Reporting Committee - Executive
Other Committees - Racing Rules, Events

Late Submission 175-00P

RACING RULES OF SAILING

A submission from the Executive Committee

Reason

Racing Rules of Sailing 62 - Hearings and Decisions

It has become more and more common practice that sailors take undue advantage of redress and have extended the meaning of the rule above to what was originally intended especially in respect of OCS and supplied equipment. This is detrimental to Fair Sailing.

The matter needs to be addressed and the following considered.

Redress could be completely deleted or restricted in certain respects.

Alternative Proposals

Alternative 1 - Delete RRS 62.1.

If Redress is to stay as a RRS, then it should be considered under the following principles.

Define grounds for redress such as.

- 1. Damaged by another boat that did not keep clear (RRS 62.1(b))
- 2. Forced to break a rule by the illegal action of another boat (RRS 62.1(d))

Alternative 2

Add words to the effect that there will be no redress for OCS, or breakdowns of equipment supplied. The drop race allows for compensation for any perceived difficulties which might arise in any of these respects.

Alternative 3

Another alternative to consider may be to add penalty points to a boat whose request for redress is not granted. In this case the scoring effects must be taken into account. A penalty system should therefore be designed to add a specified number of points immediately and not at a later stage in the regatta like average points. A possible solution could be to base it on the number of starting or finishing boats in the race in question.

Additionally, the definition of a Race Committee needs to be clarified to avoid extensive interpretation of its authority.

Recommendation to Council November 2000 - Council Minute 3(u)(iii)(3)

<u>Recommendation</u>

The Committee believes that the right to seek redress should not be deleted but suggests that the Racing Rules Committee be directed to offer a draft policy positions issues paper for presentation to Council at its mid year meeting.

Council Decision

Council agreed to permit the new Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee to appoint a working party to report to Council at the 2001 Mid-Year Meeting.

Recommendation to Council May 2001 – Council Minute 5(c)

Council received the paper from the Racing Rules Committee working party circulated on 26 April 2001.

Vice-President Göran Petersson reported that the paper considered methods of handling the issue of redress and such requests. It was noted that under the current system a sailor had nothing to lose in requesting redress and that this system should be stricter. To deter futile requests sailors should be able to be penalized when they are clearly wasting Jury time.

It was felt that the Race Management Sub-Committee should review the OCS aspects of the paper, and the Events Committee should consider redress in respect of supplied equipment, and recommendations be made in November 2001.

Council Decision

On a proposal by Joe Butterfield, seconded by Stephen Tupper, Council unanimously approved that:

- 1. Sailors cannot be denied the opportunity to seek redress when it is reasonable.
- 2. The issues presented in the paper were noted and the Race Officials Committee is charged to consider the paper and make appropriate recommendations in November 2001.