Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule E1.4(b)

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To prohibit help from a safety boat when boats are entangled.

This submission proposes an alternative rule to the main Appendix E submission 201-11 and uses the rule numbering therein. If submission 201-11 is rejected, this submission is withdrawn.

Proposal

E1.4 (b) Rule 41 is changed to:

A boat shall not receive help from any outside source, except

(1) when her hull, rig or appendages are entangled with another boat, help from the other boat to get clear from the other boat or from a safety boat crew;

(2) help in the form of information freely available to all boats.

[no other changes]

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

If help from a safety boat is allowed this will often favour some boats and disadvantage others dependant solely on the proximity of the safety boat at the time. Radio controlled boats are relatively light and easily disturbed by the wash of a safety boat. Eliminating the urgency of re-establishing entangled boats back in a race would reduce the speed of safety boats and thus ensure less wash to impede boats still racing. It will be fairer to all competitors if help from a safety boat is not permitted.

This submission was prepared by the ISAF-IRSA Radio Sailing Rules Working Group.