

REPORTING COMMITTEE - RACING RULES

OTHER COMMITTEE - RACE OFFICIALS

Racing Rules of Sailing

Appendix N - Immediate Penalties for Breaking Rule 42

A submission from the chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

The proposal in this submission was prepared by the Rule 42 Working Party.

PROPOSAL:

Change rule N2.3 to include an option for further retirements as penalties for more than two breaches of rule 42, especially for junior regattas and other similar events.

CURRENT POSITION:

N2.3 Third Protest

When a boat is protested a third time during the series she may acknowledge her breach by immediately retiring from the race and from all other races in the series. If she fails to do so she shall be disqualified without a hearing from all races in the series, with no score excluded, and the protest committee shall consider calling a hearing under rule 69.1(a).

REASON:

Especially at junior events, the penalty of retiring from all races in the series is inappropriately severe. Breaches of rule 42 at such events often result from ignorance and inexperience rather than a deliberate attempt to gain an unfair advantage. Only at the highest level events is the current penalty appropriate.