

Racing Rules of Sailing

C8.5, New C6.5 (c) and (d), C5.4

A submission from the Chair of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To have a rule that allows the race to be terminated in a match race when one boat retires after starting.

Proposal

- (a) Move rule C8.5 to new rule C6.5(c) and re-number C8.6 accordingly.
- (b) Add new rule C6.5(d):
When one boat retires after both boats in a match start, the umpires may signal under C5.4, identifying the retired boat. The match is then terminated and awarded to the boat that did not retire.
- (c) Change rule C5.4:
A black flag with a blue or yellow flag and one long sound means 'The identified *boat* is disqualified **or has retired**, and the match is *terminated* and awarded to the other *boat*.'

Current Position

C8 is titled: Penalties initiated by umpires

The text of C8.5 is:

When, after one boat has *started*, the umpires are satisfied that the other boat will not *start*, they may signal under rule C5.4 that the boat that did not *start* is disqualified and the match is terminated.

There is no C6.5(c) or (d).

Reasons

The Match Racing Rules Working Party have considered this issue and propose this submission.

It is accepted and is currently a rule to allow a race to be terminated when one boat will not start. This saves time in a busy regatta schedule and minimises possibility of damage to organising authority supplied boats. There are times when after starting, one boat retires from the race, but the other boat must sail the course in order to be awarded the win. The new rule will allow the same logic that applies to a boat not starting to apply to a boat that retires.

The working party has specified that one boat must retire, rather than rely on the satisfaction of the umpire. The requirement for a boat to retire protects a boat that may be damaged but is choosing to continue to race.
