

ISAF Racing Rules Question and Answer Service



M 008

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Situation 1

The test for whether a boat's single action breaks rule 42.1 Basic Rule is Interpretation BASIC 4, the 'Paddle Test'.

Rule 42.1 allows for exceptions when it begins, 'Except when permitted in rule 42.3 or 45, ...'

One of the exceptions is when surfing or planing is possible. Rule 42.3(c) permits a single pull of a sheet or guy to initiate surfing or planing

Question 1

Is there any limitation, for instance the BASIC 4 'Paddle Test', on this single pull of a sheet or guy?

Answer 1

There is no limitation with respect to Basic 4, however rule 42.3(c) limits the acceleration to what is required to make the boat plane or surf. Therefore, the amount of acceleration must be consistent with the initiating of surfing or planing.

Situation 2

The Interpretations define a roll as '... a single-cycle athwartship movement of the boat ...'.

A roll that facilitates steering is also an exception to rule 42.1 under rule 42.3(a).

A single-cycle athwartship movement to leeward to facilitate a turn and back to windward when the turn is complete might happen at the start when turning up to a close-hauled course, when rounding a leeward mark or when turning upwind after ducking a boat.

Question 2

Is there any limitation, for instance the BASIC 4 'Paddle Test', on this single roll?

Answer 2

There is no limitation with respect to Basic 4, however rule 42.3 (a) limits the roll to what is required to help steer the boat. Therefore the amount of rolling must be consistent with the amount the boat turns.