Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule E4.4

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Proposal

Delete rule E4.4 and replace with:

E4.4 Exoneration and Penalties for Breaking Rules of Part 2, Rules 30 and 31

(a) Throughout rule 44 the penalty shall be the One-Turn Penalty.

(b) Rule 44.1(b) is replaced with

If a boat gained a significant advantage in a heat by her breach, her penalty shall be an additional One-Turn penalty.

(c) The following is added to Rule 44.1

(c) When a boat breaks a rule and as a consequence compels another boat to break a rule, the other boat shall be exonerated.

(d) Rule 64.1(c) is deleted and replaced with

(c) When a boat has broken a rule and is exonerated for her breach under rule 18.5, 20.2 or 44.1, she shall not be penalized under rule 64.1(a) for that breach.

Current Position

Rule E4.4

Reason

1. The current rule 44.1(b) penalty of retirement is too great for most instances in radio sailing.

2. Current rule 64.1(c) only applies to protest committees. If one boat breaks a rule and in so doing forces another boat to break a rule, and then the first boat takes a penalty under rule 44, the boat that was compelled to break a rule must still take a penalty (see Sportsmanship and the Rules). This is contrary to normal practice and to all principles of fairness.

3. The Rule 64.1(c) still needs to direct protest committees not to apply penalties when the boat has already been exonerated for her breach.