



OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

April 8, 1995

SUBJECT: Race Penalties Committee Report

COMMITTEE: N. Rabe (Chairman), R.H. Roberts, J. Brooks

OBJECTIVE: Follow up the discussion at the January 20, 1995 Board of Governors meeting, with recommendations as may be appropriate.

Statement of purpose of the penalty system:

- a. Counter the advantage to certain yachts of favorable handicaps (primary with Off Soundings ratings, of some issue with PHRF handicaps).
 - b. Spread the wealth. Make more difficult the domination by the few, in order to retain interest.
1. Duration of race penalties and other related conditions:
- a. Originally required that three series be raced, with "infinite memory".
 - b. Precedent-Setting Decision of January 15, 1971:
In order to work off a penalty, in addition to other conditions, a vessel must start both races in a series. She must finish both races in a series also or submit a written withdrawal notice to the Race Committee.
 - c. Beginning 1976, penalties were cleared after five race series, sailed or not.

PROPOSAL: Penalties will be worked off in three race series, sailed or not.

Rationale: Minimal record keeping.

Eliminates questions regarding start/finish/
withdrawal/dismasting/etc.

2. Fairness of fixed seconds-per-mile penalties. It is believed that current penalty system is harsher on fast boats (A-1,C-1) than on slow boats (B,C-5) because fast boats have less seconds-per-mile to work off constant time penalty.

An equivalent penalty system using PHRF time-on-time would eliminate this bias, or at least reduce it, by employing a multiplier of the TCF.

Passed

2. Continued.

$$\text{Current method: } \text{TCF} = \frac{600}{480 + \text{PHRF} - \text{Penalty}}$$

$$\text{Alternate method: } \text{TCF} = \frac{600 * (1 + \text{Penalty})}{480 + \text{PHRF}}$$

Current method penalty is 10 sec/mile for each 5% of penalty.

Alternate method penalty is 1.5% for each 5% of penalty.

Passed
RECOMMENDATION: Committee review concept further for 1996 implementation.

3. Potential exists for persons engaged in a yachting business that affords access to multiple yachts, or others, to not be effectively subject to the penalty provisions of our race rules.

Review of our race results for a 15-20 year period indicates only one member who has sailed what might be described as "house yachts" and who was thereby seldom subject to race penalties.

CONCLUSION: There is no committee consensus that a problem exists requiring action. No action is recommended.

Respectfully submitted,

Norm Rabe

Norman Rabe, (Chairman)

If we take the values of TCF and multiply times a standard time for doing a race, namely Standard Elapsed Time per mile = (480 + PHRF), the following results:

