

Racing Rules of Sailing

Introduction - Terminology

A submission from the Chair of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

Recognise the Equipment Rules of Sailing definitions provide a useful source of understanding when interpreting the racing rules.

Proposal 1

Add to Introduction - Terminology as follows

Terminology A term used in the sense stated in the Definitions is printed in italics or, in preambles, in bold italics (for example, *racing* and ***racing***).

Each of the terms in the table below is used in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* with the meaning given.

<i>Term</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
Boat	A sailboat and the crew on board.
Competitor	A person who races or intends to race in the event.
National authority	A World Sailing member national authority.
Race committee	The race committee appointed under rule 89.2(c) and any other person or committee performing a race committee function.
Racing rule	A rule in <i>The Racing Rules of Sailing</i> .
Technical committee	The technical committee appointed under rule 89.2(c) and any other person or committee performing a technical committee function.
Vessel	Any boat or ship.

Other words and terms are used in the sense ordinarily understood in nautical or general use. **When describing parts of a boat, these racing rules are guided by Part 2 of the World Sailing Equipment Rules of Sailing when those definitions do not contradict the definitions or terminology of the racing rules.**

Proposal 2

Add new paragraph to the end of Introduction – Terminology

Unless specified by the Class Rules, the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions may prescribe that “hull” includes specific hull spars when used in the definition of Finish, Obstruction, Start, zone, or rules 17, 21.1, 29.1, 30.1, 44.2, 55.3, and associated Appendices that change these definitions and rules.

Current Position

As above

Reasons

1. Part two of the Equipment Rules of Sailing ('ERS') provide useful definitions regarding equipment used in the sport. Many classes already use the ERS so to provide more consistency, it is useful to use these definitions across the whole sport.
 2. There are classes where fixed bowsprits or other hull spars are significant when compared the length of the hull. For example, the 18 Foot Skiff has a fixed bowsprit that is 70% the length of the hull. There are also classic classes and classic yachts with similar issues regarding bowsprits (for example, the racing dhow in the UAE).
With proposal one highlighting the use of the ERS for guidance, this means that the classes with such fixed hull spars cannot take the overall length of the boat when determining rules issues such as zones around marks, starting, finishing and other rules. This proposal 2 aims to allow organisers of those races to decide what is the most practical length to use based on the boats racing.
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