Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule E3.9

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To replace an unreasonable and all-embracing requirement on the race committee with a rule that enables race organizers to provide, or encourage the provision of, appropriate facilities for disabled competitors.

Proposal

Delete rule E3.9 and replace with:

E3.9 Disabled Competitors

The race committee may make or permit reasonable arrangements to assist disabled competitors to compete on as equal terms as possible. A boat or the competitor controlling her that receives any such assistance, including help from a support person, does not break rule E4.2.

Current Position

E3.9 Disabled Competitors

To enable a disabled competitor to compete on equal terms, the race committee shall make as fair an arrangement as possible.

Reasons

1. Current rule E3.9 places an unreasonable burden on the host organisation, particularly with the statement that “the race committee shall make as fair an arrangement as possible.” This has resulted in some requests for redress despite the race committees using their best endeavours to provide facilities.

2. It is appropriate that radio sailing events provide facilities that are appropriate to the venue and to the level of the competition. However, all events cannot provide such facilities to all disabled competitors regardless of the level or type of disability.

3. This submission is believed to be entirely in accordance with the principles and requirements set out in the new World Sailing Ethics Code.