Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 86.1(b)

A submission from the Royal Yachting Association

Purpose or Objective

To prevent the imposition of a penalty greater than disqualification in a single race except as specifically provided in the RRS.

Proposal

86.1  A racing rule shall not be changed unless permitted in the rule itself or as follows:

   a)  Prescriptions of a national authority may change a racing rule, but not the Definitions; the Basic Principles; a rule in the Introduction; Part 1, 2 or 7; rule 42, 43, 55, 63.4, 69, 70, 71, 75, 76.3, 79 or 80; a rule of an appendix that changes one of these rules; Appendix H or N; World Sailing Regulation 19, 20, 21, 22, 35 or 37.

   b)  The notice of race or sailing instructions may change a racing rule, but not rule 76.1 or 76.2, Appendix R, or a rule listed in rule 86.1(a). Also they may not permit a penalty greater than disqualification in a single race.

   c)  Class rules may change only racing rules 42, 43.1(c), 49, 50, 51, 52, 53 and 54.

Current Position

As above

Reasons

1.  The sailing instructions for some events have attempted to permit or require disqualification of a boat in more than a single race for a single breach of a rule. Disqualification in more than one race should be restricted to the most serious offences, specifically misconduct.

2.  Disqualification is assumed to include a single DSQ or DNE penalty (see rule A11), consistent with rule 64.1.

3.  This submission does not restrict the options of a protest committee under rule 69.2(h) as rule 69 is listed in rule 86.1(a).

4.  This submission does not change the multi-race penalties specified in rules 64.3(c) and (d).