Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule Notation [SP]

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To include standard penalties in the rule book, as is done with discretionary penalties, rather than in the sailing instructions.

Proposal

Add to Notation:

Notation The notation ‘[DP]’ in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of the rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. Guidelines for discretionary penalties are available on the World Sailing website. The notation ‘[SP]’ in a rule means that the penalty for breach of the rule shall be a penalty published by the organizing committee or race committee and shall be applied by the race committee without a hearing. If the race committee or a boat is of the view that the standard penalty is not an appropriate penalty for the breach it or she may report the matter to the protest committee for a hearing to determine an appropriate discretionary penalty.

Change rule 63.1 to:

63.1 Requirement for a Hearing
A boat or competitor shall not be penalized without a protest hearing, except as provided in rules 30.2, 30.3, 30.4, 64.3(d), 64.4(b), 69, 78.2, A5 and P2 or a rule designated as [SP]. A decision on redress shall not be made without a hearing. The protest committee shall hear all protests and requests for redress that have been delivered to the race office unless it allows a protest or request to be withdrawn.

Current Position

[SP] is becoming a more common addition to sailing instructions but has no provision in the RRS.

Reasons

1. Standard penalties are used at most major and other events. It puts the procedure in the rules and simplifies the sailing instructions.

2. Standard penalties avoid unnecessary hearings, generally when the facts of the breach are not in doubt and result in a small penalty. Competitors may always get a hearing by requesting redress.