



Volume 1, Issue 5

May 1, 2018

## Welcome to Rule(s) of the Week

### The ILYA #FAIRSAILING Initiative

In an effort to keep all our sailors educated and constantly learning the Racing Rules of Sailing, the ILYA #FAIRSAILING initiative begins May with the first of its weekly **Rule of the Week** presentations. The rules from *Part 2 - When Boats Meet* will feature graphics to assist you visually in understanding the rules.

As the summer progresses, the ILYA invites you and your club to make the effort to assist others to learn and understand the rules, to ask questions no matter how basic or advanced and to encourage each other on the water to execute the RRS to the best of your ability. The self-policing aspect of our sport is so unique and the ILYA holds the principle of FAIR SAILING in highest regard.

Take your time with this info but reach out and share your thoughts with your fellow sailors. Learn together and let's keep all fleets, all ages, all levels of sailing events FAIR and respectful of the rules.

**Again, our thanks to UK Sails - John Porter and Bruce Martinson for leading us in this endeavor. The ILYA would like to acknowledge the work of Boyd Rice, LMSRF racer, from Chicago who facilitated the original strategic meeting regarding this subject and provided guidance to proceed.**

The ILYA #FAIRSAILING committee is comprised of:

**Education:** Al Haeger, John Porter, Jon Just, Kara Kaiser, Chris Allen, Margaret Hollister, , Bruce Martinson, David Porter

**Communication:** Marilyn Krause, Candace Porter, David Porter

**Recognition:** Dale Roble, Todd Haines, David Porter

Please reach out to anyone above for more information.



## RULE OF THE WEEK - BASIC PRINCIPLES, RULES 1 - 3

*"Win or lose, do it fairly" - Knute Rockne*

### What is Fair Sailing?

OK, you've heard about ILYA #FairSailing and you're ready to support it. But what does Fair Sailing actually mean? Do you have to be perfect

**April**  
28 - John Strassman RC 201 -  
Practical Teaching

**May**  
Rules of Week to be featured

**June**  
Visits to Clubs and Sailing Schools

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in following the rules to be a Fair Sailor?  
Is it OK to go easy on your friends when they break a rule?

In this article, we'll summarize the key points, answer questions, and give examples.

### **What Does the Rule Book Say About Fair Sailing?**

The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) for 2017-2020 covers Fair Sailing in the following sections:

#### **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 competitors break a rule they will promptly take a penalty, which may be to retire."*

##### **Further Clarification:**

[What does it mean to "promptly" take a penalty? - Rule 44.2](#)

[What should I do if another boat breaks the rules?](#)

[Story: Peter Barrett - 2004 Olympics](#)

[A friend fouls you. Is it OK to say, "You owe me one?"](#)

#### **Rule 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 either disqualification or disqualification that is not excludable."*

##### **Further Clarification, Related rule**

[Misconduct \(Rule 69\)](#)

[I see a DNE on the scoresheet. What is DNE?](#)

[If I break a rule can I still be a Fair Sailor?](#)

[What are some examples of unfair sailing?](#)

#### **Rule 3 - Acceptance of the Rules**

*"3.1 (a) By participating or intending to participate in a race conducted under these rules, each competitor and boat owner agrees to accept these rules.*

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

*3.2 Each competitor and boat owner agrees, on behalf of their support persons, that such support persons are bound by the rules.*

*3.3 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.*

*3.4 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.*

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





**Thanks to  
Bruce Martinson  
and  
John Porter  
for their leadership and  
volunteer efforts to  
further  
ILYA #FAIRSAILING**

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#### Further clarification:

[What is a Support Person?](#)

[Can a coach that is not racing be penalized under the rules?](#)

[How do the rules apply to parents of youth sailors?](#)

[My crew is inexperienced. What if he or she breaks a rule?](#)

#### Plans for ILYA #FAIRSAILING

##### We want you!

**Sailors** --- if you are most comfortable with the rules, please volunteer to be a leader at your club to assist with the ILYA presentation. This is brought to you by UK sails who has generously given us rights to use their graphics which are exceptional. The presentation will come with presenter's notes. You may choose to go at your own pace at your club. To volunteer, contact [Candace Porter](#) to be listed as a resource for your club.

OR

**Clubs** - Request the ILYA send someone to present at your club. Then the ILYA will leave the presentation behind for your club to review as you see fit. Contact [Candace Porter](#) to set up a time your club might like to have a visit.



#### How to obtain the RRS

##### This is the book

Every four years, the international sailing community, World Sailing (formerly ISAF), convenes to declare the "rules of the game" for the next Olympics. The United States has taken a role in the development of change with our own Bill Bentsen part of the process in the past. Dick Rose who has been a part of the rules development group has spoken to the ILYA at several Winter Inlands. Dave Perry is an expert and writes clear explanations in his books. The current RRS (Racing Rules of Sailing) is entitled 2017-2020. The changes from the last book are identified by a vertical line next to any changes from the prior edition. Additionally a national authority may have legal or other reason to deviate from the international version. These deviations are termed "prescriptions" (you see that in our Sailing Instructions) and are in bold italics in the RSS. One example is Rule 40 on PFD's. You all have experienced the saga of Coast Guard approved and non-CGA lifejackets. Always be sure to read the introduction to a rule. It is in italics before the rule is stated. Bottom line the rules we follow are the rules, the definitions, the introductions and the prescriptions - all in this book. Your class association also has independent rules aside from this book.



If you want it in paper form, you may have it by [clicking here \(\\$29.95\)](#) or try the waterproof version, \$34.95 (Note you have to go to page four to find the rulebook). The ILYA has them at a slightly more responsible price. Check with Dave Berg at your first ILYA regatta. If you join US Sailing, the rulebook is included in your membership. For US Sailing members, the download is free so load it to your phone and have it with you all the time. If you are a US Sailing member, find your US Sailing number, go to the App Store, find US Sailing and download the RRS.

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