

The Racing Rules Committee met at 09:30 on Thursday 07 November 2024 at the Suntec Convention Center, Singapore.



Please refer to the World Sailing website www.sailing.org for the details of the submissions on this minutes.

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Present:

Ana Sanchez del Campo (AS) (ESP) –
Richard Slater (RS) (AUS) – Vice-Chair
Luigi Bertini (LB) (ITA)
Bence Borocz (BBor) (HUN)
Bernard Bonneau (BB) (FRA)
Helmut Czasny Bonomo (HC) (AUT)
Gonzalo Heredia (GH) (ARG)
Line Juhl (LJ) (DEN)

Jon Napier (JN) (GBR)
Finn Mrugalla (FM) (GER)
Andrus Poksi (AP) (EST)
Chun Qu (CQ) (CHN)
Jamie Sutherland (JS) (AUS)
Chris Lindsay (CL) (IRL) Race Officials
Philip Baum (PB) (RSA) World Sailing Vice

Apologies

Ricardo Lobato (RL) (BRA)
Dick Rose (DR) (USA)
Christina Ortendahl (CO) (SWE)

1. Opening of the Meeting

(a) Welcome from the Chairman

AS expressed gratitude to all attendees for their efforts in participating in the meeting in Singapore. A special welcome was extended to Vice-President Philip Baum, with thanks for his ongoing support and commitment to the work of the RRC.

Vice-President Baum conveyed the Board's gratitude to the committee for the essential work the RRC undertakes throughout the year to provide the sport with rules that ensure fairness at all levels of competition.

*AS reflected on the process undertaken by the RRC in the first half of 2024 to fulfill the obligation of delivering the 2025–2028 rule book to World Sailing before the established deadline. This demanding project required numerous online meetings, extensive proofreading, and several urgent submissions, which were discussed and voted on in March. The collaborative efforts of all RRC members and several working parties made this achievement possible. The 2025–2028 RRS was ultimately published alongside two supporting documents: the **Study Package** and the **Translator's Package**, designed to assist the community in understanding and implementing the new rule book.*

Looking ahead, AS emphasized the importance of reviewing and updating all rules-related documents, including online appendices, development rules, cases, and calls, to ensure they remain current and effective.

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As this marks the final formal meeting of this RRC, AS expressed her deep appreciation for the contributions of over 50 members across 22 working parties operating within the RRC.

Each member's time and expertise in their respective fields have been critical to the committee's success.

Finally, AS extended heartfelt thanks to the 18 members of the RRC for their dedication over the past four years, with particular recognition of the Submissions Working Party. The invaluable work of this group of rule experts—whose sole interest is improving the sport by creating rules that ensure fair and safe races—is vital to the ongoing development of sailing.

(b) **Apologies for Absence and Declaration of Interest**

Apologies for absence were noted as received from Ricardo Lobato, Dick Rose and Christina Ortendahl.

Natalia Chubenko did not attend the meeting following her suspension under World Sailing Special Resolution 2.

Declaration of Conflicts of Interests:

Richard Slater, Jon Napier, Chris Lindsay, Ricardo Lobato, Line Juhl, Dick Rose, Helmut Czasny Bonomo, Finn Mrugalla, Qu Chun, Bence Borocz, Christina Ortendahl, Luigi Bertini and Jaime Sutherland declared conflicts or potential conflicts of interest. Some of them are registered through the relevant World Sailing channels.

(c) **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the Previous meeting were circulated and approved.

(d) **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising

2. **Racing Rules of Sailing Submissions**

To consider the following submissions concerning the Racing Rules of Sailing, for which the Racing Rules Committee is the approving Committee:

The Racing Rules Committee made the following decisions for the submissions the Racing Rules Committee is the approving Committee. The full text of the amendments approved and the reasons for rejection can be found in the Yellow paper attached as Addendum 1 to these minutes:

Submissions 2024

AC24 001-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Introduction <u>Decision: Reject</u> (5 in favour, 7 against, 1 abstain)
AC24 002-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Definition Obstruction <u>Decision: Approve</u> (11 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstain)
AC24 003-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Rule 4.5 <u>Decision: Approve</u> (12 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
AC24 004-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Rule 5 <u>Decision: Approve</u> (12 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
AC24 005-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Rules 30.2, 30.3 and 30.4 <u>Decision: Withdrawn</u>
AC24 006-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Rule 45 <u>Decision: Reject</u> (0 in favour, 12 against, 0 abstain)

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AC24 007-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Rule 60.3(b) <u>Decision: Reject</u> Proposal 1: Reject (2 in favour, 11 against, 0 abstain) Proposal 2: Reject (0 in favour, 12 against, 1 abstain) Proposal 3: Not applicable
AC24 008-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Rule 60.5(c)(4) <u>Decision: Approve</u> Proposal 1: Approve (12 in favour, 1 against, 0 abstain) Proposal 2: Approve. (10 in favour, 2 against, 1 abstain) The Committee approves an urgent rule change under Regulation 28.1.2.
AC24 009-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Rules B5 60.3, B5 63.4, B5 63.3 <u>Decision: Approve with amendment</u> (12 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
AC24 010-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Rules C2.12, C5.7, C7.4(c), C9.2 and D2.6(c) <u>Decision: Approve with amendment</u> (12 in favour, 1 against, 0 abstain)
AC24 011-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Introduction of a new rule in Appendix D <u>Decision: Approve with amendment</u> Proposal 1: Reject (0 in favour, 13 against, 0 abstain) Proposal 2: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
AC24 012-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Rule F2 18.1 <u>Decision: Approve</u> (12 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
AC24 013-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Rule F2 18 <u>Decision: Approve with amendment</u> Proposal 1: Reject (4 in favour, 8 against, 1 abstain) Proposal 2: Approve (11 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstain) Proposal 3: Approve (11 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstain) Proposal 4: Approve (11 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstain) The Committee approves an urgent rule change under Regulation 28.1.2.
AC24 014-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Rule F2 19 <u>Decision: Approve with amendment</u> Proposal 1: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain) Proposal 2: Reject (3 in favour, 9 against, 1 abstain)
AC24 015-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Rule F5 60.5(e) <u>Decision: Withdrawn</u>
AC24 016-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - New Rule J1.2(3) <u>Decision: Reject</u> Proposal 1: Reject (2 in favour, 11 against, 0 abstain) Proposal 2: Reject (0 in favour, 12 against, 1 abstain)
AC24 017-24	Racing Rules of Sailing – Rule N1.1 <u>Decision: Reject</u> (1 in favour, 10 against, 1 abstain)

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AC24 033-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Definition Proper Course <u>Decision:</u> <i>Approve with amendment</i> Proposal 1: Approve (10 in favour, 2 against, 0 abstain) Proposal 2: Approve (9 in favour, 2 against, 1 abstain) The Committee approves an urgent rule change under Regulation 28.1.2
AC24 034-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Definition Obstruction <u>Decision:</u> <i>Approve</i> Proposal 1: Approve (12 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain) Proposal 2: Approve (11 in favour, 1 against, 0 abstain) The Committee approves an urgent rule change under Regulation 28.1.2.

3. The Case Book

To consider the following submissions concerning the Case Book for which the Racing Rules Committee is the approving Committee.

The Racing Rules Committee made the following decisions for the submissions the Racing Rules Committee is the approving Committee. The full text of the amendments approved and the reasons for rejection can be found in the Yellow paper attached as Addendum 1 to these minutes:

AC24 018-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - New Case <u>Decision:</u> <i>Reject (0 in favour, 12 against, 0 abstain)</i>
AC24 019-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - New Case <u>Decision:</u> <i>Reject (0 in favour, 12 against, 0 abstain)</i>
AC24 020-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - Case 145 <u>Decision:</u> <i>Approve with amendment (10 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstain)</i>

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4. The Call Books

To consider the following submissions concerning the Call Books, for which the Racing Rules Committee is the approving Committee:

The Racing Rules Committee made the following decisions for the submissions the Racing Rules Committee is the approving Committee. The full text of the amendments approved and the reasons for rejection can be found in the Yellow paper attached as Addendum 1 to these minutes:

AC24 021-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - MR Call A1 <u>Decision:</u> <i>Approve with amendment (12 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)</i>
AC24 022-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - MR Call C3 <u>Decision:</u> <i>Approve (12 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)</i>
AC24 023-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - MR Call G2 <u>Decision:</u> <i>Approve with amendment (9 in favour, 0 against, 3 abstain)</i>
AC24 024-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - TR Call L6 <u>Decision:</u> <i>Reject (0 in favour, 12 against, 0 abstain)</i>

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AC24 025-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - TR Call E8 <i>Decision:</i> Approve with amendment (10 in favour, 2 against, 0 abstain)
AC24 026-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - TR Call C6 <i>Decision:</i> Reject (0 in favour, 12 against, 0 abstain)
AC24 027-24	Racing Rules of Sailing - TR Call E9 <i>Decision:</i> Approve (12 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

2. Recommendations Not Based on Submission

There were no recommendations.

3. Reports

The RRC noted the reports from the different working parties which had been made available for the members of the RRC prior to the meeting.

4. Other Matters

a. Changes and corrections January 2025

Following the publication of the 2025–2028 edition in July 2024, several errors have been identified in the final text. These include typos, incorrect rule references, and missing text sections that must be corrected before the 2025–2028 RRS takes effect on January 1st. The RRC has agreed to publish a document titled Changes and Corrections V1 as soon as possible after the conference. This document will also include all urgent changes approved by the RRC during the conference.

b. Updating Appendices and Development Rules

The next task for the RRC is to review and update all rules-related documents, including the Case and Call Books, the Two-Letter Appendices, Development Rules, guides, and forms under the RRC's jurisdiction. The RRC will review and, where necessary, approve these updates to ensure all documents are ready within the first few months of the new year.

c. Annual Report - End of the term for the current RRC and plan for the next term.

The Committee noted the Chair's report to the Council.

The finalization of the 2025–2028 RRS has been challenging, time-consuming, and at times even confusing, particularly for those not directly involved with the RRC. This was undoubtedly due to significant changes to Part 5 and Rule 18 being introduced too late in the process. These late changes led to a series of consequential amendments and, in some cases, the need to draft and vote on urgent submissions to resolve unexpected issues—all within a few weeks of the deadline for submitting the final document for publication.

The key takeaway from this process is that, moving forward, the RRC will accept major changes only during the first two years of the cycle. This approach will allow adequate time to implement necessary consequential changes in an orderly and timely manner, as well as to address any unintended consequences that may arise.

5. Discussion Proper Course

At their meeting on November 4, 2024, the Submission WP acknowledged flaws in the 2025-2028 definition Proper Course and decided to lodge a late submission to address the issue by reverting to the 2021–2024 definition. The Board approved submission AC24 033-24, which was discussed and endorsed by the RRC.

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The RRC noted that while reverting to the 2021–2024 definition resolved the most pressing issues, some concerns remain. The definition Proper Course will require further discussion in the next cycle.

6. Any Other Business

The RRC took note of the 2025–2028 RRS Windsurfing Edition. This edition, produced by the Windsurfing Classes, is intended to provide the windsurfing community with a rule book that includes only the rules relevant to windsurfing. The RRC does not participate in the preparation of this edition.

There being no other business, the Chair Ana Sanchez thanked those present and closed the meeting.

Addendum 1 .- RRC Yellow Paper

Racing Rules Committee Decisions

This "yellow paper" is a summary of the Decisions and Recommendations made by the Racing Rules Committee on the 2024 Annual Conference Submissions

Decisions

001-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Introduction Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i><u>Decision: Reject</u></i>
002-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Definition Obstruction Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i><u>Decision: Approve</u></i> Rule J2.2(15) needs to be updated as a consequential edit. See Appendix A of this paper for the final wording of Definition Obstruction as decided by this submission and Submission 033-24.
003-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Rule 4.5 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i><u>Decision: Approve</u></i>
004-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Rule 5 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i><u>Decision: Approve</u></i>
005-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Rules 30.2, 30.3 and 30.4 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i><u>Decision: Withdrawn</u></i>
006-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Rule 45 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i><u>Decision: Reject</u></i> The Committee agrees with the principle, but has concerns about this solution. If the boat is swept across the finish line by current before recovering the anchor, then the boat complies with the Definition Finish. The finish cannot be undone in this situation and there is no requirement to sail across the entire finish line. In addition, the finish line itself is not a mark.
007-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Rule 60.3(b) Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i><u>Decision: Reject</u></i>

	It is for sailing instructions to properly implement the Racing Rules of Sailing, not for the Racing Rules of Sailing to properly implement sailing instructions. If a protestor finds themselves out of time in the 'other protests' situation because of how the sailing instructions are written, the protest committee can still extend the protest time limit for good reason. The Committee will work on new wording for the next edition.
008-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Rule 60.5(c)(4) Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i>Decision: Approve</i> Proposal 1: Approve Proposal 2: Approve. The Committee approves an urgent rule change under Regulation 28.1.2.
009-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Rules B5 60.3, B5 63.4, B5 63.3 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i>Decision: Approve with the following amendment</i> <u>For a race of an elimination series that will qualify a lateboard to compete in a later stage of an event:</u>
010-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Rules C2.12, C5.7, C7.4(c), C9.2 and D2.6(c) Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i>Decision: Approve with the following amendment</i> Change rule C2.12 as follows: Rule 23.1 is changed to: 23.1 If reasonably possible, a boat not <i>racing</i> shall not interfere with a boat that is <i>racing</i> or an umpire boat. Change rule C5.7 as follows: A blue or yellow flag or shape displayed by the umpire from an umpire boat means 'The identified boat has an outstanding penalty.' Change rule C7.4(c) as follows: The umpire boat for each match shall display blue or yellow flags or shapes, ... <i>[no further changes]</i> Change rule C9.2 as follows: A competitor may not base a request for redress on a claim that an action by an official vessel boat was improper. The protest committee may decide to consider giving redress in such circumstances but only if it believes that an official vessel boat, including an umpire vessel boat, may have seriously interfered with a competing boat. Change rule D2.6(c) as follows:

	However, the protest committee may call a hearing to consider redress when it believes that an umpire vessel boat may have seriously interfered with a boat racing. Change the terminology in rules C2.12, C5.7, C7.4(e), C9.2 and D2.6(e) from 'umpire boat' to 'umpire vessel'.
011-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Introduction of a new rule in Appendix D Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i>Decision: Approve with the following amendment</i> Proposal 1: Reject Proposal 2: Approve
012-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Rule F2 18.1 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i>Decision: Approve</i>
013-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Rule F2 18 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i>Decision: Approve with the following amendment</i> Proposal 1: Reject Proposal 2: Approve Proposal 3: Approve Proposal 4: Approve. The Committee approves an urgent rule change under Regulation 28.1.2.
014-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Rule F2 19 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i>Decision: Approve with the following amendment</i> Proposal 1: Approve Proposal 2: Reject
015-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Rule F5 60.5(e) Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i>Decision: Withdrawn</i>
016-24	Racing Rules of Sailing New Rule J1.2(3) Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i>Decision: Reject</i> The Committee supports the principle, but considers that a new proposal dealing with similar phrases in rules 86.2, J1.2(2), J2.2(2), N1.7, and N1.8.
017-24	Racing Rules of Sailing

	Sub-title Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <u>Decision: Reject</u> The Committee considers that the first sentence of rule N1.1 needs to be reviewed as to whether it is still appropriate as a mandatory rule.
018-24	Racing Rules of Sailing New Case Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <u>Decision: Reject</u> The Committee does not agree that the word “needs” in Definition Room is a qualification on the space needed to round or pass a mark. Also, the Case does not consider the room to leave the mark astern. In preparing a new Case, the Committee encourages the Case Book Working Party not to rely on specific diagrams to explain the concept because, in this area, it is possible to draw many diagrams to complicate interpretations put forward in a Case.
019-24	Racing Rules of Sailing New Case Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <u>Decision: Reject</u>
020-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Case 145 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <u>Decision: Approve with the following amendment</u> Amend Question and Answer 1, Example 2 as follows: Example 2: The course described in the sailing instructions is around islands and the particular course is described as: Start – Island 1 – Island 2 – Island 3 – Finish. Leave rounding marks Islands 1, 2 and 3 to port. Delete Question and Answer 2 and re-number accordingly. Question and Answer 3 must be edited by the Case Book Working Party to ensure consistency with the new Definition Obstruction.
021-24	Racing Rules of Sailing MR Call A1 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <u>Decision: Approve with the following amendment</u> <u>Question 3</u> Blue is sailing a converging course with Yellow. Blue has adequate room to move away but nevertheless maintains a converging course. At position 2, Blue changes course to a parallel course and the sails of Blue make contact with Yellow. Flag Y is displayed at position 2 and umpires penalise Blue for breaking rule 11. While Blue's sail is in contact with Yellow, Yellow bears away promptly and there is contact between the hulls. Flag Y is displayed at position 3. What should the call be?

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	[...] Rule 16.1 is a limitation on Yellow to allow Blue to continue to fulfil its requirement to keep clear when Yellow changes course. Rule 16.1 can only be broken when Blue is keeping clear before Yellow changed course. In this case, Blue was not keeping clear prior to Yellow changing course; therefore, Yellow did not break rule 16.1.
022-24	Racing Rules of Sailing MR Call C3 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i>Decision: Approve</i>
023-24	Racing Rules of Sailing MR Call G2 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i>Decision: Approve with the following amendment</i> Question 4 Do the principles in Does the same line of reasoning used in Questions 1 to 3 also apply to boats on opposite tacks? Answer 4 Yes.
024-24	Racing Rules of Sailing TR Call L6 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i>Decision: Reject</i> The Committee considers the Call is inconsistent with Case 149.
025-24	Racing Rules of Sailing TR Call E8 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i>Decision: Approve with the following amendment</i> “When B passes head to wind, she becomes overlapped to leeward of Y on the same tack. Rule 18.2(a)(c) applies and Y is required to give B mark-room, which she does by luffing.”
026-24	Racing Rules of Sailing TR Call C6 Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <i>Decision: Reject</i> The Call conflicts with MR Call B15 and may be unnecessary under TR Call F2. The TRRWP and MRRWP should work on a harmonised call across the disciplines.
027-24	Racing Rules of Sailing TR Call E9

	Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <u>Decision: Approve</u>
033-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Definition Proper Course Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <u>Decision: Approve with the following amendment</u> Proposal 1: Approve. The word “soon” is changed to “quickly”. Proposal 2: Approve. The Committee approves an urgent rule change under Regulation 28.1.2. The Committee approved the amendments to Case 75 shown in Appendix 2.
034-24	Racing Rules of Sailing Definition Obstruction Reporting Committee: Racing Rules Other Committee: Race Officials <u>Decision: Approve</u> Proposal 1: Approve Proposal 2: Approve. The Committee approves an urgent rule change under Regulation 28.1.2.

Ana Sanchez del Campo Ferrer
Chair, Racing Rules Committee

Authenticated by email

7 November 2024

APPENDIX A

Obstruction An *obstruction* is

- (a) an object that a boat could not pass without changing course substantially, if she were sailing directly towards it and one of her hull lengths from it;
- (b) an object that can be safely passed on only one side; or
- (c) an object, area, or line that is so designated in a *rule*.

However, a boat *racing* is not an *obstruction* to other boats unless they are required to *keep clear* of her or, if rule 22 applies, avoid her.

APPENDIX B

[...]

When S gybed just after position 2, she had not sailed farther from the mark than needed to sail her proper course. Indeed, in the absence of P (the boat ‘referred to’ in the definition Proper Course), S’s proper course might well have been to sail even farther from the mark and higher than she did, so as to make a smoother, faster rounding ~~or and~~ to avoid interference with her wind by being backwinded or blanketed by other boats ahead. Such a course by S is one that many boats choose to sail. It is a reasonable course to choose and as such, the course sailed by S was a proper course. Therefore, S did not break rule 18.4.