

Racing Rules Committee

Introduction: Terminology

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To include in the RRS a rule that is often included in the notice of race or the sailing instructions and, thereby, enable the notice of race and the sailing instructions to be shorter. Also, to improve the wording of that rule.

Proposal

Add in the Introduction the following new paragraph between the last paragraph of 'Terminology' and the 'Hails' paragraph:

If there is a conflict between the English text of a *rule* and a translation of that *rule* into a language other than English, the English text will take precedence. At an international event, the English text of the notice of race and sailing instructions take precedence.

Current Position

None. The proposed paragraph is new.

Reasons

For many years, Appendices K and L have recommended that either the NoR or the SIs include the following statement: 'If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.' That statement is not based on any rule or statement in the RRS. However, it has frequently appeared in the NoR or the SIs for international events.

The proposal provides standard wording for this provision and proposes to include that standard wording in the RRS. This will enable either the NoR or the SIs for many events to be shorter.

The proposal does not use the wording ('If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.') suggested in Appendices K and L in the 2017-2020 RRS. That wording could create problems in situations in which the conflict is between a rule intended for use in a country in which the language spoken is not English and a translation of that rule into English. Here is an example of such a problem:

An international event is to be held in France. Two versions of the NoR are made available – one in French and one in English. The English version of the NoR includes a translation from French into English of one of France's *Maritime Regulations*. The French version includes the regulation in French. There is a conflict between the French text of the regulation and the text of the translation into English.

In this example, it would be appropriate for the French text taken from France's *Maritime Regulations* to govern. Therefore, the wording in the proposed new paragraph has been chosen so that it does not apply to that example.
