Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 20.2(c) and 61.1(a)

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To clarify and include in the RRS the answer to a Q&A that hails in a local language are acceptable when reasonable to expect that they will be understood.

Proposal 1

Delete quotation marks around the term you tack in rule 20.2 (c):

A hailed boat shall respond either by tacking as soon as possible, or by immediately replying ‘You tack’ and then giving the hailing boat room to tack and avoid her

and

Delete quotation marks around the word protest in rule 61.1(a):

A boat intending to protest shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity. When her protest will concern an incident in the racing area that she was involved in or saw, she shall hail ‘Protest’ and conspicuously display a red flag at the first reasonable opportunity for each. She shall display the flag until she is no longer racing. However,

Proposal 2

Add a new final paragraph to Introduction – Terminology:

At events that are organised at a venue where the local language is not English as its first language, the local language words may be used for rule 20.1, 20.2(c) and 61.1(a), however, the English words are always acceptable.

Current Position

See above

Reasons

1. Deleting quotation marks from 20.2(c) and 61.1(a) means that all 3 hails required by the rules (room to tack, you tack, and protest) to be treated in the same manner.

2. Removing quotation marks allows these terms to be translated into local language of the MNA.
3. Adding a statement under terminology confirms this approach while also making it clear that the English language words may also be used.