Racing Rules Committee Minutes

The Racing Rules Committee met between 09:30 – 18:00 hrs on Wednesday 31 October 2018 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Sarasota, United States of America

1. Opening of the Meeting
   (a) Welcome from the Chairman
   The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Committee observed a minute’s silence in honour of Marianne Middelthon.

   (b) Apologies for absence
   No apologies were received but the Chairman noted that Ion Echave and Yann Rocherieux were not present.

   (c) Declaration of Conflicts of Interests
   The Chairman invited attendees to declare any conflicts of interests.
   Richard Slater declared that he is undertaking paid work for Sail GP and the Australian sailing team.
   Bill O’Hara declared that he is undertaking paid work for the Irish and New Zealand sailing teams.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
   (a) Minutes
The minutes of the meeting on 8 November 2017 (circulated and approved after the meeting) were noted.

(b) Matters Arising

The Chairman noted further that the issues concerning Submission 158-17 had not been resolved and were still outstanding.

3. Other Submissions

The Chairman noted that the Racing Rules Committee wishes to retain electronic voting regardless of the outcome of Submission 007-18 and that Submission 009-18 has been ruled invalid by the Constitution Committee, so it will not be considered.

The Committee considered the following submissions for which the Racing Rules Committee is an Other Committee and gave an opinion to Council:

(a) Submission 112-18 – Equipment Rules of Sailing – Definition Bumpkin
   
   **Opinion:** Approve with the following amendment (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
   
   Support with edit to change spelling to “bumkin” as used in RRS 50.3.

(b) Submission 113-18 – Equipment Rules of Sailing – Definition Foil & Wing
   
   **Opinion:** Reject (0 in favour, 13 against, 0 abstain)

(c) Submission 114-18 – Equipment Rules of Sailing – Definition Mast Spar Height
   
   **Opinion:** Approve with the following amendment (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
   
   As recommended by Equipment Committee.

(d) Submission 115-18 – Equipment Rules of Sailing – Definition Mast Tip Weight
   
   **Opinion:** Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(e) Submission 116-18 – Equipment Rules of Sailing – Definition Spinnaker Pole
   
   **Opinion:** Defer (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(f) Submission 117-18 – Equipment Rules of Sailing – Definition- Spreader
   
   **Opinion:** Approve with the following amendment (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
   
   Edit to add ‘standing’ in ERS rule F1.5 before word ‘rigging’

(g) Submission 118-18 – Equipment Rules of Sailing – Housekeeping
   
   **Opinion:** Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(h) Submission 119-18 – Equipment Rules of Sailing – New Definition Jockey Pole
   
   **Opinion:** Defer (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(i) Submission 120-18 – Equipment Rules of Sailing – New Definition Modification, Maintenance and Repair
   
   **Opinion:** Approve with the following amendment (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
   
   As recommended by Equipment Committee.

(j) Submission 121-18 – Equipment Rules of Sailing – New Definition Outrigger
   
   **Opinion:** Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(k) Submission 122-18 – Equipment Rules of Sailing – New Definition Spinnaker & Headsail
   
   **Opinion:** Defer (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

**Opinion:** Approve with the following amendment (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

As recommended by Equipment Committee.

4. Racing Rules of Sailing Submissions

The Committee considered the following submissions:

(a) Submission 137-18 - World Sailing Regulations – Racing Rules Committee – Regulations 6.11 & 28

**Recommendation to Council:** Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(b) Submission 138-18 - New Definition Clear, Definition Mark-Room, Rules 18.2(d) & 18.5

**Decision:** Approve with the following amendment (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

18.1 When Rule 18 Applies

Rule 18 applies between boats when they are required to leave a mark on the same side and at least one of them is in the zone. However, it does not apply

(a) between boats on opposite tacks on a beat to windward,

(b) between boats on opposite tacks when the proper course at the mark for one but not both of them is to tack,

(c) between a boat approaching a mark and one leaving it, or

(d) if the mark is a continuing obstruction, in which case rule 19 applies.

**Rule 18 no longer applies between boats when the boat entitled to mark-room has been given that mark-room.**

**Rule 18 no longer applies between boats when mark-room has been given and the mark no longer influences the course of the boat entitled to mark-room.**

(c) Submission 139-18 - Definition Finish, New Definition Sail The Course, Rules 28, 35 and related rules

**Decision:** Approve with the following amendment (9 in favour, 3 against, 1 abstain)

Proposal 1: 9 in favour, 3 against, 1 abstain
Proposal 2: 9 in favour, 4 against, 0 abstain
Proposal 3: 9 in favour, 4 against, 0 abstain
Proposal 4: 7 in favour, 6 against, 0 abstain

4. Change SI 15.2 in Appendix L as follows:

**15.2** Boats failing to finish within ____ after the first boat starts, sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

5. Change SI 12.1 in Appendix S as follows:

**12.1** The supplement will state which of the following time limits, if any, will apply and, for each, the time limit.

- Mark 1 Time Limit Time limit for the first boat to pass Mark 1.
- Race Time Limit Time limit for the first boat to start, sail the course and finish.
- Finishing Window Time limit for boats to finish after the first
(d) Submission 140-18 - Definition Party
Decision: Approve (12 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(e) Submission 141-18 - Definition Party
Decision: Approve with the following amendment (12 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(b) for a request for redress hearing: a boat requesting redress or for which redress is requested, a boat for which a hearing is called to consider for redress under rule 60.3(b), a race committee acting under rule 60.2(b), a technical committee acting under rule 60.4(b);

(f) Submission 142-18 - Definition Proper Course
Decision: Approve (12 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(g) Submission 143-18 - Definition Start, Definition Finish
Decision: Approve (12 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
Approve both Proposals 1 and 2. Approve Proposal 3 as a test rule.

(h) Submission 144-18 – Introduction
Decision: Approve with the following amendment (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
Approve Proposal 1 with amendment:

Interpretations
World Sailing publishes the following authoritative interpretations of the racing rules:

- The World Sailing Case Book.
- World Sailing Call Books for disciplines that have a dedicated appendix to the RRS.
- World Sailing Interpretations of RRS 42.

Approve Proposal 2.

(i) Submission 145-18 – Introduction
Decision: Reject (0 in favour, 11 against, 0 abstain)
Agree there is a problem. RRC request a new submission detailing the consequential changes.

(j) Submission 146-18 - Basic Principle
Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(k) Submission 147-18 - Rule 2
Decision: Reject (0 in favour, 12 against, 0 abstain)
Review burden of proof for all protest committee decisions.

(l) Submission 148-18 - Rule 2
Decision: Reject (5 in favour, 7 against, 0 abstain)
DSQ may be appropriate at club level events. Guidance on the appropriate penalty would be of value.

(m) Submission 149-18 - New Rule 8 and 65.3
Decision: Reject (0 in favour, 13 against, 0 abstain)
New submission to be considered for 2019.
Racing Rules Committee Minutes (cont.)

(n) Submission 150-18 - Test Rule 13
   Decision: Reject (0 in favour, 11 against, 2 abstain)

(o) Submission 151-18 - Test Rule 17
   Decision: Approve (12 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain)

(p) Submission withdrawn

(q) Submission 153-18 - Rule 18.3
   Decision: Reject (0 in favour, 13 against, 0 abstain)
   Do not wish the rule to apply when the starboard-tack boat needs to tack round the mark.

(r) Submission 154-18 - Rule 19.2
   Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(s) Submission 155-18 - New Rule 20.4
   Decision: Approve with the following amendment (12 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain)

20.4 Additional Requirements for Hails

(a) When conditions are such that a hail may not be heard, the boat shall instead also make any appropriate signal that clearly indicates her need for room to tack. This rule also applies to other hails requires by rule 20.

(b) The notice of race or sailing instructions may specify an alternative communication to indicate her need for room to tack channel or alternative signal and require boats to use it to make hails under rule 20.

This rule applies to all hails under rule 20.

(t) Submission 156-18 - Rule 27.1
   Decision: Reject (0 in favour, 13 against, 0 abstain)

(u) Submission 157-18 - Rule 28.2
   Decision: Reject (0 in favour, 13 against, 0 abstain)

(v) Submission 158-18 - Rule 36(b)
   Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(w) Submission 160-18 - Rule 41
   Decision: Approve (12 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain)

(x) Submission 161-18 - New C2.15
   Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(y) Submission 162-18 - Rule 42.3(c)
   Decision: Approve with the following amendment (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

Approve Option 2(a) as follows:

(c) Except on a beat to windward, when surfing (rapidly accelerating down the front of a wave), planing or foiling is possible, the boat’s crew may pull in any sail in order to
(1) initiate surfing or planing, but each sail may be pulled in only once for each wave or gust of wind, or

(2) initiate (and maintain) foiling, and the sails may be pulled an unlimited number of times.

RRC WP to consider an edit to change the word “unlimited” to make it more translatable.

(z) Submission 163-18 - Rule 42.3(c)
Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(aa) Submission 164-18 - New 43.1(c)
Decision: Approve with the following amendment (11 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstain)

(c) A trapeze harness worn by a competitor which may be used to support the competitor on a trapeze shall be of the quick release variety complying with ISO 10862 which allows the competitor to detach from the hook or other method of attachment at any time.

Note: This rule does not take effect until 1st January 2023

(bb) Submission 165-18 - Rule 47.2
Decision: Approve with the following amendment (12 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain)

No person on board shall intentionally leave, except when ill or injured, or to help a person or vessel in danger, or to swim. A person leaving the boat by accident or to swim shall be back in contact with the boat before the crew resumes sailing the boat to the next mark or finishes on board before the boat continues in the race.

(cc) Submission 166-18 - Rule 49.2
Decision: Approve with the following amendment (10 in favour, 2 against, 1 abstain)

When lifelines are required by the class rules or any other rule, competitors shall not position any part of their torsos outside them, except briefly to perform a necessary task. On boats equipped with upper and lower lifelines, a competitor sitting on the deck facing outboard with his waist inside the lower lifeline may have the upper part of his body outside the upper lifeline. Unless a class rule or any other rule specifies a maximum deflection, lifelines shall be taut. If the class rules do not specify the material or minimum diameter of lifelines, they shall comply with the corresponding specifications in the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations.

(dd) Submission 167-18 - Rule 60.4
Decision: Approve with the following amendment (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(a) protest a boat, but not as a result of information arising from a request for redress or an invalid protest, or from a report from a person with a conflict of interest other than the representative of the boat herself. However, it shall protest a boat if it decides that a boat or personal equipment does not comply with the class rules or with rule 43:

(1) a boat has broken a rule of Part 4, but not rules 41, 42, 44 and 46, or
(2) a boat or personal equipment does not comply with the class rules;

(ee) Submission 168-18 - Rule 62
Decision: Reject (0 in favour, 12 against, 0 abstain)
Proposal 1: Reject (0 in favour, 12 against, 0 abstain)
Proposal 2: Reject (0 in favour, 12 against, 0 abstain)
Proposal 3: Reject (0 in favour, 11 against, 2 abstain)
Proposal 4: Reject (0 in favour, 12 against, 0 abstain)
Proposal 5: Reject (0 in favour, 12 against, 0 abstain)

(ff) Submission 169-18 - Rule 62.1(b)
Decision: Approve with the following amendment (10 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstain)
injury or physical damage because of the action of a boat that was breaking a rule of Part 2, or of a vessel not racing that was required to keep clear or is determined to be at fault under the IRPCAS or a government right of way rule;

(gg) Submission 170-18 - Rule 62.1(b)
Decision: Approve with the following amendment (8 in favour, 3 against, 1 abstain)injury or physical damage because of the action of a boat that was breaking a rule of Part 2 and took an the appropriate penalty or was penalized, or of a vessel not racing that was required to keep clear;

(hh) Submission 171-18 - Rule 62.1(d)
Decision: Reject (0 in favour, 12 against, 1 abstain)
Prefer Submission 172-18, which contains the wording change proposed in Submission 171-18 plus additional desirable changes.

(ii) Submission 172-18 - Rule 62.1(d)
Decision: Approve with the following amendment (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
(d) an action of a boat, or a member of her crew, or her support person, that resulted in a penalty under rule 2 or a penalty or warning under rules 69.2(b) or 64.4(a).

Consideration to be given in editing over the use of the word “her”. Consider “the support person of another boat”.

Decision: Reject (3 in favour, 9 against, 1 abstain)
New proposal to be prepared which is consistent with RRS 66, and make it easy to add to SIs or to delete the rule.

(kk) Submission 174-18 - Rules 63.2 & M2.1
Decision: Approve with the following amendment
Proposal 1: Reject (0 in favour, 11 against, 1 abstain)
Proposal 2: Approve (11 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain)
Proposal 3: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(II) Submission 175-18 - Rules 63.6 & M3.2
Decision: Approve with the following amendment
Third proposed new bullet point of M3.2 deleted.
Paragraph (a): Approve (8 in favour, 3 against, 0 abstain)
Paragraph (d): Approve (12 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain)
1st and 2nd bullet point: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
3rd bullet point: Reject (5 in favour, 7 against, 1 abstain)

(mm) Submission 176-18 - New Rule 64.5
Decision: Approve with the following amendment (12 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain)

64.3 Unless there is good reason not to do so, after any hearing, including a hearing under rule 69, the protest committee may publish the information set out in rule 65.1. The protest committee may direct that the information is to be confidential to the parties.

Insert new rule as 65.3 not 65.4 and re-number rule 65.3 as 65.4.

(nn) Submission 177-18 - Rule 89.1
Decision: Reject (0 in favour, 13 against, 0 abstain)
This is not the appropriate mechanism to resolve such issues.

(oo) Submission 178-18 - Rule 90.3(c)
Decision: Reject (2 in favour, 10 against, 1 abstain)
Unnecessary

(pp) Submission 179-18 - New Part 8
Decision: Reject (0 in favour, 13 against, 0 abstain)
Consider the alternative proposal (to be sent to each RRC member separately) together with the submission to decide the best way forward, in conjunction with Equipment Committee, Equipment Rules Sub-Committee, World Sailing Classes Committee, and Oceanic and Offshore Committee.

The Committee held three indicative votes concerning the way forward with equipment-related rules.

Decision
The principle of consolidating these rules in the RRS was supported.
(11 in favour, 2 against, 0 abstain)

Decision
The principle of splitting Part 4 into two Parts and then not having a new Part was approved.
(13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

Decision
The principle of identifying appropriate ERS definitions in the RRS was supported.
(13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(qq) Submission 180-18 - Appendix B
Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
Approve all three Proposals.

(rr) Submission 181-18 - Rules B3 & B5
Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(ss) Submission 182-18 - Rule C2.2 and MR Call K5
Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(tt) Submission 183-18 - Rules C2.10(a), D1.1(d)(1), F20.4
Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(uu) Submission 184-18 - Rule C3.1
  Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(vv) Submission 185-18 - Rule C6.3
  Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(ww) Submission 186-18 - Rules C6.5, C7.2(f) & MR Call M11
  Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(xx) Submission 187-18 - New Rule C7.2(g)
  Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(yy) Submission 188-18 - New Rule C10.7
  Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

.zz) Submission 189-18 - Rule D1.1(d)
  Decision: Approve with the following amendment (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
  Proposal 1: Approve
  Proposal 2: Approve as follows
  (d) When rule 20 applies the following arm signals by the helmsman are required in addition to the hails:
     (1) for room to tack, repeatedly and clearly pointing to windward; and
     (2) for ‘You tack’, repeatedly and clearly pointing at the other boat and waving the arm to windward.
  Sailing instructions may delete this requirement.

(aaa) Submission 190-18 - New Rule D1.3(d)
  Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(bbb) Submission withdrawn

(ccc) Submission 192-18 - Appendix E – Housekeeping
  Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(ddd) Submission 193-18 - Rules E1.3 & E2.1
  Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(eee) Submission 194-18 - New Rule E2.1(c)
  Decision: Reject (0 in favour, 13 against, 0 abstain)
  The issue needs to be resolved for all racing. RRC will prepare appropriate submissions for consideration in 2019. A majority of the Committee support option of local language being made available.

(fff) Submission 195-18 - Appendix F – Housekeeping
  Decision: Approve with the following amendment
  Proposal 1: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
  Proposal 2: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
  Proposal 3: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
  Proposal 4: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
Racing Rules Committee Minutes (cont.)

Proposal 5: Reject (0 in favour, 13 against, 0 abstain)
Proposal 6: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
Proposal 7: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
Proposal 8: Reject (0 in favour, 13 against, 0 abstain)
Proposal 9: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(ggg) Submission 196-18 - Rule L15.1
Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(hhh) Submission 197-18 - Rule M2.1
Decision: Reject (0 in favour, 13 against, 0 abstain)
A new rule is preferred. A proposal for a new rule is to be prepared by RRC.

(iii) Submission 198-18 - Rule R2.2(c)
Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)

(jjj) Submission 209-18 - Protest Form
Decision: Approve (12 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain)
Approve in principle.

5. The Case Book
The Committee considered the following case submissions:
(a) Submission 199-18 - Case 132
Decision: Approve with the following amendment (10 in favour, 1 against, 2 abstain)
Option 1 not Option 2.
(b) Submission 200-18 - New Case
Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
(c) Submission 201-18 - New Case
Decision: Approve with the following amendment (12 in favour, 1 against, 0 abstain)
Delete Q&A 2. Case Book WP is requested to add a diagram to the Case (which is to be approved by the Committee prior to publication).
(d) Submission 202-18 - New Case
Decision: (12 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain)
(e) Submission 203-18 - New Case
Decision: Reject (0 in favour, 11 against, 2 abstain)
Proposal 1: Agree in principle, but case must be more general and worded not to place any obligation on the race committee.
Proposal 2: Reject. There are a number of issues that are not addressed in Answer 2.
(f) Submission 204-18 - Case Book for Radio Sailing
Decision: Approve with the following amendment (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)
Change to “Call Book for Radio Sailing”.

6. The Call Books
Racing Rules Committee Minutes (cont.)

The Committee considered the following call submissions:

(a) Submission 205-18 - MR Call D6
   
   *Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)*

(b) Submission 206-18 - MR Call G5
   
   *Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)*

(c) Submission 207-18 - MR Call G7
   
   *Decision: Approve (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)*

(d) Submission 208-18 - New TR Call G8
   
   *Decision: Approve with the following amendment (13 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstain)*

Two keelboats B and Y are overlapped on a run in strong winds with spinnakers set. Rule 17 does not apply. B luffs continuously and Y keeps clear by luffing. After Y sails above a beam reach and is healing well over with her spinnaker trimmed all the way, when Y is no longer able to keep the majority of her spinnaker filled and drawing, she holds course and drops her spinnaker. While she does so, B bears away to avoid contact and protests. There is no contact. What should the call be?

…

**Answer**

No penalty.

When B changes course, rule 16.1 requires her to give Y room to keep clear, which includes space to manoeuvre promptly in a seamanlike way. After position 3, Y needs to drop her spinnaker to continue manoeuvring in a seamanlike way. At position 4, B complies with rule 16.1 by bearing away to give Y room to keep clear.

**This answer also applies if B has no spinnaker set, or a different type of spinnaker set**

7. Reports

The Chairman noted that written reports had been circulated to members and were taken as read.

(a) Racing Rules Committee Working Party
(b) Case Book Working Party
(c) Q&A Panel
(d) Team Racing Rules Working Party

The Committee considered the amendment to Team Racing Test Rule 16.2 proposed by the Working Party in its written report.

**Decision**

The amendment was approved.

(12 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain)

(e) Match Racing Rules Working Party
(f) High Speed Rules Working Party
(g) Boards Working Party
The Committee noted that amendments to Addendum Q would be requested via electronic vote by the end of 2018.

The Chairman noted there had been some discussion about removing the gender references to boats (her) and sailors (he) but that the change would cause more confusion, especially when the Rules are translated into languages other than English, so no changes are proposed.

Bernard Bonneau noted that the Working Party has spoken to the video production contractors engaged by the Office to ask whether they could assist with producing educational videos giving an introduction to the Racing Rules.

They were hoping to use existing videos (eg. from the World Cup Series medal races) to illustrate interesting rules, but this was restricted by copyright and other technical issues.

It was noted that e-racing may provide opportunity to demonstrate rules rather than use of historic live videos.

The Director of Legal Affairs noted that World Sailing wanted to create simple graphic-based videos explaining how the Racing Rules work but if the Working Party wants to produce more complex videos, for example for Race Official education, different videos and graphics would be required under the auspices of the Race Officials Committee.

The Chairman noted that this Working Party will be combined with the Waypoint App Working Party moving forward.

The Chairman noted that this Working Party will be combined with the Missing Marks Working Party moving forward.

Jim Capron reported that the Racing Rules Committee for the Super Yacht Racing Association met in Porto Cervo and agreed to request approval to make a change to Appendix SY in respect of the overtaking rule.

Decision
The proposed changes were approved.
8. Reports from Representatives on Other Committees

To receive and note the reports from the Committee’s representatives on Other Committees:

(a) Race Officials Committee
The Committee representative confirmed there is nothing to report as everything has been dealt with in submissions.

(b) Equipment Committee
The Committee representative confirmed there is nothing to report as everything has been dealt with in submissions.

(c) Equipment Rules Sub-committee
The Committee representative confirmed there is nothing to report as everything has been dealt with in submissions.

9. Other Matters

(a) Burden of Proof
The Chairman noted that there is currently no standard of proof and gave anecdotal evidence that different standards of proof have been used in different cases by different juries. The Committee noted that it would be useful to have an agreed standard of proof set out in the Rules and that work on this should continue.

(b) When Part 2 Applies
The Chairman gave an update on work undertaken to date, and the Committee noted that it is a valuable piece of work which should continue.

(c) Reorganisation of Part 5
The Director of Legal Affairs noted that the Executive Office has started work on re-organising Part 5 and informed the Committee that one way to remove duplication was to call all matters before a protest committee a ‘protest’.

(d) Use of Drones
The Chairman noted that some competitors are using drones to find out information such as the sail settings of competitors, and wind direction, speed etc. Race officials may also want to use drones to get overhead shots (particularly of windward marks).

However, regulatory issues present some problems, including that in some jurisdictions drone users must be licensed and jurisdictional regulations differ depend on what the information will be used for. There are also safety issues associated with drone use.

Bill O’Hara noted that at one event he worked on the drone pilot circulated the footage to officials and competitors and everyone found it very useful. However, there was an instance where a drone hit another competitors boat and caused damage. The issue wasn’t brought to the race officials, but if it had it been, they would not have known how to deal with it, so this could be a key issue.

Richard Slater noted that drones can provide a lot of benefits to officials and competitors and the footage from the Volvo Ocean Race had ‘changed the game’. Bearing that in mind, the Racing Rules Committee should start any work in respect of drones from a position of support.

(e) Event Rules
Racing Rules Committee Minutes (cont.)

Dick Rose noted that work is continuing and that he will send it to members of the Committee for feedback on the proposed submission which will be developed over the next year.

10. Recommendations Not Based on Submission

The Chairman noted there were no recommendations not based on submissions.

11. Annual Report

The Committee noted the Chairman’s report to Council.

12. Any Other Business

The Oceanic and Offshore Committee asked for some Racing Rules Committee members to assist with the traffic separation schemes and navigation lights. Dick Rose and Richard Slater volunteered for the traffic separation scheme, and Helmut Czasny-Bonomo for the navigation lights.

The Chairman also thanked everyone for their help throughout the year.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting.