

Reporting Committee – Racing Rules

Other Committee – Race Officials

Starting Races
Racing Rules of Sailing, Rule 26.

A submission from the Royal Yachting Association

PROPOSAL:**26 STARTING RACES**

Races shall be started by using the following signals. Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

| Signal | Flag and sound | Minutes before starting signal |
|-------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Warning | Class flag; 1 sound | 5* |
| Preparatory | P, I, Z, Z with I, or black flag; 1 sound | 4 |
| One-minute | Preparatory flag removed; 1 long sound | 1 |
| Starting | Class flag removed; 1 sound | 0 |

*or as stated in the sailing instructions

The warning signal for each succeeding class shall be made with or after the starting signal of the preceding class.

CURRENT POSITION:**26 STARTING RACES**

Races shall be started by using the following signals. Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

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The warning signal for each succeeding class shall be made with or after the starting signal of the preceding class.

REASON:

How long is a sound signal? How long is a long sound signal? This is not defined anywhere and therefore distinguishing between the two is irrelevant. In addition, the increasing use of air horns for starting also makes this signal irrelevant.

Defining it as a 'sound' permits it to be either long or short as required.