Racing Rules of Sailing

Rules 25.1, Appendix J, 44.1, D2.1, 70.5, 86.2, N1.7, Introduction, 43.1(b), 87 and 88

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Objectives
1. To remove all requirements that a rule included in the NoR be repeated in the SIs.
2. To make changes in the rules of Parts 1 – 7 and of Appendix to reflect the fact that statements in the NoR are rules (see the definition Rule (e)).
3. To require the NoR to contain rules a reasonable competitor would want to know when deciding whether to enter an event or when preparing for the event in the weeks before the event begins.
4. To update Appendix J to include items related to rules in Parts 1 -7 that reference the NoR or SIs.
5. To make other small changes that clarify rules that reference the NoR or the SIs.

Note: The proposals below are independent of one another and can be considered separately.

Proposal 1

Change rule 25.1 as follows:

25  NOTICE OF RACE, SAILING INSTRUCTIONS AND SIGNALS

25.1 The notice of race shall be made available to each boat that enters an event before or at the time she enters, and it shall be posted on the official notice board. The notice of race and sailing instructions shall be made available to each boat before a race begins.

Current Position
As above.

Reason
The notice of race contains rules that a boat must comply with before the event and rules that would help competitors decide whether to attend the event and information that they will need before the sailing instructions become available. However, there is no rule in the current RRS that states that when the notice of race must be made available. At many local and regional events, some boats may enter without the notice of race being made available to them. Because the notice of race contains rules that govern the event, it is prudent to require that it be posted on the official notice board for competitors who may not have seen it or who may not have saved a copy of it when they read it a considerable time before the event.
Proposal 2

Change Appendix J as follows:

APPENDIX J
NOTICE OF RACE AND SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

See rules 89.2 and 90.2. In this appendix, the term ‘event’ ‘race’ includes a race or regatta or other series of races.

A rule in the notice of race need not be repeated in the sailing instructions.

Care should be taken to ensure that there is no conflict between a rule in the notice of race, and a rule in the sailing instructions, or a rule in any other document that governs the event.

J1 NOTICE OF RACE CONTENTS

J1.1 The notice of race shall include the following information:

(1) the title, place and dates of the event race and name of the organizing authority;

(2) that the event race will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing;

(3) a list of any other documents that will govern the event (for example, The Equipment Rules of Sailing, to the extent that they apply), stating where or how each document or an electronic copy of it may be obtained;

(4) the classes to race, any handicap or rating system that will be used and the classes to which it will apply; conditions of entry and any restrictions on entries;

(5) the procedures and times for registration or entry, including fees and any closing dates;

(6) the times of registration and warning signals for the practice race, if one is scheduled, and the first race, and succeeding races if known;

J1.2 The notice of race shall include any of the following that will apply:

(1) times or procedures for equipment inspection or event measurement, or requirements for measurement or rating certificates;

(2) changes to the racing rules authorized by World Sailing under rule 86.2, referring specifically to the rule changed and stating the change;

(3) changes to class rules, as permitted under rule 87, referring specifically to each rule and stating the change;

(4) any classification requirements that some or all competitors must satisfy

(a) for sailor classification (see rule 79 and World Sailing Regulation 22, Sailor Classification Code), or
(b) for functional classification for Para World Sailing events (see Para World Sailing Functional Classification & Procedures Manual);

(5) that boats will be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority (see rule 80 and World Sailing Regulation 20, Advertising Code) and other information related to Regulation 20;

(6) when for an event where entries from other countries are expected, any national prescriptions that may require advance preparation (see rule 88).

(7) prescriptions that will apply if boats will pass through the waters of more than one national authority while racing, and when they will apply (see rule 88.1);

(8) alternative communication required in place of hails under rule 20 (see rule 20.4(b)).

(9) a change in the weight limit for a competitor’s clothing and equipment permitted by rule 43.1(b).

(10) any requirements regarding data protection required in the territory of the venue.

(11) an entry form, to be signed by the boat’s owner or owner’s representative, containing words such as ‘I agree to be bound by The Racing Rules of Sailing and by all other rules that govern this event.’;

J1.3 The notice of race shall include any of the following that will apply and that would help competitors decide whether to attend the event or that conveys other information they will need before the sailing instructions become available:

(1) changes to the racing rules permitted by rule 86, referring specifically to each rule and stating the change (also, if rule 86.2 applies, include the statement from World Sailing authorizing the change);

(2) changes to the national prescriptions (see rule 88.2);

(3) the time and place at which the sailing instructions will be available;

(4) a general description of the course, or the type of courses to be sailed;

(5) the scoring system, if different from the Low Point System in Appendix A, included by reference to class rules or other rules governing the event, or stated in full. State the number of races scheduled and the minimum number that must be completed to constitute a series;

(6) the penalty for breaking a rule of Part 2, other than the Two-Turns Penalty;

(7) the time after which no warning signal will be made on the last scheduled day of racing;

(8) denial of the right of appeal, subject to rule 70.5;

(9) for chartered or loaned boats, whether rule G3 applies;

(10) prizes.
J2 SAILING INSTRUCTION CONTENTS

J2.1 Unless included in the notice of race, the sailing instructions shall include the following information:

1. The information in rules J1.3(1), (2) and (5) and, when applicable, rules J1.3(6), (7), (8), (9) and (10).

2. The schedule of races, the classes to race and times of warning signals for each class.

3. A complete description of the course(s) to be sailed, or a list of marks from which the course will be selected and, if relevant, how courses will be signalled.

4. Descriptions of marks, including starting and finishing marks, stating the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each is to be left and identifying all rounding marks (see the definition Sail the Course).

5. Descriptions of the starting and finishing lines, class flags and any special signals to be used.

6. The time limit, if any, for the first boat to finish (see rule 35).

7. Location(s) of official notice board(s) or address of online notice board; location of the race office.

J2.2 Unless included in the notice of race, the sailing instructions shall include those of the following that will apply:

1. Replacement of the rules of Part 2 with the right-of-way rules of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea or other government right-of-way rules, the time(s) or place(s) they will apply, and any night signals to be used by the race committee.

2. Whether Appendix P will apply.

3. When appropriate, at an event where entries from other countries are expected, a copy in English of the national prescriptions that will apply.

4. Procedure for changing the sailing instructions.

5. Procedure for giving oral changes to the sailing instructions on the water (see rule 90.2(c)).

6. Safety requirements, such as requirements and signals for personal flotation devices, check-in at the starting area, and check-out and check-in ashore.

7. Signals to be made ashore and location of signal station(s).

8. Restrictions controlling changes to boats when supplied by the organizing authority.

9. When and under what circumstances propulsion is permitted under rule 42.3(i).

10. Restrictions on use of support boats, plastic pools, radios, etc.; on trash disposal; on hauling out; and on outside assistance provided to a boat that is not racing.

11. The racing area (a chart is recommended).

12. Location of the starting area and any restrictions on entering it.

13. Any special procedures or signals for individual or general recall.
approximate course length and approximate length of windward legs;

any special procedures or signals for changing a leg of the course (see rule 33);

description of any area designated by the race committee to be an obstruction (see the definition Obstruction);

boats identifying mark locations;

any special procedures for shortening the course or for finishing a shortened course;

the time limit, if any, for the first boat to finish and the time limit, if any boats other than the first boat to finish any other time limits or target times that apply while boats are racing;

declaration requirements;

time allowances;

time limits, place of hearings, and special procedures for protests, requests for redress or requests for reopening;

the national authority’s approval of the appointment of an international jury, when required under rule 91(b);

if rule N1.4(b) will apply, the time limit for requesting a hearing under that rule;

when required by rule 70.3, the national authority to which appeals and requests may be sent;

substitution of competitors;

the minimum number of boats appearing in the starting area required for a race to be started;

when and where races postponed or abandoned for the day will be sailed;

tides and currents;

other commitments of the race committee and obligations of boats.

Current Position
As above. Changes in current Appendix J, Rules J1.2(3) and J2.1(5) were approved in 2016 and 2018. They are indicated by a vertical line in the right margin.

Reasons
1. The proposal eliminates all requirements for the SIs to duplicate a rule in the NoR.

2. Rule J1.2 in the proposal is a new rule. It requires the NoR to include, when they will apply, ten items that need to be in the NoR rather than the SIs because learning about them in the SIs after arriving at the venue is just too late. For example, if the weight limit in rule 43.1(b) is changed, competitor will need to know that change in order to bring appropriate clothing and equipment to the event.

3. Rule J2.1(1) is also new. It lists 8 items that sometimes are appropriate to include in the NoR, but, when they are not in the NoR, they definitely should be in the SIs.
4. New rules J1.2 and J2.1(1) permit removing all items that are today duplicated in current rules J1 and J2. This results in the deletion of the following 10 items in current rule J2:
   J2.1(1), (2) and (9) and J2.2(1), (3), (7), (18), (27), (32) and (39).

5. Several racing rules refer to an item that can be in the NoR or SIs, but no corresponding item is in current Appendix J. The proposal corrects these omissions by adding new rules J1.2(8) and (9) and new wording in rules J2.1(7) and J2.2(19).

6. Within rules J1.1, J1.2, J1.3, J2.1 and J2.2 the order of items corresponds to the order in which items appear in Appendices K and L.

Proposal 3

Change the preamble to Part 2, rules 44.1 and D2.1, and the preambles to Appendices H and R as follows:

Part 2, Preamble

[No change in first paragraph]

When a boat sailing under these rules meets a vessel that is not, she shall comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS) or government right-of-way rules. If the notice of race or sailing instructions so state, the rules of Part 2 are replaced by the right-of-way rules of the IRPCAS or by government right-of-way rules.

44.1 Taking a Penalty

A boat may take a Two-Turns Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 in an incident while racing. She may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken rule 31. Alternatively, the notice of race or sailing instructions may specify the use of the Scoring Penalty or some other penalty, in which case the specified penalty shall replace the One-Turn and the Two-Turns Penalty. [no further change]

D2 UMPIRED RACES

D2.1 When Rule D2 Applies

Rule D2 applies to umpired races. Races to be umpired shall be identified either in the notice of race or sailing instructions or by the display of flag J no later than the warning signal.

Appendix H, Preamble

See rule 43. This appendix shall not be changed by the notice of race, sailing instructions or prescriptions of national authorities.

Appendix R, Preamble

See rule 70. A national authority may change this appendix by prescription, but it shall not be changed by the notice of race or sailing instructions.

Current Position
As above.

**Reason**
Prior to 2001, the notice of race was not included in the definition Rule and, therefore, statements in the NoR were not rules. The proposals in this submission make changes that should have been made in the 2001-2004 RRS when, for the first time, all statements in the NoR were rules. These changes are long overdue.

**Proposal 4**
Change Revisions in the Introduction, rules 70.5 and 86.2, the preamble to Appendix C, and rule N1.7 as follows:

**Introductions, Revisions**

**Revision** The racing rules are revised and published every four years by World Sailing, the international authority for the sport. This edition becomes effective on 1 January [2021] except that for an event beginning in [2020] the date may be postponed by the notice of race or sailing instructions.

**Rule 70.5**

70.5 There shall be no appeal from the decisions of an international jury constituted in compliance with Appendix N. Furthermore, if the notice of race or sailing instructions so state, the right of appeal may be denied provided that.

**Rule 86.2**

86.2 In exception to rule 86.1, World Sailing may in limited circumstances (see World Sailing Regulation 28.1.3) authorize changes to the racing rules for a specific international event. The authorization shall be stated in a letter of approval to the event organizing authority and in the notice of race or sailing instructions, and the letter shall be posted on the event’s official notice board.

**Appendix C, Preamble**

*Match races shall be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing as changed by this appendix. Matches shall be umpired unless the notice of race or sailing instructions state otherwise.*

**Rule N1.7**

N1.7 In exception to rules N1.1 and N1.2, World Sailing may in limited circumstances (see World Sailing Regulation 25.8.13) authorize an international jury consisting of a total of only three members. All members shall be International Judges. The members shall be from three different national authorities (two, in Groups M, N and Q). The authorization shall be stated in a letter of approval to the organizing authority and in the notice of race or sailing instructions, and the letter shall be posted on the event’s official notice board.
Current Position
As above.

Reason
Before 2001, when statements in the NoR were not rules, it was necessary to repeat any rule stated in the NoR in the SIs. Since 2001 it has not been necessary to repeat in the SIs a rule included in the NoR. Now, almost 20 years after 2001, there are still five places in the RRS where a rule in the NoR is required to be repeated in the SIs. These five changes remove those five requirements to repeat a rule in both the NoR and the SIs.

Proposal 5
Change rules 43.1(b), 87 and 88.1 as follows:

Rule 43.1(b)
(b) Furthermore, a competitor’s clothing and equipment shall not weigh more than 8 kilograms, excluding a hiking or trapeze harness and clothing (including footwear) worn only below the knee. Class rules or the notice of race sailing instructions may specify a lower weight or a higher weight up to 10 kilograms. [no further change]

Rule 87
87 CHANGES TO CLASS RULES
The notice of race or sailing instructions may change a class rule only when the class rules permit the change, or when written permission of the class association for the change is displayed on the official notice board.

Rule 88.1
88.1 Prescriptions that Apply
The prescriptions that apply to an event are the prescriptions of the national authority with which the organizing authority is associated under rule 89.1. However, if boats will pass through the waters of more than one national authority while racing, the notice of race or sailing instructions shall identify the prescriptions that will apply and when they will apply.

Current Position
As above.

Reason
A change in the weight limit in rule 43.1(b) or a change in a class rule is information that must be made available to competitors in the NoR so that they can bring appropriate clothing and equipment to the event. When competitors may be required to comply with the prescriptions of various national authorities, the requirements should be in the NoR so that they have adequate time to obtain those prescriptions.
Proposal 6

Change rules 86.2 and N1.7 as follows:

86.2 In exception to rule 86.1, World Sailing may in limited circumstances (see World Sailing Regulation 28.1.3) authorize changes to the racing rules for a specific international event. The authorization shall be stated in a letter of approval to the event organizing authority and in the notice of race and sailing instructions, and the letter shall be posted on the event’s official notice board.

N1.7 In exception to rules N1.1 and N1.2, World Sailing may in limited circumstances (see World Sailing Regulation 25.8.13) authorize an international jury consisting of a total of only three members. All members shall be International Judges. The members shall be from three different national authorities (two, in Groups M, N and Q). The authorization shall be stated in a letter of approval to the organizing authority and in the notice of race and sailing instructions, and the letter shall be posted on the event’s official notice board.

Current Position
As above.

Reason
For consistency and to remove unnecessary words. Many rules refer to ‘the organizing authority’ or ‘the official notice board’ and do so without adding ‘event’ or ‘event’s’. Only rule 86.2 uses ‘event’ before ‘organizing authority’ or ‘event’s’ before ‘official notice board’.

Proposal 7

Change rule 87 as follows:

87 CHANGES TO CLASS RULES
The notice of race or sailing instructions may change a class rule only when the class rules permit the change, or when written permission of the class association for the change is posted/displayed on the official notice board.

Current Position
As above.

Reason
For consistency. There are several rules that refer to items ‘posted’ on the official notice board. Rule 87 is the only rule in RRS that refers to an item ‘displayed’ on the official notice board.