

## Racing Rules of Sailing

### RRS Definition Continuing Obstruction

A submission from the Chair of the Racing Rules Committee

#### Purpose or Objective

Clarify the definition Continuing Obstruction approved by the RRC in November 2023.

#### Proposal

***Continuing Obstruction*** An *obstruction* is a *continuing obstruction* when ~~a~~ **the boat with the shortest hull referred to in the rule using the term** will pass alongside it for at least three of her hull lengths. However, the following are not a *continuing obstruction*: a vessel under way, a boat *racing*, or a race committee vessel that is also a *mark*.

#### Current Position

The above text is a new definition approved in November 2023.

#### Reasons

The words 'the smallest boat referred to in the rule' appeared in submission 008-23, Proposal 1. The Racing Rules Committee approved Proposal 1 with edits, and these words were subsequently removed from the definition. Upon further consideration, we believe these words are necessary and will be beneficial in situations involving boats of varying lengths.

The addition of the phrase 'using this term' make it clear what rule the word 'rule' refers to.

The addition of that phrase also avoids a mystery in the rules for readers who notice that the definition *Proper Course* contains the phrase 'using this term' whereas the definition *Continuing Obstruction* does not.

This change should be considered as a change of pressing importance under regulation 28.1.2 so that, if approved with a 75% vote cast, it can be incorporated to the edition of the 2025-2028 RRS

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