Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule P1

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose

To require that a member of the protest committee or its designated observer acting under rule P1 not be an interested party.

Proposal

1. Change rule P1 as follows:

P1 OBSERVERS AND PROCEDURE SIGNALLING A PENALTY

P1.1 The protest committee may appoint observers, including protest committee members, to act in accordance with rule P1.2. An observer shall not be an interested party.

P1.2 An observer appointed under rule P1.1 A member of the protest committee or its designated observer who sees a boat breaking rule 42 may penalize her by, as soon as reasonably possible, making a sound signal, pointing a yellow flag at her and hailing her sail number, even if she is no longer racing. A boat so penalized shall not be penalized a second time under rule 42 for the same incident.

2. In rules P2.1, P3 and P4, change ‘rule P1’ to ‘rule P1.2’.

Current Position

As above.

Reason

Under the current rules of Appendix P, there is no restriction on who may act under rule P1. Obviously, such a person, who has the authority to penalize boats without a hearing, should not be an interested party.

If the definition Interested Party is replaced by a definition of Conflict of Interest, then the proposed rule should be changed by replacing ‘an interested party’ with ‘a person who has a conflict of interest’.