

## Racing Rules of Sailing

### Rules 25

A submission from US Sailing

#### Purpose or Objective

To require the race committee to establish an official notice board, and to require that the time of posting be included on each item posted on it. To alert competitors that signals may be made ashore at a location stated in the sailing instructions.

#### Proposal

#### **25 NOTICE OF RACE, SAILING INSTRUCTIONS, NOTICE BOARD AND SIGNALS**

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#### **25.2 The race committee shall establish an official notice board that is available to all competitors and state its location in the sailing instructions. When a notice is posted, it shall include the date and time of posting.**

#### **25.32 The meanings of the visual and sound signals stated in Race Signals shall not be changed except under rule 86.1(b). The meanings of any other signals that may be used shall be stated in the sailing instructions. When a signal is made ashore, it shall be displayed at the location stated in the sailing instructions.**

#### **25.43 A race committee may display a visual signal by using either a flag or other object of a similar appearance.**

#### Consequential changes

Add new rule J2.1(10) as follows:

#### **(10) location(s) of official notice board(s).**

Delete rule J2.2(10) and renumber rules J2.2(11) – (40) appropriately.

In Appendix L, SI 2, place an asterisk (\*) after '2'.

#### Current Position

As above.

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### Reasons

It is universally accepted practice for the race committee to establish an official notice board that serves a variety of purposes, including informing competitors of changes in the sailing instructions, race and series scores, the deadline for delivering protests and requests for redress, and other matters. However, the current rules do not require the race committee to establish a notice board. The proposal corrects this omission.

A person reading any item posted on the official notice board should be able to determine when it was posted. The current rules do not require this.

The common practice of making signals ashore is not mentioned in any of the current racing rules. The proposal corrects this omission and requires that, when the race committee intends to display signals ashore, the sailing instructions must state where those signals will be displayed.

Some events use a virtual notice board on a website, in place of a physical notice board. This may make the notice board more convenient for competitors and race administrators, especially when participants do not come from the host club, and the proposed rule does not prohibit such virtual boards. However, in such cases it is important to ensure that all competitors (and not, for example, only members of the host club) have access to the website containing the notice board. Also, virtual notice board postings are more difficult for competitors to track without the date and time of posting.

The sailing instructions should always inform competitors of the location of the official notice board. Moving item (10) from rule J2.2 to rule J2.1 and adding an asterisk to the '2' in SI 2 in Appendix L will require the race committee to include this SI in their sailing instructions.

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