

Racing Rules

Appendix MR (Previous Addendum Q)

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To update Appendix MR after some issues observed in previous major events.

Proposal

~~ADDENDUM Q~~ **APPENDIX MR** UMPIRED MEDAL RACING

Version ~~8 March 2021~~ **2022-01**

This ~~addendum~~ **appendix** may be used at international events for umpired medal racing in the last race(s) of each series for the Olympic classes. For other classes at international events this ~~addendum~~ **appendix** may be used with the approval of World Sailing under rule 86.2.

The appendix may also be used **for umpired medal racing** at national events with approval under rule 86.3 if the national authority prescribes that rule changes are allowed for the purpose of development and testing. The national authority may prescribe that such changes require its approval. ~~This addendum is to be used for umpired medal racing. For other umpired fleet racing, Appendix UF shall be used.~~

Umpired fleet racing, other than medal racing, shall not use Appendix MR but may use Appendix UF instead.

No changes to this ~~addendum~~ **appendix** are permitted unless specifically permitted by World Sailing.

Races may be sailed under the rules in this ~~addendum~~ **appendix** only if the notice of race so states, with reference to the relevant version, and that version is posted on the official notice board. If the use of the appendix is approved for a specific event under rule 86.2 or 86.3, this approval must also be posted on the official notice board.

This ~~addendum~~ **appendix** applies to all medal races and all pre-race or post-race activities related to them.

MR1 CHANGES TO RACING RULES

MR1.1 Changes to the Definitions, ~~and~~ the Rules of Part 1 and 2 and Appendix A

- (a) Add to the definition *Proper Course*: ‘A boat taking a penalty or manoeuvring to take a penalty is not sailing a *proper course*.’
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(b) 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.

- (c) When rule 20 applies, the following arm signals are required in addition to the hails:
- (1) for *room* to tack, repeatedly and clearly pointing to windward; and
 - (2) for 'You tack', repeatedly and clearly pointing at the other boat and waving the arm to windward.

Rule MR1.1(c) does not apply to boards, kiteboards or boats in a class so specified in the sailing instructions.

(d) A boat that does not start within 2 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

MR1.2 Changes to Rules Involving Protests, Requests for Redress, Penalties and Exoneration

- (a) Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.
- (b) Rule 60.1 is replaced with 'A boat may protest another boat or request redress provided she complies with rules MR2.1 or MR2.4.'
- (c) Rule B5 and F5 are deleted **[Changes to the Rules of Part 5 for Windsurfers and Kites]**.
- (d) Rules 62.1(a), (b) and (d) are deleted. In a race where this ~~addendum~~ **appendix** applies, there shall be no scoring adjustments for redress given under any of these rules for a previous race.
- (e) The three sentences of rule 64.2 are replaced with: '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.'
- (f) ~~Rules P1 to P4 shall not apply.~~ **In Appendix P [Special Procedures for Rule 42], rule P5 applies, but rules P1, P2, P3 and P4 are deleted.**

MR2 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS BY BOATS

- MR2.1** While *racing*, a boat may protest another boat under a rule of Part 2 (except rule 14) or under rule 31 or 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. However, a board, kiteboard or a boat in a class so specified in the sailing instructions need not display a red flag. This changes rule 60.1 and 61.1.

MR2.2 A boat that protests as provided in rule MR2.1 is not entitled to a hearing. Instead, a boat involved in the incident may acknowledge breaking a rule by taking a One-Turn Penalty in accordance with rule 44.2. An umpire may penalize any boat that broke a rule and was not exonerated, unless the boat took a voluntary penalty. This changes RRS 63.1.

MR2.3 At the finishing line, the race committee will inform the competitors about each boat's finishing place or scoring abbreviation. After this has been done, the race committee will promptly display flag B with one sound. Flag B will be displayed for at least two minutes and then removed with one sound. If the race committee changes the scoring information provided at the finishing line while flag B is displayed, it will display flag L with one sound. Flag B will continue to be displayed for at least two minutes after any changes are made.

MR2.4 A boat intending to

- (a) protest another boat under a rule other than rule MR3.2 or rule 28 [Sailing the Race], or a rule listed in rule MR2.1,
- (b) protest another boat under rule 14 if there was contact that caused damage or injury, or
- (c) request redress

shall hail the race committee before or during the display of flag B. The same time limit applies to *protests* under rule MR5.5 [Protests by the Protest Committee]. The protest committee shall extend the time limit if there is good reason to do so. This changes rule 61.1 and 61.3.

MR2.5 The race committee will promptly inform the protest committee about any *protests* or requests for redress made under rule MR2.4.

MR3 UMPIRE SIGNALS AND IMPOSED PENALTIES

~~**Q3.1** 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.~~

MR3.1 Signals by an Umpire

An umpire shall signal a decision with one long sound and the display of a flag as follows:

- (a) For no penalty, a green and white flag.**
- (b) To penalize one or more boats, a red flag. The umpire shall hail or signal to identify each boat penalized.**
- (c) To disqualify one or more boats, a black flag. The umpire shall hail or signal to identify each boat disqualified.**

MR3.2 Taking a Penalty

- (a) A boat penalized under rule MR3.1(b) shall take a One-Turn Penalty in accordance with rule 44.2.
- (b) A boat disqualified under rule MR3.1(c) shall promptly leave the course area.

MR3.3 Identification of Boats scored OCS, UFD or BFD

- (a) An umpire displaying flag X with one long sound means 'A boat has been scored OCS, UFD or BFD by the race committee'. The umpire will hail or signal to identify each such boat. The identified boat shall promptly leave the course area. This signal may be given any time after 2 minutes after the starting signal.
- (b) The sailing instructions of an event may replace flag X with another flag provided it is not a flag in *Race Signals* or a flag listed in rule MR3.1

MR4 PENALTIES AND PROTESTS INITIATED BY AN UMPIRE; ROUNDING OR PASSING MARKS**MR4.1** When a boat

- (a) breaks rule 31 and does not take a penalty,
- (b) breaks rule 42,
- (c) gains an advantage despite taking a penalty,
- (d) deliberately breaks a rule,
- (e) commits a breach of sportsmanship, or
- (f) fails to comply with rule MR3.2 or MR3.3 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 one or more One-Turn Penalties to be taken in accordance with rule 44.2, each signalled in accordance with rule MR3.1(b), or disqualify her under rule MR3.1(c), or report the incident to the protest committee for further action. If a boat is penalized under rule MR4.1(f) for not taking a penalty or taking a penalty incorrectly, the original penalty is cancelled.

MR4.2 Rule 28.2 is changed to 'A boat may correct any errors to comply with this rule, provided she has not rounded the next *mark* or *finished*.' A boat that does not correct any such error shall be disqualified under rule MR3.1(c).

MR4.3 An umpire who decides, based on his own observation or a report received from any source, that a boat may have broken a rule, other than rule MR3.2 or rule 28 [Sailing the Race] or a rule listed in rule MR2.1, may inform the protest committee for its action under rule 60.3. However, the umpire will not inform the protest committee of an alleged breach of rule 14 unless there is damage or injury.

MR5 PROTESTS; REQUESTS FOR REDRESS OR REOPENING; APPEALS; OTHER PROCEEDINGS

MR5.1 No proceedings of any kind may be taken in relation to any action or non-action by an umpire.

MR5.2 A boat may not base an appeal on an alleged improper action, omission or decision of the umpires. A party to a hearing may not base an appeal on the decision of the protest committee. This changes rule 70.1. Rule 66.2 is replaced with 'A hearing shall not be reopened based on a request of a *party* to that hearing.

MR5.3 Changes in the protest and redress procedures:

- (a) *Protests* and requests for redress need not be in writing. This changes rules 61.2 and 62.2.
- (b) The protest committee may inform the protestee and schedule the hearing in any way it considers appropriate and may communicate this orally. This changes rule 63.2.
- (c) The protest committee may take evidence and conduct the hearing in any way it considers appropriate and may communicate its decision orally. This changes rule 63.
- (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 penalty of points or fraction of points or make another arrangement it decides is equitable, which may be to impose no penalty.
- (e) If the protest committee penalizes a boat in accordance with rule MR5.3(d) or if a standard penalty is applied, all other boats will be informed about the change of the penalized boat's score.

MR5.4 The race committee will not protest a boat.

MR5.5 The protest committee may protest a boat under rule 60.3. However, it will not protest a boat for breaking rule MR3.2 or rule 28 [Sailing the Race], a rule listed in rule MR2.1, or rule 14 unless there is damage or injury.

MR5.6 The technical committee will not protest a boat, except under rule 60.4 when it decides that a boat or personal equipment does not comply with the class rules, rule 50, or the rules in the equipment regulations of the event, if such exist. In such a case, the technical committee shall protest. The time limit for *protests* under this rule is the same as in rule MR2.4. The protest committee shall extend the time limit if there is a good reason to do so.

MR5.7 **If at the end of the protest time limit any proceedings under rule MR5 are not completed, the race committee may display flag F with one long sound. Flag F will be displayed for 2 minutes and this signal is for information only.**

Current Position

See above

Reasons

1. Change the current name of the Addendum Q to Appendix MR to follow the standard of the appendices that are not in the rule book. Some rules have been re-written to maintain the standard in the rule book in similar rules.
 2. To state clearly that Appendix MR is to be used only for Umpired Medal Racing and not for umpired fleet racing in general. (See introduction)
 3. When a rule of Appendix MR refers to a rule in the rule book, the title of or a brief reference to such rule has been inserted in square brackets to help the reader.
 4. The principle of the Last Point of Certainty has been included to make Medal Racing Umpiring consistent with the standard umpiring practices (see MR1.1(b))
 5. New MR1.1(d) establishes a 2-minute window for a boat to start, permitting the umpires to proceed under MR 3.3 after these two minutes.
 6. New MR5.7 permits the RC to inform competitors and spectators when there is a procedure still pending after the red-flag period and therefore the results as displayed by the race committee may not be final.
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