

## Racing Rules of Sailing

### Rules A1 and A2.1

A submission from US Sailing

#### Purpose or Objective

To change 'completed' to 'scored' in rules A1 and A2.1 and related rules.

#### Proposal

Change rules A1 and A2.1 as shown below:

#### **A1 NUMBER OF RACES**

The number of races scheduled and the number required to be **scored** ~~completed~~ to constitute a series shall be stated in the notice of race or sailing instructions; **see rule 90.3(a)**.

**A2.1** Each boat's series score shall, subject to rule 90.3(b), be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. However, the notice of race or sailing instructions may make a different arrangement by providing, for example, that no score will be excluded, that two or more scores will be excluded, or that a specified number of scores will be excluded if a specified number of races are **scored** ~~completed~~. ~~A race is completed if scored~~; see rule 90.3(a). *[no further changes]*

#### Consequential Changes

1. In Appendix B, rule B8, and in Appendix F, rule F8, make the same changes in the first sentence of rule A1 as were made in rule A1 in Appendix A.
2. In Appendix B, rule B8, change rule A2 as follows:

#### **A2 SERIES SCORES**

Rule A2.1 is changed to:

Each board's series score shall, subject to rule 90.3(b), be the total of her race scores excluding her

- (a) worst score when from 5 to 11 races have been **scored** ~~completed~~, or
- (b) two worst scores when 12 or more races have been **scored** ~~completed~~; **see rule 90.3(a)**.

However, the notice of race or sailing instructions may make a different arrangement. ~~A race is completed if scored; see rule 90.3(a)~~. *[no further changes]*

3. In Appendix E, change rule E1.2(c) as follows:
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- (c) In the racing rules, but not in its appendices, replace the noun 'race' with 'heat'. In Appendix E a race consists of one or more heats and is **scored** ~~completed~~ when the last heat in the race is **scored** ~~completed~~.
4. In Appendix J, change rule J1.3(5) as follows:
- (5) the scoring system, if different from the system in Appendix A, included by reference to class rules or other *rules* governing the event, or stated in full. State the number of races scheduled and the minimum number that must be **scored** ~~completed~~ to constitute a series (**see rule 90.3(a)**). *[no further changes]*
5. On December 31, 2024, in Appendix KG, in NoR 15.2, 15.3(a), 15.3(b), and 15.3(c), change 'completed' to 'scored'.
6. On December 31, 2024, in Appendix LG, in SI 18.2, 18.5(a), 18.5(b), and 18.5(c), change 'completed' to 'scored'.

### Current Position

As above.

### Reasons

Here is the text of rule 90.3(a). It includes a definition of the word 'scored'.

#### **90.3 Scoring**

- (a) The race committee shall score a race or series as provided in Appendix A unless the notice of race or sailing instructions specify some other system. A race shall be scored if it is not *abandoned* and if one boat *starts, sails the course* and *finishes* within the race time limit, if any, even if she retires after *finishing* or is disqualified.

The current version rule A2.1 includes the statement 'A race is completed if scored.' Here are two examples of races that are currently called 'completed':

- Fifty one-design boats are entered in a race. The race has not been abandoned and one of the fifty boats has started, sailed the course and finished within the race time limit. The 'finishing window' has just been opened. Even though this race is, today, called 'completed', it is still very much in progress. Forty-nine boats are still racing (see that term's definition).
- Two hundred boats have started an ocean race with a course length of 4000 km. The overall leader has finished (after having started and sailed the course). Again, this is, today, called 'completed', but for most of the boats it will continue for many hours or even days.

The Oxford Dictionary defines 'to complete' as 'to conclude' or 'to bring to an end'. To call these two examples 'completed races' seems inappropriate.

Is 'scored' the best word we could use in place of 'completed'? Perhaps it is, but there may be a better alternative. Because this is the last year for proposed changes that will be included in the 2025-2028 RRS, US Sailing suggests that we approve the proposal to replace 'completed' with 'scored' and then address this issue again in 2025.

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