Racing Rules of Sailing

Rules 3.1(a), 20.4 and A2.1

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

Minor edits to clarify rules 3.1(a) and 20.4 and to format rule A2.1 in a manner consistent with the format used at other places in the RRS.

Proposal 1

Change rule 3.1(a) as follows:

3 ACCEPTANCE OF THE RULES
3.1 (a) By participating or intending to participate in a race conducted under these rules, each competitor and boat owner agrees to accept these rules.

Current Position

As above.

Proposal 2

Change rule 20.4 as follows:

20.4 Additional Requirements for Hails

(a) When conditions are such that a hail may not be heard, the boat shall also make a signal that clearly indicates her need for room to tack.

(b) The notice of race or sailing instructions may specify an alternative communication to indicate the [a boat’s need] to require boats to use it.

This rule also applies to a hail under rule 20.2(c) all hails under rule 20.

Current Position

As above. Note that rule 20.4 is a new rule that was approved in 2018 for inclusion in the 2021-2024 RRS.
Proposal 3

Change rule A2.1 as follows:

A2.1 Each boat’s series score shall, subject to rule 90.3(b), be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. However, the notice of race or sailing instructions may make a different arrangement by providing, for example, that no score will be excluded, that two or more scores will be excluded, or that a specified number of scores will be excluded if a specified number of races are completed. A race is completed if scored; see rule 90.3(a). If a boat has two or more equal worst scores, the score(s) for the race(s) sailed earliest in the series shall be excluded. The boat with the lowest series score wins and others shall be ranked accordingly.

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

1. Proposal 1: For clarity. The phrase ‘these rules’ is used to refer to a specific set of racing rules that is under discussion in the paragraph in which the phrase is used (see, for example, the preamble to Part 2). The phrase ‘the rules’ refers to all the rules govern an event, as specified in the definition Rule. The phrase ‘these rules’, with ‘rules’ in italics, is not used in anywhere other than in rule 3.1(a), and it is not clear.

2. Proposal 2: For clarity. The only part of rule 20 involving hailing that is not covered by rule 20.4 is rule 20.2(c).

3. Proposal 3: Exceptions in the RRS are introduced with the ‘However,’. The proposal makes rule 20.1 consistent with other rules that describe exceptions.