

Racing Rules

Rule A2

A submission from US Sailing

Purpose or Objective

Change the default to be no scores excluded from a boat's series score.

Proposal

A2 SERIES SCORES

A2.1 Each boat's series score shall, ~~subject to rule 90.3(b),~~ be the total of her race scores ~~excluding her worst score.~~ However, the notice of race ~~or sailing instructions~~ may ~~make a different arrangement~~ **specify, subject to rule 90.3(b), that some race scores are to be excluded from each boat's series score** by providing, for example, that ~~no score will be excluded, that two~~ **one** or more scores will be excluded, or that a specified number of scores will be excluded if a specified number of races are completed. ~~(A race is completed if scored; see rule 90.3(a).)~~ If a boat has two or more equal worst scores, the score(s) for the race(s) sailed earliest in the series shall be excluded.

A2.2 The boat with the lowest series score wins and others shall be ranked accordingly.

A2.3~~2~~ If a boat has entered any race in a series, she shall be scored for the whole series.

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

1. Counting all race scores in the series score is easy to implement and is consistent with the practice in most other sports. It is good for our sport because it encourages consistent sailing and discourages boats from breaking rules. If there is a discard, a boat vying for first place can sometimes force her principal competitor back into the fleet in order to win the event, a tactic that some regard as poor sportsmanship, or at least suspect. If there are no discards, there is no incentive to employ that tactic. Several large classes, including a number of World Sailing Classes, do not normally discard scores in their events.
 2. Most events that exclude one or more race scores already specify the number of discards and the number of races that must be completed in order to have those discards, so those events will be unaffected by this change. On the other hand, events
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that do not exclude scores must currently write a special rule for that, and the proposed rule will allow such events to omit any reference to the topic.

3. The proposed rule still allows for excluding one or more race scores. The sentences in the current rule that deal with excluded scores are reworded slightly in this proposal allowing race organizers to easily provide for excluding scores.
4. Scoring is important to boats in deciding whether to enter an event, so reference to the Sailing Instructions is dropped (this is consistent with current rules J1.3(5) and J2.2).
5. The statement about the boat with the lowest score winning the series has been separated out so that it applies regardless of whether scores are excluded.

Clean Copy of Rule A2 if the Proposal is Approved

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