue *racing* or to retire is hers alone.

## **CBS 6 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS BY BOATS**

### **CBS 6.1** A boat may protest another boat

- (a) under a rule of Part 2, except rule 14, by promptly hailing 'Protest' and displaying a flag Y after an incident in which she was involved;
- (b) under any rule not listed in rule CBS 6.1(a) or CBS 6.2 by hailing 'Protest' and displaying a red flag as soon as possible after an incident.

### **CBS 6.2** A boat may not protest another boat under

- (a) rule 14, unless damage or injury results;
- (b) a rule of Part 2, unless she was involved in the incident;
- (c) rule 31 or 42; or
- (d) rule CBS 4 or CBS 7.

### **CBS 6.3** A boat intending to request redress because of circumstances that arise before she *finishes* or retires shall hail 'Redress' and display a red flag as soon as possible after she becomes aware of those circumstances, but not later than two minutes after *finishing* or retiring.

### **CBS 6.4 Display of Flags**

- (a) A boat protesting under rule CBS 6.1(a) shall remove flag Y before or as soon as possible after the umpires' signal.
- (b) A boat protesting under rule CBS 6.1(b) or requesting redress under rule CBS 6.3 shall, for her *protest* or request to be valid, keep her red flag displayed until she has so informed the umpires after *finishing* or retiring. No written *protest* or request for redress is required.

### **CBS 6.5 Umpire Decisions**

- (a) After flag Y is displayed, the umpires shall decide whether to penalize any boat. They shall signal their decision in compliance with rule CBS 5.1, CBS 5.2 or CBS 5.3.
- (b) The red-flag penalty in rule CBS 5.3 shall be used when a boat has gained a controlling position as a result of breaking a *rule*, but the umpires are not certain that the conditions for an additional umpire-initiated penalty have been fulfilled.

**CBS 6.6 Protest Committee Decisions**

- (a) The protest committee may take evidence in any way it considers appropriate and may communicate its decision orally or by radio.
- (b) If the protest committee decides that a breach of a rule has had no significant effect on the outcome of the match, it may
  - (1) impose a penalty of one point or part of one point;
  - (2) order a resail; or
  - (3) make another arrangement it decides is equitable, which may be to impose no penalty.
- (c) The penalty for breaking rule 14 when damage or injury results will be at the discretion of the protest committee, and may include exclusion from further races in the event.

**CBS 7 PENALTY SYSTEM****CBS 7.1 Rule Changes**

Rule 44 is deleted.

**CBS 7.2 All Penalties**

- (a) A penalized boat may delay taking a penalty within the limitations of rule CBS 7.3 and shall take it as follows:
  - (1) When on a leg of the course to a windward *mark*, she shall gybe and, as soon as reasonably possible, luff to a close-hauled course.
  - (2) When on a leg of the course to a leeward *mark* or the finishing line, she shall tack and, as soon as reasonably possible, bear away to a course that is more than ninety degrees from the true wind.
- (b) Add to rule 2: ‘When *racing*, a boat need not take a penalty unless signalled to do so by an umpire.’
- (c) A boat completes a leg of the course when her bow crosses the extension of the line from the previous *mark* through the *mark* she is rounding, or on the last leg when she *finishes*.
- (d) A penalized boat shall not be recorded as having *finished* until she takes her penalty and sails completely to the course side of the line and then *finishes*, unless the penalty is cancelled before or after she crosses the finishing line.
- (e) If a boat has one or two outstanding penalties and the other boat in her match is penalized, one penalty for each boat shall be cancelled except that a red-flag penalty shall not cancel or be cancelled by

another penalty.

- (f) If a boat has more than two outstanding penalties, the umpires shall signal her disqualification under rule CBS 5.4.

### **CBS 7.3 Penalty Limitations**

- (a) A boat intending to take a penalty may ask the observer whether the boat will be able to take the penalty and remain clear of any *zone* or of any obstructions or racing boats.
- (b) No part of a penalty may be taken inside the *zone* of a rounding *mark* that begins, bounds or ends the leg the boat is on.
- (c) If a boat has one outstanding penalty, she may take the penalty any time after *starting* and before finishing. If a boat has two outstanding penalties, she shall take one of them as soon as reasonably possible, but not before *starting*.
- (d) When the umpires display a red flag with or soon after a penalty flag, the penalized boat shall take a penalty as soon as reasonably possible, but not before *starting*.

### **CBS 7.4 Taking and Completing Penalties**

- (a) When a boat with an outstanding penalty is on a leg to a windward *mark* and gybes, or is on a leg to a leeward *mark* or the finishing line and passes head to wind, she is taking a penalty.
- (b) When a boat taking a penalty either does not take the penalty correctly or does not complete the penalty as soon as reasonably possible, she is no longer taking a penalty. The umpires shall signal this as required by rule CBS 5.6.
- (c) The umpire boat for each match shall display blue or yellow flags or shapes, each flag or shape indicating one outstanding penalty. When a boat has taken a penalty, or a penalty has been cancelled, one flag or shape shall be removed. Failure of the umpires to display or remove flags or shapes shall not change the number of penalties outstanding.

## **CBS 8 PENALTIES INITIATED BY UMPIRES**

### **CBS 8.1 Rule Changes**

- (a) Rules 60.2(a) and 60.3(a) do not apply to *rules* for which penalties may be imposed by umpires.
- (b) Rule 64.1(c) is changed so that the provision for exonerating a boat may be applied by the umpires without a hearing, and it takes precedence over any conflicting rule of this appendix.

**CBS 8.2** When the umpires decide that a boat has broken rule 31, 42, CBS 4, CBS 7.3(c) or CBS 7.3(d) she shall be penalized by signalling her under rule CBS 5.2 or CBS 5.3. However, if a boat is penalized for breaking a rule of Part 2 and if she in the same incident breaks rule 31, she shall not be penalized for breaking rule 31. Furthermore, a boat that displays an incorrect flag or does not display the correct flag shall be warned orally and given an opportunity to correct the error before being penalized.

**CBS 8.3** When the umpires decide that a boat has

- (a) gained an advantage by breaking a *rule* after allowing for a penalty,
- (b) deliberately broken a *rule*, or
- (c) committed a breach of sportsmanship,

she shall be penalized under rule CBS 5.2, CBS 5.3 or CBS 5.4.

**CBS 8.4** If the umpires or protest committee members decide that a boat may have broken a *rule* other than those listed in rules CBS 6.1(a) and CBS 6.2, they shall so inform the protest committee for its action under rule 60.3 and rule CBS 6.6 when appropriate.

**CBS 8.5** When, after one boat has *started*, the umpires are satisfied that the other boat will not *start*, they may signal under rule CBS 5.4 that the boat that did not *start* is disqualified and the match is terminated.

**CBS 8.6** When the match umpires, together with at least one other umpire, decide that a boat has broken rule 14 and damage resulted, they may impose a half-point penalty without a hearing. The competitor shall be informed of the penalty as soon as practicable and may request a hearing. The protest committee shall then proceed under rule CBS 6.6. Any penalty decided by the protest committee may be more than half a point. When the umpires decide that a penalty greater than half a point is appropriate, they shall act under rule CBS 8.4.

## **CBS 9 REQUESTS FOR REDRESS OR REOPENING; APPEALS; OTHER PROCEEDINGS**

**CBS 9.1** There shall be no request for redress or an appeal from a decision made under rule CBS 5, CBS 6, CBS 7 or CBS 8. In rule 66 the third sentence is changed to ‘A *party* to the hearing may not ask for a reopening.’

**CBS 9.2** A competitor may not base a request for redress on a claim that an action or non-action by an observer or an official boat was improper. The protest committee may decide to consider giving redress in such circumstances but only if it believes that an observer or an official boat, including an umpire boat, may have seriously interfered with a competing boat.

**CBS 9.3** No proceedings of any kind may be taken in relation to any action or

non-action by the umpires or observers, except as permitted in rule CBS 9.2.

## **CBS 10 SCORING**

**CBS 10.1** The winning competitor of each match scores one point (half of one point each for a dead heat); the loser scores no points.

**CBS 10.2** When a competitor withdraws from part of an event the scores of all completed races shall stand.

**CBS 10.3** When a multiple round robin is terminated with an incomplete round robin, only one point shall be available for all the matches sailed between any two competitors, as follows:

<i>Number of matches completed between any two competitors</i>	<i>Points for each win</i>
1	One point
2	Half a point
3	A third of a point
etc.	

**CBS 10.4** In a round-robin series,

- (a) competitors shall be placed in order of their total scores, highest score first;
- (b) a competitor who has won a match but is disqualified for breaking a *rule* against a competitor in another match shall lose the point for that match (but the losing competitor shall not be awarded the point); and
- (c) the overall position between competitors who have sailed in different groups shall be decided by the highest score.

**CBS 10.5** In a knockout series the sailing instructions shall state the minimum number of points required to win a series between two competitors. When a knockout series is terminated it shall be decided in favour of the competitor with the higher score.

## **CBS 11 TIES**

### **CBS 11.1 Round-Robin Series**

*In a round-robin series competitors are assigned to one or more groups and scheduled to sail against all other competitors in their group one or more times. Each separate stage identified in the event format shall be a separate round-robin series irrespective of the number of times each competitor sails against each other competitor in that stage.*

Ties between two or more competitors in a round-robin series shall be broken by the following methods, in order, until all ties are broken. When one or more ties are only partially broken, rules CBS 11.1(a) to CBS 11.1(e) shall be reapplied to them. Ties shall be decided in favour of the competitor(s) who

- (a) placed in order, has the highest score in the matches between the tied competitors;
- (b) when the tie is between two competitors in a multiple round robin, has won the last match between the two competitors;
- (c) has the most points against the competitor placed highest in the round-robin series or, if necessary, second highest, and so on until the tie is broken. When two separate ties have to be resolved but the resolution of each depends upon resolving the other, the following principles shall be used in the rule CBS 11.1(c) procedure:
  - (1) the higher-place tie shall be resolved before the lower-place tie, and
  - (2) all the competitors in the lower-place tie shall be treated as a single competitor for the purposes of rule CBS 11.1(c);
- (d) after applying rule CBS 10.4(c), has the highest place in the different groups, irrespective of the number of competitors in each group;
- (e) has the highest place in the most recent stage of the event (fleet race, round robin, etc.).

### **CBS 11.2 Knockout Series**

Ties (including 0-0) between competitors in a knockout series shall be broken by the following methods, in order, until the tie is broken. The tie shall be decided in favour of the competitor who

- (a) has the highest place in the most recent round-robin series, applying rule CBS 11.1 if necessary;
- (b) has won the most recent match in the event between the tied competitors.

### **CBS 11.3 Remaining Ties**

When rule CBS 11.1 or CBS 11.2 does not resolve a tie,

- (a) if the tie needs to be resolved for a later stage of the event (or another event for which the event is a direct qualifier), the tie shall be broken by a sail-off when practicable. When the race committee decides that a sail-off is not practicable, the tie shall be decided in favour of the competitor who has the highest score in the round-robin series after eliminating the score for the first race for each tied competitor or, should this fail to break the tie, the second race for each tied competitor and so on until the tie is broken. When a tie is partially

resolved, the remaining tie shall be broken by reapplying rule CBS11.1 or CBS11.2.

- (b) to decide the winner of an event that is not a direct qualifier for another event, or the overall position between competitors eliminated in one round of a knockout series, a sail-off may be used (but not a draw).
- (c) when a tie is not broken any monetary prizes or ranking points for tied places shall be added together and divided equally among the tied competitors.