

UMPIRED FLEET RACING MEDAL RACE USING ADDENDUM Q

Information for Competitors

The following information does not contain 'rules'. It is information intended to help competitors understand Addendum Q to the sailing instructions.

The Medal Race will be sailed under the normal Racing Rules of Sailing, modified by Addendum Q. Addendum Q contains the following important changes to the 'normal' racing rules:

Protest Procedures While Racing

While you are racing, you can only protest another boat for the following:

- A boat-to-boat incident you are involved in yourself
- Another boat breaks rule 31

You protest by hailing 'Protest' and displaying a red flag. Make sure the umpires and the boat you are protesting hear the hail and see the flag. Remove the flag after the protested boat takes her penalty or after the umpires signal a decision. (A board is not required to display a flag, but raising an arm in addition to hailing 'Protest' will help the umpires become aware of the protest.)

Penalties While Racing

If you are protested by another boat, you may take a penalty voluntarily immediately after the incident as follows:

- One-Turn Penalty: Promptly make one turn, including one tack and one gybe. (However, boards take a penalty by making one 360° turn with no requirement for a tack or a gybe.)

If you decide to take a penalty but need to get clear of other boats, it is a good idea to look at the umpires, raise your hand and say "I will take a penalty".

If no boat takes a penalty voluntarily soon after the incident as possible, the umpires will signal their decision by making one of these signals:

- Display a green-and-white flag and blow a whistle, which means 'No penalty'.
- Display a red flag, blow a whistle and hail to identify one or more boats.

If the umpires identify you, you must promptly take a One-Turn Penalty by making one turn, including one tack and one gybe. (However, boards take a penalty by making one 360° turn with no requirement for a tack or a gybe.)

While you are taking the penalty or you are sailing clear to take it, the manoeuvres you make are not considered as sailing your proper course.

If you know you have broken a rule, the Basic Principle, Sportsmanship and the Rules requires you to take a penalty voluntarily as soon as possible. Waiting for a signal, when you know you have broken a rule, is deliberately breaking a rule, and may be seen as a breach of sportsmanship, in which case the umpires can give you an additional penalty (see next paragraph). Thus if you don't take a penalty voluntarily when you know you have broken a rule, there is a considerable risk that you will get two or more imposed penalties.

The umpires may penalize you (signalling with a red flag) without a protest from another boat if you do not take a penalty after breaking rule 31, gain an advantage after taking a penalty, deliberately break a rule, fail to take a penalty correctly, or commit a breach of sportsmanship.

If these breaches are severe or repeated or if you pass a mark on the wrong side and fail to correct that error before you round the next mark or finish, the umpires may use the black flag to disqualify you. If you are disqualified you must promptly leave the racing area.

You must complete all penalties before finishing. If you are taking a penalty when you are finishing or after you have crossed the finishing line, you must take the penalty and then finish correctly.

Protests or Requests for Redress after Racing

The intent is that all situations are decided on the water. However, you may protest or request redress immediately after finishing for certain breaches or circumstances that you cannot protest while racing. Such protests and requests for redress need not be in writing; you just inform the race committee before or while flag B is displayed from the race committee boat at the end of the race.

The possibilities for requesting redress are very limited. You cannot request redress because of actions or non-actions by the umpires, the race committee, the organizing committee or the protest committee. The only possibility of giving redress is for having given help to somebody in danger.

You cannot appeal a decision made by the umpires or the protest committee. You cannot ask for a hearing to be reopened.

Other Rules

Appendix P, Special Procedures for Rule 42, continues to apply and the number of penalties you incurred earlier in the regatta is carried forward to the Medal Race. Rule 42 penalties will be signalled with a yellow flag.

Room to tack at an obstruction: When rule 20.1 applies and you hail, you are required to make an arm signal in addition to your hail. (Does not apply to boards.)

As soon as you have finished, check your finishing place on the board on the race committee finishing boat. If you think your finishing place is wrong, inform the race committee immediately. You cannot request redress for this, but if the race committee realize they have made an error, they can correct it. If you don't inform the race committee immediately, but wait until after they have lowered flag B, it is much less likely that there will be time to check and correct a possible error. Even if you believe there is an error, you cannot request redress for this, whether on the water or ashore.