



## APPENDIX UF

### UMPIRED FLEET RACING

MC38 2023/24 Season Edition (Including the 2023 & 204 Season, the 2023 & 2024 Australian Championship, and any other standalone regatta)

**Version:** Issued 4 February 2023

**Valid to:** 31 December 2024

*Umpired fleet races shall be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing as changed by this appendix. Races shall be umpired. The rule changes in UF1 have been approved by World Sailing under Regulation 28.1.5(b) on the condition that only the provided options are used. This appendix applies only when it is referred to in the Notice of Race and made available for all competitors.*

#### **UF1 CHANGES TO THE DEFINITIONS, THE RULES OF PART 1 AND 2, AND RULE 70**

**UF1.1** Add to the definition *Proper Course*: 'A boat taking a penalty or manoeuvring to take a penalty is not sailing a *proper course*.'

**UF1.2** Add new rule 7 to Part 1:

#### **7 LAST POINT OF CERTAINTY**

The umpires will assume that the state of a boat, or her relationship to another boat, has not changed, until they are certain that it has changed.'

**UF1.3** Rule 14 is changed to:

#### **14 AVOIDING CONTACT**

14.1 If reasonably possible a boat shall

- (a) avoid contact with another boat,
- (b) not cause contact between boats, and
- (c) not cause contact between a boat and an object that should be avoided.

However, a right-of-way boat, or one sailing within the *room* or *mark-room* to which she is entitled, need not act to avoid contact until it is clear that the other boat is not *keeping clear* or giving *room* or *mark-room*.

14.2 When there is contact between hulls, the umpires may, without a hearing, impose a scoring penalty of 1 point on a boat that was penalized in the incident. Furthermore, the umpires may also impose a scoring penalty of 1 points on other boats if they consider that these boats contributed to the contact.

14.3 When there is contact that causes damage, or the umpires decide a boat has broken rule 14 and damage resulted, they may, without a hearing, impose a scoring penalty on any boat involved in the incident. The minimum penalty to be applied in such a case is 2 points.

**UF1.4** When rule 20 applies, the following arm signals are required in addition to the hails:

- (a) for *room* to tack, repeatedly and clearly pointing to windward; and
  - (b) for 'You tack', repeatedly and clearly pointing at the other boat and waving the arm to windward.
- UF1.5** Rule 70 is deleted.
- UF1.6** **Test rules**
- (a) The definition *Mark-Room* is changed to:  
**Mark-Room** Room for a boat to sail her proper course to round or pass the mark on the required side.  
 However, *mark-room* for a boat does not include *room* to tack unless she is *overlapped* inside and to *windward* of the boat required to give *mark-room* and she would be *fetching* the *mark* after her tack.
- UF2** **CHANGES TO OTHER RULES**
- UF2.1** **28 SAILING THE COURSE**
- 28.2. A boat may correct any errors in *sailing the course*, provided she has not rounded the next mark or crossed the finishing line to *finish*.
- UF2.2** Rule 31 is changed to:
- 31 TOUCHING A MARK**
- While *racing*, neither the crew nor any part of a boat's hull shall touch a starting *mark* before *starting*, a *mark* that begins, bounds or ends the leg of the course on which she is sailing, or a finishing *mark* after *finishing*. In addition, while *racing*, a boat shall not touch a race committee vessel that is also a *mark*.
- UF2.3** Rules P1 to P4 shall not apply.
- UF3** **ON WATER PROTESTS AND PENALTIES**
- UF3.1** In this appendix, 'a penalty' will mean the following:  
 A One-Turn Penalty taken in accordance with rule 44.2.
- UF3.2** The first sentence of rule 44.1 is changed to: 'A boat may take a penalty when, in an incident while *racing*, she may have broken one or more of the *rules* of Part 2 (except rule 14 when she has caused damage or injury), rule 31 or rule 42. However, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 and rule 31 in the same incident, she need not take the penalty for breaking rule 31'
- UF3.3** **On the Water Protests by Boats and Penalties**
- (a) While racing, a boat may protest another boat under a rule of Part 2 (except rule 14) or under rule 31 or rule 42; however, a boat may only protest under a rule of Part 2 for an incident in which she was involved. To do so she shall hail 'Protest' and conspicuously display a red flag at the first reasonable opportunity for each. She shall remove the flag before, or at the first reasonable opportunity after a boat involved in the incident has taken a penalty voluntarily or after an umpire's decision.
  - (b) A boat that protests as provided in rule UF3.3(a) is not entitled to a hearing, unless an umpire signals in accordance with UF3.5(d). Instead, a boat involved in the incident may acknowledge breaking a rule by voluntarily taking a penalty. An umpire may penalize any boat that broke a rule and was not exonerated, unless the boat took a penalty voluntarily.
- UF3.4** **Penalties and Protests Initiated by an Umpire**

- (a) When a boat
  - (1) breaks rule 31 and does not take a penalty,
  - (2) breaks rule 42,
  - (3) gains an advantage despite taking a penalty,
  - (4) commits a breach of sportsmanship, or
  - (5) fails to comply with rule UF3.6 or to take a penalty when required to do so by an umpire,
  - (6) fails to comply with rule UF2.1 (rule 28.2) an umpire shall disqualify her under rule UF3.5(c)
- (b) An umpire who decides, based on his own observation or a report received from any source, that a boat may have broken a rule, other than rule UF3.6 or rule 28 or a rule listed in rule UF3.3(a), may inform the protest committee for its action under rule 60.3. However, he will not inform the protest committee of an alleged breach of rule 14 unless there is damage or injury.

### **UF3.5 Umpire Signals**

An umpire will signal a decision as follows:

- (a) A green and white flag with one long sound means 'No penalty.'
- (b) A red flag with one long sound means 'a penalty is imposed or remains outstanding.' The umpire will hail or signal to identify each such boat.
- (c) A black flag with one long sound means 'A boat is disqualified.' The umpire will hail or signal to identify the boat disqualified.
- (d) A y-flag flag with one long sound means 'The umpires do not have the facts required to make a decision.'

### **UF3.6 Imposed Penalties**

- (a) A boat penalized under rule UF3.5(b) shall take a penalty.
- (b) A boat disqualified under rule UF3.5(c) shall promptly leave the course area.

## **UF4 PROTESTS; REQUESTS FOR REDRESS OR REOPENING; APPEALS; OTHER PROCEEDINGS**

**UF4.1** No proceedings of any kind may be taken in relation to any action or non-action by an umpire.

**UF4.2** A boat is only entitled to a hearing when the umpires have signalled in accordance with UF3.5(d) or under UF5.3.

**UF4.3** A boat intending to

- (a) protest another boat under a rule other than rule UF3.6 or rule 28, or a rule listed in rule UF3.3(a),
- (b) protest another boat under rule 14 if there was contact that caused damage or injury, or
- (c) request redress

shall inform the race committee via VHF radio communication following the conclusion of the race, but prior to the start of the next.

**UF4.4** The time limit defined in rule UF4.3 also applies to protests under rule UF4.9, UF4.10 and UF4.11 when such protests are permitted. The protest committee shall extend the time limit if there is good reason to do so.

**UF4.5** The race committee will promptly inform the protest committee about any protests or requests for redress made under rule UF4.3.

- UF4.6** The third sentence of rule 61.1(a) and all of rule 61.1(a)(2) are deleted.
- UF4.7** The first three sentences of rule 64.2 are changed to: ‘When the protest committee decides that a boat that is a *party* to a protest hearing has broken a rule, it may impose penalties other than disqualification, and may make any other scoring arrangement it decides is equitable. If a boat has broken a *rule* when not *racing*, the protest committee shall decide whether to apply any penalty to the race sailed nearest in time to that of the incident or make some other arrangement.’
- UF4.8** **Hearings**  
Except for a hearing under rule 69.2
- (a) Protests and requests for redress need not be in writing.
  - (b) The protest committee may inform the protestee and schedule the hearing in any way it considers appropriate and may communicate this orally.
  - (c) The protest committee may take evidence and conduct the hearing in any way it considers appropriate and may communicate its decision orally.
  - (d) If the protest committee decides that a breach of a rule has had no effect on the outcome of the race, it may impose a scoring penalty of points or fraction of points or make any other arrangement it decides is fair, which may be to impose no penalty.
  - (e) If the protest committee penalizes a boat in accordance with rule UF4.7 or if a standard penalty is applied, all other boats will be informed about the change of the penalized boat’s score.
- UF4.9** The protest committee may protest a boat under rule 60.3. However, it will not protest a boat for breaking rule UF3.6 or rule 28, a rule listed in rule UF3.3(a), or rule 14 unless there is damage or injury.
- UF4.10** The technical committee will only protest a boat under rule 60.4 when it decides that a boat or personal equipment does not comply with the class rules, rule 50, or the rules in the equipment regulations of the event, if such exist. In such a case, the technical committee shall protest.
- UF4.11** Rule 66.2 is changed to ‘A *party* to the hearing under this appendix may not request a reopening.’