

## ISAF Racing Rules Question and Answer Service



### Q&A 2009-005

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#### Question 1

Based on the facts described in Case 45, would the decision of the protest committee be different, if X had lodged -parallel to its request for redress- a valid protest against Y and all other "hook-finishing" boats for breaking rule 28.1, with special regard to the "string rule" and the word "finish" in the first sentence of the rule?

#### Answer 1

The protest committee could have disqualified all boats that complied with the invalid sailing instruction, and then initiated redress for them based on their score being made significantly worse by the improper action of the race committee in altering a definition in the sailing instructions. Complying with the invalid sailing instruction led them to break rule 28.1 by failing to finish in accordance with the definition, and their action was therefore through no fault of their own.

#### Question 2

Would it be correct to say that Y and all "hook-finishing" boats cannot be exonerated for breaking rule 28.1, because they were not compelled by another boat to break the rule, as required by rule 64.1(b)?

#### Answer 2

Yes, the boats cannot be exonerated. However, they can be given redress as they were misled by the improper action of the race committee.

#### Question 3

If the protest committee decided that all the mentioned boats should to be disqualified for breaking rule 28.1, could they have requested redress under rule 62.1, or would it be their own fault as they should have known that the SI was invalid because it changed the definition "finish"?

#### Answer 3

The boats could have requested redress - see answer to Q1 above.