

## ISAF Racing Rules Question and Answer Service



Q&A 06-001  
Published: 9 March 2006

Situation

The Sailing Instructions stated:

- 1.1 The Event consists of three parts/series:  
Part 1: National - and International Classes, 18.-21. June.  
Part 2: Olympic Classes, 22.-26. June.  
Part 3: Offshore Classes, 18.-25. June.
- 7.1 Depending on the number of entrants per class the regatta committee will decide if the regatta will consist of a qualifying series and a final series and if there will be group sailing.
- 40.2 When a Class is split into fleets, the Class will sail a qualifying series and a final series.

Appendix P of the Racing Rules of Sailing states:

- P2.3 When a boat is protested a third time during the series she may . . . If she fails to do so she shall be disqualified without a hearing from all races in the series.

Facts:

One boat received 3 yellow flags under Appendix P in the qualification series. The International Jury disqualified the boat from the series as described in the Sailing Instruction 1.1, Part 2 (the entire event).

Question 1

Did the jury make the right decision or should the boat have been disqualified for the qualification series only and thus eligible to sail in the final series?

Answer

The decision of the jury was correct.

The term “series” as used many times in the Racing Rules of Sailing can mean either the overall series of races, or part of the overall series of races as in “qualifying” or “final” series.

In most instances, the word “series” can be replaced with the word “regatta” and means the overall series of races. In other instances, the word “series” is qualified to mean a part of the overall regatta (see rules B5.1 and C10.4). Since rule P2.3 contains no such qualification, it means the overall series or regatta unless specifically changed in the sailing instructions.