Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule E1.4(c)

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To require turns penalties for a pre-start incident to be taken after the starting signal.

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 If submission 201-11 is rejected, this submission is withdrawn.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 (c) Rule 44 is changed so that

1) In rule 44.1 the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty. **However, a One-Turn Penalty shall not be taken before the starting signal.**

2) Rule 44.1(b) is changed to
   If the boat gained a significant advantage in the heat or race by her breach despite taking a penalty, her penalty shall be an additional One-Turn Penalty. If the boat caused serious damage or, as a result of breaking a rule of Part 2, she caused another boat to become disabled her penalty shall be to retire.

[no other changes]

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

Radio Sailing is typically conducted in boats that exhibit manoeuvrability significantly greater than full sized boats. As a result a penalty turn can be carried out in just a few seconds.

If a boat infringes during the pre-start it is usually possible to carry out the penalty without any real impact on starting strategy and therefore does not incur any effective penalty.

If the penalty cannot be carried out until after the starting signal it then acquires similar status to penalties incurred after starting.

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