Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 36

A submission from the Royal Yachting Association

Purpose or Objective

Provide that a penalty under rule 14 when a boat has caused injury or serious damage in a race shall apply to any restart or resail of the race.

Proposal

Amend rule 36 as follows:

36 RACES RESTARTED OR RESAILED
If a race is restarted or resailed, a breach of a rule in the original race, or in any previous restart or resail of that race, shall not
(a) prohibit a boat from competing unless she has broken rule 30.3;
(b) cause a boat to be penalized except under rule 30.2, 30.3, 69 or under rule 14 when she has caused injury or serious damage.

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

The submission comprises two proposed changes

1. The current rule refers only to a breach of a rule in the ‘original race’. The change to the first sentence clarifies that the rule applies also to any previous start of the race. For example, there may be several attempts to start a race under a black flag.

2. Currently a boat that breaks rule 14 and causes injury or serious damage can compete and score her place in the restarted or resailed race whereas her damaged opponent is unlikely to be able to compete, although she may claim redress. It is surely wrong that a boat that causes serious damage is treated more leniently than a boat that breaks rule 30.2 or 30.3. A boat can only be penalized in the restarted or resailed race after a protest and a decision that she broke rule 14 and caused injury or serious damage.