

**APPENDIX UF**  
**UMPIRED FLEET RACING**  
**HORC FLEET 25 2026 – WINTER SERIES**

**Version:** January 2026

*Umpired fleet races shall be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing as changed by this appendix. Races shall be umpired. The rule changes in UF1 have been approved by World Sailing on the condition that only the provided options are used. This appendix applies only when it is referred to in the Notice of Race and made available for all competitors.*

**UF1 CHANGES TO THE DEFINITIONS, THE RULES OF PART 1 AND 2, AND RULE 70**

**UF1.1** Add to the definition *Proper Course*: ‘A boat taking a penalty or manoeuvring to take a penalty is not sailing a *proper course*.’

**UF1.2** **Add** to rule 2: ‘When racing, a boat need not take a penalty unless signaled to do so by an umpire.’

**UF1.3** Add new rule 7 to Part 1:

**7 LAST POINT OF CERTAINTY**

The umpires will assume that the state of a boat, or her relationship to another boat, has not changed, until they are certain that it has changed.’

**UF1.4** Rule 14 is changed to:

**14 AVOIDING CONTACT**

14.1 [SPARE]

14.2 [SPARE]

14.3 When there is contact that causes damage or injury, or the umpires decide a boat has broken rule 14 and damage or injury resulted, they may, without a hearing, impose a scoring penalty on any boat involved in the incident. The minimum penalty to be applied in such a case is one (1) point.

**UF1.5** When rule 20 applies, the following arm signals are required in addition to the hails:

- (a) for ‘Room to Tack’, repeatedly and clearly pointing to windward; and
- (b) for ‘You tack’, repeatedly and clearly pointing at the other boat and waving the arm to windward.

**UF1.6** Rule 70.1 is replaced with: *A party* to a hearing may only appeal a protest committee decision or its procedures, but not the facts found, under rule 69 to the national authority, except when rule 70.3 applies.

**UF1.7** Rule 70.2 is deleted.

**UF1.6 Test rules**

(a) The definition *Mark-Room* is changed to:

**Mark-Room** Room for a boat to sail her proper course to round or pass the mark on the required side.

(b) Rule 13 is deleted.

(c) Rule 17 is deleted.

**UF2 CHANGES TO OTHER RULES**

**UF2.1** Rule 28.2 is changed to:

**28 SAILING THE COURSE**

28.2. A boat may correct any errors in *sailing the course*, provided she has not rounded the next mark or crossed the finishing line to *finish*.

**UF2.2** Rule 31 is changed to:

**31 TOUCHING A MARK**

While *racing*, neither the crew nor any part of a boat's hull shall touch a starting *mark* before *starting*, a *mark* that begins, bounds or ends the leg of the course on which she is sailing, or a finishing *mark* after *finishing*. In addition, while *racing*, a boat shall not touch a race committee vessel that is also a *mark*.

**UF2.3** [SPARE]

**UF3 ON WATER PROTESTS AND PENALTIES**

**UF3.1** Rule 44.1 is changed to: 'A boat may take a penalty when, in an incident while *racing*, she may have broken one or more of the rules of Part 2 (except rule 14 when she has caused injury or serious damage), rule 31 or rule 42. However,

(a) when a boat may have broken a rule of Part 2 and rule 31 in the same incident, she need not take the penalty for breaking rule 31;

- (b) if the boat caused injury or serious damage or, despite taking a penalty, gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach her penalty shall be to retire’.

**UF3.2** A penalty in rule 44.2 is:

- (a) Before starting, or when on a leg of the course to a windward mark, or a finish at windward mark, a boat shall promptly sail clear, and as soon as reasonably possible gybe and luff to a close-hauled course.
- (b) On a leg of the course to a leeward mark, a gate, or the finishing line when finishing on a downwind leg, a boat shall promptly sail clear, and as soon as reasonably possible tack and bear away to a course that is more than 90 degrees from the true wind.

**UF3.3 On the Water Protests by Boats and Penalties**

- (a) While *racing*, a boat may protest another boat under a rule of Part 2 (except rule 14) or under rule 31 or rule 42; however, a boat may only protest under a rule of Part 2 for an incident in which she was involved. To do so she shall hail ‘Protest’ and conspicuously display a Y flag at the first reasonable opportunity for each. She shall remove the flag before, or at the first reasonable opportunity after a boat involved in the incident has taken a penalty voluntarily or after an umpire’s decision.
- (b) A boat that protests as provided in rule UF3.3(a) is not entitled to a hearing. Instead, a boat involved in the incident may acknowledge breaking a rule by voluntarily taking a penalty. An umpire may penalize any boat that broke a rule and was not exonerated, unless the boat took a penalty voluntarily.

**UF3.4 Penalties and Protests Initiated by an Umpire**

- (a) When a boat
  - (1) breaks rule 31 and does not take a penalty,
  - (2) breaks rule 42,
  - (3) gains an advantage despite taking a penalty,
  - (4) commits a breach of sportsmanship, or
  - (5) fails to comply with rule UF3.6,

an umpire may penalize her without a protest by another boat by signalling in accordance with rule UF3.5(b), or UF3.5(c). If a boat is penalized under rule UF3.4(a)(5) for not taking a penalty or taking a penalty incorrectly, the original penalty is cancelled,

- (b) An umpire who decides, based on his own observation or a report received from any source, that a boat may have broken a rule, other than rule UF3.6 or rule 28 or a rule listed in rule UF3.3(a), may inform the protest committee for its action under rule 60.1. However, he will not inform the protest committee of an alleged breach of rule 14 unless there is damage or injury.
- (c) When a boat fails to comply with rule UF2.1 (rule 28.2) an umpire shall disqualify her under rule UF3.5(c),

### **UF3.5 Umpire Signals**

An umpire will signal a decision as follows:

- (a) A green and white flag with one long sound means ‘No penalty.’
- (b) A red flag with one long sound means ‘a penalty is imposed or remains outstanding.’ The umpire will hail or signal to identify each such boat.
- (c) A black flag with one long sound means ‘A boat is disqualified.’ The umpire will hail or signal to identify the boat disqualified.

### **UF3.6 Imposed Penalties**

- (a) A boat penalized under rule UF3.5(b) shall take a penalty.
- (b) A boat disqualified under rule UF3.5(c) is no longer *racing* and shall promptly leave the course area.

## **UF4 RACE COMMITTEE ACTIONS**

**UF4.1** After boats have finished, the race committee will inform competitors about the results by posting a message on the event communication group (Viber, WhatsApp, Telegram, etc).

## **UF5 PROTESTS; REQUESTS FOR REDRESS OR REOPENING; APPEALS; OTHER PROCEEDINGS**

**UF5.1** No proceedings of any kind may be taken in relation to any action or non-action by an umpire.

**UF5.2** A boat intending to

- (a) protest another boat under a rule other than rule UF3.6 or rule 28, or a rule listed in rule UF3.3(a),
- (b) protest another boat under rule 14 if there was contact that caused damage or injury, or

- (c) request redress

Does not have to display a red flag or hail protest, and shall inform the race committee in the following way:

At the first reasonable opportunity, but not later than 5 minutes, after the results are posted on the event communication group.

- UF5.3** The race committee will promptly inform the protest committee about any protests or requests for redress made under rule UF5.2.
- UF5.4** The race committee will not protest a boat.
- UF5.5** The technical committee will only protest a boat under rule 60.1 when it decides that a boat or personal equipment does not comply with the class rules, rule 50, or the rules in the equipment regulations of the event.
- UF5.6** The time limit defined in rule UF5.2 also applies to protests under rule UF5.4 and UF5.5 when such protests are permitted. The protest committee shall extend the time limit if there is good reason to do so.
- UF5.7** Hearings
- Except for a hearing under rule 69.2
- (a) Protests and requests for redress need not be in writing.
- (b) The protest committee may inform the protestee and schedule the hearing in any way it considers appropriate and may communicate this orally.
- (c) The protest committee may take evidence and conduct the hearing in any way it considers appropriate and may communicate its decision orally.
- (d) Protest committee decisions that change the score of one or more boats shall be communicated to all boats.
- UF5.8** Rule 60.5 is deleted and replaced with: ‘If the protest committee decides that a boat has broken a rule, it may impose penalties other than disqualification and may make any other scoring arrangement it decides is equitable. If a boat has broken a *rule* when not *racing*, the protest committee shall decide whether to apply any penalty to the race sailed nearest in time to that of the incident or make some other arrangement.’
- UF5.9** Rule 63.7(b) is changed to ‘A *party* to the hearing under this appendix may not request a reopening.’
- UF5.10** Rule 61.4(b)(1), 64.1(b)(2), 64.1(b)(3) and 64.1(b)(5) are deleted.