

Racing Rules of Sailing

Rules C6.5, C7.2(f), MR Call M11

A submission from the Chairman of Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To simplify signalling that a boat is disqualified.

Proposal 1

1. Amend C6.5 as follows:

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 C5.1, C5.2 or C5.3. However:
 - (1) if the umpires decide to penalize a boat, and as a result, that boat will have more than two outstanding penalties, the umpires shall signal her disqualification under rule C5.4, and**
 - (2) when the umpires penalize a boat under rule C8.2 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 C5.3 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.

2. Delete C7.2(f)

~~“If a boat has more than two outstanding penalties, the umpires shall signal her disqualification under rule C5.4.”~~

Current Position

As above

Reasons for Proposal 1

1. The current rules are in conflict with the recommended umpire flag setup in the Umpires and Match Racing Manual. This amendment will enable the simplified signalling of Black flag penalties when a boat gets the 3rd outstanding penalty.
 2. The current process of signalling a disqualification for a 3rd or more outstanding penalty is complex and in one process that many umpires get wrong in the IU test. Such a complex process is not needed as the message to competitors and spectators is clear... a black flag displayed with the applicable identification flag means the boat identified is disqualified.
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Proposal 2

If Proposal 1 is approved, add to MR Call M11 an additional question and answer 5

Question 5

The umpires decide a boat will be penalized and this penalty means that boat will have two or more outstanding penalties. How is this signalled?

Answer 5

The umpires will first remove any flag of the other boat, then raise the black flag with the coloured flag of the boat they have decided will be disqualified and make one long sound. There is no need to separately signal a penalty before the Black flag is signalled.

Current Position

No MR Call addresses the manner of signalling a Black flag penalty. The Umpires and Match Racing Manual covers this in J4.

Reasons 2

1. This call will describe the simplified disqualification signalling system.
 2. The end result is that to signal disqualification of a boat, simply display the black flag with the applicable coloured flag and make a sound signal.
 3. The standard umpire flag set will not need a 3rd Blue and Yellow flag.
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