

## Racing Rules of Sailing

### Rules 86.1(b), J2.2 and L1.5

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

#### Purpose or Objective

To remove the option for sailing instructions to change the definition Zone.

#### Proposal

#### **86 CHANGES TO THE RACING RULES**

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

- (b) Sailing instructions may change a racing rule **by referring specifically to it and stating the change**, but not rule 76.1, Appendix F, or a rule listed in rule 86.1(a). ~~However, the sailing instructions may change to ‘two’ or ‘four’ the number of hull lengths determining the zone around marks, provided that the number is the same for all marks and all boats using those marks. If the sailing instructions change a rule or that definition, they shall refer specifically to the rule or definition and state the change.~~

[No change to the rest of rule 86.1]

#### **J2 SAILING INSTRUCTION CONTENTS**

**J2.2** ~~(27) under rule 86.1(b), a change to the number of hull lengths determining the zone;~~

Delete J2.2(27) and renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

#### **APPENDIX L – SAILING INSTRUCTIONS GUIDE**

~~For example, use ‘two’  
when the racing area is  
particularly small or ‘four’  
when the boats  
are particularly fast.~~

~~1.5~~

~~Under rule 86.1(b), in the definition Zone the  
distance is changed to [two] [four] hull lengths.~~

Delete L1.5 and renumber instructions 1.6 and 1.7 appropriately.

#### Current Position

As above.

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Reasons

1. The proposal removes the addition to rule 86.1(b) that was made in 2009 and restores the wording of the 2005-2008 rule. The 2009 change was made to enable event organizers to choose either a two-length or a four-length zone in place of the three-length zone when they believed this to be necessary or appropriate. It seemed logical to allow changes in zone size in light of the significant change to the definition Zone made in 2009 from the two-length zone to a three-length zone.
2. It appears that very few changes to zone size have occurred and that there is no pressure from the racing community to change the current three-length definition of the zone. Indeed, a survey of many active race officers shows that organizing authorities and classes have rarely used the option provided in rule 86.1(b) to change to “two” or “four” the number of hull lengths determining the zone around marks.
3. ISAF has for many years ensured that the important racing rules, and in particular the definitions and the rules of Part 2, are the same for racing throughout the world. Given that the racing community has accepted the three-length zone and is not seeking a change in its size, the proposal seems logical in that it makes the Part 2 rules more consistent from event to event and, in addition, it makes it simpler to remember the rules for each event.
4. This proposal does not change the size of the zone defined in Appendices C, D and E.

If the proposed change in rule 86.1(b) is accepted, then rule J2.2(27) and instruction 1.5 in Appendix L are no longer needed.

This submission was prepared by the ISAF Section C Working Party.

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