Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule A5

A submission from the Chairman of Race Officials Committee and the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Proposal

A5 SCORES DETERMINED BY THE RACE COMMITTEE

A boat that did not start, comply with rule 30.2 or 30.3, or finish, or that takes a penalty under rule 44.3(a) or retires after finishing, shall be scored accordingly by the race committee without a hearing. When the race committee determines that it has scored a boat incorrectly it shall either correct the error or request redress for the effected boats. Only the protest committee may take other scoring actions that worsen a boat’s score.

Current Position

As above.

Reason

A race committee is required to correctly score all boats. When the race committee determines that it has made an error in the posted scores, it is required to fix that error. For example, if Boat A is initially scored in 5th place and Boat B is initially scored in 6th place, the race committee must reverse the scores if it determines that Boat B actually finished ahead of Boat A.

Rule A5 can be read to suggest that a race committee cannot correct a scoring error if by doing so it makes another boat’s score worse. This is not intended. The submission is intended to clarify this ambiguity.

The proposed change would not restrict a boat from requesting redress based upon the actions of the race committee; in posting the incorrect scores, or subsequently correcting them.

2009 NOVEMBER CONFERENCE

COUNCIL DECISION – NOVEMBER 2009

Council received submission 146-09 from the Chairman of Race Officials Committee and the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Decision:

Council deferred submission 146-09 to November 2010. Requires further discussion between the two submitting committees.

Recommendation from the Reporting Committee
Racing Rules Committee

**Recommendation to Council: Defer**

Agree the principle. Requires further discussion between the two submitting committees.

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**Opinions from the Other Committees**

**Race Officials Committee**

**Opinion: Approve**

This is "best practice" as taught by ROC and its Sub-committees. The race committee has an obligation to correct scores that it knows are incorrect. All four Sub-committees and the ROC are strongly in favour of this submission. By correcting a scoring error the race committee is not granting redress - it is simply complying with its obligations under the concept of fair play.