



ISAF Racing Rules Question and Answer Service

Q&A 2008-002

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Question 1

With respect to the definition of finish, does the condition "in normal position" refer also to the hull?

Answer 1

No, the normal position refers to crew or equipment only. The commas before and after "or crew or equipment" in normal position limit the normal-position requirement only to the crew and equipment.

Question 2

With respect to the definition of Finish, the Terminology paragraph of the Introduction and the second part of rule 47.2, does a capsized boat correctly finish if she crosses the finishing line when:

- a) all of the crew members are (somehow) on board even though the boat is capsized,
- b) some of the crew members are not on board but are very close to the boat and trying to straighten it out , and
- c) some of the crew members are not on board because they have become disconnected from the boat and its equipment, but are swimming to reach the capsized boat?

Answer 2

Yes. It is normal for dinghies to capsize and therefore a capsized dinghy and its crew in the water are in a normal position. It follows that a boat finishes correctly in all of the conditions stated in the question.

Also, the boat does not break rule 47.2 while the crew are making all reasonable attempts to recover the boat and get back on board provided they are not making any attempt to progress the position of the boat in the race. If they attempt to 'swim' the boat across the finishing line, they would break both rule 47.2 and rule 42.1, and possibly rule 2.