

# Guidance on Scoring under Appendix A – Version 4.0

This document is the text of Appendix A of the 2001-2004 Racing Rules of Sailing, together with guidance notes from individual scoring experts from the Royal Yachting Association and United States Sailing Association. This is version 4.0 as of June 1, 2002 and reflects changes made effective May 31, 2002 by the ISAF Council (Rule A8.2 is deleted and Rule A8.3 is renumbered as A8.2.); additions or changes are possible. Comments or questions are welcome and [should be made by email](mailto:TrevorLewisNorwich@Compuserve.com) (Trevor Lewis, TrevorLewisNorwich@Compuserve.com or Arthur Engel, scoring@racingrules.org). Please note that the guidance offered is the opinion of experts, as only a National Authority acting under rule 70 can issue a binding interpretation of the “rules”.

## Appendix A – Scoring

See rule 88.3.

### A1 NUMBER OF RACES

The number of races scheduled and the number required to be completed to constitute a series shall be stated in the sailing instructions.

### A2 SERIES SCORES

Each boat’s series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. (The sailing instructions may make a different arrangement by providing, for example, that no score will be excluded, that two or more scores will be excluded, or that a specified number of scores will be excluded if a specified number of races are completed.) If a boat has two or more equal worst scores, the score(s) for the race(s) sailed earliest in the series shall be excluded. The boat with the lowest series score wins and others shall be ranked accordingly.

### A3 STARTING TIMES AND FINISHING PLACES

The time of a boat’s starting signal shall be her starting time, and the order in which boats *finish* a race shall determine their finishing places. However, when a handicap system is used a boat’s elapsed time, corrected to the nearest second, shall determine her finishing place.

Convert the elapsed time to seconds, apply the handicap, round the answer to nearest whole second, rounding 0.5 and more upwards.

**Example:** Boat A is corrected to 1200.499 seconds, Boat B is corrected to 1199.501 seconds. Each time rounds to 1200 seconds, and the boats are tied for a place. Apply A7 to calculate their points for the tied place in that race.

### A4 LOW POINT AND BONUS POINT SYSTEMS

*Most series are scored using either the Low Point System or the Bonus Point System. The Low Point System uses a boat’s finishing place as her race score. The Bonus Point System benefits the first six finishers because of the greater difficulty in advancing from fourth place to third, for example, than from fourteenth place to thirteenth. The system chosen may be made to apply by stating in the sailing instructions that, for example, ‘The series will be scored as provided in Appendix A of the racing rules using the [Low] [Bonus] Point System.’*

**A4.1** Each boat *starting* and *finishing* and not thereafter retiring, being penalized or given redress shall be scored points as follows:

<u>Finishing place</u>	<u>Low Point System</u>	<u>Bonus Point System</u>
First	1	0
Second	2	3
Third	3	5.7
Fourth	4	8
Fifth	5	10
Sixth	6	11.7
Seventh	7	13
Each place thereafter	Add 1 point	Add 1 point

**A4.2** A boat that did not *start*, did not *finish*, retired after *finishing* or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series. A boat penalized under rule 30.2 or 44.3 shall be scored points as provided in rule 44.3(c).

**Example 1:** 23 boats entered. Boat A finishes 3rd but is ZFP. The penalty is 20% of 23 = 4.6 places, rounded to 5 places so she receives points for the place equal to her finishing place of 3rd plus 5 penalty places or 8th place. Under the Low Point System, 8th place receives 8 points so points for the race are: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, **8**, 9, 10 ... 23. The two boats scoring 8 points will share any race prize for 7th place; the boat scoring 9 points will receive any race prize for 9th place.

Scoring penalties under rules 30.2 and/or 44.1 are cumulative but are calculated individually. For example, if a boat breaks rule 30.2 and the race is recalled and she again breaks rule 30.2 in the restart, she will have two 20% penalties. Similarly, if she breaks 30.2 and takes a Scoring Penalty under rule 44.1 she will have two 20% penalties (assuming the sailing instructions do not specify that the Scoring Penalty will be something other than 20%).

**Example 2:** Same as **Example 1** above except that boat A also takes a 20% scoring penalty under rule 44.3. She receives two penalties of 5 places each for a total of 10 places (not a 40% penalty of 9.2 places rounded to 9 places). Her score would be the score for 13th place, namely her finishing place of 3rd plus 10 penalty places. Remember that under rule 44.3 a boat shall not receive a score that is worse than DNF would receive.

The score of a boat receiving a scoring penalty may be affected by the disqualification of a boat whose finishing place is ahead of her.

**Example 3:** Same as **Example 1** above except that the boat that finished second is disqualified (and receives 24 points). All boats with a finishing place after the disqualified boat move up one place (see rule A6(a)). Boat A receives points for 7th place, namely her adjusted finishing place of 2nd (as a result of the disqualification) plus 5 penalty places. Points for that race would be: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, **7**, 8, 9, ... 22, 24.

**Example 4:** Same as **Example 3** above except that the boat that is disqualified finished sixth (not second). All boats with a finishing place after the disqualified boat move up one place (see rule A6(a)). Boat A receives points for 8th place, namely her finishing place of 3rd (not changed as the result of the disqualification of a boat whose finishing place is after her) plus 5 penalty places. Points for that race would be: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, **8**, 9, ... 22, 24.

#### **A5 SCORES DETERMINED BY THE RACE COMMITTEE**

A boat that did not *start*, comply with rule 30.2 or 30.3, or *finish*, or that takes a penalty under rule 44.3 or retires after *finishing*, shall be scored accordingly by the race committee without a hearing. Only the protest committee may take other scoring actions that worsen a boat's score.

Note that a boat that breaks rule 28, but meets the definition *finish* cannot be scored DNF or DSQ by the race committee.

#### **A6 CHANGES IN PLACES AND SCORES OF OTHER BOATS**

- (a) If a boat is disqualified from a race or retires after *finishing*, each boat that *finished* after her shall be moved up one place.
- (b) If the protest committee decides to give redress by adjusting a boat's score, the scores of other boats shall not be changed unless the protest committee decides otherwise.

#### **A7 RACE TIES**

If boats are tied at the finishing line or if a handicap system is used and boats have equal corrected times, the points for the place for which the boats have tied and for the place(s) immediately below shall be added together and divided equally. Boats tied for a race prize shall share it or be given equal prizes.

**Example:** Two boats have the same corrected time for third place. Under the Low Point System they would each score 3.5 points  $[(3+4)/2]$ , and there is no change to the scores of any other boats. Note: As provided in rules A6(b) and 44.3(c), the 'split the points' principle of the first sentence of A7 does **not** apply when the tie in race scores results from a grant of redress or the application of a scoring penalty.

#### **A8 SERIES TIES**

**A8.1** If there is a series score tie between two or more boats, each boat's race scores shall be listed in order of best to worst, and at the first point(s) where there is a difference the tie shall be broken in favour of the boat(s) with the best score(s). No excluded scores shall be used.

**Example:** Scoring: Low Point – one score excluded

Race No:	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL	REORDERED SCORES								
Boat A	3	4	1	6	2	7	16	1	2	3	4	6				
Boat B	4	3	2	1	6	6	16	1	2	3	4	6				
Boat C	1	2	7	3	3	14	16	1	2	3	3	7				

Rule A8.1 is sometimes known as 'most firsts, etc.' It breaks the tie between C and the two other boats in C's favour. It does not break the tie between A and B. Rule A8.2 must now be applied to break that tie.

**A8.2** If a tie still remains between two or more boats, they shall be ranked in order of their scores in the last race. Any remaining ties shall be broken by using the tied boats' scores in the next-to-last race and so on until all ties are broken. These scores shall be used even if some of them are excluded scores.

**Example:** Scoring: Low Point – one score excluded

Race No:	1	2	3	4	TOTAL
Boat A	3	4	5	10	12
Boat B	11	3	4	5	12
Boat C	5	15	3	4	12
Boat D	4	5	6	3	12

A8.1 does not break any tie, as they each have scores of 3, 4, 5 that count.

A8.2 applies and the tie is broken in the order of D, C, B, A.

## A9 RACE SCORES IN A SERIES LONGER THAN A REGATTA

For a series that is held over a period of time longer than a regatta, a boat that came to the starting area but did not *start*, did not *finish*, retired after *finishing* or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that came to the starting area. A boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series.

## A10 GUIDANCE ON REDRESS

If the protest committee decides to give redress by adjusting a boat's score for a race, it is advised to consider scoring her

- points equal to the average, to the nearest tenth of a point (0.05 to be rounded upward), of her points in all the races in the series except the race in question;
- points equal to the average, to the nearest tenth of a point (0.05 to be rounded upward), of her points in all the races before the race in question; or
- points based on the position of the boat in the race at the time of the incident that justified redress.

**Example:** average points of 2.85 rounds to 2.9. 'Upward' means to a larger number (and therefore worse using Low or Bonus Point scoring).

## A11 SCORING ABBREVIATIONS

These abbreviations are recommended for recording the circumstances described:

- DNC** Did not *start*; did not come to the starting area
- DNS** Did not *start* (other than DNC and OCS)
- OCS** Did not *start*; on the course side of the starting line and broke rule 29.1 or 30.1
- ZFP** 20% penalty under rule 30.2
- bfd** Disqualification under rule 30.3
- SCP** Took a scoring penalty under rule 44.3
- DNF** Did not *finish*
- RAF** Retired after *finishing*
- DSQ** Disqualification
- DNE** Disqualification not excludable under rule 88.3(b)
- RDG** Redress given

**US SAILING Note:** The scoring systems in Appendix A reward a boat that participates in all the races of a series, even when one or more scores is excluded from her series score. In a long series, such as a season championship spanning several weeks, these systems put a boat that misses some of the races at a disadvantage to a boat that sails more races. The US SAILING website ([www.ussailing.org/racemgt](http://www.ussailing.org/racemgt)) provides texts for alternative scoring systems designed for such long series, including an updated version of Appendix AA that appeared in the 1997-2000 edition of *The Racing Rules of Sailing*. Those without access to the website may request a copy of these texts by fax on the US SAILING Infifax line, (888) USSAIL-6.

## How to score using Appendix A – General Guidance

1. Choose the appropriate wording to appear in the Sailing Instructions – see K16, Sailing Instructions Guide. Note: the default under Appendix A is one discard so when the SIs simply say ‘the Low Point system of Appendix A will apply,’ each boat’s worst result will be excluded. However, it might help some competitors if the SIs confirmed this.
2. Note that the score for non-finishing places can change during a series if new boats can enter during the series (see rules A4.2 and A9); this is often common in club racing. The score for non-finishing places is rarely important in a well-attended series and results usually need not calculate (or recalculate) the points for non-finishing places until the end of the series. However, if full calculation will be needed during an extended series, it could be appropriate for the sailing instructions to say that ‘The last sentence of rule A9 is replaced with: “A boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points decided by the race committee”.’ The race committee can then decide a provisional value for this at the start of the series, being a number larger than the maximum expected series entry.
3. If scoring manually, apply rules A3, A4 and A5 to the results, in tabular form. The sequence is:
  - Take order of finish (non-handicap races) or elapsed times (handicap races)
  - Correct elapsed times using handicap factor (handicap races only)
  - Identify and score for DNC, DNS, OCS, BFD, RAF and DNF (which includes those not finishing within a time limit if so provided in the SIs)
  - Rank remaining boats for their preliminary finishing places by:
    - Corrected times (handicap races only), otherwise
    - Finishing order
  - Assign points to preliminary finishing places based on the specified scoring system
  - Identify and add penalty places to the preliminary finishing places for boats scored SCP or ZFP (do not change the scores of other boats - see rule A4.2)
  - If appropriate, post preliminary results (indicate ‘subject to changes resulting from protests and requests for redress’)
  - Change the finishing place and score of boats that the protest committee instructs should be scored DSQ or DNE (the finishing places, and thus the scores, of boats with finishing places after the boat to be scored DSQ or DNE will change - see rule A6(a); when a boat has been scored SCP or ZFP it is important to remember that her score, which is her finishing place plus penalty places, will change only if her finishing place is after that of the DSQ or DNE boat and changes as a result of the DSQ or DNE)
  - Change the score of any boat granted redress (score such a boat RDG) when instructed by the protest committee (the final value of RDG under A10(a) may not be known until the end of the series; do not change the finishing places or scores of other boats unless the protest committee decides otherwise - see rule A6(b))
  - Post final results for the race and update the series results
  - At the end of the series:
    - Exclude ‘worst scores’ as required by scoring system or SIs (exclude the earliest of two or more equal worst scores - see rule A2)
    - Break any ties in series scores as provided by rule A8
    - Post the series results
4. Protest committees considering ‘average points redress’ under A10(a) might feel it appropriate to exclude from the races to be averaged not only the race in question but also any race before the race in question where the boat to be redressed did not compete (for instance, in a long club series). Where there is a separate qualifying series and final series (for example, with separate ‘Gold’ and ‘Silver’ fleets) the protest committee must be careful and specify exactly which races to include in the ‘average points’ calculation.
5. Race committees are reminded that, in the absence of a SI to the contrary, they must give a finishing position to any boat that *starts* and *finishes* as defined. If the RC believes that a boat has not sailed the required course they must protest her (under the last sentence of rule A5 they cannot disqualify her without a hearing nor score her DNF).