

## Racing Rules of Sailing

### Appendix CBS – Match Racing Rules for Vision-Impaired Sailors

A submission from the Chairman of Racing Rules Committee

#### Purpose or Objective

To have a World Sailing approved set of rules for Match Racing for Vision-Impaired sailors.

An experimental version has been used for many years now and have been updated as need has arisen and as RRS has been changed. As the appendix changes rules that need WS approval for specific events under rule 86.2 or MNA approval for events under rule 86.3, this has been rather unsatisfactory to work with.

Match Racing for vision-impaired sailors has grown in popularity and now has its world championship amongst many other events. There are many reasons why there is a need for a special separate rule set, maybe the most important is the use of acoustic tack-recognizing devices and other sounds transmitters and receivers.

It will be of great help for all involved to have the rules easily available on the WS website.

#### Proposal

### **APPENDIX CBS MATCH RACING RULES** for vision-impaired sailors

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*Match races for vision-impaired competitors shall be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing as changed by this appendix. Each crewmember shall be classified according to the Para World Sailing Functional Classification System. Matches shall be umpired. Neither spinnaker nor gennaker shall be used. Each boat shall be provided with an acoustic tack-recognizing device and a transceiver radio set operating on the race committee and umpire communication channel. Each **mark** shall be provided with an acoustic recognizing device. Any signal by the race committee or umpires shall be promptly transmitted by radio.*

#### **CBS1 TERMINOLOGY**

‘Competitor’ means the skipper, team or boat as appropriate for the event.

#### **CBS2 CHANGES TO THE DEFINITIONS AND THE RULES OF PARTS 1, 2, 3 AND 4**

##### **CBS2.1** The definition *Finish* is changed to:

***Finish*** A boat *finishes* when any part of her hull crosses the finishing line in the direction of the course from the last *mark* after completing any penalties. However, when penalties are cancelled under rule CBS7.2(d) after one or both boats have *finished* each shall be recorded as *finished* when she crossed the line.

##### **CBS2.2** The definition *Mark* is changed to:

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**Mark** An object, emitting a specific acoustic signal,

- (1) that the sailing instructions require a boat to leave on a specified side, or
- (2) from which the starting or finishing line extends.

An anchor line or an object attached temporarily or accidentally to a *mark* is not part of it. A *mark* not emitting its specific acoustic signal is an *obstruction*.

**CBS2.3** The definition *Mark-Room* is changed to:

**Mark-Room** Room for a boat to sail her *proper course* to round or pass the *mark* on the required side.

**CBS2.4** Add to the definition *Proper Course*: 'A boat taking a penalty or maneuvering to take a penalty is not sailing a *proper course*.'

**CBS2.5** In the definition *Zone* the distance is changed to two hull lengths.

**CBS2.6** Add new rule 8 to Part 1:

## **8 LAST POINT OF CERTAINTY**

The umpires will assume that the state of a boat, or her relationship to another boat, has not changed, until they are certain that it has changed.

**CBS2.7** Rule 13 is changed to:

## **13 WHILE TACKING OR GYBING**

**13.1** After a boat passes head to wind, she shall *keep clear* of other boats until she is on a close-hauled course.

**13.2** After the foot of the mainsail of a boat sailing downwind crosses the centreline she shall *keep clear* of other boats until her mainsail has filled or she is no longer sailing downwind.

**13.3** While rule 13.1 or 13.2 applies, rules 10, 11 and 12 do not. However, if two boats are subject to rule 13.1 or 13.2 at the same time, the one on the other's port side or the one astern shall *keep clear*.

**CBS2.8** Rule 16.2 is deleted.

**CBS2.9** Rule 17 is deleted.

**CBS2.10** Rule 18 is changed to:

## **18 MARK-ROOM**

### **18.1 When Rule 18 Applies**

Rule 18 applies between boats when they are required to leave a *mark* on the same side and at least one of them is in the *zone*. However, it does not apply between a boat approaching a *mark* and one leaving it.

### **18.2 Giving Mark-Room**

- (a) When the first boat reaches the *zone*,
    - (1) if boats are *overlapped*, the outside boat at that moment shall thereafter give the inside boat *mark-room*.
    - (2) if boats are not *overlapped*, the boat that has not reached the *zone* shall thereafter give *mark-room*.
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- (b) If the boat entitled to mark-room leaves the *zone*, the entitlement to *mark-room* ceases and rule 18.2(a) is applied again if required based on the relationship of the boats at the time rule 18.2(a) is re-applied.
- (c) If a boat obtained an inside *overlap* and, from the time the *overlap* began, the outside boat is unable to give *mark-room*, she is not required to give it.

### 18.3 Tacking or Gybing

- (a) If *mark-room* for a boat includes a change of *tack*, such tack or gybe shall be done no faster than a tack or gybe to sail her *proper course*.
- (b) When an inside *overlapped* right-of-way boat must change *tack* at a *mark* to sail her *proper course*, until she changes *tack* she shall sail no farther from the *mark* than needed to sail that course. Rule 18.3(b) does not apply at a gate *mark* or a finishing *mark* and a boat shall not be penalized for breaking this rule unless the course of another boat was affected by the breach of this rule.

**CBS2.11** Rules 19, 20 and 22.3 are deleted.

**CBS2.12** Rule 24.1 is changed to 'If reasonably possible, a boat not *racing* shall not interfere with a boat that is *racing* or an umpire boat. This rule does not apply to a boat not *racing* that is under the control of a race official.'

**CBS2.13** Add new rule 24.3: 'When boats in different matches meet, any change of course by either boat shall be consistent with complying with a rule or trying to win her own match.'

**CBS2.14** Rule 31 is changed to:

#### 31 TOUCHING A MARK

While *racing*, neither the crew nor any part of a boat's hull shall touch a starting *mark* before *starting*, a *mark* that begins, bounds or ends the leg of the course on which she is sailing, or a finishing *mark* after *finishing*. In addition, while *racing*, a boat shall not touch a race committee vessel that is also a *mark*.

**CBS2.15** Rule 32.1(c) is changed to:

'because a *mark* is missing, is not emitting its specific acoustic signal or is out of position, or'

**CBS2.16** Rule 40 is changed to:

Competitors shall wear personal flotation devices, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment at all time while afloat. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices.

**CBS2.17** Rules 41 and 42 shall also apply between the warning and preparatory signals.

**CBS2.18** Rule 42.2(d) is changed to:

'sculling: repeated movement of the helm to propel the boat forward;

**CBS2.19** Add new rule 62.1(e):

'a *mark* failing to emit its specific acoustic signal as provided by rule CBS3.4.'

### CBS3 RACE SIGNALS AND CHANGES TO RELATED RULES

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**CBS3.1 Starting Signals**

Unless the sailing instructions provide a different starting system, the signals for starting a match shall be as follows. Times shall be taken from the beginning of sound signals. The failure of a visual signal shall be disregarded. The sailing instructions may state that the race committee will announce the next signal by radio and transmit a countdown before the preparatory signal and the starting signal.

<i>Time in minutes</i>	<i>Visual signal</i>	<i>Sound signal</i>	<i>Means</i>
7	Flag F displayed	Repetitive	Attention signal
6	Flag F removed	None	
5	Numeral pennant 1 displayed	One	Warning signal
4	Flag P displayed	One long	Preparatory signal
2	Blue or yellow flag or both displayed*	One*	End of pre-start entry time
1	Preparatory signal removed	One long	
0	Warning signal removed	One	Starting signal

\* These signals shall be made only if one or both boats fail to comply with rule CBS4.2. The flag(s) shall be displayed until the umpires have signalled a penalty or for one minute, whichever is earlier.

**CBS3.2 Changes to Related Rules**

(a) Rule 29.1 is changed to:

- (1) When at a boat's starting signal any part of her hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line or one of its extensions, the race committee shall promptly display a blue or yellow flag identifying the boat with one long sound. The flag shall be displayed until the boat is completely on the pre-start side of the starting line or one of its extensions or until two minutes after her starting signal, whichever is earlier.
  - (2) When after her starting signal a boat sails from the pre-start side to the course side of the starting line across an extension without having *started* correctly, the race committee shall promptly display a blue or yellow flag identifying the boat with repeated sounds. The flag shall be displayed until the boat is completely on the pre-start side of the starting line or one of its extensions or until two minutes after her starting signal, whichever is earlier.
- (b) In the race signal AP the last sentence is changed to: 'The attention signal will be made 1 minute after removal unless at that time the race is *postponed* again or *abandoned*.'
- (c) In the race signal N the last sentence is changed to: 'The attention signal will be made 1 minute after removal unless at that time the race is *abandoned* again or *postponed*.'

**CBS3.3 Finishing Line Signals**

The race signal Blue flag or shape shall not be used.

#### **CBS3.4 Acoustic signals**

- (a) Starting *marks* shall begin emitting their specific acoustic signal no later than the attention signal, and continue emitting until the last boat *starts* and clears the starting line and *marks*.
- (b) Course *marks* shall emit their specific acoustic signal while any boat is on the leg that *mark* ends. The signal shall continue until the boat clears the *zone* of the emitting *mark* to sail the next leg of the course.
- (c) Finishing *marks* shall emit their specific acoustic signal while any boat is on the final leg of the course. The signal shall continue until the boat *finishes* and clears the finishing line and *marks*.
- (d) No later than her attention signal, a boat shall begin emitting her tack recognizing acoustic signal, and continue emitting until she is no longer *racing*.
- (e) Acoustic signals used by the race committee to identify boats shall be of a different character than signals used in the starting procedures.

#### **CBS4 REQUIREMENTS BEFORE THE START**

- CBS4.1** At her preparatory signal, each boat shall be outside the line that is at a 90° angle to the starting line through the starting *mark* at her assigned end. In the pairing list, the boat listed on the left-hand side is assigned the port end and shall display a blue flag at her stern while *racing*. The other boat is assigned the starboard end and shall display a yellow flag at her stern while *racing*.
- CBS4.2** Within the two-minute period following her preparatory signal, a boat shall cross and clear the starting line, the first time from the course side to the pre-start side.

#### **CBS5 SIGNALS, HAILS AND TRANSMISSIONS BY UMPIRES**

- CBS5.1** A green and white flag with one long sound means 'No penalty'.
- CBS5.2** A blue or yellow flag identifying a boat with one long sound means 'The identified boat shall take a penalty by complying with rule CBS7.'
- CBS5.3** A red flag with or soon after a blue or yellow flag with one long sound means 'The identified boat shall take a penalty by complying with rule CBS7.3(d).'
- CBS5.4** A black flag with a blue or yellow flag and one long sound means 'The identified boat is disqualified, and the match is terminated and awarded to the other boat.'
- CBS5.5** One short sound means 'A penalty is now completed.'
- CBS5.6** Repetitive short sounds mean 'A boat is no longer taking a penalty and the penalty remains.'
- CBS5.7** A blue or yellow flag or shape displayed from an umpire boat means 'The identified boat has an outstanding penalty.'
- CBS5.8 Hails and transmissions by Umpires**
- (a) When the umpires observe that a boat is approaching an *obstruction*, they may hail and transmit by radio: 'Blue' or 'Yellow' followed by 'Obstruction'. In

addition, they may communicate actions to avoid the *obstruction*. When this has been done, the umpires may hail the other boat as appropriate.

- (b) When the umpires observe that a boat is clearly sailing on a collision course with the other boat, they may hail and transmit by radio: 'Collision Course'.  
If the keep-clear boat fails to take any avoiding action and as a result there is contact with damage, she shall be penalized under rule CBS5.4.

## **CBS6 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS BY BOATS**

### **CBS6.1** A boat may protest another boat

- (a) under a rule of Part 2, except rule 14, by promptly hailing 'Protest' and clearly displaying flag Y immediately after an incident in which she was involved;
- (b) under any rule not listed in rule CBS6.1(a) or CBS6.2 by clearly displaying a red flag as soon as possible after the incident.

### **CBS6.2** A boat may not protest another boat under

- (a) rule 14, unless damage or injury results;
- (b) a rule of Part 2, unless she was involved in the incident;
- (c) rule 31 or 42; or
- (d) rule CBS4 or CBS7.

### **CBS6.3** A boat intending to request redress because of circumstances that arise before she *finishes* or retires shall clearly display a red flag as soon as possible after she becomes aware of those circumstances, but no later than two minutes after *finishing* or retiring.

- CBS6.4** (a) A boat protesting under rule C6.1(a) shall remove flag Y before or as soon as possible after the umpires' signal.
- (b) A boat protesting under rule C6.1(b) or requesting redress under rule C6.3 shall, for her *protest* or request to be valid, keep her red flag displayed until she has so informed the umpires after *finishing* or retiring. No written *protest* or request for redress is required.

### **CBS6.5** Umpire Decisions

- (a) After flag Y is displayed, the umpires shall decide whether to penalize any boat. They shall signal their decision in compliance with rule CBS5.1, CBS5.2 or CBS5.3. However, when the umpires penalize a boat under rule CBS8.2 and in the same incident there is a flag Y from a boat, the umpires may disregard the flag Y.
- (b) The red-flag penalty in rule CBS5.3 shall be used when a boat has gained a controlling position as a result of breaking a *rule*, but the umpires are not certain that the conditions for an additional umpire-initiated penalty have been fulfilled.

### **CBS6.6** Protest Committee Decisions

- (a) The protest committee may take evidence in any way it considers appropriate and may communicate its decision orally.
  - (b) If the protest committee decides that a breach of a rule has had no significant effect on the outcome of the match, it may
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- (1) impose a penalty of one point or part of one point;
  - (2) order a resail; or
  - (3) make another arrangement it decides is equitable, which may be to impose no penalty.
- (c) The penalty for breaking rule 14 when damage or injury results will be at the discretion of the protest committee, and may include exclusion from further races in the event.

**CBS6.7** Add new rule N1.10 to Appendix N:

N1.10 In rule N.1, one International Umpire may be appointed to the jury, or a panel of it, in place of one International Judge.

**CBS7 PENALTY SYSTEM**

**CBS7.1** Deleted Rule

Rule 44 is deleted.

**CBS7.2 All Penalties**

- (a) A penalized boat may delay taking a penalty within the limitations of rule CBS7.3 and shall take it as follows:
  - (1) When on a leg of the course to a windward *mark*, she shall gybe and, as soon as reasonably possible, luff to a close-hauled course.
  - (2) When on a leg of the course to a leeward *mark* or the finishing line, she shall tack and, as soon as reasonably possible, bear away to a course that is more than ninety degrees from the true wind.
- (b) Add to rule 2: 'When *racing*, a boat need not take a penalty unless signalled to do so by an umpire.'
- (c) A boat completes a leg of the course when her bow crosses the extension of the line from the previous *mark* through the *mark* she is rounding, or on the last leg when she *finishes*.
- (d) A penalized boat shall not be recorded as having *finished* until she takes her penalty and sails completely to the course side of the line and then *finishes*, unless the penalty is cancelled before or after she crosses the finishing line.
- (e) If a boat has one or two outstanding penalties and the other boat in her match is penalized, one penalty for each boat shall be cancelled except that a red-flag penalty shall not cancel or be cancelled by another penalty.
- (f) If a boat has more than two outstanding penalties, the umpires shall signal her disqualification under rule CBS5.4.

**CBS7.3 Penalty Limitations**

- (a) No part of a penalty may be taken inside the *zone* of a rounding *mark* that begins, bounds or ends the leg the boat is on.
  - (b) If a boat has one outstanding penalty, she may take the penalty any time after *starting* and before *finishing*. If a boat has two outstanding penalties, she shall take one of them as soon as reasonably possible, but not before *starting*.
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- (c) When the umpires display a red flag with or soon after a penalty flag, the penalized boat shall take a penalty as soon as reasonably possible, but not before *starting*.

#### **CBS7.4 Taking and Completing Penalties**

- (a) When a boat with an outstanding penalty is on a leg to a windward *mark* and gybes, or is on a leg to a leeward *mark* or the finishing line and passes head to wind, she is taking a penalty.
- (b) When a boat taking a penalty either does not take the penalty correctly or does not complete the penalty as soon as reasonably possible, she is no longer taking a penalty. The umpires shall signal this as required by rule CBS5.6.
- (c) The umpire boat for each match shall display blue or yellow flags or shapes, each flag or shape indicating one outstanding penalty. When a boat has taken a penalty, or a penalty has been cancelled, one flag or shape shall be removed, with the appropriate sound signal. Failure of the umpires to signal correctly shall not change the number of penalties outstanding.

### **CBS8 PENALTIES INITIATED BY UMPIRES**

#### **CBS8.1 Rule Changes**

- (a) Rules 60.2(a) and 60.3(a) do not apply to *rules* for which penalties may be imposed by umpires.
- (b) Rule 64.1(a) is changed so that the provision for exonerating a boat may be applied by the umpires without a hearing, and it takes precedence over any conflicting rule of this appendix.

**CBS8.2** When the umpires decide that a boat has broken rule 31, 42, CBS4, CBS7.3(c) or CBS7.3(d) she shall be penalized by signalling her under rule CBS5.2 or CBS5.3. However, if a boat is penalized for breaking a rule of Part 2 and if she in the same incident breaks rule 31, she shall not be penalized for breaking rule 31. Furthermore, a boat that displays an incorrect flag or does not display the correct flag or fails to emit her tack recognizing acoustic signal shall be warned orally and given an opportunity to correct the error before being penalized.

**CBS8.3** When the umpires decide that a boat has

- (a) gained an advantage by breaking a *rule* after allowing for a penalty,
  - (b) deliberately broken a *rule*, or
  - (c) committed a breach of sportsmanship,
- she shall be penalized under rule CBS5.2, CBS5.3 or CBS5.4.

**CBS8.4** If the umpires or protest committee members decide that a boat may have broken a *rule* other than those listed in rules CBS6.1(a) and CBS6.2, they shall so inform the protest committee for its action under rule 60.3 and rule CBS6.6 when appropriate.

**CBS8.5** When, after one boat has *started*, the umpires are satisfied that the other boat will not *start*, they may signal under rule CBS5.4 that the boat that did not *start* is disqualified and the match is terminated.

**CBS8.6** When the match umpires, together with at least one other umpire, decide that a boat has broken rule 14 and damage resulted, they may impose a points-penalty without a



hearing. The competitor shall be informed of the penalty as soon as practicable and, at the time of being so informed, may request a hearing. The protest committee shall then proceed under rule CBS6.6. Any penalty decided by the protest committee may be more than the penalty imposed by the umpires. When the umpires decide that a penalty greater than one point is appropriate, they shall act under rule CBS8.4.

## **CBS9 REQUESTS FOR REDRESS OR REOPENING; APPEALS; OTHER PROCEEDINGS**

**CBS9.1** There shall be no request for redress or an appeal from a decision made under rule CBS5, CBS6, CBS7 or CBS8. In rule 66 the third sentence is changed to: 'A *party* to the hearing may not ask for a reopening.'

**CBS9.2** A competitor may not base a request for redress on a claim that an action by an official boat was improper. The protest committee may decide to consider giving redress in such circumstances but only if it believes that an official boat, including an umpire boat, may have seriously interfered with a competing boat.

**CBS9.3** No proceedings of any kind may be taken in relation to any action or non-action by the umpires, except as permitted in rule CBS9.2.

## **CBS10 SCORING**

**CBS10.1** The winning competitor of each match scores one point (half a point each for a dead heat); the loser scores no points.

**CBS10.2** When a competitor withdraws from part of an event the scores of all completed races shall stand.

**CBS10.3** When a single round robin is terminated before completion, or a multiple round robin is terminated during the first round robin, a competitor's score shall be the average points scored per match sailed by the competitor. However, if any of the competitors have completed less than one third of the scheduled matches, the entire round robin shall be disregarded and, if necessary, the event declared void. For the purposes of tie-breaking in rule CBS11.1(a), a competitor's score shall be the average points scored per match between the tied competitors.

**CBS10.4** When a multiple round robin is terminated with an incomplete round robin, only one point shall be available for all the matches sailed between any two competitors, as follows:

<i>Number of matches completed between any two competitors</i>	<i>Points for each win</i>
1	One point
2	Half a point
3	A third of a point
(etc.)	

**CBS10.5** In a round-robin series,

- (a) competitors shall be placed in order of their total scores, highest score first;
- (b) a competitor who has won a match but is disqualified for breaking a *rule* against a competitor in another match shall lose the point for that match (but the losing competitor shall not be awarded the point); and

- (c) the overall position between competitors who have sailed in different groups shall be decided by the highest score.

**CBS10.6** In a knockout series the sailing instructions shall state the minimum number of points required to win a series between two competitors. When a knockout series is terminated it shall be decided in favour of the competitor with the higher score.

## **CBS11 TIES**

### **CBS11.1 Round-Robin Series**

*In a round-robin series competitors are assigned to one or more groups and scheduled to sail against all other competitors in their group one or more times. Each separate stage identified in the event format shall be a separate round-robin series irrespective of the number of times each competitor sails against each other competitor in that stage.*

Ties between two or more competitors in a round-robin series shall be broken by the following methods, in order, until all ties are broken. When one or more ties are only partially broken, rules CBS11.1(a) to CBS11.1(e) shall be reapplied to them. Ties shall be decided in favour of the competitor(s) who

- (a) placed in order, has the highest score in the matches between the tied competitors;
- (b) when the tie is between two competitors in a multiple round robin, has won the last match between the two competitors;
- (c) has the most points against the competitor placed highest in the round-robin series or, if necessary, second highest, and so on until the tie is broken. When two separate ties have to be resolved but the resolution of each depends upon resolving the other, the following principles shall be used in the rule CBS11.1(c) procedure:
  - (1) the higher-place tie shall be resolved before the lower- place tie, and
  - (2) all the competitors in the lower-place tie shall be treated as a single competitor for the purposes of rule CBS11.1(c);
- (d) after applying rule CBS10.5(c), has the highest place in the different groups, irrespective of the number of competitors in each group;
- (e) has the highest place in the most recent stage of the event (fleet race, round robin, etc.).

### **CBS11.2 Knockout Series**

Ties (including 0–0) between competitors in a knockout series shall be broken by the following methods, in order, until the tie is broken. The tie shall be decided in favour of the competitor who

- (a) has the highest place in the most recent round-robin series, applying rule CBS11.1 if necessary;
- (b) has won the most recent match in the event between the tied competitors.

### **CBS11.3 Remaining Ties**

When rule CBS11.1 or CBS11.2 does not resolve a tie,

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- (a) if the tie needs to be resolved for a later stage of the event (or another event for which the event is a direct qualifier), the tie shall be broken by a sail-off when practicable. When the race committee decides that a sail-off is not practicable, the tie shall be decided in favour of the competitor who has the highest score in the round-robin series after eliminating the score for the first race for each tied competitor or, should this fail to break the tie, the second race for each tied competitor and so on until the tie is broken. When a tie is partially resolved, the remaining tie shall be broken by reapplying rule CBS11.1 or CBS11.2.
- (b) to decide the winner of an event that is not a direct qualifier for another event, or the overall position between competitors eliminated in one round of a knockout series, a sail-off may be used (but not a draw).
- (c) when a tie is not broken any monetary prizes or ranking points for tied places shall be added together and divided equally among the tied competitors.

*Note: A Standard Notice of Race and Standard Sailing Instructions for vision-impaired match racing are available from World Sailing.*

*These rules are evolving. Organizing authorities are urged to use the most recent version. World Sailing Racing Rules Committee would appreciate suggestions for improving these rules.*

### Current Position

There is no official WS version of this appendix – however it is built on RRS Appendix C and has been updated according to rules changes and special needs for vision-impaired sailors.

### Reasons

1. Creating a WS document that may be used at all Match Racing for vision-impaired sailors.
  2. Have a document all can easily find and download.
  3. Provide consistency for this very special format of racing.
  4. Maintain a document that is as close to regular match racing rules (RRS Appendix C) as possible.
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