



ISAF Racing Rules Question and Answer Service

J 016

Q&A 2011-03

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Five questions about Appendix P

Question 1

Just after the starting signal, the on-the-water judges observe boat X breaking rule 42. They act under rule P1 and observe boat X making one tack and one gybe only. The judges' attention is then attracted by a breach of rule 42 by another boat, and they go to penalize the other boat. Boat X is scored DSQ for not having taken the required penalty. Boat X lodges a request for redress asserting that her tack and gybe were to get well clear as soon as possible, to leeward of the other boats, and that she then took a two-turns penalty that the judges had not seen. She refers to three witnesses who can verify this, including a member of the race committee. Can her scoring penalty be cancelled?

Answer 1

Provided all requirements under rule 62.1(a) are met, the boat may be given redress. The judges have, under rule P1, correctly signalled a first penalty to the boat, and the limitation on redress in P4 is related to the judges' actions under rule P1.

Applying a further penalty to a boat that has taken the correct penalty under rule P2.1 is an improper action of the protest committee.

Question 2

What is the score for the following boats that have been penalized under rule P1 in a race that was abandoned and later resailed?

- a) A boat that in the abandoned race was penalized for the second time in the regatta, that did not retire promptly before flag N was displayed, and that later sailed the restarted race and there finished in 4th place.
- b) A boat that in the abandoned race was penalized for the third time in the regatta, that did not retire promptly before flag N was displayed, and that later sailed the restarted race and there finished 6th.

Answer 2

For questions a) and b), the answer is that the boat will be scored in her finishing position in the restarted race. The penalty would be cancelled but it is still counted to determine the number of times she has been penalized in the regatta.

Question 3

The on-the-water judges are observing boats on the last leg of the course. They see a clear breach of rule 42 by a boat just before the boat finishes. If the judges act under rule P1 just

before the boat crosses the finishing line (something she cannot avoid doing), and this is the boat's second or third penalty, what must the boat do to comply with the first sentence of rule P2.2 or P2.3?

Answer 3

The penalty under rules P2.2 and P 2.3 is to 'promptly retire'. If the boat has crossed the finishing line she can comply with this rule by, as soon as reasonably possible after finishing, notifying the race committee that she retires from the race (RAF).

Question 4

Would the answer be different if the judges signalled the penalty after the boat crossed the finishing line?

Answer 4

No

Question 5

Is there any limit for how long after a boat crosses the finishing line the judges can act under rule P1?

Answer 5

The rules do not state a time limit, however, rule P1 requires that the judges signal the penalty as soon as reasonably possible.