

Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 32.1

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose

To make a housekeeping change that removes an illogical statement from the first sentence of rule 32.1.

Proposal

32.1 After the starting signal, the race committee may shorten the course (display flag S with two sounds) or *abandon* the race (display flag N, N over H, or N over A, with three sounds), ~~as appropriate,~~

- ~~(a) because of an error in the starting procedure,~~
- ~~(a)~~ because of foul weather,
- ~~(b)~~ because of insufficient wind making it unlikely that any boat will *finish* within the time limit,
- ~~(c)~~ because a *mark* is missing or out of position, or
- ~~(d)~~ for any other reason directly affecting the safety or fairness of the competition.

In addition, the race committee may shorten the course so that other scheduled races can be sailed **or abandon the race because of an error in the starting procedure.** However, after one boat has sailed the course and *finished* within the time limit, if any, the race committee shall not *abandon* the race without considering the consequences for all boats in the race or series.

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

The current rule permits the race committee to shorten the course because of an error in the starting procedure. Obviously, that is not an appropriate action for a race committee to take. The proposed rule permits a race committee to abandon a race because of an error in the starting procedure, which is logical, and it does not permit the committee to shorten the course because of an error in the starting procedure, which is neither logical nor desirable.
