Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 25.1

A submission from US Sailing

Purpose or Objective

To clarify the requirement to provide copies of the notice of race and sailing instructions, in the case where those documents are published online.

Proposal

25.1 The notice of race and sailing instructions shall be made available to each boat before a race begins. **If these documents are made available electronically, printed copies shall be provided on request.**

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

The current rule is unclear as to whether printed sailing instructions must be provided or whether they may be distributed electronically, e.g., posted on a website. The proposed change to rule 25.1 clarifies this issue.

The requirement that sailing instructions be ‘made available to each boat before a race begins’ could be taken to mean either handed out in printed form or posted electronically. The intent of this rule is to provide competitors with the rules they need, on the water. Even in the 21st Century, it is inconvenient or impossible for some competitors to access the internet when they are on the water. Such competitors should not be disadvantaged.