

March 7, 2021

Questions in the Chat from the March 6 webinar for the AYC.

Replies from Dave Perry

8:58:00 From Troy Davis to Everyone : Start and Finish - can we put the orange and blue flag on the same staff if the start and finish line are the same? In a modified Olympic course for example

DP: Yes.

18:58:16 From Amanda to Everyone : Upwind/Downwind/Start/Officiating what's the largest change this cycle?

DP: review my paper detailing all the changes in the 2021-2024 rules at:

<https://www.ussailing.org/competition/rules-officiating/the-racing-rules-of-sailing-2021-2024/>

18:59:25 From Amy Durrett to Everyone : Upwind - When sailing upwind and passing a downwind boat, is the right of way boat always the boat on starboard tack? Not always the upwind boat?

DP: when boats are on opposite tacks, the starboard-tack boat has the right of way, regardless of what points of sail the boats are on.

18:59:33 From Don Hackbarth to Everyone : body hitting mark -I understand that the sailors are no longer part of the boat re starting and finishing. how about a team's body hitting a mark or a competitor or another boat?

DP: the sailors on the boat are always part of the boat. Under the new rules they are no longer a factor for deciding if the boat is OCS or when she finishes.

18:59:38 From Amanda to Everyone : Other - do any changes allow for more/less technology during racing? Thinking about video for protests/redress or virtual skippers meetings or virtual protests for COVID.

DP: the new rules do not change anything regarding the use of technology. The rules do not prohibit the use of technology for things like electronic notice boards, filing protests/requests for redress, the use of video in the protest room, etc.

19:03:37 From Len Wert to Everyone : Start/Finish: For fleet racing at AYC we frequently utilize one of several "modified" courses in which we use a flag on our signal barge as one end of the line - for starting and finishing. Previously we used an orange flag (the staff) and a pin for the other end. Now, we're planning to switch out our orange start flag for a blue finish flag, We're concerned that with 6 different fleets on a small lake, we'll likely have boats finishing and starting at same time. We have discussed posting the blue flag from the barge in a separate location. It has been brought up that perhaps we could post both flags from the same staff if we needed to can we do that?

DP: you can use any flag you want for starting and finishing. The 2021-2024 rules have put in the Race Signals an orange flag for starting and a blue flag for finishing, meaning if you use those flags you do not need to state that in the SI's (but I think it is helpful to the sailors if you do). You can use the same staff for starting and finishing, in which case you can put both the orange and blue flag on it.

19:10:14 From Amanda to Everyone : Dave, a question about the easiest way to understand two boats, overlapped on starboard approaching the right end of the starting line (RC boat) how do we understand rights here and how to work effectively as the upwind boat in that situation and the leeward boat.

DP: when boats are approaching the RC Boat to start, rules 18 and 19 do not apply (see the preamble to Part 2, Section C of the rules). That means the inside boat (windward boat) is NOT entitled to room at the mark or obstruction. It is a simple windward/leeward situation, and rule 11 requires the windward boat (W) to keep clear of the leeward boat (L). If W hits L or causes L to have to bear away to avoid W, then W has broken rule 11 (and we say she is "barging"). But if L luffs (changes course), she has to give W room to keep clear (see rule 16.1), so if L is going to luff to "close the door" on W, she has to do it before W gets her bow stuck behind the RC Boat (i.e., do it before the boats get to the RC Boat).

19:23:21 From Don Hackbarth to Everyone : NOR how are changes in the NOR handled

DP: Rule 89.2(b) tells the OA how to change the NoR.

19:34:50 From Don Hackbarth to Everyone : upwind what about heading up on starboard while port is crossing

DP: The starboard-tack boat can head up as long as she gives the port-tack boat room to keep clear (see rule 16.1).

19:37:59 From Atlanta Yacht Club Clubhouse - Zoom to Everyone : I've gotten back into sailing in the last 4 years. Mast abeam is now out of the rules. What is the rule now?

DP: Rule 17 is the rule that limits a leeward boat from sailing above her proper course in certain situations.