

ISAF Racing Rules Question and Answer Service



A 001 Q&A 2011-022

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This Q&A replaces old Q&A A 001, withdrawn on 18 November 2011.

Situation

In a fleet race, Boat A adopts tactics that clearly interfere with and hinder Boat B's progress in the race. While using those tactics, boat A does not break any rule, except possibly rule 2.

Question

In which of the following circumstances would Boat A's tactics be considered unsportsmanlike and a breach of rule 2?

- (a) Boat A's tactics benefit her series result.
- (b) Boat A's tactics increase her chances of gaining selection for another event.
- (c) Boat A's tactics increase her chances of gaining selection to her national team.
- (d) Boat A and Boat C had agreed that they would both adopt tactics that benefited Boat C's series result.
- (e) Boat A was attempting to worsen Boat B's race or series score for reasons unconnected with sport.

Answer

In circumstances (a), (b) and (c), Boat A would be in compliance with recognised principles of sportsmanship and fair play because there is a sporting reason for her actions.

In circumstance (d), both Boat A and Boat C would clearly break rule 2. In addition, by receiving help prohibited by rule 41 from Boat A, Boat C would also break rule 41.

In circumstance (e) Boat A would break rule 2 because, with no good sporting reason, her actions would clearly break recognised principles of sportsmanship and fair play.