12 October 2018

To: Members of the World Sailing Racing Rules Committee

From: Dick Rose

Subject: The ‘Event Rules Project’ – A project to develop a lengthy set of related submissions for 2019

Background:

1. Before 2001, any statement made in a Notice of Race (NoR) was not a rule because the NoR was not included in the definition Rule. Therefore, in those years, to make a statement in the NoR a rule it was necessary to repeat that statement in the SIs. For the last 18 years, since 2001, a statement made in the NoR is a rule. However, we have not systematically examined the entire RRS and eliminated all the requirements to repeat rules in the SIs that are stated in the NoR.

   In the current RRS, there are 71 references to the NoR and 140 references to the SIs, so it is understandable why no one has undertaken that systematic examination and, where necessary and as appropriate, corrected rules that refer to either the NoR or the SIs.

2. Over the past four or five years, I have encountered many publications, produced for a variety of different reasons, that contain rules that would normally be included in either the NoR or the SIs, or both. The rules in these publications become rules for an event when they are listed in the SIs for the event as ‘Other documents governing an event’ (see Definition Rule (g)). Several examples (with some links) are listed below.

contain standard rules for the NoR and SIs used for all school and college competitions in the USA. Many thousands of races each year are conducted under these ‘standard’ rules.

(c) The Federation Francaise de Voile publishes three sets of standard SIs for events in France – one for cruiser/racers, one for dinghies and a third for match racing. (I have been told that standard SIs are also published in Sweden.)

(d) On a very local level, the Cow Bay Racing Association publishes standard SIs each year for all the events conducted by the five sailing clubs that organize events on Cow Bay in New York State (https://www.pwyc.com/files/Cow%20Bay%20Racing%20One%20Design_Sailing_Instructions_2018.pdf). Many other local and regional sailing associations publish similar standard SIs. These standard SIs often include the rules for scoring and for qualification for special trophies or awards that are given based on the results of a long series of summer events.

(e) The Corinthian Yacht Club in Seattle publishes an annual ‘CYC Race Book’ which contains one set of standard NoR and SIs for about 25 different events that the club conducts each year. All CYC events use these standard NoR rules and standard SIs as well as additional special rules listed in the CYC Race Book for each event.

(f) Introduced in 2017, the RRS now contains Appendix S, Standard Sailing Instructions, that any event may use by simply stating in the event’s NoR that ‘The sailing instructions will consist of the instructions in RRS Appendix S . . . and supplementary sailing instructions that will be on the official notice board located at ______.’

Even though publications like (a) – (f) above are common, there is not a single reference to publications of this sort in Parts 1-7 of the RRS or in Appendix J.

3. Because rules in the NoR, the SIs and publications like (a) – (f) above are, according to the definition Rule, all rules specific to a particular event, it seems logical to give them a common name. ‘Event Rules’ seems to be a logical choice. It would then be logical to call the rules in publications like (a) – (f) above ‘Standard Event Rules’. If we did this, the title of (a) above would become ‘Standard Event Rules for the 2019 World Cup Series’.
Goals of the Project:

To prepare for consideration at the 2019 Annual Conference one very large or several small submissions that:

- Change the definition Rule to include the terms ‘Event Rules’ and ‘Standard Event Rules’ (a very preliminary draft proposal to accomplish this is included below).
- Add a new rule that covers ‘Event Rules’ (a preliminary draft proposal for a new rule 89 is also included below).
- Where necessary or appropriate, propose changes in the 211 references in the RRS to either the NoR or the SIs. (Obviously, this will result in a long and detailed submission. Some sample proposals for a couple of these 211 references are included below.)
- Eliminate requirements in RRS, Parts 1 – 7 and Appendix J, that require a rule stated in the NoR to be repeated in the SIs.
- Examine carefully each statement in the RRS that refers to the SIs to see if it should also refer to the NoR.
- Revise Appendix J to reflect the 2001 change that made requirements stated in the NoR rules. After Appendix J has been revised it should be possible to reorganize and simplify Appendices K and L.
- All proposals in this project should work well for standard event rules, NoRs and SIs that are issued either electronically or on paper, or both.

Proposed Schedule for 1 November 2018 through 1 August 2019:

I would like, if possible, to draft all these proposals and submit them by 1 August 2019. Because the set of proposals will be very lengths and detailed, I would like to solicit your help and comments twice before next year’s submission deadline:

- Round #1: On or before 1 March 2019, I would send you Draft #1 of all the proposals to change Definitions, rules in Parts 1-7 and Appendices A-J, M-R and T. I will ask you to review these over a two-week period and send me your comments.
- Round #2: On or before 1 June 2019, I would edit Draft #1 based on your comments and send you Draft #2 containing proposals to revise Appendices K and L to make them consistent with the revisions in Appendix J. Again, I
would ask you to review these over a two-week period and send me your comments.

- Round #3: On or just before 1 August 2019 I would send all these proposals to the chairman of the RRC with the request that, in his capacity as our chairman, he submit them to the World Sailing office as submissions to be considered by us at the 2019 Annual Conference.

**Sample Proposals** (definitely preliminary at this time):

**Preliminary Proposal 1**

Change the definition *Rule* as follows:

*RULE*

(a) The rules in this book, including the Definitions, Race Signals, Introduction, preambles and the rules of relevant appendices, but not titles;

(b) World Sailing Advertising Code, Anti-Doping Code, Betting and Anti-Corruption Code, Disciplinary Code, Eligibility Code, Sailor Classification Code, respectively Regulations 20, 21, 37, 35, 19 and 22;

(c) the prescriptions of the national authority, unless they are changed by the **event rules** notice of race or sailing instructions in compliance with the national authority’s prescription, if any, to rule 88.2;

(d) the class rules (for a boat racing under a handicap or rating system, the rules of that system are ‘class rules’);

(e) **the event rules, including the standard event rules, if any, the notice of race and the sailing instructions; and**

(f) **the notice of race;**

(g) **the sailing instructions; and**

(h) any other documents that govern the event.

**Preliminary Proposal 2**

Add new rule 89 as shown below and renumber current rules 89, 90, 91 and 92 as rules 90, 91, 92 and 93.
89 STANDARD EVENT RULES

89.1 An organization may publish standard event rules that conform to the rules of Appendix J.

89.2 An organization may require or suggest that organizing authorities for specified events under its jurisdiction use its standard event rules provided that the organization is

(a) qualified under rule 90.1 to be an organizing authority, or

(b) a government agency with jurisdiction over the specified event.

Examples of Preliminary Proposals to change rules that refer to the NoR or SIs:

Change rule 25 as follows:

25.1 The event rules notice of race or sailing instructions shall be made available, either electronically or on paper, to each boat before a race begins.

25.2 The meanings of the visual and sound signals stated in Race Signals shall not be changed except under rule 86.1(b). The meanings of any other signals that may be used shall be stated in the event rules notice of race or sailing instructions.

Change rule 70.5 as follows:

70.5 There shall be no appeal from the decisions of an international jury constituted in compliance with Appendix N. Furthermore, if the event rules notice of race and sailing instructions so state, the right of appeal may be denied provided that [no further change]

Change rule 86.2 as follows:

86.2 In exception to rule 86.1, World Sailing may in limited circumstances (see World Sailing Regulation 28.1.3) authorize changes to the racing rules for a specific international event. The authorization shall be stated in a letter of approval to the event organizing authority, or the organization that issued standard event rules for the event, and in the event rules notice of race and sailing instructions, and the letter shall be posted on the event’s official notice board.

Change the Appendix C Preamble as follows:

Appendix C Preamble

Match races shall be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing as changed by this appendix. Matches shall be umpired unless the event rules notice of race and sailing instructions state otherwise.

Note: After all 211 references in the RRS to either the NoR or the SIs are studied, there will be a great many proposals like the four examples shown above.