
From The Jury Desk – The CYA Judges Newsletter

Notice 10 – March 2006

Protest Committee Member – Race Committee Member – or Both?

We often see on a resume, race committee and protest committee participation for the same event. There is a biblical story about serving two masters and how, if attempted, we are unlikely do justice to either. The racing rules clearly anticipated the likelihood of this occurring and put some rules in place.

The Racing Rules of Sailing, Part 7 provides rules for the appointment of race officials at regattas and places the responsibility clearly on the shoulders of the organizing authority.

88.2(b) The organizing authority shall appoint a race committee, and when appropriate, appoint a protest committee and umpires. However, the race committee, an international jury and umpires may be appointed by the ISAF as provided in the ISAF regulations.

90 A protest committee shall be

- (a) a committee appointed by the organizing authority or race committee, or
- (b) an international jury appointed by the organizing authority or as prescribed in the ISAF regulations and meeting the requirements of Appendix N....

These rules delineate the race committee and protest committee as two separate committees within the race organization. Their functions at the regatta are defined within the Racing Rules of Sailing and the activities of both are defined and restricted.

Rule 63.4 provides a restriction on the function of members of protest committees:

“A member of a protest committee who is an *interested party* shall not take any further part in the hearing, but may appear as a witness.”

An *interested party* is defined as “A person who may gain or lose as a result of a protest committee’s decision, or who has a close personal interest in the decision. “ (Definition, *Interested Party*).

Therefore, a member of the race committee could not participate in a hearing as a member of a protest committee for any request for redress that alleges an improper action or omission of the race committee under rule 62.1(a), whether initiated by a competitor or the protest committee.

And quite apart from the rules, most of the learning that occurs at a regatta is done in discussions between protest committee members, outside of the hearing room. If you are not ‘part of the tour’ much of that opportunity will be lost.

Information Search

The following resources for judges are quite useful:

The Racing Rules of Sailing 2005-2008 available at:

http://www.sailing.org/default.asp?MenuID=0,~0GX28zoMoD~`RtK/DVn19FR9_uJPH/_QB_8BUZWiKuHlPrzSjUP

CYA Appeals available at http://www.sailing.ca/competitive/content/CYA_Appeals_2005_08.pdf

ISAF Cases available at <http://www.sailing.org/rrs2005/casebook2005.pdf>

ISAF International Judges Manual is another great resource for judges

<http://www.sailing.org/default.asp?ID=d.9FhyBC&MenuID=o6qwGXkszMRst0z/uCxVx5R7a3?SMekLESPF?LTVgFsFMolxKqXq>

FORMS FOR JUDGES TO USE AT REGATTAS enable judges to post notices to competitors and complete their communication with the Race Committee

http://www.ontariosailing.ca/Racing/Race_Officials/RA_Judges/Protest_Committee_Forms.php

US Sailing forms and documents for Judges are also quite useful. <http://www.ussailing.org/judges/links.htm>

Royal Yachting Association Newsletter for Judges and Umpires provides an international perspective on judging and umpiring. Go to <http://www.rya.org.uk/Racing/Officials/> and click on the most recent addition of the JUG newsletter.

Provincial Guide for Provincial Events

Editor's Note: Ontario Sailing has set the following as the minimum composition of a protest committee for an OSA Event. It has been reprinted here to inform the judges located in Ontario of this policy. If your PSA does not have something similar, it may serve as a starting point should you wish to pursue it.

The Organizing Authority is responsible for establishing the Race Committee and the Protest Committee to run an Ontario Sailing titled event.

The organizing authority shall appoint a protest committee of three to five members. The protest committee shall be independent of the race committee, with no member of the protest committee serving on the race committee.

The minimum certification for each judge should be:

	5-person committee	3-person committee
Chairman	National Judge	National Judge
Members	2 Provincial Judges 1 Club Judge 1 judge seeking experience	1 Provincial Judge 1 Club Judge
If Appendix P is to be enforced 2 judge boats per course is recommended	1 additional judge At least 3 of the 6 members of the protest committee should be experienced in judging Rule 42	1 additional judge At least 2 of the 4 members of the protest committee should be experienced in judging Rule 42

The Chairman and protest committee members should be appointed well in advance of the event.

A training seminar may be tied to the event, with the senior judges as seminar leaders.

Judges from out of town shall be reimbursed for their travel expenses and provided with room and board either through commercial establishments or billets. These expenses are normally covered by the Organizing Authority through the regatta budget. Ontario Sailing will ensure that the Organizing Authority does so, or will cover the costs itself.

Ontario Sailing Judges Certification Committee
November 6, 2005

CYA “New & Improved” Website

The Canadian Yachting Association has launched their new look website. As before the website is available in both English and French language versions, and includes all the latest news from the Canadian Yachting Association, as well as information on Education and Training, the Canada Sailing Team, Clubs and Associations amongst others. -- <http://www.sailing.ca/>

Editor’s note: The site is much easier to navigate. There some sections that must still be updated via the Officials Committee, as the title and content do not exactly match. If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the content under Officials and in particular for judges, you may send them to me by replying to this e-mail.

Rules CD

Editor’s note: The Judges Committee is not endorsing this product. We are only letting you know that it is there. You are free to visit the UK-Halsey’s website and make you own decision.

TIME TO UPDATE YOUR RULES QUIZ FILE

If you've got UK-Halsey's Real Time Racing Rules CD, now you can update your files for free, including Rules Quiz #20 and the latest appeals. And if you haven't gotten the CD yet, now is a perfect time to prepare before the heat of spring's battles. No pig in a poke here: you can go on-line and try these informative, animated situations for free, and then decide whether to spend \$45 for the CD (which has the rules book's full text, USSA Appeals, ISAF Cases, and more). Get the details on-line at <http://www.ukhalsey.com>

Question from Notice 9

Situation

At the start of a race, the race committee displays flag Z as the preparatory signal. At the starting signal, a large number of boats are on the course side of the line and there is a general recall. Boat A is identified as breaking rule 30.2.

For the next start, the race committee again displays flag Z at the preparatory signal. Boat A is once again identified as breaking rule 30.2, but she returns to the pre-start side of the line before the starting signal. The race is started without an 'individual' or 'general' recall. Boat A finishes the race.

Question

Should Boat A receive a 20% penalty or a 40% penalty?

Answer

Rule 29.2 provides for a 'new start' after a general recall and rule 36 requires a boat to carry a penalty under rule 30.2 in a restarted race. Therefore, a breach of rule 30.2 in a 'new' starting sequence is a separate incident and each incident results in a penalty.

Using rule 44.3(c), Boat A would receive a penalty score equal to two 20% penalties, but not worse than Did Not Finish.

As one person wrote: "I'm not sure if this was a trick question but, the number of positions for two RRS 44.3(c) 20% penalties is not always the same as a single 40% penalty." It was not a trick question but the point is correct.

The race committee or scorer should be aware that the manual entry of 40% in some scoring programs may not result in a penalty equal to two 20% penalties. Depending on the number of entries, a 40% penalty, calculated in accordance with rule 44.3(c), may result in an odd number. The sum of two equal 20% penalties is always an even number

Question

In a small dinghy regatta, boat A and B were very close in points, leading the regatta. With only one throw out allowed in the regatta, Boat A was currently discarding an OCS while boat B was discarding a 6th place finish. If boat A were to have a 'bad' race, boat B would be sure to win the regatta as the point gap between 2nd and 3rd was quite substantial.

With a 'black flag' flying on the RC vessel at the start of race 6 of a seven race series in a 65 boat fleet, boat B was several boat lengths over the start line at the start. Boat B sailed down the line until she was on top of boat A. Boat B sailed in boat A's air, forcing A well into a mid-fleet position by the weather mark. Boat B retired at the weather mark. Boat A eventually sailed to a 28th position. Boat A filed a protest.

You are the protest committee. Would A be successful in her protest and if so, under what rule?

From the Jury Desk is posted on the CYA Website. Previous issues can be found at <http://www.sailing.ca/services/individuals/raceofficials.shtml>
