

Racing Rules of Sailing

Appendices J & L - Rules 90.3(a), A2, A4, B8, F8, J2.1, L17

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose

To move any changes to the scoring system from the sailing instructions to the notice of race.

Proposal

1. Amend rules 90.3(a), A1, A2 and A4 as follows:

90.3 Scoring

- (a) The race committee shall score a race or series as provided in Appendix A using the Low Point System, unless the **notice of race specifies** ~~sailing instructions specify~~ some other system.

A1 NUMBER OF RACES

The number of races scheduled and the number required to be completed to constitute a series shall be stated in the **notice of race** ~~sailing instructions~~.

A2 SERIES SCORES

Each boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. (The **notice of race** ~~sailing instructions~~ may make a different arrangement . . .)

A4 LOW POINT SYSTEM

*The Low Point System will apply unless the **notice of race specifies** ~~sailing instructions specify~~ another system; see rule 90.3(a).*

2. Change 'sailing instructions' to 'notice of race' where appropriate in Appendices B, C, D, E and F.
3. Delete rule J1.2(13) and insert it as rule J1.1(6) and renumber accordingly.
4. Delete rule J2.1(9).
5. Delete rule L17 (scoring) and renumber accordingly.

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

Competitors want to know how a race will be scored when deciding whether to enter a regatta, especially if Appendix A is changed. Historically, a description of the scoring system was included in the notice of race.¹ However, because information in the notice of race was not considered *rules* prior to 2001, the information on the scoring system was repeated in the sailing instructions.

Currently, the rules still require that the scoring system be included in the sailing instructions but the OA often includes that information in the notice of race as well, with a risk of conflicts between the documents that can be difficult to resolve fairly. Switching the obligation to describe changes in the scoring system from the sailing instructions to the notice of race will allow for timely information getting to the competitor without the need to duplicate the scoring system in the *rules* governing the event.

¹ The 1961 rule book was the first to require that the scoring system be stated in the sailing instructions. Rule 3, at the time, required that the sailing instructions include '(i) Scoring system, if not previously announced in writing' because the scoring system was normally announced in a document published before the sailing instructions.
