

Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 67

A submission from the Chair of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To clarify the meaning of the first words in rule 67.

Proposal

Change rule 67 as shown below:

67 LIABILITY AND MONETARY DAMAGES

Questions ~~The question~~ of **liability or claims for monetary** damages arising from a breach of any *rule* shall be governed by the prescriptions, if any, of the national authority.

Current Position

None. The proposed sentence is new.

Reasons

1. The word 'damage' appears 32 times in the 2021-2024 RRS. The word 'damages' appears only in rule 67 and its title. In everyday English, 'damage' is often used and widely understood, but 'damages' is rarely used in everyday English. It is a term used primarily in legal settings and has a meaning quite different from the everyday meaning of 'damage'.
 2. Case 19 clarifies the meaning of 'damage', but no rule, definition or case helps a reader understand the meaning of 'damages'. The proposed new words in rule 67 are intended to clarify the meaning of 'damages'.
 - 'Liability....arising from a breach of rule' is legal responsibility for any physical damage to a boat or injury to a person arising from that breach.
 - The addition of 'monetary' helps to differentiate 'damages' from 'damage'.
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