

Racing Rules of Sailing

Definition Proper Course

A submission from the Chair of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

Bring the definition in line with how sailor manage Proper Course.

Proposal

Proper Course A course a boat would choose in order to ~~sail the course and finish~~ **sail to the next mark of the leg she is on, or 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.

Current Position

See above.

Reasons

1. The current definition of proper course means that when a boat has not started or has not gone around the correct marks (or in the correct order) then it may inadvertently not be sailing it's proper course.
 2. Proper course should be judged on the course to the next mark (as part of sailing the course) that a boat believes she should be sailing to. The definition should reflect this.
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