

Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 27.4 and Race Signals

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose

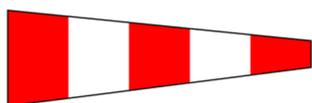
To bring a commonly used sailing instruction that routinely changes Race Signals into the main body of the rule book.

Proposal

1. Amend Race Signals as follows:

RACE SIGNALS

Postponement Signals



AP Races not started are postponed. ~~The warning signal will be made 1 minute after removal unless at that time the race is postponed again or abandoned.~~

2. Add new rule 27.4:

27.4 After a postponement, the warning signal will be made

(a) one minute after flag AP is lowered afloat, or

(b) not less than 60 minutes after flag AP is lowered ashore.

This rule does not apply if the race is postponed again or abandoned. The sailing instructions may state a different time.

3. Amend rule L4.2 as follows:

L 4.2 ~~When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than~~
~~minutes' in the race signal AP.~~ The time for the warning signal in RRS
27.4(b) shall be no earlier than _____ minutes.

Position

As above. Rule 27.4 is new.

Reasons

Race Signals AP states that the warning signal will be displayed one minute after flag AP is lowered, but that only works when flag AP is displayed afloat. Consequently, race committees have to include a sailing instruction that changes the time in Race Signal AP when flag AP is lowered ashore.

New rule 27.4 describes what happens when flag AP is removed, whether the signal was displayed afloat or ashore. A very common sailing instruction is no longer needed.

A survey of race officers indicates that 60 minutes is likely the time that is most often used around the world, but that time can be changed in the sailing instructions without changing Race Signals.
