

### Racing Rules of Sailing

#### Definition - Postpone

A submission from US SAILING

#### Proposal

Delete the definition *Postpone*.

~~**Postpone** A postponed race is delayed before its scheduled start but may be started or abandoned later.~~

#### Current Position

As above.

#### Reason

The primary definition of 'postpone' in the dictionary is 'to delay or put off to a later time'. That is exactly the meaning that the term has in the racing rules (see rule 27.3 and Race Signals, Postponement Signals). Therefore, there is no need for a definition of 'postpone' in the Definitions section of the rulebook.

The current definition, when read literally, only applies to a race that is delayed before its scheduled starting time. It is often the case, however, that a race is postponed before its scheduled starting time and then postponed again after its warning signal. Such a subsequent postponement is not a postponement under the current definition. Thus, races are already being postponed, without confusion or complaint, in a manner consistent with the dictionary's definition of 'postpone' and not with the definition in our rulebook.

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