HalSail FAQ

How does HalSail treat Boats that do not finish a race?

Appendix A of the Racing Rules of Sailing sets out twelve situations in which a boat is given points without finishing a race. They are listed below.

BFD	Disqualified (rule 30.4) Black Flag
DGM	Disqualified non excludeable (rule 69)
DNC	Did not come to the starting area
DNE	Disqualified, non excludable
DNF	Did not finish
DNS	Did not start
DSQ	Disqualified
NSC	Did not sail the course
OCS	On course side (over the line)
RDG	Redress given (points allocated by race, or protest, committee)
RET	Retired
UFD	Disqualified (rule 30.3) U Flag

In addition, Appendix LG, the Sailing Instructions Guide, adds a thirteenth:

TLE	Time limit expired

The actual number of points a boat receives for each of the status codes shown above, apart from RDG, depends on how the series was set up in the Race Schedule.

The points for each of the codes is set in relation to either the **number of competitors** (boats that came to the starting area, whether or not they actually started), or the **number of finishers**, or the **number in the class** (i.e. the number entered), or the **number in the series** (i.e. the number that took part in at least one race in the series). Thus you might set the score for DNF to be the number of competitors plus 2.

You can also set an **absolute number** of points by making the score relative to a base of zero. Thus the points for DNC might be Zero plus 50 (i.e. 50 points no matter how many boats entered or took part).

The default for all codes is the number of boats in the class (i.e. entered) plus 1, unless a different account-level set of defaults is specified. However race organisers frequently alter the allocation. They might give more points for DSQ than for RET, for instance, in order to encourage the resolution of disputes before they reach the protest room.

In a club situation, there may be many more boats in a class than are likely to take part in a particular series. A club might have 50 Wayfarers on its books, for instance, but might know that it was very unlikely that more than 20 would take part in the Wednesday evening series. In that case it makes sense to set points relative to either the number of starters (which is likely to vary from race to race within the series) or to the number of boats in the series (i.e. boats with at least one non-DNC score in the series).

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