

Class Rules Compliance at Club Level



Bas Edmonds





Class Rule Compliance at Club Level

RYA Race Officials Conference

Bas Edmonds – RYA Technical Manager
Saturday 9th February



Bas Edmonds

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ISAF International Measurer

RS:X Chief Measurer

Extreme 40 Chief Measurer

ISAF Committee Representative

Equipment Control

Windsurfing & Kiteboarding

Aspiring National Judge





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RYA Technical Coordinator, Racing



Class Rule Compliance at Club level

Discussion workshop

Participation

Enjoyment

At every level



Class Rule Compliance at Club Level

What are we trying to achieve with our sailing?

What are we trying to achieve with our racing?

Is our sport really self-policing?

Emotive topic with no right answer



Rules is Rules

Basic Principles – Sportsmanship and the Rules

Competitors in the sport of sailing are governed by a body of *rules* that they are expected to follow and enforce. A fundamental principle of sportsmanship is that when competitors break a *rule* they will promptly take a penalty, which may be to retire.

Rules include class rules, NOR, SI's and National Prescriptions



Rules is Rules

RRS 78.1

Compliance with Class Rules; Certificates

A boats owner and any other person in charge shall ensure that the boat is maintained to comply with her class rules and that her measurement or rating certificate, if any, remains valid



Rules is Rules

Standard Class Rules – Section B

Section B – Boat Eligibility

For a **boat** to be eligible for *racing*, it shall comply with the rules in this section.

B.1 CLASS RULES AND CERTIFICATION

- B.1.1 The Certification Documentation specified in A.11.1 shall be held by the current owner and shall be available upon demand.
- B.1.2 For *racing*, it is the owner's responsibility to ensure that the **boat** and any equipment; including any alterations, replacements or repairs, shall be compliant with the current **class rules** at the time of *racing*.
- B.1.3 **Sails** shall carry **certification marks** as required.



Class Rule Compliance at Club Level

The *rules* are clear

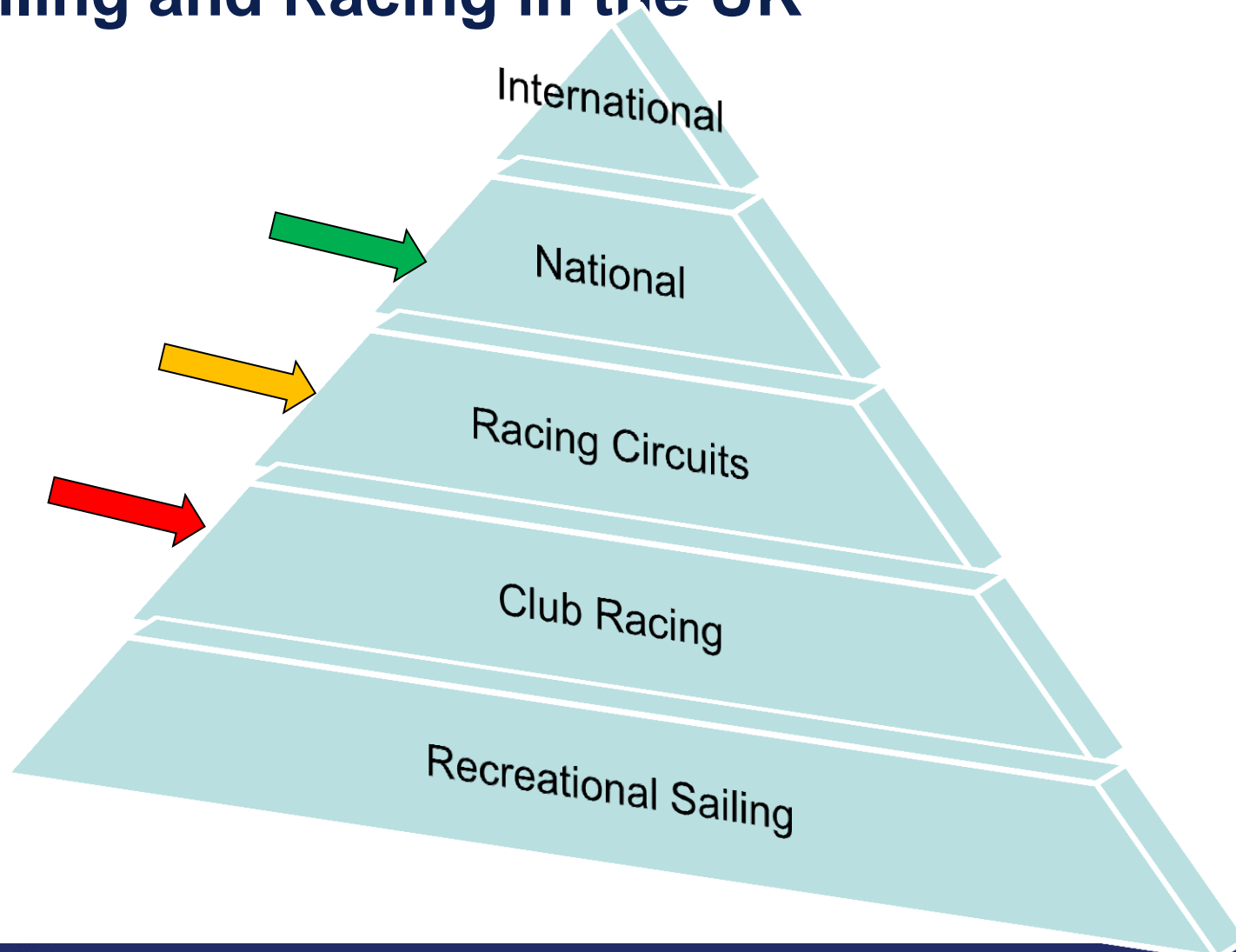
Do they increase enjoyment?

Do they increase participation?

Emotive topic with no right answer



Sailing and Racing in the UK





Club Racing - Every club is different

- **Priorities from members**
 - Recreational vs racing – participation and enjoyment vs compromise of racing
- **Fleets**
 - Offshore classes, only single-handers etc
- **Types of classes**
 - Measurement vs manufacturer controlled
- **Types of racing**
 - Wednesday night, family series, one-design, handicap, open events
- **Events hosted by club**
 - Club racing, open events, national championships



Examples of classes and racing

Types of Racing

1. Wednesday Evening series
2. Sunday Handicap / Class racing
3. Club Championship / Open meetings

Types of Classes

1. Measurement controlled
2. Manufacturer controlled
3. Mixture – handicap racing

Each combination of scenarios will present different outcomes

Need to look at each clubs culture...



Club Culture

Do people know they are breaking class rules?

What are the arguments for breaking class rules?

What are the arguments against breaking class rules?

On whom is the responsibility placed for compliance?

Sailors? Classes? Race Officers? Club Officials?



Education

Case Study – RYA Youth Nationals

Different levels of motivation across the fleet

Different levels of education across the fleet

Should the bottom of the fleet be judged the same as the top?

Aim to involve sailors in the process whilst increasing their knowledge



Process

Transparent process with forms published and sent out to competitors well in advance of the event

Can be done at club level through Notices

Consultation with the classes – what is normal for a class event?

Classes should be encouraged to offer standard checks

Consultation with organisers to ensure they know what is being implemented

INCREASED COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION



Process

Based on POST RACE INSPECTION rather than PRE RACE MEASUREMENT (which will be random)

Most clubs will operate reactively anyway

Much more active presence due to reduced pre-event checking – similar to Rule 42 policing

Can only be reactive

Different offences are treated differently

Same for club racing



Post Race Inspection

El team will produce lists of items that will be actively checked for during PR inspection.

DOES NOT mean that these are exclusively the items that will be checked for, but aims to open the process.

Tiered penalties dependant on infringement and number of infringements.



Post Race Inspection - Penalties

		1 st offence		2 nd offence	
Type	Example	<i>Not listed</i>	<i>Listed</i>	<i>Not listed</i>	<i>Listed</i>
SAFETY	Tow rope, whistle	Verbal warning	Penalty 1	Penalty 2	Penalty 3
ADMIN	No certificate, lost limitation sticker	Verbal warning	Verbal warning	Penalty 1	Penalty 2
ADVERTISING	Missing or misplaced	Verbal warning	Verbal warning	Penalty 1	Penalty 1
NON-SPEED	Sail numbers, use of non-registered equipment	Verbal warning	Verbal warning	Penalty 2	Penalty 2
SPEED	Boom stoppers, corrector weights	Verbal warning	Penalty 1	Penalty 2	Penalty 3



Post Race Inspection - Penalties

Penalty 1 = $(\text{TotFleet} - \text{ComPos}) * .25$

Penalty 2 = $(\text{TotFleet} - \text{ComPos}) * .50$

Penalty 3 = $\text{TotFleet} - \text{ComPos}$

TotFleet = Number of competitors in the fleet

ComPos = Competitor fleet position at end of days racing before any penalties



Post Race Inspection - Penalties

Penalty 1 an example...

29er fleet – Total Fleet size is 63 boats

$$\text{Penalty 1} = (\text{TotFleet} - \text{ComPos}) * .25$$

A boat finishing in 4th place with a Pen1 would receive 14.75 points

A boat finishing in 53rd place with a Pen 1 would receive 2.5 points

TotFleet = Number of competitors in the fleet

ComPos = Competitor fleet position at end of days racing before any penalties



How could this work at Club Level?

Andy is a Solo sailor

Andy doesn't have a certificate for his Solo

Andy is found during random checks of the Solo fleet that Andy doesn't have a certificate for his Solo

Andy is warned that he really should have a certificate and is told that he has 1 month to obtain one

Andy is checked 1 month later and Andy still hasn't got a certificate for his Solo

Andy has a penalty applied to all future races until such a time that he has obtained a certificate for his Solo

After Andy has had a penalty applied for 5 races, he gets the message and gets himself a certificate



The solution?

No

Every club is different!

But we need to start to address the change in culture at club level by increasing the awareness and education of all involved.



RVA

That's all Folks!



Questions?

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