

Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 86.1(a)

A submission from the Royal Yachting Association

Purpose or Objective

To prevent race organisers negating the effect of rule 55 contrary to the Basic Principle on Environmental Responsibility.

Proposal

86 CHANGES TO THE RACING RULES

86.1 A racing rule shall not be changed unless permitted in the rule itself or as follows:

- (a) Prescriptions of a national authority may change a racing rule, but not the Definitions; the Basic Principles; a rule in the Introduction; Part 1, 2 or 7; rule 42, 43, **55**, 63.4, 69, 70, 71, 75, 76.3, 79 or 80; a rule of an appendix that changes one of these rules; Appendix H or N; World Sailing Regulation 19, 20, 21, 22, 35 or 37.
- (b) The notice of race or sailing instructions may change a racing rule, but not rule 76.1 or 76.2, Appendix R, or a rule listed in rule 86.1(a).
- (c) Class rules may change only racing rules 42, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53 and 54.

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

1. Some race organisers permit disposal of trash in the water by amending rule 55 or even deleting the rule. World Sailing should support the Basic Principle stated in the Racing Rules of Sailing to minimise any adverse environmental impact of the sport of sailing.
 2. One area of concern is the use of elastic bands to stop spinnakers during a hoist. Sailmakers have been developing alternative methods of stopping spinnakers. Although this rule change will not take effect until 1 January 2021, its approval now will send a clear message of urgency.
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