

APPENDIX UF - UMPIRED FLEET RACING

Couta Boat Association 2023-24 Season Edition V5

Version: [21st December 2023]

Umpired fleet races shall be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing as changed by this appendix. Races shall be umpired. The rule changes in UF1 have been approved by World Sailing under Regulation 28.1.5(b) on the condition that only the provided options are used. This appendix applies only when it is referred to in the Notice of Race and made available for all competitors.

UF1 CHANGES TO THE DEFINITIONS, THE RULES OF PART 1 AND 2, AND RULE 70

UF1.1 Add to the definition *Proper Course*: 'A boat taking a penalty or manoeuvring to take a penalty is not sailing a *proper course*.'

UF1.2 Add new rule 7 to Part 1:

7 LAST POINT OF CERTAINTY

The umpires will assume that the state of a boat, or her relationship to another boat, has not changed, until they are certain that it has changed.'

UF1.3 Blank

UF1.4 When rule 20 applies, the following arm signals are required in addition to the hails:

- (a) for *room* to tack, repeatedly and clearly pointing to windward; and
- (b) for 'You tack', repeatedly and clearly pointing at the other boat and waving the arm to windward.

UF1.5 Rule 70 is deleted.

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UF3 ON WATER PROTESTS AND PENALTIES

UF3.1 In this appendix, 'a penalty' means will mean the following:

- (a) Rules 44.1 and 44.2 are changed so that only a part-turn penalty is required.
- (b) On a leg to a windward mark, a part-turn is a gybe and luffing to a close-hauled course as soon as reasonably possible.
- (c) On other legs a part-turn is a tack and bearing away as soon as reasonably possible to more than 90 degrees from the true wind.
- (d) Penalties for incidents on a hitch leg or in a zone shall be delayed until a boat has left the hitch leg and/or zone(s).

UF3.2 The first sentence of rule 44.1 is changed to: 'A boat may take a penalty when, in an incident while *racing*, she may have broken one or more of the *rules* of Part 2 (except rule 14 when she has caused damage or injury), rule 31 or rule 42. However, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 and rule 31 in the same incident, she need not take the penalty for breaking rule 31'

UF3.3 On the Water Protests by Boats and Penalties

- (a) While racing, a boat may protest another boat under a rule of Part 2 (except rule 14) or under rule 31 or rule 42; however, a boat may only protest under a rule of Part 2 for an incident in which she was involved. To do so she shall hail 'Protest' and conspicuously display a red flag at the first reasonable opportunity for each. She shall remove the flag before, or at the first reasonable opportunity after a boat involved in the incident has taken a penalty voluntarily or after an umpire's decision.
- (b) A boat that protests as provided in rule UF3.3(a) is not entitled to a hearing, unless an umpire signals in accordance with UF3.5(d). Instead, a boat involved in the incident may acknowledge breaking a rule by voluntarily taking a penalty. An umpire may penalize any boat that broke a rule and was not exonerated, unless the boat took a penalty voluntarily.

UF3.4 Penalties and Protests Initiated by an Umpire

- (a) When a boat
 - (1) breaks rule 31 and does not take a penalty,
 - (2) breaks rule 42,
 - (3) gains an advantage despite taking a penalty,
 - (4) commits a breach of sportsmanship, or
 - (5) fails to comply with rule UF3.6 or to take a penalty when required to do so by an umpire,an umpire may penalize her without a protest by another boat. The umpire may impose a penalty or more, each signalled in accordance with rule UF3.5(b), or disqualify her under rule UF3.5(c), or report the incident to the protest committee for further action. If a boat is penalized under rule UF3.4(a)(5) for not taking a penalty or taking a penalty incorrectly, the original penalty is cancelled,
- (b) An umpire who decides, based on their own observation or a report received from any source, that a boat may have broken a rule, other than rule UF3.6 or rule 28 or a rule listed in rule UF3.3(a), may inform the protest committee for its action under rule 60.3. However, they will not inform the protest committee of an alleged breach of rule 14 unless there is damage or injury.

UF3.5 Umpire Signals

An umpire will signal a decision as follows:

- (a) A green and white flag with one long sound means 'No penalty.'
- (b) A red flag with one long sound means 'a penalty is imposed or remains outstanding.' The umpire will hail or signal to identify each such boat.
- (c) A black flag with one long sound means 'A boat is disqualified.' The umpire will hail or signal to identify the boat disqualified.
- (d) A CBA flag with one long sound **or no signal** means 'The umpires do not have the facts required to make a decision.'

UF3.6 Imposed Penalties

- (a) A boat penalized under rule UF3.5(b) shall take a penalty.
- (b) A boat disqualified under rule UF3.5(c) shall promptly leave the course area.

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UF5 PROTESTS; REQUESTS FOR REDRESS OR REOPENING; APPEALS; OTHER PROCEEDINGS

UF5.1 No proceedings of any kind may be taken in relation to any action or non-action by an umpire.

UF5.2 A boat is only entitled to a hearing when the umpires have signalled in accordance with UF3.5(d) or under UF5.3.

UF5.3 A boat intending to

- (a) protest another boat under a rule other than rule UF3.6 or rule 28, or a rule listed in rule UF3.3(a),
- (b) protest another boat under rule 14 if there was contact that caused damage or injury, or
- (c) request redress

shall inform the race committee in the following way:

hail or communicate with the race committee via the VHF or mobile phone call **within the protest time limit**.

UF5.4 The time limit defined in rule UF5.3 also applies to protests under rule UF5.10, when such protests are permitted. The protest committee shall extend the time limit if there is good reason to do so.

UF5.5 The race committee will promptly inform the protest committee about any protests or requests for redress made under rule UF5.3.

UF5.6 The third sentence of rule 61.1(a) and all of rule 61.1(a)(2) are deleted.

UF5.7 The first three sentences of rule 64.2 are changed to: 'When the protest committee decides that a boat that is a *party* to a protest hearing has broken a rule, it may impose penalties other than disqualification, and may make any other scoring arrangement it decides is equitable. If a boat has broken a *rule* when not *racing*, the protest committee shall decide whether to apply any penalty to the race sailed nearest in time to that of the incident or make some other arrangement.'

UF5.8 Hearings

Except for a hearing under rule 69.2

- (a) Protests and requests for redress need not be in writing.
- (b) The protest committee may inform the protestee and schedule the hearing in any way it considers appropriate and may communicate this orally.
- (c) The protest committee may take evidence and conduct the hearing in any way it considers appropriate and may communicate its decision orally.
- (d) If the protest committee decides that a breach of a rule has had no effect on the outcome of the race, it may impose a scoring penalty of points or fraction of points or make any other arrangement it decides is fair, which may be to impose no penalty.
- (e) If the protest committee penalizes a boat in accordance with rule UF5.7 or if a standard penalty is applied, all other boats will be informed about the change of the penalized boat's score.

UF5.9 Blank

UF5.10 The protest committee may protest a boat under rule 60.3. However, it will not protest a boat for breaking rule UF3.6, a rule listed in rule UF3.3(a), or rule 14 unless there is damage or injury.

UF5.11 Blank

UF5.12 Rule 66.2 is changed to 'A *party* to the hearing under this appendix may not request a reopening.'