Racing Rules of Sailing

New Case

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To provide clarification that a boat who is disqualified for a race or remaining races should not be allowed to sail in that race or remaining races as she can no longer improve her position in the affected race or improve her overall position in the remaining races

Proposal 1

CASE XXX

Basic Principle, Sportsmanship and the Rules
Rule 2, Fair Sailing
Rule 76, Exclusion of boats or competitors
Rule P2.1 Penalties: Third and Subsequent Penalties

If a boat who has been pre-disqualified or who knows that she would be disqualified participates in the race or races affected, she commits a breach of the Basic Principles of sportsmanship and Rule 2. A boat whose entry to a race is rejected for good reason is not under jurisdiction of the event and therefore not under the Racing Rules of Sailing.

Facts

Situation 1: Boat A is disqualified for not retiring under P2.3

Situation 2: Prior to a Race, Boat A is DSQ from that Race she was supposed to sail

Situation 3: Boat A entered a regatta but did not comply with the class rule and is not able to comply for approval to race.

Situation 4: Boat A came to the event, but her entry was rejected for a good reason.

In all situations above Boat A participates in the race/s as a non-eligible entry or knowingly having been pre-scored or should be scored DSQ, DNE or another penalty.

Question 1

Does a boat break any rule if she participates in the race in which she is not eligible or already scored or should be scored DSQ, DNE or another penalty?
Answer 1

In situations 1 and 2, Boat A did not comply with the Basic Principle.

The main purpose of racing under RRS is to benefit her result in the race with respect to other boats racing. In situations 1 and 2, as she can no longer improve her position in the affected race or remaining races, interfering with another boat’s progress in the race is unsportsmanlike and a breach of Rule 2.

For situation 3, if a boat knows that she does not comply with the rules and her penalty for breaking this rule is a disqualification, she also cannot improve her position in the affected race. By participating in the race and thereby interfering with other boats she commits a breach of Rule 2.

For the situations above, the Protest Committee also may consider calling a hearing under rule 69.2.

If the penalty for breach of class rule is SP or DP, she may sail in the race as she has chance to improve her score from DNC/DNS to any SCP or DPI less than a disqualification.

In Situation 4, a boat whose entry is rejected is not under jurisdiction of the event and therefore not under the Racing Rules of Sailing but may be subject to government rules or COLREGS. If she sails in the race and is found interfering, the OA can and may report the boat to the MNA or government authorities for further action.

Question 2

If Boat A retires after finishing, does it affect the situation above?

Answer 2

No. For situation 1 and 2, Boat A breaks rule 2. For situation 3, if the penalty is DSQ, Boat A also breaks rule 2.

Retirement after a race is not an applicable penalty for breaking rule 2.

For the situation 4, RRS does not apply to Boat A.

Proposal 2

CASE XXX

Basic Principle, Sportmanship and the Rules
Rule 2, Fair Sailing
Rule 76, Exclusion of boats or competitors
Rule P2.1 Penalties: Third and Subsequent Penalties

If a boat who has been pre-disqualified or who knows that she would be disqualified participates in the race or races affected, she commits a breach of the Basic Principles of sportsmanship and Rule 2. A boat whose entry to a race is rejected for good reason is not under jurisdiction of the event and therefore not under the Racing Rules of Sailing
Facts

Situation 1: Boat A is disqualified for not retiring under P2.3

Situation 2: Prior to a Race, boat A is DSQ from that Race she was supposed to sail

Situation 3: Boat A entered a regatta but did not comply with the class rule and is not able to comply for approval to race. The penalty for the breaking those class rules should be DSQ.

Situation 4: Boat A came to the event, but her entry was rejected for a good reason.

In all situations above, Boat A participates in the race/s as a non-eligible entry or knowingly having been pre-scored or should be scored DSQ, DNE or another penalty.

Question 1

Does a boat break any rule if she participates in the race in which she is not eligible or already scored or should be scored DSQ, DNE or another penalty?

Answer 1

In situations 1 and 2, Boat A did not comply with the Basic Principle. In situations 1 and 2, for the purpose of rule 64.1 and P2.3 “disqualification” means that boat is banned from the race and her score will be calculated according A4.2 and abbreviated DSQ or DNE. If a boat is disqualified before the race, she is not allowed to sail in that race, because she is banned from the race by disqualification. For situation 3, If boat knows that she does not comply with the rules and the penalty for breaking this rule is a disqualification, by taking part in the race she knowingly breaks the rule. Basic Principle “Sportsmanship and the Rules” states that “Competitors in the sport of sailing are governed by the body of rules that they are expected to follow and enforce”. By taking part in the race from which she was banned or she should be disqualified, Boat A did not comply with the Basic Principle and broke rule 2. Additionally, as she can no longer improve her position in the affected race or improve her overall position in the remaining races, interfering with another boat’s progress in the race is unsportsmanlike and a breach of Rule 2.

The Protest Committee also may consider calling a hearing under rule 69.2.

If the penalty for breach of class rule is SP or DP, she may sail in the race as she has chance to improve her score from DNC/DNS to any SCP or DPI less than a disqualification.

In Situation 4, a boat whose entry is rejected is not under jurisdiction of the event and therefore not under the Racing Rules of Sailing but may be subject to government rules or COLREGS. If she sails in the race and is found interfering, the OA can and may report the boat to the MNA or government authorities for further action.

Question 2

If Boat A retires after finishing, does it affect the situation above?

Answer 2
No. For situation 1 and 2, Boat A breaks rule 2. For situation 3 if the penalty is DSQ, Boat A also breaks rule 2.

Retirement after a race is not an applicable penalty for breaking rule 2.

For the situation 4, RRS does not apply to Boat A.

Current Position

The case is new

Reasons

1. To address the situation as to whether boats not eligible to enter or having been pre-disqualified or would be disqualified can take part in the affected race or races. There is no rule that explicitly answers this situation or applicable rule that she breaks in doing so.

2. **Reason for option 1:** Proposal is based on ground that if a boat cannot improve her result in the race any action with other boat would considered as interfering this other boats and breaking rule 2.

3. **Reason for option 2:** Proposal is based on the ground that by pre-disqualification a boat is not allowed to sail in that race as disqualification means prohibition to participate in that race.

4. No current case discusses this issue