Racing Rules of Sailing

Rules E3.3, E4.2 and E4.5

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Proposal

Delete E3.3 and replace with:

E3.3 Launching, Control and Other Shoreline Areas

(a) Launching Area
If the sailing instructions specify a launching area, when a competitor launches his boat for a race or retrieves her after a race, he shall do so from the launching area.

(b) Control Area
If the sailing instructions specify a control area, competitors shall remain in it while racing. However, a competitor racing may leave the control area briefly to go to and return from any area, other than a prohibited area, to handle his boat, which shall then be released, relaunched or retired.

(c) Prohibited and Special Purpose Areas
If, for safety reasons, the sailing instructions specify a prohibited area, competitors shall not enter it. If the sailing instructions specify a special purpose area, competitors may enter it only for that special purpose.

(d) Permitted Areas
If the sailing instructions specify permitted areas, a competitor who is not competing in a heat may enter a permitted area to give help under one of the exceptions to rule E4.2(b).

E4.2 Outside Help

Rule 41 is changed to

(a) A competitor shall not give tactical or strategic advice to a competitor who is racing.

(b) A boat that is racing shall not receive outside help, except

(1) a boat entangled with another boat, a mark or that has gone aground within a prohibited shoreline area, may be freed and re-launched with help from an official rescue boat crew.

(2) a boat that has gone aground on permitted shoreline areas may be cleared of entangled objects and re-launched with help from any source.

(3) in the form of information freely available to all boats.

(b) A competitor who is racing shall not receive outside help, except
a boat that has gone ashore or aground outside the launching area, or become entangled with another boat or a mark, may be freed and relaunched with help from a rescue boat crew;

competitors who are not racing and others may give help in the launching area as permitted by rule E4.5;

help in the form of information freely available to all competitors.

E4.5 Launching and Relaunching

Delete E4.5 and renumber rules E4.6 to E4.8

Current Position

Rules E3.3, E4.2 and E4.5

Reason

To simplify and clarify these rules by combining two of them and rewording them, and to bring the content of these rules into alignment with current practice in the discipline