

Racing Rules of Sailing

Case 145 Revised

A submission from the Croatian Sailing Federation

Purpose or Objective

Current Case 145 unnecessarily holds the imaginary string offshore and as a consequence, creates problems with rule 28 and the definition *Sail the Course* when using islands as *marks* of the course. This proposal corrects those problems.

Proposal

CASE 145 Revised

Definitions, Sail the Course Rule 28.1, Sailing the Race

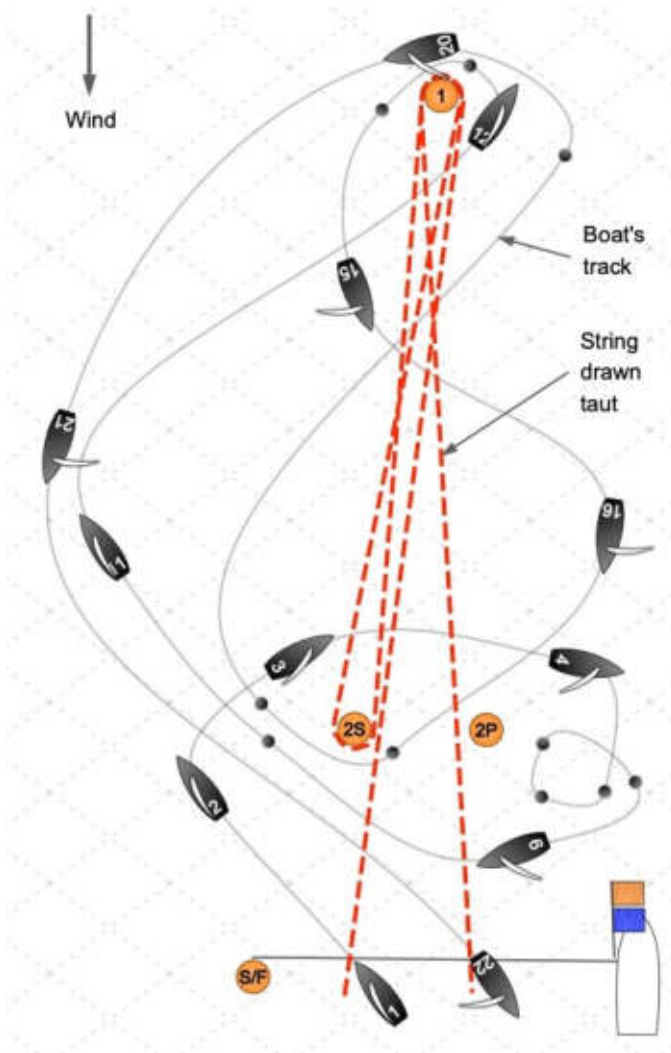
A boat's imaginary string as described in the definition Sail the Course, when drawn taut, lies on the surface of the water and is constrained only by the relevant marks, obstructions and navigational markers on the course.

Question 1

The race committee signalled Appendix S Course W1. After the start, Black was involved in an incident with another boat (not shown) between positions 3 and 4. Black bore away and took a penalty. As a result, Black sailed around the gate on leg 1. When drawn taut, is the string in the definition *Sail the Course* representing Black's track on leg 1 constrained by the gate *marks*.

Answer 1

No. Black was sailing on leg 1 (Start – 1) and the gate *marks* (2s and 2p) are not relevant for Black on leg 1. The imaginary string representing a boat's track, when drawn taut, will not be constrained by a *mark* on a different leg of the course. The bold dashed line in the diagram shows the string drawn taut as described in the definition *Sail the Course*. In this situation, Black properly sailed the race in compliance with rule 28.

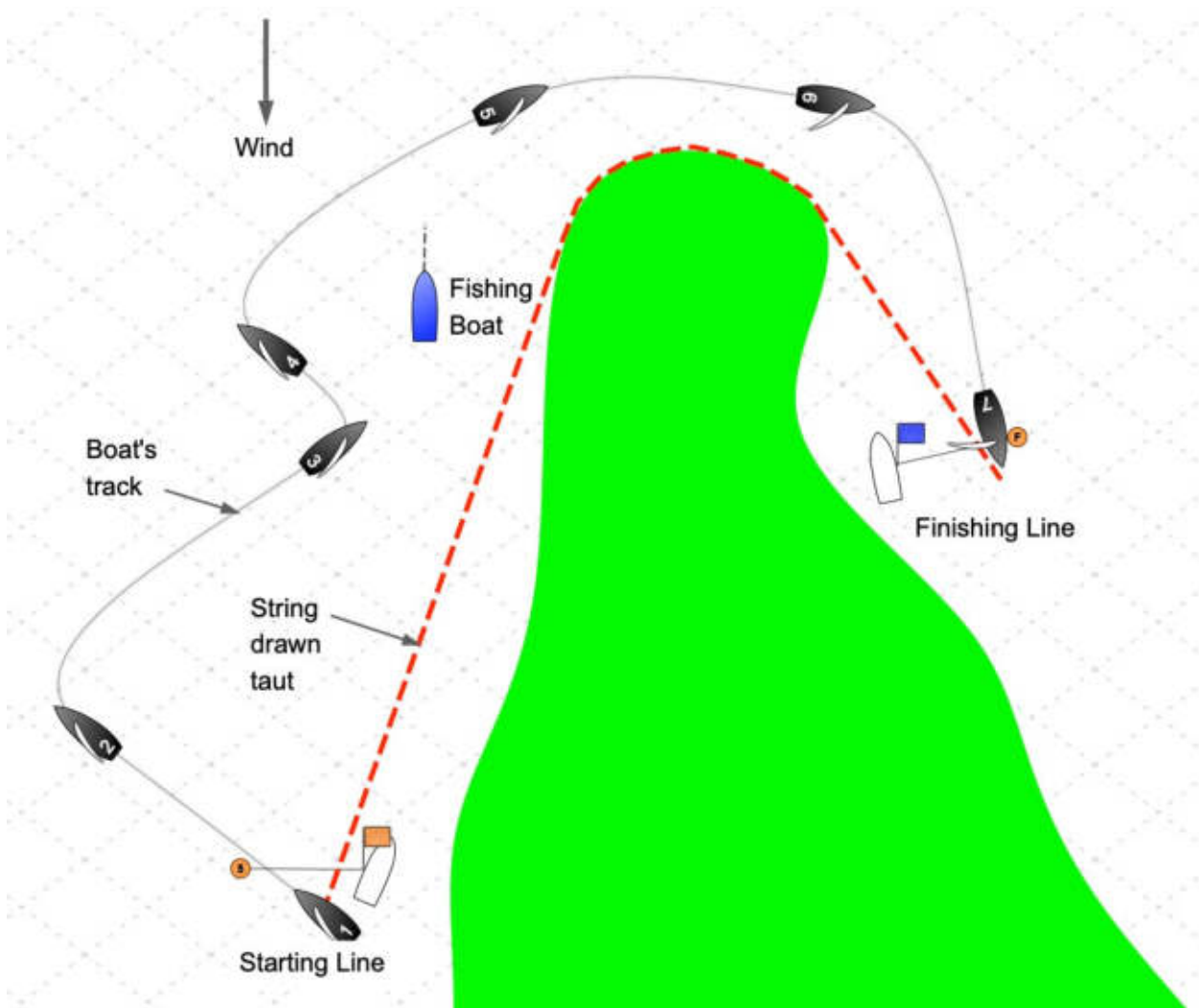


Question 2

Where does the string described in the definition *Sail the Course*, when drawn taut, lie when a boat sails around dry land?

Answer 2

The geographic features of the race course, including headlands, shorelines and islands are *obstructions* and are always relevant to the race course for boats sailing around or past them. The imaginary string representing the boat's track will be laid in navigable water. The string will lie on the surface of the water and when drawn taut will be constrained by the land at the shoreline if the boat sailed around it. Similarly, islands and other *obstructions* that are defined as rounding *marks* in the sailing instructions will constrain the string representing the boat's track when drawn taut.



Question 3

Is the string representing a boat's track in the definition *Sail the Course* constrained by an anchored fishing boat?

Answer 3

No. In this example, the string is not constrained by the anchored vessel in the race course. However, some *obstructions* or aids to navigation may shape the imaginary string representing a boat's track, such as an object, area or line designated in the sailing instructions. See the definition *Obstruction*.

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

This is a proposed replacement for World Sailing Case 145. The current Case 145 was new in 2020 and is based on GBR 2000/5. The Case is based on the logic that a string lying on the surface of the water will, when drawn taut, be constrained by water depth. Doubtful is the notion that without Case 145 the imaginary string would end up inland by crossing the peninsula. Even with an "imaginary" string, both of these assumptions hard to understand.

Current Case 145 unnecessarily holds the imaginary string offshore and as a consequence, creates problems with rule 28 and the definition *Sail the Course* when using islands as *marks* of the course. This proposal corrects those problems and also addresses additional questions with respect to the "string rule." For example, does the string when drawn taut get caught by anchored vessels, fish traps or moorings in the harbour?