Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 64.2

A submission from the International 49er Class Association and International Nacra 17 Class Association

Purpose or Objective
To reduce the prevalence of additional medals and participants in medal and gold fleets after cut offs due to redress.

Proposal
That World Sailing officially reverse precedent so that the phrase from rule 64.2,

“Decisions on Redress: When the protest committee decides that a boat is entitled to redress under rule 62, it shall make as fair an arrangement as possible for all boats affected…”

is interpreted to define as fair an arrangement as possible but where teams who may have qualified in a medal position or in a certain fleet, but are moved down as a result of redress are not included in that fleet if it means an extra place in that fleet is added or where an additional medal needs to be provided.

Current Position
The current position is that if a boat passes another boat in the standings due to redress, and the boat passed ends up missing out on a gold fleet, a medal race, or a medal in the final results, then the team passed ends up getting included into the fleet or race or an additional medal is granted to the team(s) holding that status due prior to redress being granted.

Reasons
1. The effect of a redress ruling should be the same as any other result in sailing. If a boat earns redress due to the system and that shifts the results then the results should not be effected any differently than other decisions of sailing, like DSQ's, OCS's, or even simple results.

2. Sailing has an established and successful method of both scoring and breaking ties that is accepted by the sport. It should be utilized in all cases and not made exception for due to redress.

3. The inclusion of an extra boat in a gold fleet, an extra boat in a medal race, or an extra medal in a championship is poor for the presentation of sailing. It is not easy to explain nor is it appropriate. It is a distraction and not what we should be highlighting, particularly in light of guidance from the IOC.