

RACING RULES OF SAILING

GENDER NEUTRAL TERMINOLOGY

A SUBMISSION FROM THE ROYAL YACHTING ASSOCIATION

Purpose or Objective

There are eight rules in the English version of the RRS that use the words 'he' or 'his'. Removing unnecessary gendered terms best serves gender equality in the rules. The proposed wording changes do not alter in any way the intent or meaning of these eight rules.

Proposal

Amend the rules below as follows:

Definition: *Conflict of Interest*

A person has a *conflict of interest* if ~~he~~ **that person**

- (a) may gain or lose as a result of a decision to which ~~he contributes~~ **they contribute**,
- (b) may reasonably appear to have a personal or financial interest which could affect ~~his~~ **their** ability to be impartial,

49.2 Lifelines

When lifelines are required by the class rules or any other *rule*, competitors shall not position any part of their torsos outside them, except briefly to perform a necessary task. On boats equipped with upper and lower lifelines, a competitor sitting on the deck facing outboard with ~~his~~ **the** waist inside the lower lifeline may have the upper part of ~~his~~ **the** body outside the upper lifeline. Unless a class rule or any other *rule* specifies a maximum deflection, lifelines shall be taut. If the class rules do not specify the material or minimum diameter of lifelines, they shall comply with the corresponding specifications in the *World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations*.

63.4 Conflict of Interest

- (a) A protest committee member shall declare any possible *conflict of interest* as soon as ~~he is~~ **they are** aware of it. A *party* to the hearing who believes a member of the protest committee has a *conflict of interest* shall object as soon as possible. A *conflict of interest* declared by a protest committee member shall be included in the written information provided under rule 65.2.

69.2 Misconduct

- (d) When an investigator is appointed, all relevant information ~~he gathers~~ **they gather**, favourable or unfavourable, shall be disclosed to the....
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(e)(2) a person against whom an allegation has been made under this rule shall be entitled to have an advisor and a representative with ~~him~~ **them** who may act on ~~his~~ **their** behalf.

(f)(1) provides good reason why ~~he is~~ **that person** is unable to come to the hearing.....

E2.3 Boat Out of Radio Control

A competitor whose **boat** loses radio control of ~~his boat~~ shall promptly hail and repeat '(The boat's sail number) out of control' and the boat shall retire.

G1.1 Identification

(c) (last line):which may be used on all ~~his~~ **the owner's** boats in that class.

M3.2 The Hearing

(point 5) • Invite the protestee to question the protestor's witness first (and vice versa). This prevents the protestor from leading ~~his~~ **the** witness from the beginning.

N4.2 International Juries

A person shall be responsible for presenting to the hearing panel any allegations of misconduct under rule 69. This person shall not be a member of the hearing panel but may be a member of the jury. Such a person shall be required to make full disclosure of all material ~~that may come into his possession~~ **gathered** in the course of ~~his~~ **the** investigation to the person subject to allegations of a breach of rule 69.

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

This proposal is to remove unnecessary gender terms in the Racing Rules of Sailing and promote gender equality in sail racing.
