

Racing Rules of Sailing

Definitions: Finish (including C2.1 and F), Proper Course, Sailing the Course
Rules: 28, 32.1, 35, A5, A10, B8 A5.4, F8 A5.2, S12.1

A submission from the Chair of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

Improve the definition of sailing the course to one that is generally understood by sailors and align other definitions and rules related to Sail the Course.

Proposal 1

Change Definition of Finish (as agreed in 002-22) to:

Finish A boat *finishes* when, after her starting signal, any part of her hull crosses the finishing line from the course side. However, she has not *finished* if after crossing the finishing line she

- (a) takes a penalty under rule 44.2, **or**
- (b) ~~corrects an error in sailing the course made at the line, or~~
- (c) ~~continues to sail the course.~~

After finishing she need not cross the finishing line completely.

Proposal 2

Change rule C2.1 to:

C2.1 The definition *Finish* is changed to:

Finish A boat *finishes* when, **after her starting signal**, any part of her hull crosses the finishing line from the course side after completing any penalties. However, when penalties are cancelled under rule C7.2(d) after one or both boats have *finished* each shall be recorded as *finished* when she crossed the line. A boat has not *finished* if she continues to *sail the course*.

Proposal 3

Change Appendix F – definition Finish to:

Finish A kiteboard *finishes* when, after **her starting signal** ~~starting~~, while the competitor is in contact with the hull, any part of her hull, or the competitor, crosses the finishing line from the course side. However, she has not *finished* if after crossing the finishing line she

- (a) takes a penalty under rule 44.2,
 - (b) ~~corrects an error in sailing the course made at the line, or~~
 - (c) ~~continues to sail the course.~~
-

Proposal 4

Change Definition of Proper Course to:

Proper Course A course a boat would choose in order to *sail the course and finish* as soon as possible in the absence of the other boats referred to in the rule using the term. A boat has no *proper course* before her starting signal.

Proposal 5

Change Definition of Sail the Course to:

Sail the Course A boat *sails the course* when:

(a) she starts;

(b) ~~provided that~~ a string representing her track ~~from the time she begins to approach the starting line from its pre-start side to start~~ until she *finishes*, when drawn taut,

(a1) passes each *mark* of the course for the race on the required side and in the correct order,

(b2) touches each *mark* designated in the sailing instructions to be a rounding *mark*, and

(c3) passes between the *marks* of a gate from the direction of the course from the previous *mark*; and then

(c) she finishes

A mark that does not begin, bound or end the leg the boat is sailing does not have a required side.

Proposal 6

Change rule 28 to:

28 SAILING THE ~~RACE~~ COURSE

28.1 A boat shall ~~start, sail the course and then finish. While doing so, she may leave on either side a mark that does not begin, bound or end the leg she is sailing. After finishing she need not cross the finishing line completely.~~

28.2 A boat may correct any errors in *sailing the course*, provided she has not **finished** ~~crossed the finishing line to finish.~~

Proposal 7

Change rule 32.1 to:

32.1 After the starting signal, the race committee may shorten the course (display flag S with two sounds) or *abandon* the race (display flag N, N over H, or N over A, with three sounds),

(a) because of foul weather,

- (b) because of insufficient wind making it unlikely that any boat will ~~finish~~ **sail the course** within the race time limit,
- (c) because a *mark* is missing or out of position, or
- (d) for any other reason directly affecting the safety or fairness of the competition.

In addition, the race committee may shorten the course so that other scheduled races can be sailed, or *abandon* the race because of an error in the starting procedure. However, after one boat has ~~started, sailed the course and finished~~ within the race time limit, if any, the race committee shall not *abandon* the race without considering the consequences for all boats in the race or series.

Proposal 8

Change rule 35 to:

35 RACE TIME LIMIT AND SCORES

If one boat ~~starts, sails the course and finishes~~ within the time limit for that race, if any, all boats that *finish* shall be scored according to their finishing places unless the race is *abandoned*. If no boat ~~starts, sails the course and finishes~~ within the race time limit, the race committee shall *abandon* the race.

Proposal 9

Change rule A5 to:

A5 SCORES DETERMINED BY THE RACE COMMITTEE

A5.1 When a race committee is satisfied that a ~~A~~ boat:

- (a)** ~~that did not start, sail the course or finish, or~~
- (b)** did not comply with rule 30.2, 30.3, 30.4 or 78.2, ~~or that or~~
- (c)** retired or took ~~retires or takes~~ a penalty under rule 44.3(a),

it shall score the boat ~~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.

A5.2 A boat that did not ~~start, did not sail the course, did not finish,~~ 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).

A5.3 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 ~~start, did not sail the course, did not finish,~~ 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.

Proposal 10

Change rule A10 to:

A10 SCORING ABBREVIATIONS

These scoring abbreviations shall be used 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 at her starting signal and failed to *start*, or broke rule 30.1

ZFP 20% penalty under rule 30.2

UFD Disqualification under rule 30.3

BFD Disqualification under rule 30.4

SCP Scoring Penalty applied

NSC Did not *sail the course* **(other than DNC, DNS and OCS)**

DNF Did not *finish*

RET Retired

DSQ Disqualification

DNE Disqualification that is not excludable

RDG Redress given

DPI Discretionary penalty imposed

Proposal 11

Change rule B8 (A5.4) to:

A5.4 For an elimination series race that will qualify a board to compete in a later stage of an event, a board that did not ~~start, did not sail the course, did not finish~~, retired or was disqualified shall be scored points equal to the number of boards permitted to sail in that race.

Proposal 12

Change rule F8 (A5.2) to:

A5.2 A kiteboard that did not ~~start, did not sail the course, did not finish~~, retired or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of kiteboards entered in the series or, in a race of an elimination series, the number of kiteboards in that heat. A kiteboard that is penalized under rule 30.2 shall be scored points as provided in rule 44.3(c).

Proposal 13

Change rule Appendix S (12.1) to:

12.1 The supplement will state which of the following time limits, if any, will apply and, for each, the time limit.

- Mark 1 Time Limit Time limit for the first boat to pass Mark 1.
- Race Time Limit Time limit for the first boat to ~~start~~, sail the course ~~and finish~~.
- Finishing Window Time limit for boats to finish after the first boat ~~starts~~, sails the course ~~and finishes~~.

Current Position

As above

Reasons

1. Makes the definition of sailing the course include the need to start and to finish. This is how most sailors understand the term.
 2. This simplifies other rules in that the changed definition of sail the course now means that a boat that does not start or finish has not sailed the course.
-