Racing Rules of Sailing

Definition Mark

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To clarify the status of objects attached on marks.

Only one proposal is to be approved.

Proposal 1

Change the definition mark to:

Mark  An object the sailing instructions require a boat to leave on a specified side, and a race committee vessel surrounded by navigable water from which the starting or finishing line extends. An anchor line or an object attached accidentally to a mark is not part of it. An object attached to a mark is part of the mark. An anchor line is not part of the mark.

Proposal 2

Change the definition mark to:

Mark  An object the sailing instructions require a boat to leave on a specified side, and a race committee vessel surrounded by navigable water from which the starting or finishing line extends. An anchor line or an object attached accidentally to a mark is not part of it. An object attached to a mark, including its anchor line, is not part of it.

Current Position

See above

Reasons

The word accidentally is ambiguous. Sailors are not expected to know what the intention or the race committee is. Defining anything that is attached to the mark as part of the mark (proposal 1) or anything attached to the mark as not part of it (proposal 2), is clear for everyone.