

International Radio Sailing Association

RULES FOR UMPIRED RADIO SAILING

(effective 17th August 2020)

Umpiring for radio sailing has developed as a fusion of procedures used in all radio sailing with principles of umpiring from other sailing disciplines. Emerging from this process, umpiring for radio sailing is a form of limited umpiring that is intended to change as little as possible in the protest and rule enforcement procedures set out in RRS Appendix E, Radio Sailing Racing Rules.

Umpired radio sailing retains the radio sailing rules for informing a protestee, the role of observers and the procedure for unresolved incidents. The major changes for umpires from other sailing disciplines, apart from the proximity of the competitors, are:

- *the partnership with observers. Observers and umpires follow racing as a team, each umpire paired with an observer. Both act as observers, hailing contacts. Both participate in the umpiring process, commenting on the racing, anticipating possible incidents and identifying infringements. The observer, who may be a competitor in the event, contributes his experience of radio sailing, the umpire his knowledge of the rules.*
- *a recognition that umpires and observers cannot resolve all incidents. Following an unresolved incident, a hearing may be initiated.*

For fleets of between 15-20 boats it is recommended to appoint 4 umpire/observer teams to cover the race area. This number may be increased in fleets over 20 boats and reduced for smaller fleets.

These rules change RRS 20.1, 44.1(b), 61, 62, 63.1, 64.1(a), 66, 70, E4.3(b), E5.1 and E6.3

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

RS1.1 Changes to RRS involving protests, exoneration, observers and umpires:

- (a) Add to end of the first sentence of RRS 63.1: "and RS 6";
- (b) Add to RRS E6.3: If after a first hail
 - an umpire gives a decision;
 - there is an acknowledgement of an infringement; or
 - there is a protest hailed by another boat;the second hail is not required.
- (c) RRS 64.1(a) is changed so that the provision for exonerating a boat may be applied by the umpires in accordance with RS6.2 without a hearing, and it takes precedence over any conflicting RRS in this Addendum
- (d) In RRS E5.1(b), change "Observers" to "Observers and umpires";
- (e) In RRS E5.1(c), change "observers" to "observers and umpires".
- (g) After the first sentence of RRS 20.1 add 'The competitor controlling the boat shall hail '(her own sail number) room to tack:'

RS.2 OBSERVERS

RS2.1 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).

RS2.2 An umpire's decision may be based on information provided by an observer.

RS.3 PROTESTS BY BOATS

RS3.1 A protest under RRS E6.3, for a breach of a rule Part 2 (except RRS 14) or RRS 31 or 42 may be decided by an umpire without a hearing. If no boat takes a penalty, any boat that broke a rule and is not exonerated may be penalised under RS6

RS.4 HAILS OF CONTACT'

RS4.1 A hail of contact by an observer or umpire under RRS E5.1 may be resolved by an umpire without a hearing. If no boat takes a penalty, any boat that broke a rule and is not exonerated may be penalised under RS6.

RS.5 TAKING A PENALTY

RS5.1 When a boat may have broken one or more rules of Part 2, or RRS 31 or 42, she may

- indicate that she intends taking a penalty by hailing 'Acknowledge' and then
- promptly take a One Turn Penalty under RRS E4.3.

RS5.2 A boat penalised by an umpire hail in accordance with RS6.2(b) shall promptly take a Two-Turn Penalty according to RRS 44.2

RS.6 UMPIRE DECISIONS

RS 6.1 Following a protest by a boat under RS3.1, or a hail of contact under E5.1(b), the umpire shall give boats time to respond. If no boat takes a penalty, an umpire may hail a decision in accordance with RS6.2

RS6.2 An umpire may hail a decision as follows:

- (a) "No penalty";
- (b) "Penalty (boat(s) sail number(s))." Brief reasons may be given quoting the other boat(s) involved. 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;

An umpire may indicate that he is unable to make a decision and that the incident is unresolved.

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

RS 7 UNRESOLVED INCIDENTS

RS7.1 Following a protest under RS3.1 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.

RS7.2 If no umpire hails a decision following a hail of contact and no boat takes a penalty, 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.

RS8 PENALTIES INITIATED BY UMPIRES

RS 8.1 When a boat:

- a) breaks rule 42,
- b) despite taking a penalty under RS 5.1 or 5.2, has gained a significant 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) fails to take a penalty in accordance with RRS 44.2,
- e) fails to retire when this is the appropriate penalty under E4.3(c),
- f) deliberately breaks a rule,
- g) commits a breach of sportsmanship,

an umpire may penalise her without a protest by another boat.

The umpire may:

- impose one or more One-Turn Penalties to be taken in accordance with RRS 44.2, each signalled in accordance with RS6.2(b); or
- disqualify her by hailing "(boat sail number) disqualified" with brief reasons for the disqualification; or

- Report the incident to the protest committee for further action.

If a boat is penalised under RS8.1(b) the umpire shall hail additional penalty turns sufficient to nullify the advantage.

If a boat is penalised under RS8.1(c) or (d) for not taking a penalty or taking a penalty incorrectly, the original penalty is cancelled,

RS8.2 A boat disqualified by an umpire shall retire immediately and promptly leave the course.

RS8.3 If an umpire decides that a boat may have broken a rule other those listed in RS3.1, or may be entitled to redress, the umpire shall so inform the protest committee who may protest or request redress under RRS 60.3. 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.

RS 9 REQUESTS FOR REDRESS, APPEALS, OTHER PROCEEDINGS

RS9.1 There shall be no request for redress or to reopen a hearing or appeal from the decision hailed by an umpire under RS6.2 or a penalty initiated by an umpire under RS.8. This changes RRS 62, 66 and 70

RS9.2 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.