

## Rule book for the ETF 26

The 'High Speed Rules' – version January 2023 (referenced by the abbreviation “HS”) have been approved by World Sailing as test rules in accordance with Regulation 28.1.5(b) and may be published as a separate document attached to the NoR or included in an integrated set of event rules and renumbered accordingly.

This rule book is a composite version of the RRS including:

- the World Sailing approved 'DR21-03 Appendix HS High Speed Rules', identified in this document in purple.
- changes to the rules as allowed under RRS 86.1.

This rule book was developed for high-speed boats that are usually umpired. Organisers wishing to use this rule book should review the changes to determine if they are suitable for the racing they are organizing.

Feedback in the form of a report to World Sailing is required and suggestions for improvement shall be sent to [office@sailing.org](mailto:office@sailing.org) within one month of the completion of any event adopting these rules.

Rules World Sailing – used with permission

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## CHANGE OF RULE IN THIS BOOK

- some terminology has been updated
- definition of boundary has been added
- definition of clear/overlap has been updated
- definition of mark-room has been updated
- definition of finish has been updated
- definition of keep clear has been updated
- definition of mark-room has been updated
- definition of OCS has been updated
- definition of obstruction has been updated
- definition of room has been updated
- definition of start has been updated
- definition of zone has been updated
- RRS 2 has been updated
- RRS 7 has been added
- RRS 13 has been updated
- RRS 14 has been updated
- RRS 16 has been updated
- RRS 17 has been updated
- RRS 18 has been updated
- RRS 19 has been updated
- RRS 20 has been updated
- RRS 21 has been updated
- RRS 23.1 has been updated
- RRS 23.2 has been updated
- RRS 23.3 has been updated
- RRS 23.4 has been updated
- RRS 26 has been updated
- RRS 27.4 has been updated
- RRS 28.3 has been updated
- RRS 29 has been updated
- RRS 30 has been updated
- RRS 31 has been updated
- RRS 32 has been updated
- RRS 33 has been updated
- RRS 34 has been updated
- RRS 35 has been updated
- RRS 36 has been updated
- RRS 40 has been updated
- RRS 41 has been updated
- RRS 42 has been updated
- RRS 44 has been updated
- RRS 49 has been updated
- RRS 50 has been updated
- RRS 51 has been updated
- RRS 55 has been updated
- RRS 60 has been updated
- RRS 61 has been updated
- RRS 62 has been updated
- RRS 63 has been updated
- RRS 64 has been updated

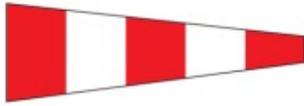
**ETF 26 - version 16th March 2023**

- RRS 65 has been updated
- RRS 66 has been updated
- RRS 70 has been updated
- RRS 71 has been updated
- RRS 77 has been updated
- RRS 90 has been updated
- RRS 91 has been updated
- Appendix N has been updated

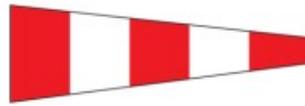
# RACE SIGNALS

The meanings of visual and sound signals are stated below. An arrow pointing up or down (↑↓) means that a visual signal is displayed or removed. A dot (•) means a sound; five short dashes (-----) mean repetitive sounds; a long dash (—) means a long sound. When a visual signal is displayed over a class flag, fleet flag, event flag or race area flag, the signal applies only to that class, fleet, event or race area.

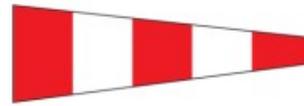
## Postponement Signals



**AP** Races not started are *postponed*. The warning signal will be made 1 minute after removal unless at that time the race is *postponed* again or *abandoned*.



**AP over H** Races not started are *postponed*. Further signals ashore.



**AP over A** Races not started are *postponed*. No more racing today.

## AP over a Numeral Pennant 1–9

*Postponement of 1-9 hours from the scheduled starting time.*



Pennant 1 ↑•• ↓•



Pennant 2 ↑•• ↓•



Pennant 3 ↑•• ↓•



Pennant 4 ↑•• ↓•



Pennant 5 ↑•• ↓•



Pennant 6 ↑•• ↓•



Pennant 7 ↑•• ↓•



Pennant 8 ↑•• ↓•



Pennant 9 ↑•• ↓•

## Abandonment Signals



**N** All races that have started are *abandoned*. Return to the starting area. The warning signal will be made 1 minute after removal unless at that time the race is *abandoned* again or *postponed*.



**N over H** All races are *abandoned*. Further signals ashore.



**N over A** All races are *abandoned*. No more racing today.

## Safety



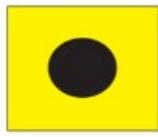
**V** Monitor communication channel for safety instructions (see rule 37).

### Preparatory Signals



↑• ↓—

**P** Preparatory signal.



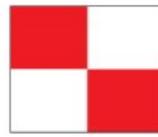
↑• ↓—

**I** Rule 30.1 is in effect.



↑• ↓—

**Z** Rule 30.2 is in effect.



↑• ↓—

**U** Rule 30.3 is in effect.



↑• ↓—

**Black flag.** Rule 30.4 is in effect.

### Recall Signals



↑•

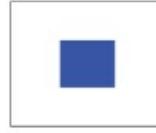
**X** Individual recall.



↑••• ↓•

**First Substitute** General recall. The warning signal will be made 1 minute after removal.

### Shortened Course



↑••

**S** The course has been shortened. Rule 32.2 is in effect.

### Changing the Next Leg



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**C** The position of the next *mark* has been changed:



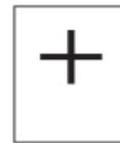
to starboard;



to port;



to decrease the length of the leg;



to increase the length of the leg.

### Other Signals



↑•

**L** Ashore: A notice to competitors has been posted. Afloat: Come within hail or follow this vessel.



---

**M** The object displaying this signal replaces a missing *mark*.



↑•

**Y** Wear a personal flotation device (see rule 40).



(no sound)

**Orange flag.** The staff displaying this flag is one end of the starting line.



(no sound)

**Blue flag.** The staff displaying this flag is one end of the finishing line.

## INTRODUCTION

*The Racing Rules of Sailing* includes two main sections. The first, Parts 1–7, contains rules that affect all competitors. The second, the appendices, provides details of rules, rules that apply to particular kinds of racing, and rules that affect only a small number of competitors or officials.

**Terminology** A term used in the sense stated in the Definitions is printed in italics or, in preambles, in bold italics (for example, *racing* and racing).

Each of the terms in the table below is used in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* with the meaning given.

Term	Meaning
Boat	A sailboat and the crew on board.
Competitor	<b>HS.1 - A person who races or intends to race in the event or the skipper, team or boat as appropriate.</b>
National authority	A World Sailing member national authority.
Race committee	The race committee appointed under rule 89.2(c) and any other person or committee performing a race committee function.
Racing rule	A rule in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
Technical committee	The technical committee appointed under rule 89.2(c) and any other person or committee performing a technical committee function.
Vessel	Any boat or ship.

Other words and terms are used in the sense ordinarily understood in nautical or general use.

**Hails** A language other than English may be used for a hail required by the *rules* provided that it is reasonable for it to be understood by all boats affected. However, a hail in English is always acceptable.

**Notation** The notation '[DP]' in a *rule* means that the penalty for a breach of the *rule* may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. Guidelines for discretionary penalties are available on the World Sailing website.

**Revision** The racing rules are revised and published every four years by World Sailing, the international authority for the sport. This edition becomes effective on 1 January 2021 except that for an event beginning in 2020 the date may be postponed by the notice of race or sailing instructions. Marginal markings indicate important changes to Parts 1–7 and the Definitions in the 2017–2020 edition. No changes are contemplated before 2025, but any changes determined to be urgent before then will be announced through national authorities and posted on the World Sailing website.

**Appendices** When the rules of an appendix apply, they take precedence over any conflicting rules in Parts 1–7 and the Definitions. Each appendix is identified by a letter. A reference to a rule in an appendix will contain the letter and the rule number (for example, 'rule A1'). The letters I, O and Q are not used to designate appendices in this book.

**World Sailing Regulations** The Regulations are referred to in the definition Rule and in *rule* 6, but they are not included in this book because they can be changed at any time. The most recent versions of the Regulations are published on the World Sailing website; new versions will be announced through national authorities.

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

- *The Case Book – Interpretations of the Racing Rules*,
- *The Call Books*, for various disciplines,
- Interpretations of Rule 42, Propulsion, and

- Interpretations of the Regulations, for those Regulations that are *rules*.

These publications are available on the World Sailing website. Other interpretations of the racing rules are not authoritative unless approved by World Sailing in accordance with Regulation 28.4.

## DEFINITION

A term used as stated below is shown in *italic type* or, in preambles, in **bold italic type**. The meaning of several other terms is given in Terminology in the Introduction.

**Abandon** A race that a race committee or protest committee *abandons* is void but may be resailed.

Add a new rule

**HS.2** Add new definition - Boundary :

**Boundary** The lines described in the sailing instructions as a 'boundary'.

**HS.3** Definition Clear Astern and Clear Ahead; Overlap is replaced with:

**Clear Astern and Clear Ahead; Overlap** One boat is *clear astern* of another when:

- (a) on a monohull, her hull and bowsprit in normal position are behind a line abeam from the aftermost point of the other boat's hull; or
- (b) on a multihull, her hulls are behind a line abeam from the aftermost point of the other boat's hulls;

The other boat is *clear ahead*. However, when a boat's bow or bowsprit is between the other boat's hull(s) it is *clear astern*. They *overlap* when neither is *clear astern* or a boat between them *overlaps* both. The Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions may change this definition so that only (a) applies to all boats.

**Conflict of Interest** A person has a *conflict of interest* if he

- (a) may gain or lose as a result of a decision to which he contributes,
- (b) may reasonably appear to have a personal or financial interest which could affect his ability to be impartial, or
- (c) has a close personal interest in a decision.

**Fetching** A boat is *fetching* a *mark* when she is in a position to pass to windward of it and leave it on the required side without changing *tack*.

**HS.4** Definition *Finish* is replaced with :

**Finish** A boat *finishes* when, after *starting*, any part of her hulls cross the finishing line from the course side after completing any penalties. However, she has not finished if after crossing the finishing line she

- (a) receives a penalty from an umpire,
- (b) takes a penalty under rule 44,
- (c) corrects an error in sailing the course made at the line, or
- (d) continues to sail the course.

In a Match Race, when penalties are cancelled by an umpire after one or both boats have finished, each shall be recorded as *finished* when she crossed the line.

**Keep Clear** A boat *keeps clear* of a right-of-way boat

- (a) if the right-of-way boat can sail her course with no need to take avoiding action and,
- (b) when the boats are *overlapped*, if the right-of-way boat can also change course in both directions without immediately making contact.

**Leeward and Windward** A boat's *leeward* side is the side that is or, when she is head to wind, was away from the wind. However, when sailing by the lee or directly downwind, her *leeward* side is the side on which her mainsail lies. The other side is her *windward* side. When two boats on the same *tack* *overlap*, the one on the *leeward* side of the other is the *leeward* boat. The

other is the *windward* boat.

**Mark** An object the sailing instructions require a boat to leave on a specified side, a race committee vessel surrounded by navigable water from which the starting or finishing line extends, and an object intentionally attached to the object or vessel. However, an anchor line is not part of the *mark*.

**HS.6** Definition *Mark-room* is replaced with:

**Mark-room** Room for a boat to sail no farther from the *mark* than needed to sail her *proper course* to round or pass the *mark*, and *room* to pass a finishing *mark* after *finishing*.

**HS.8** Definition *Obstruction* is replaced with:

**Obstruction** An object that a boat could not pass without changing course substantially, if she were sailing directly towards it and one of her hull lengths from it. An object that can be safely passed on only one side, *boundaries* and an object, area or line so designated by the sailing instructions are also *obstructions*. However, a boat *racing* is not an *obstruction* to other boats unless they are required to

- (a) *keep clear of her and they are not approaching the starting line to start when the first leg is a reaching leg, or*
- (b) *if rule 22 applies, avoid her*

**HS.7** Add new definition - OCS :

**OCS** A boat is *OCS* when at her starting signal any part of her hulls is on the course side of the starting line.

**Overlap** See *Clear Astern* and *Clear Ahead*; *Overlap*.

**Party** A *party* to a hearing is

- (a) for a protest hearing: a protestor, a protestee;
- (b) for a redress hearing: a boat requesting redress or for which redress is requested; a boat for which a hearing is called to consider redress under rule 60.3(b); a race committee acting under rule 60.2(b); a technical committee acting under rule 60.4(b);
- (c) for a redress hearing under rule 62.1(a): the body alleged to have made an improper action or omission;
- for a redress hearing under rule 62.1(a): the body alleged to have made an improper action or omission;
- (d) a person against whom an allegation of a breach of rule 69.1(a) is made; a person presenting an allegation under rule 69.2(e)(1);
- (e) a *support person* subject to a hearing under rule 60.3(d) or 69; any boat that person supports; a person appointed to present an allegation under rule 60.3(d).

However, the protest committee is never a *party*.

**Postpone** A *postponed* race is delayed before its scheduled start but may be started or *abandoned* later.

**Proper Course** A course a boat would choose in order to *sail the course and finish as soon as possible in the absence of the other boats referred to in the rule using the term*. A boat has no *proper course* before her starting signal.

**Protest** An allegation made under rule 61.2 by a boat, a race committee, a technical committee or a protest committee that a boat has broken a *rule*.

**Racing** A boat is *racing* from her preparatory signal until she *finishes* and clears the finishing line and *marks* or retires, or until the race committee signals a general recall, *postponement* or *abandonment*.

**HS.9** Definition *Room* is replaced with:

**Room** The space a boat needs in the existing conditions, including space to comply with her obligations under the rules of Part 2, [rule 28.3](#), and rule 31, while manoeuvring promptly in a seamanlike way

**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 Regulations that have been designated by World Sailing as having the status of a rule and are published on the World Sailing website;
- (c) the prescriptions of the national authority, unless they are changed by the 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 notice of race;
- (f) the sailing instructions; and
- (g) any other documents that govern the event.

**Sail the Course** A boat *sails the course* provided that a string representing her track from the time she begins to approach the starting line from its pre-start side to *start* until she *finishes*, when drawn taut,

- (a) passes each *mark* of the course for the race on the required side and in the correct order,
- (b) touches each *mark* designated in the sailing instructions to be a rounding *mark*, and
- (c) passes between the *marks* of a gate from the direction of the course from the previous *mark*.

**HS.10** Definition *Start* is replaced with:

**Start** A boat *starts* when

- (a) her hulls having been entirely on the pre-start side of the starting line at or after her starting signal, any part of her hulls cross the starting line from the pre-start side to the course side; or
- (b) having crossed the starting line in the direction of the first *mark* and been identified as OCS, she completes a penalty for OCS.

**Support Person** Any person who

- (a) provides, or may provide, physical or advisory support to a competitor, including any coach, trainer, manager, team staff, medic, paramedic or any other person working with, treating or assisting a competitor in or preparing for the competition, or
- (b) is the parent or guardian of a competitor.

**Tack, Starboard or Port** A boat is on the *tack*, *starboard* or *port*, corresponding to her *windward* side.

**Windward** See **Leeward and Windward**.

**HS.10** Definition *Zone* is replaced with:

**Zone** The area around *marks, obstructions* or the *boundary* within a distance of three hull lengths. A boat is in the *zone* when any part of her hulls is in the *zone*. The notice of race or sailing instructions may change the distance of the zone.

## BASIC PRINCIPLES

### **SPORTSMANSHIP AND THE RULES**

Competitors in the sport of sailing are governed by a body of *rules* that they are expected to follow and enforce. A fundamental principle of sportsmanship is that when a boat breaks a *rule* and is not exonerated she will promptly take an appropriate penalty or action, which may be to retire.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Participants are encouraged to minimize any adverse environmental impact of the sport of sailing.

## **PART 1**

### FUNDAMENTAL RULES

#### **1 SAFETY**

##### **1.1 Helping Those in Danger**

A boat, competitor or *support person* shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.

##### **1.2 Life-Saving Equipment and Personal Flotation Devices**

A boat shall carry adequate life-saving equipment for all persons on board, including one item ready for immediate use, unless her class rules make some other provision. Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing a personal flotation device adequate for the conditions.

#### **2 FAIR SAILING**

A boat and her owner shall compete in compliance with recognized principles of sportsmanship and fair play. A boat may be penalized under this rule only if it is clearly established that these principles have been violated. The penalty shall be a disqualification that is not excludable. *When races are umpired a boat need not take a penalty unless signalled to do so by an umpire.*

#### **3 DECISION TO RACE**

The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* is hers alone.

#### **4 ACCEPTANCE OF THE RULES**

##### **4.1**

**(a)** By participating or intending to participate in an event conducted under the *rules*, each competitor and boat owner agrees to accept the *rules*.

**(b)** A *support person* by providing support, or a parent or guardian by permitting their child to enter an event, agrees to accept the *rules*.

##### **4.2**

Each competitor and boat owner agrees, on behalf of their *support persons*, that such *support*

*persons* are bound by the *rules*.

### 4.3

Acceptance of the *rules* includes agreement

- (a) to be governed by the *rules*;
- (b) to accept the penalties imposed and other action taken under the *rules*, subject to the appeal and review procedures provided in them, as the final determination of any matter arising under the *rules*;
- (c) with respect to any such determination, not to resort to any court of law or tribunal not provided for in the *rules*; and
- (d) by each competitor and boat owner to ensure that their *support persons* are aware of the *rules*.

### 4.4

The person in charge of each boat shall ensure that all competitors in the crew and the boat's owner are aware of their responsibilities under this rule.

### 4.5

This rule may be changed by a prescription of the national authority of the venue.

## 5 RULES GOVERNING ORGANIZING AUTHORITIES AND OFFICIALS

The organizing authority, race committee, technical committee, protest committee and other race officials shall be governed by the *rules* in the conduct and judging of the event.

## 6 WORLD SAILING REGULATIONS

### 6.1

Each competitor, boat owner and *support person* shall comply with the World Sailing Regulations that have been designated by World Sailing as having the status of a *rule*. These regulations as of 30 June 2020 are the World Sailing:

- Advertising Code
- Anti-Doping Code
- Betting and Anti-Corruption Code
- Disciplinary Code
- Eligibility Code
- Sailor Categorization Code

### 6.2

Rule 63.1 does not apply unless *protests* are permitted in the Regulation alleged to have been broken.

## 7 LAST POINT OF CERTAINTY

The umpires will assume that the state of the boat, or her relationship to another boat, has not changed, until they are certain that it has changed.

## PART 2

### WHEN BOATS MEET

The rules of Part 2 apply between boats that are sailing in or near the racing area and intend to **race**, are **racing**, or have been **racing**. However, a boat not **racing** shall not be penalized for breaking one of these rules, except rule 14 when the incident resulted in injury or serious damage, or rule 23.1.

When a boat sailing under these rules meets a vessel that is not, she shall comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS) or government right-of-way rules. If the notice of race so states, the rules of Part 2 are replaced by the right-of-way rules of the IRPCAS or by government right-of-way rules.

### SECTION A

#### RIGHT OF WAY

A boat has right of way over another boat when the other boat is required to **keep clear** of her. However, some rules in Sections B, C and D limit the actions of a right-of-way boat.

#### 10 ON OPPOSITE TACKS

When boats are on opposite *tacks*, a *port-tack* boat shall *keep clear* of a *starboard-tack* boat.

#### 11 ON THE SAME TACK, OVERLAPPED

When boats are on the same *tack* and *overlapped*, a *windward* boat shall *keep clear* of a *leeward* boat.

#### 12 ON THE SAME TACK, NOT OVERLAPPED

When boats are on the same *tack* and not *overlapped*, a boat *clear astern* shall *keep clear* of a boat *clear ahead*.

#### 13 WHILE TACKING - HS.14

HS.14 Delete rule 13 and replace with: 13 Deleted

#### 14 AVOIDING CONTACT - HS.15

If reasonably possible a boat shall

- (a) avoid contact with another boat,
- (b) not cause contact between boats, and
- (c) not cause contact between a boat and an object that should be avoided.

However, a right-of-way boat, or one sailing within the *room* or *mark-room* to which she is entitled, need not act to avoid contact until it is clear that the other boat is not *keeping clear* or giving *room* or *mark-room*.

### SECTION B

#### GENERAL LIMITATIONS

#### 15 ACQUIRING RIGHT OF WAY

When a boat acquires right of way, she shall initially give the other boat *room to keep clear*, unless she acquires right of way because of the other boat's actions.

## 16 CHANGING COURSE - HS.16

### 16.1

When a right-of-way boat changes course, she shall give the other boat *room to keep clear*.

### 16.2

16.2 Deleted

## 17 ON THE SAME TACK; PROPER COURSE - HS.17

HS.17 Delete rule 17 and replace with: 17 Deleted

## SECTION C

### AT MARKS AND OBSTRUCTIONS

*Section C rules do not apply at a starting **mark** surrounded by navigable water or at its anchor line from the time boats are approaching them to **start** until they have passed them.*

## 18 MARK-ROOM - HS.18

### 18.1 When Rule 18 Applies

- (a) 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*.
- (b) Rule 18 does not apply between boats:
  - (1) when one boat is approaching a *mark* and one is leaving it;
  - (2) when the boat entitled to *mark-room* obtained an inside *overlap* and, from the time the *overlap* began, the outside boat is unable to give *mark-room*;
  - (3) when the boat entitled to *mark-room* leaves the *zone*; or
  - (4) when the boat entitled to *mark-room* is on the next leg and the *mark* is astern of her.

### 18.2 Giving Mark-Room

- (a) When rule 18 first applies,
  - (1) if boats are *overlapped* the outside boat at that moment shall thereafter give the inside boat *mark-room*.
  - (2) if boats are not *overlapped*, the boat that has not reached the *zone* shall thereafter give *mark-room*.
- (b) If rule 18 no longer applies due to the boat entitled to *mark-room* leaving the *zone*, but is required to be applied again, the relationship of the boats considered at the time rule 18 is re- applied.

### 18.3 Changing Tack

- (a) If *mark-room* for a boat includes a change of *tack*, such tack or gybe shall be done no faster than a tack or gybe to sail her *proper course*.
- (b) When an inside *overlapped* right-of-way boat must change *tack* at a *mark* to sail her *proper course*, until she changes *tack* she shall sail no farther from the *mark* than needed to sail that course if this affects the course of another boat before the right-of way boat

changes *tack*. Rule 18.3(b) does not apply at a gate *mark* or a finishing *mark*.

## 19 ROOM TO PASS AN OBSTRUCTION - HS.19

### 19.1 When Rule 19 Applies

Rule 19 applies between boats when at least one of them is in the *zone* of an *obstruction*, except when it is also a *mark* the boats are required to leave on the same side.

However, rule 19 does not apply when rule 20 applies.

### 19.2 Giving Room at an Obstruction

(a) The course of the right-of-way boat when rule 19 first applies determines the side of the *obstruction* for rule 19 to apply.

(b) When boats are *overlapped*, the outside boat shall give the inside boat *room* between her and the *obstruction*, unless

(1) she has been unable to do so from the time the overlap began.

(2) she has been unable to do so because she is giving or taking *mark-room* under rule 18.2(a), or

(3) she is unable to do so because she is taking *room* under rule 20.2.

However, *room* in rule 19.2 does not include *room* to tack unless it is the only option to pass the *obstruction*.

## 20 ROOM TO PASS A BOUNDARY - HS.20

### 20.1 When Rule 20 Applies

Rule 20 applies between boats that have *started* when at least one of them is in the *zone* of a *boundary*.

### 20.2 Giving Room at a Boundary

(a) When rule 20 first applies, an outside *overlapped* or *clear-astern* boat at that moment shall thereafter give an inside or *clear-ahead* boat *room* to sail her *proper course*, including *room* to tack or gybe, while the inside or *clear-ahead* boat is in the *zone*, unless the boat required to give *room* is unable to do so because she is giving or taking *mark-room* under rule 18.2(a).

(b) When boats are passing a *boundary* on opposite sides, a boat sailing on a leg to a windward *mark* or windward gate shall be considered the inside boat.

## SECTION D

### OTHER RULES

When rule 21 or 22 applies between two boats, Section A rules do not.

## 21 STARTING ERRORS; TAKING PENALTIES; BACKING A SAIL - HS.21

HS.21 Delete rule 21 and replace with: 21 Deleted

## 22 CAPSIZED, ANCHORED OR AGROUND; RESCUING

If possible, a boat shall avoid a boat that is capsized or has not regained control after capsizing,

is anchored or aground, or is trying to help a person or vessel in danger. A boat is capsized when her masthead is in the water.

## 23 INTERFERING WITH ANOTHER BOAT

### 23.1 - HS.22

If reasonably possible, a boat not *racing* shall not interfere with a boat that is *racing* or an *umpire boat*.

### 23.2 - HS 23

If reasonably possible, a boat shall not interfere with a boat *that is sailing on another leg*. However, after the starting signal this rule does not apply when the boat is sailing her *proper course*.

### 23.3 - HS.24

In a match race when boats in different matches meet, any course sailed by either boat shall be consistent with complying with a *rule* or trying to win her own match.

### 23.4 - HS.25

After she has *started* and except when sailing her *proper course*, a boat shall not interfere with a boat taking a penalty or a boat sailing towards the pre-start side of the starting line or one of its extensions.

## PART 3

### CONDUCT OF A RACE

## 25 NOTICE OF RACE, SAILING INSTRUCTIONS AND SIGNALS

### 25.1

The notice of race shall be made available to each boat that enters an event before she enters. The sailing instructions shall be made available 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 notice of race or sailing instructions.

### 25.3

When the race committee is required to display a flag as a visual signal, it may use a flag or other object of a similar appearance.

## 26 STARTING RACES

### 26.1

Races shall be started by using the following signals. Times shall be taken from the sound signals.

Minutes before starting signal	Visual signal	Sound signal	Means
4	4 or Class flag	One	Attention signal
3	3 flag	One	Warning signal
2	2 or P	One long	Preparatory signal: match race entry*
1	1 flag	One long	One minute
0	1 or Class flag removed	One	Starting signal

*\*Boats failing to comply with rule 27.4 will be identified until the umpires have signalled a penalty.*

### 26.2

In a match race the boat assigned the windward entry shall display a blue flag on her port shroud while *racing*. The boat assigned the leeward entry shall display a yellow flag on her starboard shroud while racing. A boat that displays an incorrect identification flag or does not display the correct flag shall be warned orally and given the opportunity to correct the error before being penalized.

## 27 OTHER RACE COMMITTEE ACTIONS BEFORE THE STARTING SIGNAL

### 27.1

No later than the warning signal, the race committee shall signal or otherwise designate the

course to be sailed if the sailing instructions have not stated the course, and it may replace one course signal with another and signal that wearing personal flotation devices is required (display flag Y with one sound).

## 27.2

No later than the preparatory signal, the race committee may move a starting *mark*.

## 27.3

Before the starting signal, the race committee may for any reason *postpone* (display flag AP, AP over H, or AP over A, with two sounds) or *abandon* the race (display flag N over H, or N over A, with three sounds).

## 27.4 Requirements Before the Start of a Match Race

(a) The windward entry boat shall:

(1) at her preparatory signal, be to windward of the line and its extensions between the starting line flag pole on the race committee vessel and the first *mark*, and on the course side of the line between the starting line flag pole on the race committee vessel and the windward entry *mark* and within the one-minute period following her preparatory signal, cross and clear the line between the starting line flag pole on the race committee vessel and the windward entry *mark*, the first time from the course side to the pre start side.

(b) The leeward entry boat shall:

(1) at her preparatory signal, be to leeward of the line and its extensions between the starting line flag pole on the race committee vessel and the first *mark*, and on the course side of the starting line and within the one-minute period following her preparatory signal, cross and clear the starting line, the first time from the course side to the pre start side

## 28 SAILING THE RACE

### 28.1

A boat shall *start*, *sail the course* and then *finish*. While doing so, she may leave on either side a *mark* that does not begin, bound or end the leg she is sailing. After *finishing* she need not cross the finishing line completely.

### 28.2

A boat may correct any errors in *sailing the course*, provided she has not crossed the finishing line to *finish*.

### 28.3

While racing a boat shall be within the boundary as described in the Sailing Instructions as the Course Boundary.

## 29 RECALLS

### 29.1 Individual Recall

When a boat is OCS, the race committee shall promptly make one sound and,

(a) in a fleet race, display flag X. The flag shall be displayed until all such boats have completed a penalty for OCS but no later than two minutes after the starting signal, or

(b) in a match race, display a blue or yellow flag or both. The flag(s) shall be displayed until

the umpires have signalled a penalty in accordance with rule 44.1(b) or until the boat(s) is on the pre-start side of the starting line.

## 29.2 General Recall

When at the starting signal the race committee is unable to identify boats that are on the course side of the starting line or to which rule 30 applies, or there has been an error in the starting procedure, the race committee may signal a general recall (display the First Substitute with two sounds). The warning signal for a new start for the recalled class shall be made one minute after the First Substitute is removed (one sound), and the starts for any succeeding classes shall follow the new start.

## 30 STARTING PENALTIES

### 30.1 I Flag Rule

If flag I has been displayed, and any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line or one of its extensions during the last minute before her starting signal, she shall sail across an extension so that her hull is completely on the pre-start side before she *starts*.

### 30.2 Z Flag Rule

Deleted

### 30.3 U Flag Rule

Deleted

### 30.4 Black Flag Rule

If a black flag has been displayed, no part of a boat's hull shall be in the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and the first *mark* during the last minute before her starting signal. If a boat breaks this rule and is identified, she shall be disqualified without a hearing, even if the race is restarted or resailed, but not if it is *postponed* or *abandoned* before the starting signal. If a general recall is signalled or the race is *abandoned* after the starting signal, the race committee shall display her sail number before the next warning signal for that race, and if the race is restarted or resailed she shall not sail in it. If she does so, her disqualification shall not be excluded in calculating her series score.

## 31 TOUCHING A MARK

While *racing*, neither the crew nor any part of a boat's hull shall touch a starting *mark* before *starting*, a *mark* that begins, bounds or ends the leg of the course on which she is sailing, or a finishing *mark* after *finishing*. This rule also applies to boom, standing rigging, bowsprit.

## 32 SHORTENING OR ABANDONING AFTER THE START

### 32.1

After the starting signal, the race committee may shorten the course (display flag S with two sounds) or *abandon* the race (display flag N, N over H, or N over A, with three sounds), for any reason after consulting with the umpires when practical.

However, after one boat has *started*, *sailed the course* and *finished* within the race time limit, if any, the race committee shall not *abandon* the race without considering the consequences for all boats in the race or series.

### 32.2

If the race committee signals a shortened course (displays flag S with two sounds), the finishing line shall be between the *marks* of a gate or between a rounding *mark* and a staff displaying flag S. The shortened course shall be signaled before the first boat crosses the finishing line.

## 33 CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

While boats are *racing*, the race committee may change a leg of the course that begins at a rounding *mark* or at a gate by changing the position of the next *mark* (or the finishing line) and signalling all boats before they begin the leg by displaying flag C. The next *mark* need not be in position at that time. Subsequent legs may be changed without further signalling to maintain the course shape.

## 34 MARK MISSING

### 34.1

If a *mark* is missing or out of position while boats are *racing*, the race committee shall, if possible,

- (a) replace it in its correct position or substitute a new one of similar appearance, or
- (b) substitute an object displaying flag M and make repetitive sound signals.

### 34.2

In the event that the race committee are unable to set a gate, the existing single *mark* shall be rounded to starboard.

## 35 RACE TIME LIMIT AND SCORES

If one *boat starts, sails the course and finishes* within the time limit, all boats that *finish* shall be scored according to their finishing places unless the race is *abandoned*.

If one *boat starts, sails the course and finishes* within the time limit, all boats that *finish* shall be scored according to their finishing places unless the race is *abandoned*.

However,

- (a) in a fleet race, a boat that does not *finish* within 10 minutes of the first boat shall be scored DNF, or
- (b) in a match race, a boat that does not *finish* within 5 minutes of the first boat shall be scored DNF.

If no boat *finishes* within the race time limit, the race committee shall *abandon* the race.

## 36 RACES RESTARTED OR RESAILED

If a race is restarted or resailed, a breach of a *rule* in the original race, or in any previous restart or resail of that race, shall not

- (a) prohibit a boat from competing unless she has broken rule 30.4 or been disqualified under rule 44.1; or
- (b) cause a boat to be penalized except under rule 2, 30.2, 30.4 or 69 or under rule 14 when she has caused injury or serious damage.

## 37 SEARCH AND RESCUE INSTRUCTIONS

When the race committee displays flag V with one sound, all boats and official and support vessels shall, if possible, monitor the race committee communication channel for search and

rescue instructions.

## PART 4

### OTHER REQUIREMENTS WHEN RACING

Part 4 rules apply only to boats **racing** unless the rule states otherwise.

#### SECTION A

#### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

### **40 PERSONAL EQUIPMENT - SEE CLASS RULES OR RULES FOR HANDLING BOATS**

#### **41 OUTSIDE HELP**

A boat shall not receive help from any outside source, except

- (a) help for a crew member who is ill, injured or in danger or to recover them from the water and return on board, provided the return on board is at the approximate location of the recovery;
- (b) after a collision, help from the crew of the other vessel to get clear;
- (c) help in the form of information freely available to all boats;
- (d) unsolicited information from a disinterested source, which may be another boat in the same race;
- (e) communication via race committee approved communications equipment with the race committee and umpires and another boat in the same race.

#### **42 PROPULSION - HS.27**

A boat shall compete by using only the wind and water to increase, maintain or decrease her speed. Her crew may adjust the trim of sails, rudders, daggerboards and hulls, and perform other acts of seamanship.

#### **43 EXONERATION**

##### **43.1**

- (a) When as a consequence of breaking a *rule* a boat has compelled another boat to break a *rule*, the other boat is exonerated for her breach
- (b) When a boat is sailing within the *room* or *mark-room* to which she is entitled and, as a consequence of an incident with a boat required to give her that *room* or *mark-room*, she breaks a rule of Section A of Part 2, rule 15, 16, or 31, she is exonerated for her breach.
- (c) A right-of-way boat, or one sailing within the *room* or *mark-room* to which she is entitled, is exonerated for breaking rule 14 if the contact does not cause damage or injury.

##### **43.2**

A boat exonerated for breaking a *rule* need not take a penalty and shall not be penalized for breaking that *rule*.

#### **44 PENALTIES AT THE TIME OF AN INCIDENT**

##### **44.1 Signals by Umpires**

When races are umpired, an umpire will signal a decision as follows:

- (a) A green and white flag with one long sound signal means 'No penalty.'
- (b) A red flag (fleet), blue or yellow flag (match) with one long sound means 'A penalty is imposed or remains outstanding. The identified boat shall take a penalty by complying with rule 44.2 or for an OCS penalty rule 44.3.'
- (c) A black flag and one long sound means 'The identified boat is disqualified, and the boat shall promptly leave the course area.'
- (d) If an umpire signals that a boat no longer has a penalty, then the penalty is completed.
- (e) One short sound means 'A penalty is now completed'.
- (f) Repetitive short sounds mean 'A boat is no longer taking a penalty and the penalty remains'.

## 44.2 Penalties

As soon as possible, after the incident, or after being signalled by an umpire, a boat takes a penalty, within the limitations of rule 44.4, by completing one of the following:

- (a) In a match race when the first leg is identified by the race committee as a reaching leg and prior to completing it a penalized boat shall, within the limitations of rule 44.4, act immediately to reduce her VMG / VMC until she is 2 hull-lengths behind the most forward part of the other boat's hulls based on the axis of the leg the penalized boat is on. If a boat is unable to complete the penalty prior to completing the first leg, she shall take a penalty in accordance with rule 44.2(b) or (c).
- (b) Two consecutive gybes with the gennaker completely furled at some point between the two gybes.
- (c) Two consecutive tacks.

## 44.3 OCS Penalties

The sailing instructions will identify the OCS Penalty system in use:

- (a) System 1 - Upwind Start A boat identified as OCS shall return entirely to the pre-start side of the starting line and cross the starting line in the direction of the first *mark*.
- (b) System 2 - Upwind Start A boat identified as OCS shall complete a penalty by complying with rule 44.2(c).
- (c) System 3 - Reaching Start A boat identified as OCS shall act so that she is *clear astern* of all boats that have started correctly when they complete the first leg of the course, excluding those identified as delayed starters by the race committee.
- (d) System 4 - Reaching Start A boat identified as OCS shall act immediately to reduce her VMG / VMC until she is clear astern of all boats that have started correctly, excluding those identified as delayed starters by the race committee.

## 44.4 Penalty Limitations

- (a) If a boat has multiple penalties, then the penalties shall be taken consecutively.
- (b) When OCS Penalty System 3 or 4 (rule 44.3(c) or 44.3(d)) is in use, a boat may not take a penalty after she has started while she is on the first leg other than a penalty for OCS or under rule 44.2(a).
- (c) A boat completes the first leg when any part of her hulls cross the extension of the line from the centre of the leeward gate through the first mark.
- (d) When OCS Penalty System 3 or 4 (rule 44.3(c) or 44.3(d)) is in use, a boat taking a penalty for OCS or under rule 44.2(a) shall not sail a course other than a proper course of a boat without a penalty if as a result a keep clear boat sailing a proper course must change course to keep clear.
- (e) In a match race a boat shall not take a penalty before her starting signal.

## 44.5 Taking and Completing Penalties

**(a)** A boat may take a Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 in an incident while *racing*, broken rule 28.3, 31, 44.4(d), been identified as OCS, or broken a Sailing Instruction that is subject to action by an umpire. However,

(1) when a boat may have broken a rule of Part 2 and rule 31 in the same incident she need not take the penalty for breaking rule 31;

(2) unless races are umpired, if the boat caused injury or serious damage or, despite taking a penalty, gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach her penalty shall be to retire;

**(b)** In a match race

(1) If a boat has one or two outstanding penalties and the other boat in her match is penalized, one penalty for each boat shall be cancelled. This does not apply to penalties for OCS. When a boat has one or more outstanding penalties and the other boat is OCS the penalties shall be cancelled and the OCS boat shall act immediately to reduce her VMG / VMC until she is *clear astern* of the other boat.

(2) If a boat has more than two outstanding penalties, the umpires shall signal her disqualification under rule 44.1(c).

**(c)** When it is clear to the umpires that a penalized boat is attempting to take her penalty but the loss of distance is not being incurred as intended, or the situation is not covered under rule 44.2 or 44.3 the umpires may make their best efforts to calculate what the loss of distance should be. When they are satisfied with the loss of distance, the umpires shall signal that the penalty is completed.

## **45 HAULING OUT; MAKING FAST; ANCHORING**

A boat shall be afloat and off moorings at her preparatory signal. Thereafter, she shall not be hauled out or made fast except to bail out, reef sails or make repairs. She may anchor or the crew may stand on the bottom. She shall recover the anchor before continuing in the race unless she is unable to do so.

## **46 PERSON IN CHARGE**

A boat shall have on board a person in charge designated by the member or organization that entered the boat. See rule 75.

## **47 TRASH DISPOSAL**

Competitors and support persons shall not intentionally put trash in the water. This rule applies at all times while afloat. The penalty for a breach of this rule may be less than disqualification.

## **SECTION B**

### **EQUIPMENT-RELATED REQUIREMENTS**

## **48 LIMITATIONS ON EQUIPMENT AND CREW**

### **48.1**

A boat shall use only the equipment on board at her preparatory signal.

### **48.2**

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*.

## **49 CREW POSITION**

Competitors shall use no device designed to position their bodies outboard, other than hiking straps and stiffeners worn under the thighs and sail control lines extending from the hull or cross structure.

## **50 COMPETITOR CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT - HS.27**

### **50.1**

Competitors shall not wear or carry clothing or equipment for the purpose of increasing their weight.

### **50.2**

The weight of clothing or equipment carried (including food, drink and mandated personal safety equipment) shall be no more than 8.0 kg per crewmember. The clothing and equipment shall be weighed dry.

### **50.3**

Crew clothing and equipment shall not retain water for the purpose of increasing weight.

## **51 MOVABLE BALLAST**

All movable ballast, including sails that are not set, shall be properly stowed. Water, dead weight or ballast shall not be moved for the purpose of changing trim or stability. However, bilge water may be bailed out.

## **52 MANUAL POWER**

A boat's standing rigging, running rigging, spars and movable hull appendages shall be adjusted and operated only by the power provided by the crew.

## **53 SKIN FRICTION**

A boat shall not eject or release a substance, such as a polymer, or have specially textured surfaces that could improve the character of the flow of water inside the boundary layer.

## **54 FORESTAYS AND HEADSAIL TACKS**

Forestays and headsail tacks, except those of spinnaker staysails when the boat is not close-hauled, shall be attached approximately on a boat's centreline.

## **55 SETTING AND SHEETING SAILS - SEE CLASS RULES OR RULES FOR HANDLING BOATS**

## **FOG SIGNALS AND LIGHTS; TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEMES**

**56.1** When so equipped, a boat shall sound fog signals and show lights as required by the

*International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS)* or applicable government rules.

**56.2** A boat shall comply with rule 10, Traffic Separation Schemes, of the *IRPCAS*.

*Note: Appendix TS, Traffic Separation Schemes, is available at the World Sailing website. The notice of race may change rule 56.2 by stating that Section A, Section B or Section C of Appendix TS applies.*

## PART 5

### PROTESTS, REDRESS, HEARINGS AND MISCONDUCT

The protest form that was included in previous editions of this book has been replaced by two forms, a hearing request form and a hearing decision form. The new forms, in various formats, are available at the World Sailing website at [sailing.org/racingrules/documents](http://sailing.org/racingrules/documents). They may be downloaded and printed.

Note that *The Racing Rules of Sailing* does not require a particular form to be used

Suggestions for improving these forms are welcome and should be sent to [rules@sailing.org](mailto:rules@sailing.org).

## SECTION A

### PROTESTS; REDRESS; RULE 69 ACTION

## 60 RIGHT TO PROTEST; RIGHT TO REQUEST REDRESS OR RULE 69 ACTION

### 60.1

A boat may

- (a) protest another boat with a 'Y-Flag Protest' for an alleged breach of a rule of Part 2, except rule 14, for an incident in which she was involved, or rules 28.3, 31 or 44.4(d);
- (b) protest another boat under a rule not listed in rule 60.1(a) except rule 26.2, 27.4, 28.1, 40, 42, 44.2, 44.3, 50 when races are umpired, or rule 14 unless damage or injury results;
- (c) report to the protest committee requesting action under rule 60.3(d) or 69.2(b); or
- (d) request redress.

### 60.2

A race committee may

- (a) protest a boat, but not under a rule listed in rule 60.1(a) or 60.6(a) when races are umpired or 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;
- (b) request redress for a boat; or
- (c) report to the protest committee requesting action under rule 60.3(d) or 69.2(b).

### 60.3

A protest committee may

- (a) protest a boat, but not under a rule listed in rule 60.1(a) or 60.6(a) when races are umpired or 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 may protest a boat
  - (1) if it learns of an incident involving her that may have resulted in injury or serious damage, or
  - (2) if during the hearing of a valid *protest* it learns that the boat, although not a *party* to the hearing, was involved in the incident and may have broken a *rule*;
- (b) call a hearing to consider redress;
- (c) act under rule 69.2(b); or
- (d) call a hearing to consider whether a *support person* has broken a *rule*, based on its own observation or information received from any source, including evidence taken during a hearing.

## 60.4

A technical committee may

- (a) protest a boat, but not under a rule listed in rule 60.1(a) or 60.6(a) when races are umpired or 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 50;
- (b) request redress for a boat; or
- (c) report to the protest committee requesting action under rule 60.3(d) or 69.2(b).

## 60.5

However, neither a boat nor a committee may protest for an alleged breach of rule 69 or a Regulation referred to in rule 6, unless permitted by the Regulation concerned.

## 60.6 When the umpires decide that a boat has:

- (a) broken rule 26.2, 27.4, 28.3, 31, 42, 44, 49;
- (b) gained an advantage by breaking a *rule* after allowing for a penalty;
- (c) committed a breach of sportsmanship;
- (d) been identified as OCS; or
- (e) broken a Sailing Instruction that is subject to action by an umpire,

She shall be penalized under rule 44.1(b) or (c);

- (f) broken rule 31 and damage has resulted, or rule 14, they may impose a penalty without a hearing. The competitor shall be informed of the penalty as soon as practicable and, at the time of being so informed, may request a hearing. The protest committee shall then proceed under rule 60.3. Any penalty decided by the protest committee may be more than the penalty imposed by the umpires. When the umpires decide that a penalty is greater than the guidance on contact and damage penalties in the sailing instructions, they shall act under rule 60.8.

## 60.7

After one boat has *started* a match race, if the umpires are satisfied that the other boat will not *finish*, they may signal under rule 44.1(c) that the boat that will not *finish* is disqualified and the match is terminated.

## 60.8

When the umpires decide that a boat may have broken a *rule* other than those listed in rules 60.1(a) or 60.6(a) they shall so inform the protest committee for its action under rule 60.3.

## 60.9

No proceedings of any kind may be taken in relation to any action or non-action by an umpire.

# 61 PROTEST REQUIREMENTS

## 61.1 Informing the Protestee

- (a) For 'Y Flag Protests', a boat shall hail 'Protest' and conspicuously display flag Y immediately after an incident. She shall remove the flag before or as soon as possible after, a boat involved in the incident has taken a penalty, an umpires' signal or it becomes clear that no boat will take a penalty.
- (b) A boat that protests under rule 60.1(b) shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity.
- (c) If the race committee, technical committee or protest committee intends to protest a

boat concerning an incident the committee observed in the racing area, it shall inform her after the race within 2 minutes of the finish of the last boat in the last race of the day. In other cases the committee shall inform the boat of its intention to protest as soon as reasonably possible. A notice posted on the official notice board within the appropriate time limit satisfies this requirement.

**(d)** If the protest committee decides to protest a boat under rule 60.3(a)(2), it shall inform her as soon as reasonably possible, close the current hearing, proceed as required by rules 61.2 and 63, and hear the original and the new *protests* together.

## 61.2 Protest Contents

**(a)** protests and requests for redress need not be in writing unless advised by the protest committee;

**(b)** the protest committee may conduct the hearing and take evidence in any way it considers appropriate.

## 61.3 Protest Time Limit

**(a)** A boat intending to

(1) *protest* under rule 60.1(b); or

(2) request redress under rule 60.1(d);

shall hail the race committee within 2 minutes of the *finish* of the last boat in the race. The protest committee shall extend the time if there is good reason to do so.

**(b)** When the race committee, technical committee or protest committee intend to *protest*, the race office shall be notified verbally no later than 30 minutes after the committee receives the relevant information. The protest committee shall extend the time if there is good reason to do so.

# 62 REDRESS

## 62.1

A request for redress or a protest committee's decision to consider redress shall be based on a claim or possibility that a boat's score or place in a race or series has been or may be, through no fault of her own, made significantly worse by

**(a)** deleted;

**(b)** injury or physical damage because of the action of a boat that was breaking a rule of Part 2 and took an appropriate penalty or was penalized, 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;

**(c)** giving help (except to herself or her crew) in compliance with rule 1.1; or

**(d)** an action of another boat, or a crew member or *support person* of that boat, that resulted in a penalty under rule 2 or a penalty or warning under rule 69.

**(e)** an action by a third party (including a race official) that causes injury to the crew or serious physical damage to a boat while that boat was racing.

## 62.2

Deleted

# SECTION B

## HEARINGS AND DECISIONS

## 63 HEARINGS

### 63.1 Requirement for a Hearing

**(a)** When races are umpired, a boat that protests under rule 60.1(a) is not entitled to a hearing. Instead, the umpires shall decide whether to penalize any boat and signal the decision as provided in rule 44.1.

**(b)** A boat or competitor shall not be penalized without a protest hearing, except as provided in rules 30.4, 60.6, 63.1(a), 64.4(d), 64.5(b), 64.6, 69, 78.2 and A5. A decision on redress shall not be made without a hearing. The protest committee shall hear all *protests* and requests for redress that the race committee has been notified of unless it allows a *protest* or request to be withdrawn.

### 63.2 Time and Place of the Hearing; Time for Parties to Prepare

All *parties* to the hearing shall be notified of the time and place of the hearing, the *protest* or redress information or the allegations shall be made available to them, and they shall be allowed reasonable time to prepare for the hearing. When two or more hearings arise from the same incident, or from very closely connected incidents, they may be heard together in one hearing. However, a hearing conducted under rule 69 shall not be combined with any other type of hearing.

### 63.3 Right to Be Present

**(a)** A representative of each *party* to the hearing has the right to be present throughout the hearing of all the evidence. When a *protest* claims a breach of a rule of Part 2, 3 or 4, the representatives of boats shall have been on board at the time of the incident, unless there is good reason for the protest committee to rule otherwise. Any witness, other than a member of the protest committee, shall be excluded except when giving evidence.

**(b)** If a *party* to a hearing does not come to the hearing, the protest committee may nevertheless proceed with the hearing. If the *party* was unavoidably absent, the committee may reopen the hearing.

### 63.4 Conflict of Interest

**(a)** A protest committee member shall declare any possible conflict of interest as soon as he is aware of it. A party to the hearing who believes a member of the protest committee has a conflict of interest shall object as soon as possible.

**(b)** A member of a protest committee with a *conflict of interest* shall not be a member of the committee for the hearing, unless

(1) all *parties* consent, or

(2) the protest committee decides that the *conflict of interest* is not significant.

**(c)** When deciding whether a *conflict of interest* is significant, the protest committee shall consider the views of the *parties*, the level of the conflict, the level of the event, the importance to each *party*, and the overall perception of fairness.

**(d)** However, for World Sailing major events, or for other events as prescribed by the national authority of the venue, rule 63.4(b) does not apply and a person who has a *conflict of interest* shall not be a member of the protest committee.

### 63.5 Validity of the Protest or Request for Redress

At the beginning of the hearing the protest committee shall take any evidence it considers necessary to decide whether all requirements for the *protest* or request for redress have been met. If they have been met, the *protest* or request is valid and the hearing shall be continued. If not, the committee shall declare the *protest* or request invalid and close the hearing. If the *protest* has been made under rule 60.3(a)(1), the committee shall also determine whether or not injury or serious damage resulted from the incident in question. If not, the hearing shall be

closed.

### 63.6 Taking Evidence and Finding Facts

The protest committee may take evidence and conduct the hearing in any way it considers appropriate. The committee shall then find the facts and base its decision on them.

### 63.7 Conflict Between Rules

If there is a conflict between two or more *rules* that must be resolved before the protest committee makes a decision, the committee shall apply the *rule* that it believes will provide the fairest result for all boats affected. Rule 63.7 applies only if the conflict is between rules in the notice of race, the sailing instructions, or any of the other documents that govern the event under item (g) of the definition Rule.

### 63.8 Hearings Involving Parties in Different Events

A hearing involving *parties* in different events conducted by different organizing authorities shall be heard by a protest committee acceptable to those authorities.

### 63.9 Hearings under Rule 60.3(d) - Support Persons

If the protest committee decides to call a hearing under rule 60.3(d), it shall promptly follow the procedures in rules 63.2, 63.3, 63.4 and 63.6, except that the information given to the *parties* shall be details of the alleged breach and a person may be appointed by the protest committee to present the allegation.

## 64 DECISIONS

### 64.1 Standard of Proof, Majority Decisions and Reclassifying Requests

- (a) A protest committee shall make its decision based on a balance of probabilities, unless provided for otherwise in the rule alleged to have been broken.
- (b) Decisions of the protest committee shall be by simple majority vote of all members. When there is equal division of votes cast, the chairman may cast an additional vote.
- (c) The protest committee shall proceed with each case, as a *protest*, request for redress or other type of request, based on the information in the written request or allegation and testimony during the hearing. This permits the type of case to be changed if appropriate.

### 64.2 Penalties

When the protest committee decides that a boat that is a *party* to a protest hearing has broken a *rule* and is not exonerated, it shall disqualify her unless it decides that a breach of a rule has had no significant effect on the outcome of the race when it may impose a penalty of points or fraction of points, order a re-sail in a match race or make another arrangement it decides is equitable, which may be to impose no penalty. A penalty shall be imposed whether or not the applicable *rule* was mentioned in the *protest*. If a boat has broken a *rule* when not *racing*, her penalty shall apply to the race sailed nearest in time to that of the incident. However,

- (a) if a boat has taken an applicable penalty, she shall not be further penalized under this rule unless the penalty for a *rule* she broke is a disqualification that is not excludable from her series score;
- (b) if the race is restarted or resailed, rule 36 applies.
- (c) the penalty for breaking rule 14 will be at the discretion of the protest committee, and may include exclusion from one or more subsequent races in the event.

### 64.3 Decisions on Redress

When the protest committee decides that a boat is entitled to redress under rule 62, it shall

make as fair an arrangement as possible for all boats affected, whether or not they asked for redress. This may be to adjust the scoring (see rule A9 for some examples) or finishing times of boats, to *abandon* the race, to let the results stand or to make some other arrangement. When in doubt about the facts or probable results of any arrangement for the race or series, especially before *abandoning* the race, the protest committee shall take evidence from appropriate sources.

#### 64.4 Decisions on Protests Concerning Class Rules

(a) When the protest committee finds that deviations in excess of tolerances specified in the class rules were caused by damage or normal wear and do not improve the performance of the boat, it shall not penalize her. However, the boat shall not *race* again until the deviations have been corrected, except when the protest committee decides there is or has been no reasonable opportunity to do so.

(b) When the protest committee is in doubt about the meaning of a class rule, it shall refer its questions, together with the relevant facts, to an authority responsible for interpreting the rule. In making its decision, the committee shall be bound by the reply of the authority.

(c) When a boat is penalized under a class rule and the protest committee decides that the boat also broke the same rule in earlier races in the same event, the penalty may be imposed for all such races. No further *protest* is necessary.

(d) When a boat penalized under a class rule states in writing that she intends to appeal, she may compete in subsequent races without changes to the boat. However, if she fails to appeal or the appeal is decided against her, she shall be disqualified without a further hearing from all subsequent races in which she competed.

(e) Measurement costs arising from a *protest* involving a class rule shall be paid by the unsuccessful *party* unless the protest committee decides otherwise.

#### 64.5 Decisions Concerning Support Persons

(a) When the protest committee decides that a *support person* who is a *party* to a hearing under rule 60.3(d) or 69 has broken a *rule*, it may

- (1) issue a warning,
- (2) exclude the person from the event or venue or remove any privileges or benefits, or
- (3) take other action within its jurisdiction as provided by the *rules*.

(b) The protest committee may also penalize a boat that is a *party* to a hearing under rule 60.3(d) or 69 for the breach of a rule by a *support person* by changing the boat's score in a single race, up to and including disqualification, when the protest committee decides that

- (1) the boat may have gained a competitive advantage as the result of the breach by the *support person*, or
- (2) the support person committed a further breach after the protest committee warned the boat in writing, following a previous hearing, that a penalty may be imposed.

#### 64.6 Discretionary Penalties

When a boat reports within the protest time limit that she has broken a *rule* subject to a discretionary penalty, the protest committee shall decide the appropriate penalty after taking evidence from the boat and any witnesses it decides are appropriate.

## 65 INFORMING THE PARTIES AND OTHERS

### 65.1

After making its decision, the protest committee shall promptly inform the parties to the hearing of the facts found, the applicable rules, the decision, the reasons for it, and any penalties imposed or redress given. This may be done orally.

**65.2**

A party to a rule 69 hearing is entitled to receive the above information in writing, provided she asks for it in writing from the protest committee no later than seven days after being informed of the decision. The committee shall then promptly provide the information, including, when relevant, a diagram of the incident prepared or endorsed by the committee.

**65.3**

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.

**65.4**

When the protest committee penalizes a boat under a class rule, it shall send the above information to the relevant class rule authorities.

**66 REOPENING A HEARING**

The protest committee may reopen a hearing when it decides that it may have made a significant error, or when significant new evidence becomes available within a reasonable time. A *party* to the hearing may not ask for a reopening.

**67 DAMAGES**

The question of damages arising from a breach of any *rule* shall be governed by the prescriptions, if any, of the national authority.

*Note: There is no rule 68.*

**SECTION C****MISCONDUCT****69 MISCONDUCT****69.1 Obligation not to Commit Misconduct; Resolution**

- (a)** A competitor, boat owner or *support person* shall not commit an act of misconduct.
- (b)** Misconduct is:
  - (1) conduct that is a breach of good manners, a breach of good sportsmanship, or unethical behaviour; or
  - (2) conduct that may bring, or has brought, the sport into disrepute.
- (c)** An allegation of a breach of rule 69.1(a) shall be resolved in accordance with the provisions of rule 69. It shall not be grounds for a *protest* and rule 63.1 does not apply.

**69.2 Action by a Protest Committee**

- (a)** A protest committee acting under this rule shall have at least three members.
- (b)** When a protest committee, from its own observation or from information received from any source, including evidence taken during a hearing, believes a person may have broken rule 69.1(a), it shall decide whether or not to call a hearing.
- (c)** When the protest committee needs more information to make the decision to call a hearing, it shall consider appointing a person or persons to conduct an investigation. These investigators shall not be members of the protest committee that will decide the matter.
- (d)** When an investigator is appointed, all relevant information he gathers, favourable or

unfavourable, shall be disclosed to the protest committee, and if the protest committee decides to call a hearing, to the *parties*.

**(e)** If the protest committee decides to call a hearing, it shall promptly inform the person in writing of the alleged breach and of the time and place of the hearing and follow the procedures in rules 63.2, 63.3(a), 63.4, 63.6, 65.1, 65.2, 65.3 and 66, except that:

(1) unless a person has been appointed by World Sailing, a person may be appointed by the protest committee to present the allegation.

(2) a person against whom an allegation has been made under this rule shall be entitled to have an advisor and a representative with him who may act on his behalf.

**(f)** If the person

(1) provides good reason why he is unable to come to the hearing at the scheduled time, the protest committee shall reschedule it; or

(2) does not provide good reason and does not come to the hearing, the protest committee may conduct it without the person present.

**(g)** The standard of proof to be applied is the test of the comfortable satisfaction of the protest committee, bearing in mind the seriousness of the alleged misconduct. However, if the standard of proof in this rule conflicts with the laws of a country, the national authority may, with the approval of World Sailing, change it with a prescription to this rule.

**(h)** When the protest committee decides that a competitor or boat owner has broken rule 69.1(a), it may take one or more of the following actions

(1) issue a warning;

(2) change their boat's score in one or more races, including disqualification(s) that may or may not be excluded from her series score;

(3) exclude the person from the event or venue or remove any privileges or benefits; and

(4) take any other action within its jurisdiction as provided by the *rules*.

**(i)** When the protest committee decides that a *support person* has broken rule 69.1(a), rule 64.5 applies.

**(j)** If the protest committee

(1) imposes a penalty greater than one DNE;

(2) excludes the person from the event or venue; or

(3) in any other case if it considers it appropriate,

it shall report its findings, including the facts found, its conclusions and decision to the national authority of the person or, for specific international events listed in the World Sailing Regulations, to World Sailing. If the protest committee has acted under rule 69.2(f)(2), the report shall also include that fact and the reasons for it.

**(k)** If the protest committee decides not to conduct the hearing without the person present, or if the protest committee has left the event and a report alleging a breach of rule 69.1(a) is received, the race committee or organizing authority may appoint the same or a new protest committee to proceed under this rule. If it is impractical for the protest committee to conduct a hearing, it shall collect all available information and, if the allegation seems justified, make a report to the national authority of the person or, for specific international events listed in the World Sailing Regulations, to World Sailing.

### **69.3 Action by a National Authority and World Sailing**

The disciplinary powers, procedures and responsibilities of national authorities and World Sailing that apply are specified in the World Sailing Disciplinary Code. National authorities and World Sailing may impose further penalties, including suspension of eligibility, under that code.

## **SECTION D**

## APPEALS

### 70 APPEALS AND REQUESTS TO A NATIONAL AUTHORITY

#### 70.1

(a) Provided that the right of appeal has not been denied under rule 70.5, a *party* to a hearing may appeal a protest committee's decision or its procedures, but not the facts found.

(b) A boat may appeal when she is denied a hearing required by rule 63.1.

#### 70.2

A protest committee may request confirmation or correction of its decision.

#### 70.3

An appeal under rule 70.1 or a request by a protest committee under rule 70.2 shall be sent to the national authority with which the organizing authority is associated under rule 89.1. However, if boats will pass through the waters of more than one national authority while *racing*, an appeal or request shall be sent to the national authority where the finishing line is located, unless the sailing instructions identify another national authority.

#### 70.4

A club or other organization affiliated to a national authority may request an interpretation of the *rules*, provided that no *protest* or request for redress that may be appealed is involved. The interpretation shall not be used for changing a previous protest committee decision.

#### 70.5 - HS.28

There shall be no appeal for an alleged improper action, omission or decision of the umpires or from a decision of a protest committee.

#### 70.6 - HS.28

Deleted

### 71 NATIONAL AUTHORITY DECISIONS - HS.30

HS.30 Delete rule 71 and replace with: 71 Deleted

## **PART 6**

### **ENTRY AND QUALIFICATION**

#### **75 ENTERING AN EVENT**

To enter an event, a boat shall comply with the requirements of the organizing authority of the event. She shall be entered by

- (a) a member of a club or other organization affiliated to a World Sailing member national authority,
- (b) such a club or organization, or
- (c) a member of a World Sailing member national authority.

#### **76 EXCLUSION OF BOATS OR COMPETITORS**

##### **76.1**

The organizing authority or the race committee may reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude a competitor, subject to rule 76.3, provided it does so before the start of the first race and states the reason for doing so. On request the boat shall promptly be given the reason in writing. The boat may request redress if she considers that the rejection or exclusion is improper.

##### **76.2**

The organizing authority or the race committee shall not reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude a competitor because of advertising, provided the boat or competitor complies with the World Sailing Advertising Code.

##### **76.3**

At world and continental championships no entry within stated quotas shall be rejected or cancelled without first obtaining the approval of the relevant World Sailing Class Association (or the Offshore Racing Council) or World Sailing.

#### **77 IDENTIFICATION ON SAILS**

A boat shall be identified to the satisfaction of the organizing authority.

#### **78 COMPLIANCE WITH CLASS RULES; CERTIFICATES**

##### **78.1**

While a boat is  *racing*, her owner and any other person in charge shall ensure that the boat is maintained to comply with her class rules and that her measurement or rating certificate, if any, remains valid. In addition, the boat shall also comply at other times specified in the class rules, the notice of race or the sailing instructions.

##### **78.2**

When a  *rule* requires a valid certificate to be produced or its existence verified before a boat  *races*, and this cannot be done, the boat may  *race* provided that the race committee receives a statement signed by the person in charge that a valid certificate exists. The boat shall produce the certificate or arrange for its existence to be verified by the race committee before the start of the last day of the event, or of the first series, whichever is earlier. The penalty for breaking this

rule is disqualification without a hearing from all races of the event.

## **79 CATEGORIZATION**

If the notice of race or class rules state that some or all competitors must satisfy categorization requirements, the categorization shall be carried out as described in the World Sailing Sailor Categorization Code.

## **80 RESCHEDULED EVENT**

When an event is rescheduled to dates different from the dates stated in the notice of race, all boats entered shall be notified. The race committee may accept new entries that meet all the entry requirements except the original deadline for entries.

## PART 7

### RACE ORGANIZATION

#### 87 CHANGES TO CLASS RULES

The notice of race may change a class rule only when the class rules permit the change, or when written permission of the class association for the change is posted on the official notice board.

#### 88 NATIONAL PRESCRIPTIONS

##### 88.1 Prescriptions that Apply

The prescriptions that apply to an event are the prescriptions of the national authority with which the organizing authority is associated under rule 89.1. However, if boats will pass through the waters of more than one national authority while *racing*, the notice of race shall identify the prescriptions that will apply and when they will apply.

##### 88.2 Changes to Prescriptions

The notice of race or sailing instructions may change a prescription. However, a national authority may restrict changes to its prescriptions with a prescription to this rule, provided World Sailing approves its application to do so. The restricted prescriptions shall not be changed.

#### 89 ORGANIZING AUTHORITY; NOTICE OF RACE; APPOINTMENT OF RACE OFFICIALS

##### 89.1 Organizing Authority

Races shall be organized by an organizing authority, which shall be

- (a) World Sailing;
- (b) a member national authority of World Sailing;
- (c) an affiliated club;
- (d) an affiliated organization other than a club and, if so prescribed by the national authority, with the approval of the national authority or in conjunction with an affiliated club;
- (e) an unaffiliated class association, either with the approval of the national authority or in conjunction with an affiliated club;
- (f) two or more of the above organizations;
- (g) an unaffiliated body in conjunction with an affiliated club where the body is owned and controlled by the club. The national authority of the club may prescribe that its approval is required for such an event; or
- (h) if approved by World Sailing and the national authority of the club, an unaffiliated body in conjunction with an affiliated club where the body is not owned and controlled by the club.

In rule 89.1, an organization is affiliated if it is affiliated to the national authority of the venue; otherwise the organization is unaffiliated. However, if boats will pass through the waters of more than one national authority while *racing*, an organization is affiliated if it is affiliated to the national authority of one of the ports of call.

##### 89.2 Notice of Race; Appointment of Race Officials

- (a) The organizing authority shall publish a notice of race that conforms to rule J1.
- (b) The notice of race may be changed provided adequate notice is given.

(c) The organizing authority shall appoint a race committee and, when appropriate, appoint a protest committee, a technical committee and umpires. However, the race committee, an international jury, a technical committee and umpires may be appointed by World Sailing as provided in its Regulations.

## 90 RACE COMMITTEE; SAILING INSTRUCTIONS; SCORING

### 90.1 Race Committee

The race committee shall conduct races as directed by the organizing authority and as required by the *rules*.

### 90.2 Sailing Instructions

- (a) The race committee shall publish written sailing instructions that conform to rule J2.
- (b) When appropriate, for an event where entries from other countries are expected, the sailing instructions shall include, in English, the applicable national prescriptions.
- (c) The sailing instructions may be changed provided the change is in writing and posted on the official notice board before the time stated in the sailing instructions. or, on the water, after the display of third substitute with one sound signal, communicated to each boat before her warning signal.

### 90.3 Scoring

- (a) The race committee shall score a race or series as provided in Appendix A unless the notice of race or sailing instructions specify some other system. A race shall be scored if it is not *abandoned* and if one boat *starts*, *sails the course* and *finishes* within the race time limit, if any, even if she retires after *finishing* or is disqualified.
- (b) When a scoring system provides for excluding one or more race scores, any score that is a Disqualification Not Excludable (DNE) shall be included in a boat's series score.
- (c) When the race committee determines from its own records or observations that it has scored a boat incorrectly, it shall correct the error and make the corrected scores available to competitors.
- (d) The race committee shall implement scoring changes directed by the protest committee or national authority as a result of decisions made in accordance with the *rules*.
- (e) When so stated in the notice of race, notwithstanding the provisions of rules 90.3(a), (b), (c) and (d), there shall be no changes to race or series scores resulting from action, including the correction of errors, initiated more than 24 hours after
  - (1) the protest time limit for the last race of the series (including a single-race series);
  - (2) being informed of a protest committee decision after the last race of the series (including a single-race series); or
  - (3) the results are published.

However, in exception, changes to scores shall be made resulting from a decision under rules 6, 69 or 70. The notice of race may change '24 hours' to a different time.

## 91 PROTEST COMMITTEE

A protest committee shall be

- (a) a committee appointed by the organizing authority or race committee;
- (b) an international jury appointed by the organizing authority or as prescribed in the World Sailing Regulations. It shall be composed as required by rule N1 and have the authority and responsibilities stated in rule N2. A national authority may prescribe that its approval is required for the appointment of international juries for races within its jurisdiction, except World Sailing events or when international juries are appointed by World Sailing under rule

89.2(c); or  
(c) Deleted

## **92 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

**92.1** A technical committee shall be a committee of at least one member and be appointed by the organizing authority or the race committee or as prescribed in the World Sailing Regulations.

**92.2** The technical committee shall conduct equipment inspection and event measurement as directed by the organizing authority and as required by the *rules*.

## **APPENDIX N**

### **INTERNATIONAL JURIES**

#### **N1.10**

N1.10 In rule N.1, one International Umpire may be appointed to the jury, or apanel of it, in place of one International Judge.