

Submission E01-24 **Racing Rules of Sailing**

RRS Introduction

A submission from the Chair of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

Update the Paragraph Appendices in the Introduction to reflect the current structure of the Appendices to the RRS. Add a new Section named 'Development Rules' so that the community knows of their existence and their status.

Proposal 1

Appendices When the rules of an appendix apply, they take precedence over any conflicting rules in Parts 1–7 and the Definitions. Each appendix **in this book** is identified by a letter. **Other appendices are available on the World Sailing website and are identified by two or three letters.** A reference to a rule in ~~these appendices~~ **an appendix** will contain the letter **or letters,** and the rule number (for example, 'rule A1' **or 'rule MR1'**). The letters I, K, L, O and Q are not used to designate appendices in this book.

The text above includes the changes approved to the last sentence after submission 001-22 Proposal 1.

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

Two and three-letter appendices are officially approved are appendices to the RRS however, they are not mentioned in the rulebook and their existence and status are not generally known. This change recognises the current practise and will help the users.

Proposal 2

Add a new section after 'Appendices'

Development Rules Rules may be approved by World Sailing for specific events or categories of event. Development Rules are available on the World Sailing website and are identified by the letters DR.

The reference to the regulation will need to be checked after the final text of the regulations is approved.

Current Position

Is a new section.

Reasons

In the last few years, a number of development rules have been approved and made available to certain classes and events. Although they are published on the World Sailing Website there are still a lot of classes, clubs and event organisers that ignore their existence. Development rules are a useful testing tool and should be formally announced.

These changes should be considered as changes of pressing importance under regulation 28.1.2 so that, if approved with a 75% vote cast, they can be incorporated to the edition of the 2025-2028 RRS.

Submission E02-24
Racing Rules of Sailing

New Definition 'Committee'

A submission from the Chair of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

Add a new definition 'Committee'.

Proposal

- (a) Add a new Definition to be located between the definition *Clear Ahead and Clear Astern; Overlap* and the definition *Conflict of Interest*.

Committee The protest committee, race committee or technical committee.

- (b) Delete the row 'Committee' from the table in the Introduction – Terminology which was approved in November 2023.

Consequential changes:

Protest An allegation made under rule 61.2 by a boat, ~~a race committee, a technical committee or a protest committee~~ **committee** that a boat has broken a *rule*.

5 RULES GOVERNING ORGANIZING AUTHORITIES AND OFFICIALS

The organizing authority, ~~race committee, technical committee, protest committee~~ **a committee** and other race officials shall be governed by the *rules* in the conduct and judging of the event.

E6.2 Protest for a Rule Broken by a Competitor

When a ~~race committee, protest committee or technical committee~~ **committee** learns that a competitor may have broken a *rule*, it may protest the boat controlled by that competitor.

S 13.4 Notices of protests by ~~the race committee, technical committee or protest committee~~ **a committee** will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

Current Position

There is not current position.

Reasons

Defining the term 'committee' will avoid unduly repetitions in rules which refer to any or all committees.

Note that if this submission is approved, the term 'committee' will be italicized when it is used in the defined sense, whereas it will not be italicized when it refers to a particular committee previously mentioned in the rule or when it is used in combination with the words 'protest', 'race' or 'technical' to refer to a specific committee.

This change should be considered as a change of pressing importance under regulation 28.1.2 so that, if approved with a 75% vote cast, it can be incorporated to the edition of the 2025-2028 RRS.

Submission E03-24 **Racing Rules of Sailing**

RRS Definition Continuing Obstruction

A submission from the Chair of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

Clarify the definition Continuing Obstruction approved by the RRC in November 2023.

Proposal

Continuing Obstruction An *obstruction* is a *continuing obstruction* when ~~is~~ **the boat with the shortest hull referred to in the rule using the term** will pass alongside it for at least three of her hull lengths. However, the following are not a *continuing obstruction*: a vessel under way, a boat *racing*, or a race committee vessel that is also a *mark*.

Current Position

The above text is a new definition approved in November 2023.

Reasons

The words 'the smallest boat referred to in the rule' appeared in submission 008-23, Proposal 1. The Racing Rules Committee approved Proposal 1 with edits, and these words were subsequently removed from the definition. Upon further consideration, we believe these words are necessary and will be beneficial in situations involving boats of varying lengths.

The addition of the phrase 'using this term' make it clear what rule the word 'rule' refers to.

The addition of that phrase also avoids a mystery in the rules for readers who notice that the definition *Proper Course* contains the phrase 'using this term' whereas the definition *Continuing Obstruction* does not.

This change should be considered as a change of pressing importance under regulation 28.1.2 so that, if approved with a 75% vote cast, it can be incorporated to the edition of the 2025-2028 RRS

Submission E04-24 showing amendments **Racing Rules of Sailing**

Definition – Start, Finish

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To provide a mechanism for Race Committees to better describe a starting line or a finishing line.

Proposal

- (a) Amend definitions ~~s of start and~~ Finish:

~~***Start*** A boat *starts* when, her hull having been entirely on the pre-start side of the starting line at or after her starting signal, and having complied with rule 30.1 if it applies, any part of her hull crosses the starting line from the pre-start side to the course side, or in the direction as described in the sailing instructions.~~

Finish A boat *finishes* when, after her starting signal, any part of her hull crosses the finishing line from the course side, or in the direction as described in the sailing instructions. However, she has not *finished* if after crossing the finishing line she

- (a) takes a penalty under rule 44.2, ~~or~~
- (b) corrects an error in *sailing the course* made at the line, or
- (c) continues to *sail the course*.

After *finishing* she need not cross the finishing line completely. The sailing instructions may change the direction in which boats are required to cross the finishing line to *finish*.

- (b) Amend J2.1(3) as follows:

J2 SAILING INSTRUCTION CONTENTS

J2.1 Unless included in the notice of race, the sailing instructions shall include the following:

- (3) a complete description of the course(s) to be sailed, or a list of *marks* from which the course will be selected and, if relevant, how courses will be signalled and any change to the direction in which boats are required to cross the finishing line to *finish*;

Current Position

As above.

Reason

1. For races that are influenced by headlands, islands or race in rivers, there are times when the direction of a ~~start or~~ finish is not clear based on what is the course side of the line. This
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change allows a race committee to describe the direction which boats shall cross the ~~applicable~~ finishing line.

2. This rule will also allow for case 145, that was withdrawn from the case book for 2024, to be reviewed and changed.
 3. These changes should be considered as changes of pressing importance under regulation 28.1.2 so that, if approved with a 75% vote cast, they can be incorporated to the edition of the 2025-2028 RRS
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Submission E05-24
Racing Rules of Sailing

Definition Rule, Preamble to Basic Principles, Rule 86.1(a)

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To make it clear that the Basic Principles are not *rules*.

Proposals

Proposal 1. Change the definition *Rule* (a) as shown below:

Rule

- (a) The rules in this book, including the Definitions, Race Signals, Introduction, preambles and the rules of relevant appendices, but not **the Basic Principles or** titles;
No further change.

Proposal 2. Change rule 86.1(a) as shown below:

86 CHANGES TO THE RACING RULES

86.1 A racing rule shall not be changed unless permitted in the rule itself or as follows:

- (a) Prescriptions of a national authority may change a racing rule, but not the Definitions; ~~the Basic Principles~~; a rule in the Introduction; Part 1, 2 or 7; rule 42, 43, 47, 50, 63.4, 69, 70, 71, 75, 76.3 or 79; a rule of an appendix that changes one of these rules; Appendix H or N; or a rule in a World Sailing Code listed in rule 6.1.
No further change.

Proposal 3. Add the following preamble to BASIC PRINCIPLES:

The Basic Principles shall not be changed.

Current Position

As above; however, in Proposal 3 the preamble is new.

Reasons

1. The current definition *Rule* and rule 86.1(a) are not consistent with one another. The current definition *Rule* does not include the Basic Principles and, therefore, the Basic Principles are not *rules*. However, rule 86.1, while stating that Basic Principles may not be changed, implies that the Basic Principles are rules. Now that this ambiguity has been publicized by Submissions 039-23 and 201-23 and the discussion of them, it is important and logical that the ambiguity should be removed.
 2. Proposals 1, 2 and 3 make it clear that the Basic Principles cannot be changed and, in addition, that they are not *rules*.
 3. These important changes are matters of pressing importance.
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Submission E06-24
Racing Rules of Sailing

RRS Preamble to Part 2 – Section C

A submission from the Chair of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To eliminate flaws in the Preamble to Section C approved in November 2023.

Proposal

Change the Preamble to Section C to read:

SECTION C

AT MARKS AND OBSTRUCTIONS

*Section C rules do not apply ~~at~~ **between boats when the mark or obstruction is** a starting mark surrounded by navigable water or ~~at~~ its anchor line, from the time the boats are approaching **it** ~~then~~ to start until they have **started and left it astern** ~~passed them~~.*

Current Position

As above

Reasons

1. In November 2023, the RRC approved Submission 013-23 -proposal 2 with some amendments. The approved text is below:

Section C rules do not apply between boats at a starting mark surrounded by navigable water or at its anchor line from the time boats are approaching them to start until they have left them astern.

2. It has been found that the wording approved in November leads to unforeseen and undesirable situations. The proposed preamble aims to address and rectify these flaws.
3. This change should be considered as a change of pressing importance under regulation 28.1.2 so that, if approved with a 75% vote cast, it can be incorporated to the edition of the 2025-2028 RRS

Submission E07-24
Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 18.3

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Please consider this submission as a matter of pressing importance.

Purpose or Objective

To preserve several features of the version of Rule 18.3 that was proposed by the Rule 18 Working Party for consideration at the November 2023 meeting of the Racing Rules Committee.

Proposal

Delete rule 18.3 and replace it with:

18.3 Tacking in the Zone

If a boat passes head to wind from *port* to *starboard tack* in the *zone* of a *mark* to be left to port, rule 18.2 does not apply between her and another boat on *starboard tack* that is *fetching* the *mark*. If the other boat has been on *starboard tack* since entering the *zone*, the boat that passed head to wind

- (a) shall not cause the other boat to sail above close-hauled to avoid contact, and
- (b) shall give *mark-room* if the other boat becomes *overlapped* inside her.

Current Position

Rule 18.3 as it appears in the 2020-2024 edition of the RRS:

18.3 Passing Head to Wind in the Zone

If a boat in the *zone* of a *mark* to be left to port passes head to wind from *port* to *starboard tack* and is then *fetching* the *mark*, she shall not cause a boat that has been on *starboard tack* since entering the *zone* to sail above close-hauled to avoid contact and she shall give *mark-room* if that boat becomes *overlapped* inside her. When this rule applies between boats, rule 18.2 does not apply between them.

Reasons

1. We agree with the Rule 18 WP that the important 'Rule 18.2 does not apply' part of the rule should be stated up front rather than as an afterthought that can be lost at the end of the rule.
 2. We feel the first sentence of the current rule is too long and difficult to follow, so we like the idea of breaking this into more digestible pieces.
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3. We agree with the Rule 18 WP about numbering the two requirements for the boat that has changed tacks. This format gives sailors and protest committees the opportunity to refer by number to the parts of the rule that can be broken, for example: "Boat A broke rule18.3(a)."

We did not agree with additional numbering in the Rule 18 WP proposal because having (a), (b), (1) and (2) in such a short rule is cumbersome. We feel the priorities with numbering are the two actionable parts of the rule ('a' and 'b' above) which contain requirements of the rule that a boat can break.

4. We prefer a slight change in word order in the first sentence to make it clearer and more readable. On the other hand, the current word order can be preserved, if desired, with no effect on the rest of this proposal.
 5. We support using 'Tacking in the Zone' as the title of this rule. That describes in common language what this rule is generally all about, and it fits perfectly with the new title of rule 18.4 ('Gybing in the Zone').
 6. For all these reasons, we ask that this submission be considered as a matter of pressing importance.
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