

INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY VERSION OF *THE RACING RULES OF SAILING FOR 2025-2028*

Read this first!

The files in the ‘zipped’ Study Version folder are designed to help you learn and understand the changes that have been made in *The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2025-2028*.

Every change in the racing rules is the result of a ‘submission’ made to World Sailing from a Member National Authority, a World Sailing Class Association or the chairman of a World Sailing committee. Submissions that resulted in rule changes were made in 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. Each submission contains four sections:

- (1) the Purpose or Objective for proposing a change;
- (2) the Proposal, showing exactly how the submission’s author proposes to change a particular racing rule;
- (3) the Current Position (the wording of the rule in the 2021-2024 rulebook);
- (4) the submitter’s Reasons for proposing the change.

Studying the Reasons for a Proposal in the original Submission that led to a rule change will often help you understand why that rule change was made.

The World Sailing Racing Rules Committee (WS RRC) decides the fate of each Proposal. The committee has three choices: it may: (1) Approve the Proposal, (2) Approve the Proposal with Amendments, or (3) Reject the Proposal. If a Submission includes more than one Proposal, they can be voted on as a block or each Proposal can be voted upon separately. Within a single Submission, some Proposals may be approved or approved with edits, while other proposals in the same submission are rejected.

Each year, the WS RRC produces a ‘Yellow Paper’ which details the fate of each submission made during that year.

After the votes are taken, additional changes, usually quite small, may be made for clarity, for ease of translation, or to make a new rule's wording consistent with the wording of other rules in the rulebook. Also, some proposals lead to consequential changes in rules that were not mentioned in the original submission.

This 'zip folder' contains the following files:

1. This Introduction.
2. A special Study Version of *The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2025-2028*.
3. A 'clean' version of *The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2025-2028*.
4. Submissions made in 2021 that resulted in rule changes.
5. The 'Yellow Paper' for 2021.
6. Submissions made in 2022 that resulted in rule changes.
7. The 'Yellow Paper' for 2022.
8. Submissions made in 2023 that resulted in rule changes.
9. The 'Yellow Paper' for 2023.
10. Submissions made in 2024 that resulted in rule changes.
11. The 'Yellow Paper' for 2024.
12. Rule Number changes made in the new rulebook (except for Part 5).
13. Part 5 Destination Guide. Part 5 was extensively revised for 2025. This 'Destination Guide' show were each numbered rule in Part 5 in the 2021-2024 version of Part 5 is located in the 2025-2028 version of Part 5.

File #2 is designed to help you identify and study the changes in the 2025-2028 rulebook. Here are a few tips for productive use of file #2, the special Study Version of *The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2025-2028*.

- In file #2, all wording that is new in 2025 is shown in **red font**, and wording that was deleted from the 2021-2024 rulebook is shown ~~struck through in black font~~.
- If a rule was changed, there will be a comment in the right margin showing the submission number that led to the change and the year in which the submission was made. For example, Submission number '003-22' was the third submission made in 2022.

- In each of the original submissions in files # 5, 7, 9, and 11, new words are shown **underlined in black bold font** and deleted words are shown ~~struck through in black font~~.

I hope you find this Study Version of *The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2025-2028* helpful!

Dick Rose
Member, World Sailing Racing Rules Committee