



## Heat Racing System 2004

### 1 INTRODUCTION

After a Preliminary round to establish an order for the subsequent divisions of races into heats, Heat Racing commences and boats are promoted and relegated to an adjacent heat or remain in the same heat according to their results in the previous race.

### 2 GENERAL

#### 2.1 General Scoring Rules

RRS A1, A3, A5, A6, A7, A11 apply.

#### 2.2 Number and Sizes of Heats

- (a) The number of heats shall be as few as possible, taking into account the local conditions (size of sailing water, visibility from the control area and frequency allocation etc).
- (b) At the beginning of the event the Race Committee shall announce the maximum number of heats for any race which shall not be more than five.
- (c) Should sufficient boats be withdrawn from the event to warrant a reduction in the number of heats, the Race Committee shall give notice before the start of the race prior to the race that such a reduction is to be introduced.
- (d) The number of boats in any heat shall not exceed **sixteen**.
- (e) The number of boats in each heat shall be approximately equal with the first extra going into heat A, the next into heat B and so on.

*For example: A race of 31 boats could be divided into either two heats of 16(A) and 15(B) or three heats with eleven in A and ten each in B and C.*

#### 2.3 Time limit of a heat

The time limit for the first boat to finish shall be 30 minutes.

*(Guide for Race Committees Re HRS 2.3: Set a course that should take around twenty minutes maximum for the winning boat to complete. This should prevent heats being abandoned for failing to meet the thirty-minute time limit. Also have a shortened course option available specified upon the course board ready to use if the wind drops.)*

#### 2.4 At the finish of the heat - time out limit

- (a) The time out limit for racing after the first boat finishes shall be 5 minutes.
- (b) If more than 4 boats have not finished within the time out limit specified in (a), the time out limit shall be extended until only 4 boats have not finished, up to maximum time out limit of 10 minutes.

- (c) Boats failing to finish within the time out limit shall be recorded DNF. This changes RRS 35 and A4.1.

## 2.5 Discards

When the total event's score is calculated for each boat, it shall include all scores from the Preliminary Round and the worst scores will be discarded as follows (*In the event of a boat having two or more equal worst scores, the score/s for the race/s sailed earliest in the event shall be excluded.*):

After 4 races have been completed	1 Discard
After 10 races have been completed	2 Discards
After 19 races have been completed	3 Discards
After 28 races have been completed	4 Discards

then another discard for every further 9 races completed

## 2.6 Ties in a Series Score

- (a) For any tie breaking before heat race 3 starts all race scores shall be used in breaking a tie. After that, only race scores from heat racing shall be used in breaking a tie.
- (b) If there is a tie in a series score between two or more boats, the race scores of each boat shall be listed in the order of best to worst. At the point where there is a difference, the tie shall be broken in favour of the boat with the best score. If a tie still remains it shall be broken in favour of the boat that obtained her best score nearest the end of the series.
- (c) If a tie in heat allocation after Preliminary round or promotion or relegation places still remains it shall be resolved by tossing a coin.

## 3 PRELIMINARY ROUND

### 3.1 General

Except in very light wind conditions for short duration events (see HRS 3.2), the event shall commence with three races where the boats are divided into heats, each containing boats of mixed ability. Where the boats are of unknown ability, selection for these races shall be carried out at random or using following principle:

All boats will be sorted alphabetically according to their national letters and within the national letters according to the ascending sail numbers. The heats will be allocated to the sorted list in the order A,B,C,D,E,E,D,C,B,A ... The heat of the first boat in the list will be determined at random. Heat composition for other preliminary races shall be carried out according the results of previous race as shown in the tables below, where the letter indicates the heat, and number indicates the finishing place in previous race.

2 heats	
Heat A	Heat B
A1	B1
B2	A2
A3	B3
A4	B4
etc.	

3 heats		
Heat A	Heat B	Heat C
A1	B1	C1
B2	C2	A2
C3	A3	B3
A4	B4	C4
etc.		

4 heat			
Heat A	Heat B	Heat C	Heat D
A1	B1	C1	D1
B2	C2	D2	A2
C3	D3	A3	B3
D4	A4	B4	C4
etc.			

These races shall be known as the Preliminary Round

### 3.2 One or two day event sailed in very light breezes

- (a) In these conditions the number of preliminary races may be reduced to two, in which case the Race Committee shall announce this before the start of the second race.
- (b) The Race Committee may also decide to extend the Preliminary Round to form the entire event. Heats for further such races shall contain boats of mixed ability. The order obtained from the results of a completed race may be used to spread the boats more evenly between heats.

### **3.3 Scoring in Preliminary Round**

- (a) Each heat shall be considered as a separate race.
- (b) RRS A4.1 shall apply using the Low Point System subject to (c) below:
- (c) Boats recorded as DNF RAF, OCS, DNS, DNC, DSQ or DNE shall be placed in this order at the bottom of their heat and score one more point than the number of boats scheduled to sail in the largest heat.

## **4 HEAT RACING**

### **4.1 Division of the Fleet for Heat Racing**

After the Preliminary Round, subject to one temporary discard if three preliminary races have been completed, the boats shall be put in heats according to their series scores, with the boats having the lowest scores in Heat A and so on into Heats B, C etc.

### **4.2 Promotion and Relegation**

- (a) After the Preliminary Round, promotion and relegation shall be carried out after every completed race as follows:-

#### **11 or less boats scheduled to sail in Heat A**

The 3 boats in each heat (except A) that have scored the lowest points in the heat shall be promoted. The 3 boats in each heat (except the lowest heat) that scored the highest points shall be relegated.

**12 plus boats scheduled to race in Heat A:** As above only substituting four boats for three.

- (b) Should any boat recorded as DNF, RAF, OCS, DNS, DNC, DSQ or DNE achieve a place normally promoted they shall not be promoted and the number of boats to be relegated from the heat above shall be reduced accordingly to maintain the heat numbers.
- (c) When more than the prescribed number of boats are involved in promotion and relegation the circumstances shall be treated as a tie which shall be resolved in favour of the boat with the better series score up to that race. If a tie still remains it shall be resolved by tossing a coin.

### **4.3 Heat Re-arrangement**

- (a) A boat that is scored two consecutive races "DNC" in lowest heat shall be removed from those listed as scheduled to race and, if necessary the heat size shall be re-arranged.
- (b) The order of the boats in the new heats shall be established by carrying out the promotion and relegation procedure after the previous completed race, and this order shall then be divided into the new heats as required.
- (c) Any changes to the number of boats being promoted and relegated shall only be introduced between races and before the preparatory signal for the first heat of the next race **prior** to the race in which such a change is to be introduced.

#### **4.4 Boat Unable to Race - Temporary Withdrawal**

- (a) A boat that has temporarily withdrawn for any reason shall be removed from those scheduled to race when she has reached the lowest heat and, if necessary, the heat size shall be re-arranged.
- (b) A boat wishing to return to those scheduled to sail in the next race shall inform the Race Committee of her wish before the starting signal of the final heat of the current race. However in an event lasting more than one day, a boat wishing to return to those scheduled to sail in the first race of the day shall inform the Race Committee at least half an hour before the start of racing on that day. However should this return cause a change to the number of boats being relegated or promoted the return will be delayed by one race to permit HRS 4.3(c) to be observed.

#### **4.5 Places**

Places shall be awarded in consecutive order from the first boat in Heat A to the last boat in the lowest heat. Boats recorded as: DNF, RAF, OCS, DNS, DNC, DSQ or DNE shall be placed in this order at the bottom of the heat in which they sailed with DNE being at the bottom.

#### **4.6 Redress**

When giving redress to a boat's race score, only a score within the scoring range of the heat which the boat was racing or scheduled to race in shall be awarded.

#### **4.7 Scoring**

RRS A4.1 shall apply using the Low Point System subject to:

- (a) A boat recorded as DNF, RAF, OCS, DNS or DNC shall score one more point than she would have scored had she finished last in her heat with the scheduled number of boats racing.
- (b) A boat recorded as DSQ or DNE shall score one more point than the total number of boats entered for the event.