

J70 Appendix UF Q&A - V3.0A

This question/answer document will provide some insight to typical questions associated with Appendix UF for umpired fleet racing, that has been modified for a specific class as allowed by World Sailing. There are references in this document that only refer to that appendix.

1. Can a boat protest when there are umpires on the water?

Yes, a boat should protest as they normally would. For rules of Part 2, rule 31 and rule 42, the umpires if present will respond with either a Red or Green/White flag signal and the incident is closed. If the umpires signal a Blue flag, they did not have enough facts to determine if a boat broke a rule or if there is no umpires response, the boat can report a protest with the RC at the end of the race during the B flag time period and file the protest ashore within the SI protest time limit.

2. If my boat is penalized for an incident, can the boat then file a counter protest after that race?

No, any flag displayed by the umpires except for the Blue flag closes the incident other than Rule 14 issues.

3. If an umpire signals a penalty with a red flag, blows a whistle and hails a bow or sail number, what must that boat do?

A boat that has been penalized by the umpires, after getting well clear of other boats as soon after the incident as possible and complying with the obligations of UF 3.2(b) must take the signaled penalty.

4. What happens when a boat does not see or hear an umpire signaling a penalty?

The umpires will signal the penalty again as clearly as possible. This penalty signaled is not a second penalty but a reminder to the boat that she has been penalized. If a boat fails to respond, the umpires will have a post-race hearing or may disqualify the boat by penalizing with a Black flag.

5. How long after an incident will an umpire penalize a boat that has broken a rule?

A boat is allowed a "short" period of time (seconds) to voluntarily take a penalty before an umpire signals a penalty to the boat.

See Q&A #6.

6. Can umpires who saw and penalized a boat for the initial incident, request another umpire to signal the penalty to the boat that broke a rule?

Yes, when the initiating umpire cannot clearly signal the boat that broke a rule, a penalty may be signaled no later than when the infringing boat is 15 boat lengths from a mark that ends the next leg to that on which the penalty occurred. For penalty purposes, the windward mark to offset mark is not considered a leg as used in Answer #6.

7. Is a boat's penalty always 1 turn per RRS 44?

No. If a boat broke a rule of Part 2 while in the zone of a mark other than the starting marks or Rule 20 in any area of the course, the penalty is a two-turn penalty. An umpire under Appendix UF can signal a boat take any number of turns as penalty. UF3.4

- 8. What must a boat do if it is penalized inside the zone of a Leeward mark?**
 She shall promptly sail well clear of other boats, outside the zone, so that no part of boat is in the zone when she takes her two-turn penalty for breaking RRS Part 2 rules.
- 9. What will the umpires do if a boat is properly protested on the water and voluntarily takes the correct penalty?**
 The umpires will display a Green/White flag, indicating that a rule had been broken and a boat took a proper penalty turn, the incident is then closed. If the incident involves multiple boats the umpires will display a Blue flag or will not respond.
- 10. What will the umpires do if a boat has gained an advantage despite taking a voluntary or imposed penalty?**
 The umpires will impose additional penalty turns to offset the advantage gained.
- 11. Can an umpire penalize a boat without a protest flag being flown by another boat?**
 Yes, but not for a rule of Part 2 rule, also see UF3.4
- 12. If a boat has displayed a red flag in a previous incident that was not closed, can it be considered displayed by the umpire for a separate incident?**
 Yes.
- 13. Can a boat file a protest or a request for redress with the RC before the B flag is displayed?**
 No, but with one exception, a boat that has retired can communicate with the RC prior to the B Flag.
- 14. If a boat is penalized inside the zone of the Windward mark, on the offset leg, or at inside the zone of the offset mark, what action must she take?**
 The boat penalized by the Appendix UF is not allowed to take a penalty in those areas. She shall, after sailing well clear of other boats, leaves the zone of the offset mark and is sailing on the downwind leg, she then can take her penalty. UF3.2(c).

