



DBSC 2026

Scoring Inquiry

Race Date: 2026-05-13

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Request No.: 18

Course:

Race No.: All races

Posted Score:

Competitor: Dragon - Red Fleet and Blue Fleet - IRL 161 - Sir Osis of the River - Denis Bergin

Scoring Inquiry:

Dear Flag Officers of Dublin Bay Sailing Club

I wish to draw your attention to an anomaly in the Sailing Instructions of DBSC as contained in AIB DBSC Sailing Instructions A-General

Firstly DBSC state that " All racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) " A1 1.1

A1 . 1.2 lists those rules that are changed in these Sailing Instructions and 90.3 Scoring is listed.

Under A13 Scoring -DBSC Series 13.2 states

" RRS A5.3 SHALL APPLY BUT B12:R12 IS CHANGED SO THAT 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 THAT CAME TO

THE STARTING AREA. This changes RRS A5.3 "

For clarity I have included the relevant sections of the Racing Rules of Sailing below namely A 5.2 and A 5.3

"A 5.2

A boat that did not sail the course, retired or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series. A boat that is penalized under rule 30.2 or that takes a penalty under rule 44.3(a) shall be scored points as provided in rule 44.3(c).

A 5.3 If the notice of race or sailing instructions state that rule A5.3 will apply, rule A5.2 is changed so that a boat that came to the starting area but did not sail the course, retired or was disqualified shall be

scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that came to the starting area, and 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.
"

Now the Scoring System devised by World Sailing is used in the Olympics , World Championships , Series Events
and by thousands of Yacht Clubs and Racing Organisations around the world with ONE EXCEPTION !!!!
DBSC is the one exception

What is the effect of changing the scoring system from World Sailing to the DBSC AMENDMENT.
?

1. DBSC seeks to penalise active sailors who race.
2. DBSC seeks to reward boats that do not participate in yacht racing but chose to engage in other pursuits such as
GAA , Rugby , Football , Grass Cutting , Social Events etc etc

You could not make this up !

DBSC is penalising its active sailors to reward those members that chose to engage in other sports and other activities.

Lets reword the DBSC Scoring System to reflect the reality of this change.
I have prepared a simple Sailing Notice that DBSC can post on its Website as follows:

Notice to Competitors regarding the DBSC Scoring System

DBSC actively encourages its members to engage in other Non sailing activities during DBSC Racing Days.

To that end we DBSC have adjusted the World Sailing scoring system so as to o penalise our active sailors

and to reward our Non active sailors.

It is the opinion of DBSC that World Sailing and their Scoring System is unfair to non participating sailors

vis a vis those sailors that actively participate in our sport.

We DBSC have therefore adjusted the World Sailing Scoring System to favour boats that chose not to participate in racing.

I am going to demonstrate this anti-sailing scoring system by reference to my own fleet--
International Dragon.

We have eight yachrs entered in DBSC in 2026.

Note : ALL THESE SCENARIOS HAVE ALREADY OCCURRED IN 2026 IN DBSC Races

A Two Boats start and Finish--They receive 1 and 2 points respectively. The other 6 boats ,who stay home ,score

3 points each under DBSC Scoring instead of 9 points under World Sailing !!!!

B Two Boats start and Both Retire--They receive 3 points respectively. The other 6 boats , who stay home , score

3 points under DBSC Scoring instead of 9 points under World Sailing !!!!

C 6 Boats start and 1 boat retires with gear damage. The retiring boat scores 9 (SEE BELOW) but the

6 boats that did not race that day score 7 under DBSC Scoring Rules.

A boat that retires (RET) from a sailing race is generally scored points equal to the number of boats

entered in the series (or race) plus one. It is similar to a Did Not Finish (DNF) score. [1, 2, 3]

Penalty Calculation: If 10 boats are entered in a race, a boat that retires will receive 11 points (10 + 1).

D 5 Boats start and Finish , 1 is disqualified (OCS) and the other 3 do not race on the day.

The boat that is disqualified scores 9 (One more than the number of boats entered in the series) and

the 3 non participating boats score 6 under DBSC Rules. !!!

This amendment is a total nonsense and it is unfair to racing yachts .

It is bizarre in its attempt to reward boats that do not race.

It is demonstrably anti active sailors and pro non active boats.

Please amend the DBSC sailing Instructions to remove this bizarre amendment and rejoin the Scoring System employed by World Sailing.

If DBSC wish to retain this Scoring Amendment please supply a written explanation justifying this amendment.

Please do not supply some absurd justification citing Births , Deaths , Marriages ,Holidays , Illness etc etc etc

World Sailing has already considered all these subjects and have come up with a brilliant solution to all these

issues ! Its called DISCARDS

I look forward to receiving your response.

Denis Bergin

Dbsc Member

International Dragon Racer

Response:

Hello Denis, for DNS, DNC, etc, Entries plus 1 is normal for a regatta, Starters plus 1 is normal for a long running series. Many reasons for this, including:

- One entry in DBSC covers multiple series - Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays (and Royal Alfred series for keelboats). Many boats only compete in one or two of these series, although their entry

covers all of them, so 'Entries plus 1' would seriously distort results.

- We permit new entries during the series (which we would not permit in a regatta), so 'No of Entries' is a variable figure (and manipulatable - consider an entry late in the season by someone with no intention to race)

- In practical terms, for many classes, winning the series would merely mean turned up for more races than anyone else.

DBSC is always open to discussion on scoring, but to the best of our knowledge no class has ever requested a change from a 'Number of Starters' (actually 'Number that came to the starting area') base, to a 'Number of Entries' base for the above reasons.

Your cases above - OCS, DNF or DNS (incl. gear failure) and DNC should get the same score under DBSC - if there's a result that indicates otherwise, please let us know. There absolutely should be no disadvantage for turning up. Some years ago DNC was scored as 'Starters plus 2', whilst DNS, DNF, OCS, DSQ, etc., were all scored as 'Starters plus 1', giving a minimum 1 point advantage for turning up. However this was changed at the request of DBSC members to all scoring 'Starters plus 1'. If the membership want to go back to DNC as 'Starters plus 2', that's not a problem, but we would caution against an 'Entries plus N' for the above reasons.

Regards,
DBSC Results

Response By Ian Bowring Printed at 2026-05-22 00:02