

Race Committee

Bill Dickson, John Barter

SMS received from Regatta (Michael Meehan)

Hi John, I could see Inception ran aground and had to use her engine to get free just before the finish line - is this not something she should have declared and or taken a penalty turn??

Rule

PENALTIES FOR BREAKING RULE

A boat that may have broken a rule of RRS Part 2 while racing may take a one turn penalty at the time of the incident (Amends Rule 44.2). The penalty shall be a 360 degree turn which includes one tack and one gybe. However, if she has caused serious damage or gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach she shall retire.

A boat which infringes Rule 42 Propulsion by using her engine or being towed after her preparatory signal but before starting shall take a One Turn Penalty under sail before she starts.

A boat which infringes Rule 42 Propulsion by using her engine to take urgent action to avoid or get clear of an obstruction shall take a One Turn Penalty before continuing to race. In Category 3, 4 & 5 races, full details of occurrences shall be included on a Declaration Form & the Race Committee advised within the time limit for the lodgement of protests.

The Race Committee may adjust the elapsed time of the boat at its discretion. The Race Committee may penalise without a hearing a boat that acknowledges she has infringed a rule or sailing instruction in a Declaration lodged in accordance with Instruction 20. Amends Rules 63.1 and A5.

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Facts

Inception (Andy) confirmed motor used to free from grounding.

Regatta (Michael) not concerned about proceeding with penalty, but when asked how long he thought a turn would take - answered 30 seconds.

A formal protest is not required.

It is at the race committee's discretion to apply a penalty.

Conclusion

The race committee feels 1 minute is the appropriate time for one turn.

A 1-minute time penalty will be applied to Inceptions finish time.

Results

The race results were adjusted and as it turned out, in this instance, no change was made to the original result.