Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule F2 18, Appendix F Definitions “Mark-Room”, “Zone” and “About to Round or Pass”

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To reinstate standard RRS 18 for Kiteboard Racing, including subsequent changes to the Definitions. It should start to apply from 01.01.2014.

Proposal

Delete the change of Rule F2.18.1
Delete the change of Rule F2.18.2(b)
Delete the change of Rule F2.18.2(c)
Delete the change of Rule F2.18.3
Delete the change of Rule F2.18.4
Delete RRS Appendix F Definition "Mark-Room"
Delete RRS Appendix F Definition "About to Round or Pass"
Add RRS Appendix F Definition "Zone" as follows:

Zone The area around a mark within a distance of 25m of the kiteboard nearer to it. A kiteboard is in the zone when any part of her hull is in the zone.

Current Position

Current Rule F2.18, RRS Appendix F Definitions "Mark-Room" and "About to Round or Pass"

Reasons

A fixed zone is beneficial to sailors and judges. "About to round or pass" is sometimes only centimetres and therefore difficult to judge, especially given the speed of kiteboards approaching to the mark.

Creating a zone of 25m around the mark allows to sailors enough reaction time to give a mark-room and to avoid the right of way kiteboard in a seamanlike way.

Gates in kiteboard racing competitions are usually set at a width of 50m (due to the line length of the kite – to avoid blocking the gate by a capsized kiteboard with the kite in the water), hence 25m for the zone does not create an overlap between the zones around two gate marks.