

Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule A4.2

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Proposal:

- A4.2** A boat that did not *start*, did not *finish*, retired after *finishing* or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series. **However, a boat that did not come to the starting area for at least one race of the series shall not be included in this number.** A boat penalized under rule 30.2 or 44.3 shall be scored points as provided in rule 44.3(c).

Current Position:

See above

Reason:

The reason is threefold.

1. Boats that are entered in a series but never show up can change the final results through the first sentence of rule A4.2. An example clarifies this:

Twenty boats have sent in their entries, but four of them never show up and are scored DNC for every race. The series consists of four races with no excluded scores. Boat A scores 1, 1, 1, OCS (21), total 24 points. Boat B scores 2, 2, 2, 16, total 22 points. B beats A because of four boats that had nothing to do with the racing. If they had been removed from the list before the final scoring run, A would have scored 20 points and beaten B. A's victory reflects what happened in the series, while B's victory is based on hypothetical numbers.
2. Various ranking lists are constructed on the basis of number of entries in the events included, e.g. by counting how many boats lie behind a given boat A in the event results. Solid rows of DNCs at the bottom of the list give wrong information as to how many boats A actually beat in racing.
3. The rules of various championships require a certain minimum number of entries to constitute a championship. When entries rather than boats actually competing are counted, it happens that boats are entered at the urging of class activists with the sole purpose of reaching the required minimum number, without ever intending to show up at the venue. The status is then established by false means.

This submission is alternative to the submission on rule 76 from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee, and is intended to solve the same problem.