

WORLD SAILING TEST RULES

DR21 02 – TEST RULE FOR UMPIRED RADIO SAILING

This test rule applies only when the sailing instructions so state for races sailed under the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) including Appendix E, and when umpires are appointed in accordance with RRS 89.2(c). No part of the text is to be changed.

When this test rule applies, the Call Book for Radio Sailing also applies.

For fleets of between 15 to 20 boats it is recommended that 4 umpires are appointed. This number may be varied for larger or smaller fleets.

In order to continue the development of this test rule, a report on its use must be sent to World Sailing promptly after each event to rules@sailing.org.

*This rule has been authorised by World Sailing in accordance with regulation 20.3.(d)(ii).
Version 2025-01*

URS.1 CHANGES TO RACING RULES OF SAILING (RRS)

URS 1.1 Changes to RRS involving hails, observers and umpires:

- (a) In RRS E5.1(b), change "Observers" to "Observers and umpires".
- (b) In RRS E5.1(c), change "observers" to "observers and umpires", and "race committee" to "protest committee".

URS.2 UMPIRES AND OBSERVERS

URS 2.1 Each umpire shall work in partnership with an observer appointed by the race committee under RRS E5.1(a). Observers and umpires shall hail contacts as required by RRS E5.1(b).

URS 2.2 An umpire's decision may be based on information provided by an observer.

Note: See also Radio Sailing Call O1.

URS.3 TAKING A PENALTY

URS 3.1 When a boat may have broken one or more rules of Part 2, or RRS 31 or 42, she may take a penalty in accordance with RRS E4.3 as follows:

- (a) by promptly taking a penalty; or
- (b) by clearly indicating that she will take a penalty and then taking that penalty at the first reasonable opportunity; or
- (c) by retiring.

URS 3.2 A boat penalized by an umpire shall promptly take a Two-Turns Penalty, unless the umpire signals a different penalty permitted by URS 5.2.

URS 3.3 When a boat clearly indicates that she will take a penalty under RRS E4.3, she shall take that penalty.

URS.4 PROTESTS BY BOATS; HAILS OF CONTACT; UMPIRE DECISIONS

- URS 4.1 A protest under RRS E6, for a breach of a rule of Part 2 (except RRS 14) or RRS 31 or 42 may be decided by an umpire without a hearing.
- URS 4.2 A hail of contact by an observer or umpire under RRS E5.1(b) may be resolved by an umpire without a hearing.
- URS 4.3 After a hail of protest or contact, if no boat takes a penalty the umpire shall decide whether to penalize any boat and shall hail a decision in compliance with URS 6.

URS.5 PENALTIES INITIATED BY UMPIRES

- URS 5.1 An umpire may penalize a boat in accordance with URS 5.2, without a protest by another boat, when the boat:
- (a) breaks rule 42,
 - (b) despite taking a penalty under URS 3.1 or 3.2, has gained an advantage in the heat and has not promptly taken additional penalty turns under RRS E4.3(b);
 - (c) fails to take a penalty when required by an umpire;
 - (d) breaks rule URS 3.3;
 - (e) fails to retire when this is the appropriate penalty under RRS E4.3(c);
 - (f) deliberately breaks a rule;
 - (g) commits a breach of sportsmanship. URS.5.2 The umpire may:
 - (a) impose one or more One-Turn Penalties to be taken in accordance with RRS 44.2, each signaled in accordance with URS 6.1(b); or
 - (b) disqualify her by hailing “(boat sail number) disqualified” with brief reasons for the disqualification; or
 - (c) report the incident to the protest committee for further action.

If a boat is penalized under URS 5.1(b) the umpire shall hail additional penalty turns until her advantage is lost.

If a boat is penalised under URS 5.1(c) or (d) for not taking a penalty or taking a penalty incorrectly, the original penalty is cancelled.

- URS 5.3 A boat disqualified by an umpire shall immediately leave the racing area.
- URS 5.4 If an umpire decides that a boat may have broken a rule other those listed in URS 4.1, or may be entitled to redress, the umpire shall so inform the protest committee who may protest under RRS 60.1 or request redress under RRS 61.1(c). The umpire shall notify this intention to the competitor and to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity, but not before the end of a heat in which the umpire is officiating.

URS.6 SIGNALS BY UMPIRES

URS 6.1 An umpire may hail a decision as follows:

- (a) "No penalty".
- (b) "Penalty (boat(s) sail number(s))". If an umpire is unable to identify a boat's sail number, the boat will be identified by a clear description and, as soon as possible, by sail number.

URS 6.2 An umpire who is unable to make a decision may indicate that there is no decision and as a consequence the incident is unresolved.

URS 6.3 Brief reasons for a hail may be given quoting the other boat(s) involved.

When multiple incidents are being considered simultaneously, the umpires may clearly indicate which incident they are referring to.

URS.7 UNRESOLVED INCIDENTS

URS 7.1 Following a protest under URS 4.1 a boat is entitled to a hearing only if:

- (a) it is alleged that RRS 14 was broken and damage resulted from contact; or
- (b) no umpire hails a decision.

URS 7.2 If no umpire hails a decision following a hail of contact, the observer or umpire who made the hail shall report the unresolved incident to the protest committee, who may initiate a hearing by protesting all boats involved in the incident.

URS 7.3 Unless otherwise specified in the sailing instructions, protests and requests for redress need not be in writing. The protest committee may take evidence in any way it considers appropriate and may communicate its decision orally.

URS.8 REQUESTS FOR REDRESS, APPEALS, OTHER PROCEEDINGS

URS 8.1 A decision, action or non-action of an umpire or an observer shall not be grounds for redress or subject to an appeal under RRS 70.