

# MATCH RACING

*understanding the rules*



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Federação Portuguesa de Vela (Portuguese Sailing Federation)

Umpires Training and Certification Seminars

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## ***FOREWORD***

I know Armando Goulartt since he was for a long time an enthusiastic and skilled dinghy sailor.

It has been interesting to watch Armando's progress in the sport through the years. He accumulated practice with ability to pass on his knowledge to others, taking an active interest in the development of sailing and always trying to make it better.

Over the past two decades Armando has worked hard to develop his knowledge, taking his time to help sailors and officials and sharing information with all of them. His seminars, articles and manuals have reached hundreds of them at all levels. Furthermore he has been instructor for judges, race officers, umpires and coaches at the Federation for the last 16 years.

On his teaching responsibility, Armando has the ability to put the attendees at easiness, because of his simplicity and the fact that he does not pretend to be better than anyone else.

All we know that the racing rules of sailing are among the most complex of any sport and they are to a certain extent difficult to understand.

This manual is for private study at the Portuguese Umpires Programme. It provides a compilation and reference to the authorized and most accepted interpretations together with explanatory notes and drawings. Its propose is to help sailors and officials to apply them correctly.

*Rodrigo Biscaya*

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## ***INTRODUCTION***

This manual is a limited edition, part and parcel of the "Federação Portuguesa de Vela" (Portuguese Sailing Federation) Umpires Training and Certification Programme.

This is an educational tool - a compilation of rules, calls, cases and other umpiring scenarios used on national seminars and clinics.

Portugal has been the country with the greatest number of Match Racing events *per capita*, and this manual is designed to try and contribute to a high level of consistency in umpiring all over the National Match Racing Circuit.

Competitors expect consistency in umpiring, and the uncertainty of how a rule will be applied is most frustrating to them.

The intention of this manual is to provide an introduction to certain niceties of match racing and to help national umpires and sailors to clear any uncertainties arising amongst umpires and sailors.

Primarily, this manual is for umpires judging national match races and addresses, particularly the understanding of Match Racing rules. It can, additionally, help sailors to understand the way the rules are interpreted by umpires and help them to choose the best tactical options.

We are aware that a compilation like the present one can never be complete. But we would like it to be better; please send us your suggestions and comments.

*Armando Goulartt*