Racing Rules of Sailing

Rules A4.2 A5 and A11

A submission from the Chairman of the Race Officials Committee

Purpose or Objective

To provide correct scoring abbreviations for boats that (1) take a penalty by retiring during a race, or (2) are penalized when the sailing instructions provide for a penalty other than disqualification.

Proposal

A4.2 A boat that did not start, did not finish, retired or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series. A boat that is penalized under rule 30.2 or that takes a penalty under rule 44.3(a) shall be scored points as provided in rule 44.3(c).

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 shall be scored accordingly by the race committee without a hearing. Only the protest committee may take other scoring actions that worsen a boat’s score.

A11 SCORING ABBREVIATIONS

These scoring abbreviations shall be used for recording the circumstances described:

- **DNC**: Did not start; did not come to the starting area
- **DNS**: Did not start (other than DNC and OCS)
- **OCS**: Did not start; on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and failed to start, or broke rule 30.1
- **ZFP**: 20% penalty under rule 44.3(a)
- **BFD**: Disqualification under rule 30.2
- **SCP**: Took a Scoring Penalty under rule 44.3(a)
- **DNF**: Did not finish
- **RET**: Retired
- **RAF**: Retired after finishing
- **DSQ**: Disqualification
- **DPI**: Discretionary penalty imposed under the sailing instructions and rule 64.1
- **DNE**: Disqualification (other than DGM) not excludable under rule 90.3(b)
- **DGM**: Disqualification for gross misconduct not excludable under rule 90.3(b)
- **RDG**: Redress given
Current Position

As above.

Reasons

At present, there is no scoring abbreviation for a boat that takes a penalty by retiring during a race (rule 44.1(b)) or retires as required by Appendix P2.2 or P2.3. In these circumstances, the race committee either scores the boat RAF or DNF. RAF is incorrect, since the boat retired before finishing. DNF does not adequately describe the situation.

RET is the appropriate abbreviation to use for a boat that retires in these circumstances. There is no reason to maintain RAF, since RET covers any retirement, whether before or after finishing.

Rule 64.1 permits the sailing instructions to specify a penalty other than disqualification in some circumstances. There is no scoring abbreviation in A11 to describe such a penalty. DPI has gained near-universal acceptance. It is recommended, therefore, that this abbreviation be added to A11.