**Proposal**

**SECTION C**

**AT MARKS AND OBSTRUCTIONS**

Section C rules **Rules 18 and 19** do not apply at a starting **mark** surrounded by navigable water or at its anchor line from the time boats are approaching them to **start** until they have passed them. When rule 20 applies, rules 18 and 19 do not.

18 **MARK-ROOM**

[no change]

19 **ROOM TO PASS AN OBSTRUCTION**

[no change]

20 **ROOM TO TACK AT AN OBSTRUCTION**

20.1 **Hailing and Responding**

[no change]

20.2 **Exoneration**

[no change]

20.3 **When Not to Hail**

A boat shall not hail unless safety requires her to make a substantial course change to avoid the **obstruction**. Also, she shall not hail if the **obstruction** is a **mark** that the hailed boat is fetching, or at a starting **mark** surrounded by navigable water or at its anchor line from the time she is approaching them to **start** until she has passed them.

**Current Position**

As above

**Reason**

As a safety consideration at a starting committee boat, a hailed boat must be required to respond under rule 20.1. At present rule 20 does not apply at a starting committee boat and a hailed boat can only protest under rule 2. There is no significant practical effect of this change which is solely to improve clarity and to require that a boat must always respond to a hail.
Note that, if the RYA submission on rule 20 is approved, the additional words in this submission will become rule 20.3(d) in the reformatted rule.