

RC POND RACING RULES

This unofficial summary and modification of the 2025-2028 Racing Rules of Sailing address the realities of RC racing, distant marks, etc. The primary goal is to have FUN and for all sailors to subscribe to the RRS fundamental principle of sportsmanship by self-policing, doing their turns, unprompted by other competitors, explaining why they are doing turns...while being tolerant of others doing their best to comply and not using the word "Protest!" while racing..

RRS SPORTSMANSHIP AND THE RULES is changed to: Competitors in the sport of sailing are governed by a body of *rules* that they are expected to follow. A fundamental principle of sportsmanship is that when a boat breaks a *rule*, she will take an appropriate penalty turn(s) without being prompted.

RRS Rule 10 ON OPPOSITE TACKS ... a *port-tack* boat shall *keep clear* of a *starboard-tack* boat.

RRS Rule 11 ON SAME TACK, OVERLAPPED ...a *windward* boat shall *keep clear* of a *leeward* boat.

RRS Rule 12 ON SAME TACK, NOT OVERLAPPED ... a boat *clear astern* shall *keep clear* of a boat *clear ahead*.

RRS Rule 13 WHILE TACKING After a boat passes head to wind, she shall *keep clear* of other boats until she is on a close-hauled course...

RRS Rule 14 AVOIDING CONTACT is changed to: A boat shall avoid *serious* contact with another boat if reasonably possible. Minor side to side, or bow to stern, hull or rigging contact, not changing the relative position of boats in a race, is not penalized.

RRS Rule 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.

RRS Rule 16 CHANGING COURSE When a right-of-way boat changes course, she shall give the other boat *room* to *keep clear*.

RRS Rule 17 ON THE SAME TACK; PROPER COURSE If a boat *clear astern* becomes *overlapped* within two of her hull lengths to *leeward* of a boat on the same *tack*, she shall not sail above her *proper course* while they remain on the same *tack* and *overlapped* within that two lengths distance,

RRS Rule 18.2 MARK ROOM is changed to: When boats are *overlapped* the outside boat shall give the inside boat mark-room until the inside boat leaves the mark astern. If a boat is **3-boat lengths (Appendix E1.1)** *clear ahead* when she reaches the *zone*, the boat *clear astern* at that moment shall thereafter give her *mark-room*. If there is reasonable doubt that a boat obtained or broke an *overlap* in time, it shall be presumed that she did not. When an inside *overlapped* right-of-way boat must gybe at a *mark* to sail her *proper course*, until she gybes, she shall sail no farther from the *mark* than needed to sail that course.

RRS 20.1 ROOM AT AN OBSTRUCTION Hailing is changed to: A boat may hail for "*room*" to tack or gybe to avoid a boat(s) on the same *tack*, if she is approaching an *obstruction*, *such as land* to avoid running aground, and will soon need to make a substantial course change to avoid it safely.

RRS 31 TOUCHING A MARK is changed to: A boat may touch a mark other than a starting mark when starting or a finishing mark while finishing.

RRS 44 & Appendix E4.3 PENALTIES are changed to: After getting well clear of other boats and prior to the next mark, a boat shall take a 360 degree One-Turn Penalty Turn when she has broken a rule(s) of Part 2, or rule 31, in an incident while *racing*. However, if the boat gained a significant advantage by her breach, despite taking a penalty, her penalty shall be a 720-degree Two-Turn Penalty. If the boat caused another boat to become *disabled* and retire, her penalty shall be to retire.

RRS 61 PROTEST REQUIRMENT is changed to: The word, "Protest" shall not be used during a race. A boat involved in, or seeing, an incident during a race, may, in the spirit of teaching after the race, explain the situation and proper response after asking the other party whether they are aware that a Rule may have been broken.

RRS Appendix E.2.1 HAILING REQUIREMENTS The individual digits of a boat's sail number shall be hailed; e.g. "one-five" for "15".