Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule L5.4

A submission from the Royal Yachting Association

Purpose or Objective

Clarify the conditions for use of the orange flag signal.

Proposal

L5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.4 After a long postponement, to alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed with one sound for at least five minutes before a warning signal is displayed.

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

To clarify that this orange flag procedure may be used either after a long postponement or to indicate that a race will begin soon. The words "after a long postponement" are redundant in this context. This change confirms ISAF recommendations to race officers. Also the existing words imply that both conditions in the first line must be satisfied before the orange flag can be displayed as stated. The change from four to five minutes, which is a minimum number, is to improve consistency for the benefit of competitors.