

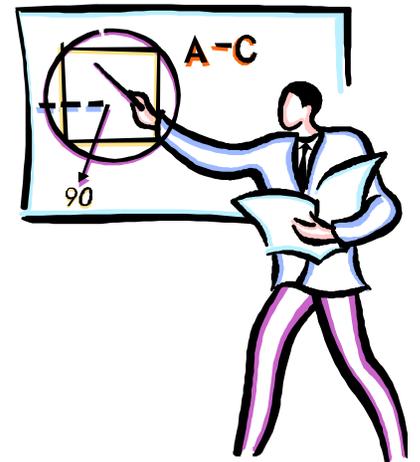


SMSA
Race Management Training

Advanced Race Committee



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US Sailing Certified Club Race Officer





Topics

- Race Committee Communications
- Setting a Mark
- Missing Mark
- Starting Penalties
- Change of Course
- For More Information



Race Committee Communications

- General Guidelines
 - Speak clearly & slowly
 - It is not necessary to yell into the VHF microphone
 - Talking too loud will distort & garble the message
 - Shield the microphone from the wind
 - Always be courteous
 - Save the friendly chit-chat for the rendezvous



Race Committee Communications

- Talk to your RC Team
 - Review your intentions for the race
 - Type of course: windward-leeward, triangle, etc.
 - Identify the weather & current predictions for the next several hours
 - Does anyone have thoughts/ideas on the race
 - Ensure everyone has a clear understanding of their job(s) & is ready to go into sequence
- Talk to the competitors
 - Provide the same information to everyone, or no one at all
 - State the race committee's intentions
 - "RC intends to go into sequence in approximately 3 minutes."
 - "The posted course is V-X-V-X."
 - "We are in postponement due to a large wind shift."
 - "We are moving to the area of _____."
 - Do NOT solicit course selection feedback from the competitors



Setting a Mark

- Ensure the rode is securely tied to both the mark and the anchor chain
 - Then, double-check your knots one more time
- Ensure the rode is neatly coiled & snag-free **BEFORE** you are ready to set it
 - Run the rode through your hands from one end to the other
- **ALWAYS** be careful to watch the rode in relation to the boat's propeller



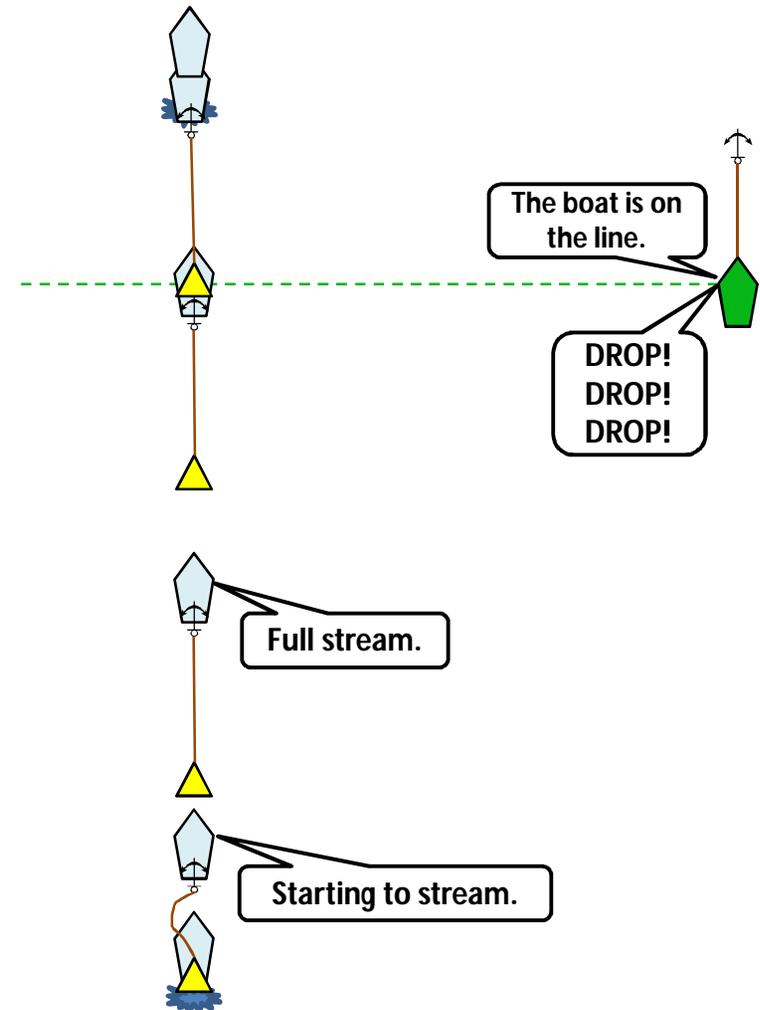
Setting a Mark

- Drop on a Spot Technique
 - Position the boat in the location where the mark is to be set
 - Slide the anchor & chain over the side, then pay out the rode until the anchor hits the bottom
 - Provide additional scope commensurate with the wind & sea state conditions
 - Don't just throw the anchor, rode, & mark overboard
 - Ensure the anchor is set on the bottom
 - Wait a minute or two to ensure the mark is not drifting
 - Take a GPS ping on the mark



Setting a Mark

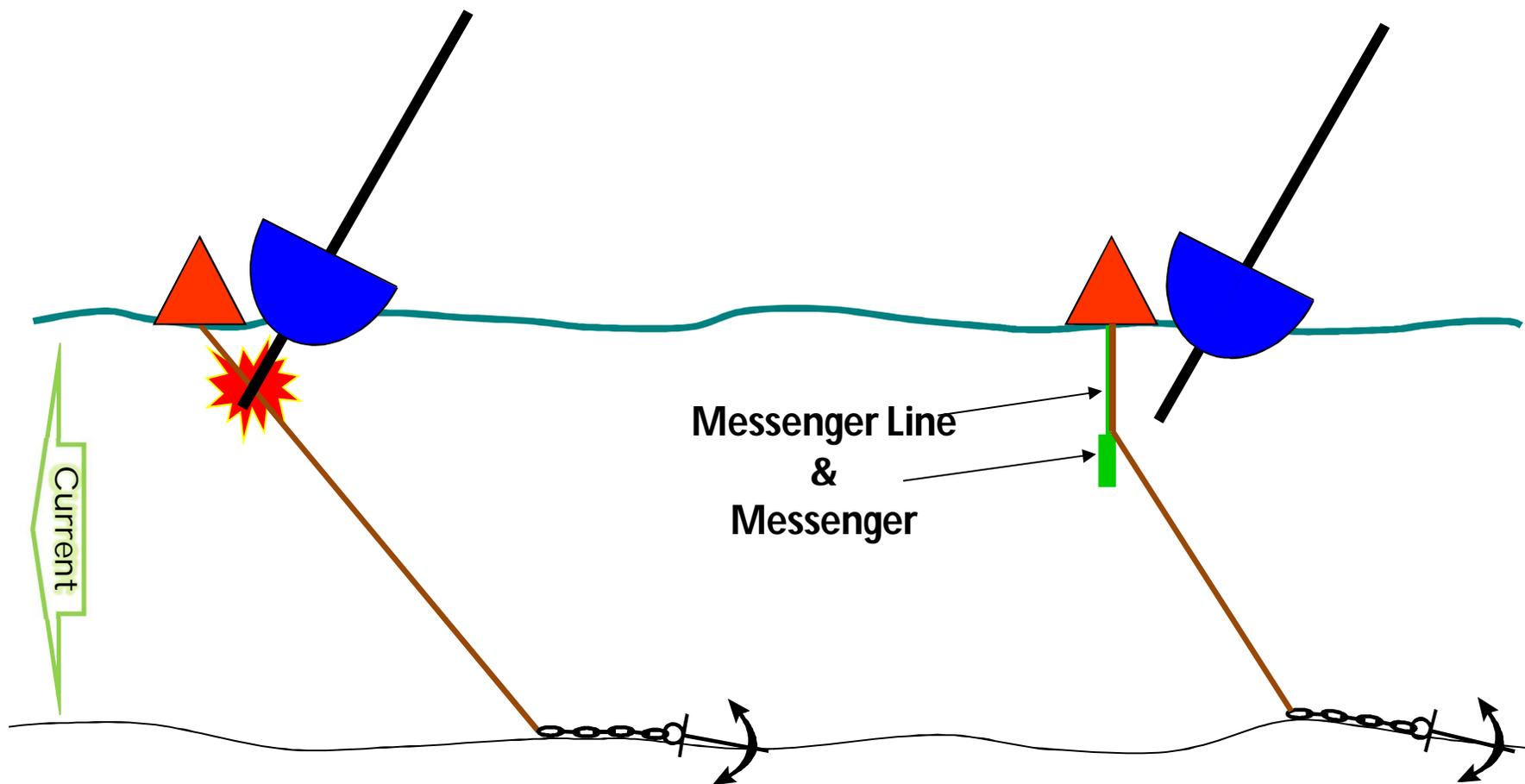
- Tow & Drop Technique
 - Requires another RC boat to sight the position
 - Requires extra care to ensure the rode does not tangle in the propeller
 - Ensure the anchor is set on the bottom
 - Wait a minute or two to ensure the mark is not drifting
 - Take a GPS ping on the mark





Setting a Mark

- Use of a Messenger





Missing Mark

- “If a mark is missing or out of position, 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.”



“The object displaying this signal replaces a missing mark.”



Missing Mark

- The decision & ability to execute a Missing Mark signal includes several factors:
 - The willingness of the mark boat owner to place their boat in the thick of a rounding
 - Is the mark missing (deflated, punctured, cut rode) or is the ground tackle dragging along the bottom?
 - When it was noticed the mark was missing/out of position & the location of the approaching boats
- HINT: Provide sounds in groups of **4 or more** so they will not be confused with the "Shorten Course" or "Abandonment" signals



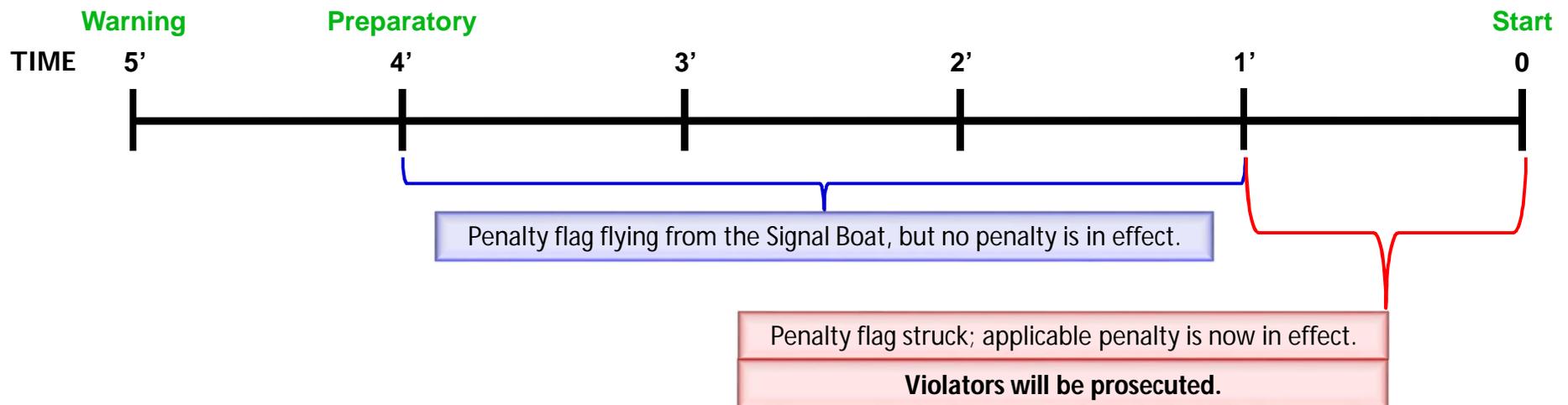
Starting Penalties

- Starting penalties are a means by which RC can assert some control & reduce the number of OCS violations
 - Overly aggressive fleets and/or classes
 - Wind and/or current conditions that could “push” a class through the start line
 - Reduce recalls & the associated time delay
- The use a penalty flag in a start sequence must be a well thought-out decision
- Penalty flags are typically invoked progressively following General Recall(s)



Starting Penalties

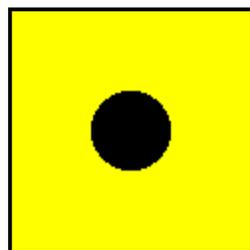
- A penalty flag is flown in lieu of the preparatory "P" flag during the start sequence
- A boat is penalized if it violates the condition of the rule in the last minute before the start





Starting Penalties – “I” Flag

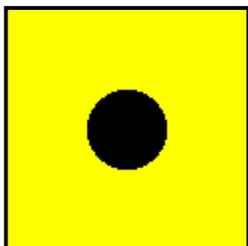
- AKA, the “Around an End Rule”
- If any part of a boat or her crew is on course side of the starting line, or its extensions, she shall sail from the course side across an extension to the pre-start side before starting



RRS 30.1 is in effect.

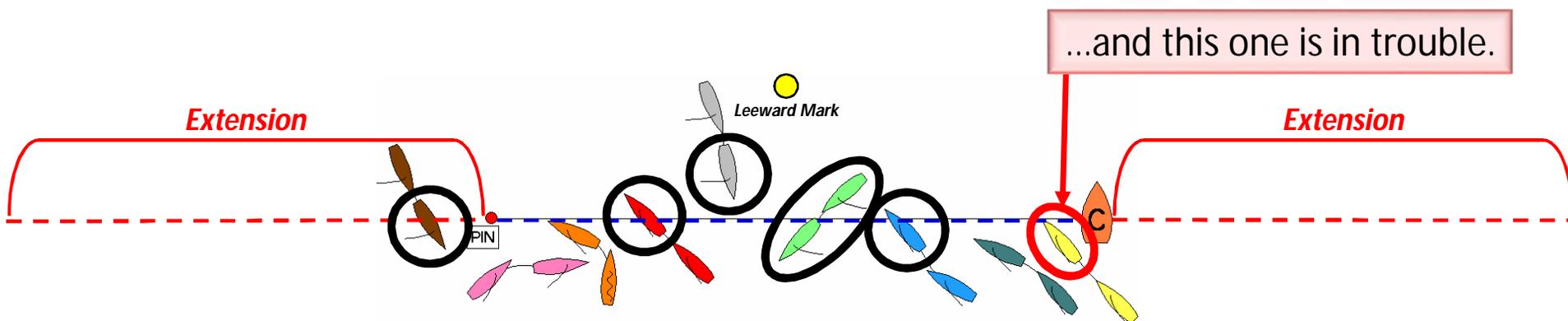


Starting Penalties – “I” Flag



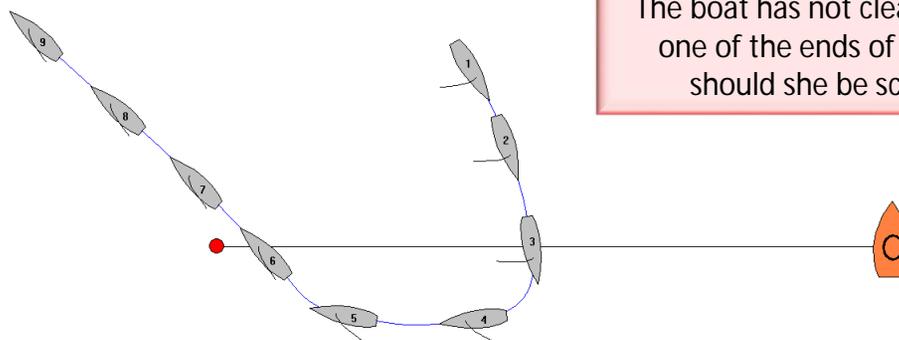
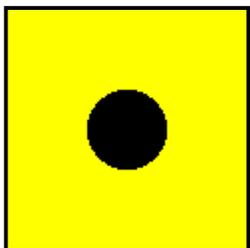
Weather Mark

At 35 seconds before the start, who receives the “I” Flag penalty?

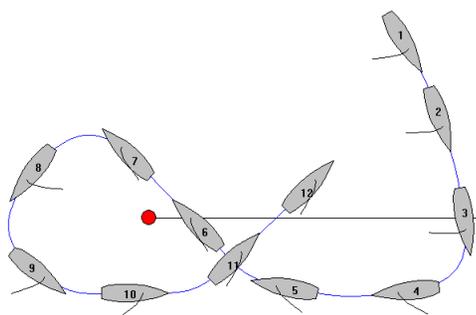




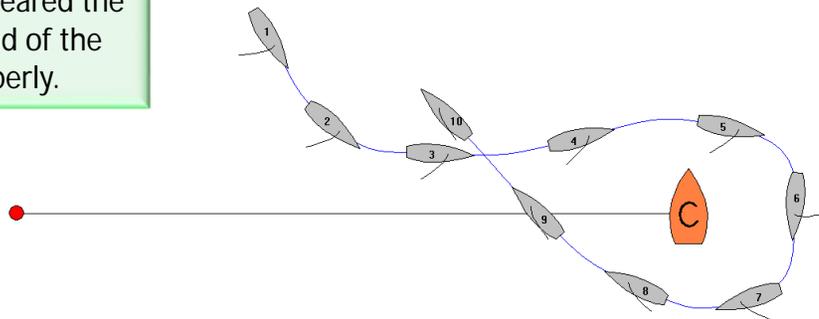
Starting Penalties – “I” Flag



The boat has not cleared herself by rounding one of the ends of the starting line. How should she be scored – OCS or DNS?

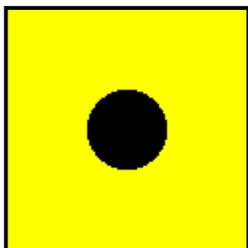


In both cases, the competitor has cleared the “I” Flag penalty by rounding an end of the starting line, then starting properly.

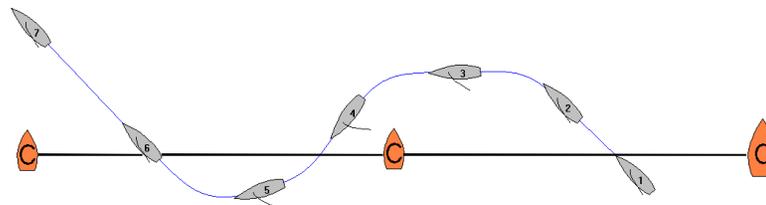
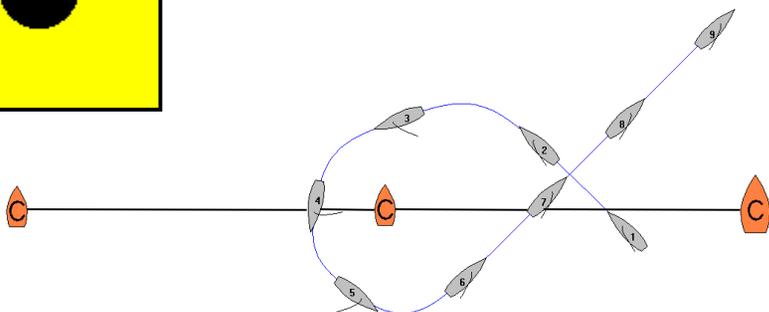




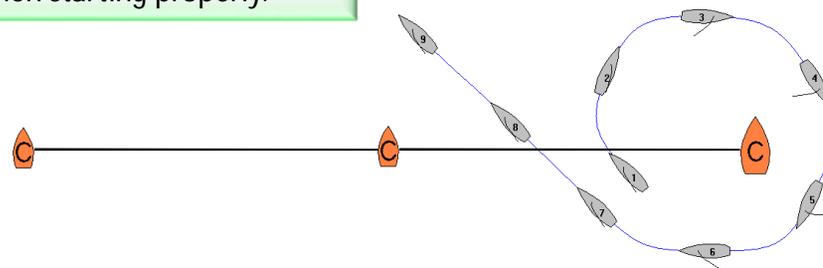
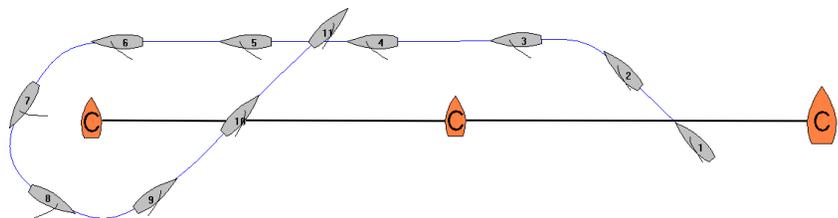
Starting Penalties – “I” Flag



In neither case has the boat cleared herself around an **end** of the starting line. A mid-line boat does not represent an end of the line – unless permitted by the SIs.



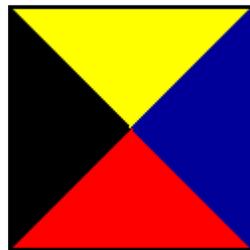
In both cases, the competitor has cleared the “I” Flag penalty by rounding an end of the starting line, then starting properly.





Starting Penalties – “Z” Flag

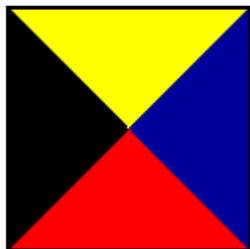
- AKA, the 20% Penalty
- If any part of a boat or her crew is in the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and the first mark, she shall be assessed – without a hearing – a 20% scoring penalty
- The penalty holds, even if the race is restarted, resailed, or rescheduled
- The penalty will be erased if the race is postponed or abandoned before the start



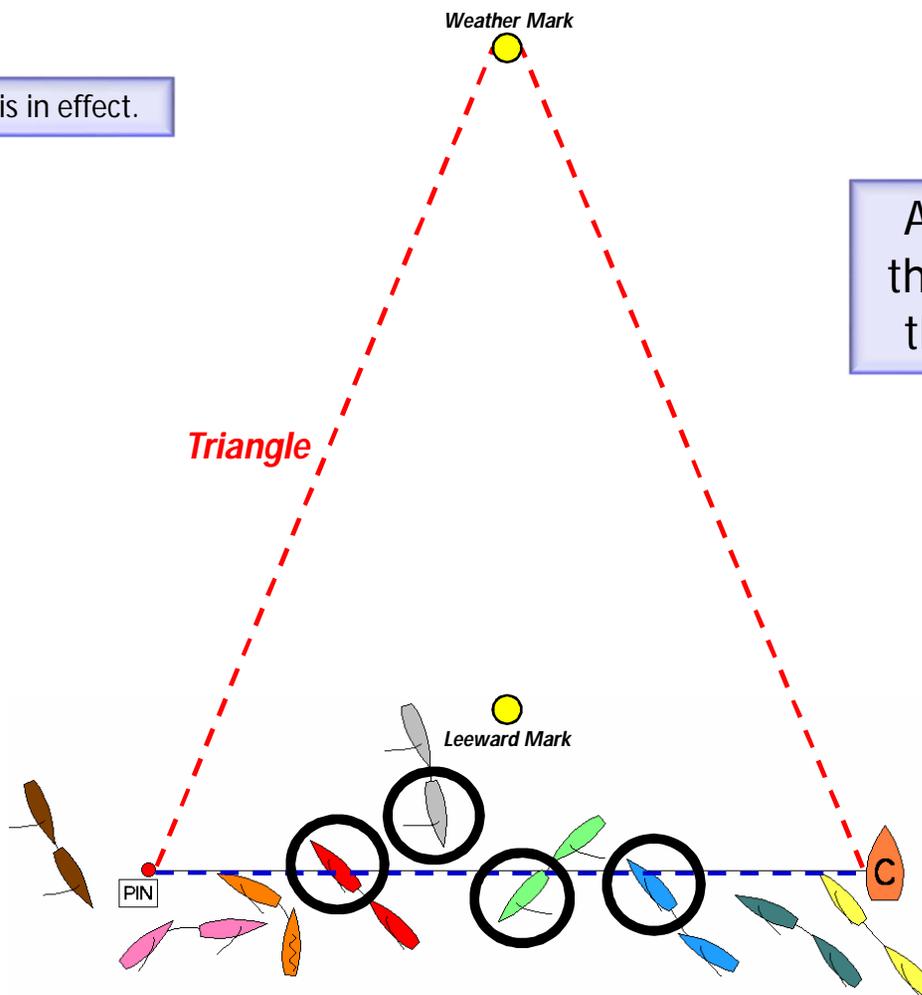
RRS 30.2 is in effect.



Starting Penalties



RRS 30.2 is in effect.

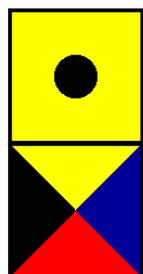


At **35** seconds before the start, who receives the "Z" Flag penalty?



Starting Penalties – “I” over “Z”

- Both the “I” & “Z” penalties apply
 - If any part of a boat or her crew is on course side of the starting line, or its extensions, she shall sail from the course side across an extension to the pre-start side before starting
 - If any part of a boat or her crew is in the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and the first mark, she shall be assessed – without a hearing – a 20% scoring penalty
- The penalty holds, even if the race is restarted, resailed, or rescheduled
- The penalty will be erased if the race is postponed or abandoned before the start



RRS 30.1 & 30.2 are in effect.



Starting Penalties



RRS 30.1 & 30.2 are in effect.

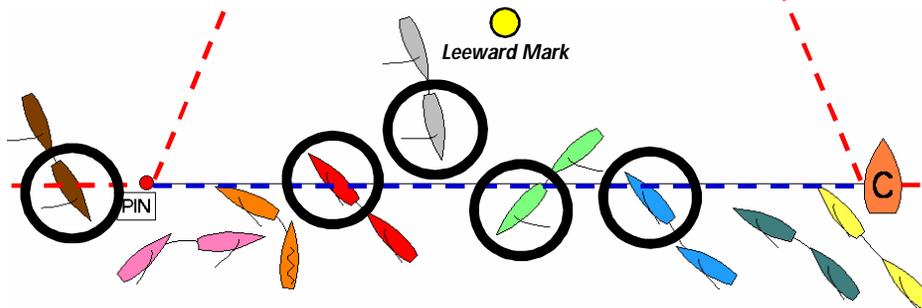
TRICK QUESTION!

It is not possible to violate the triangle without also violating the starting line or its extensions.

Weather Mark



Leeward Mark



At **35** seconds before the start, who receives **only** the "I" Flag penalty?

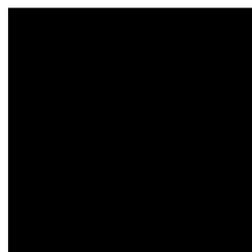
At **35** seconds before the start, who receives **only** the "Z" Flag penalty?

At **35** seconds before the start, who receives **both** the "I" & "Z" Flag penalties?



Starting Penalties – Black Flag

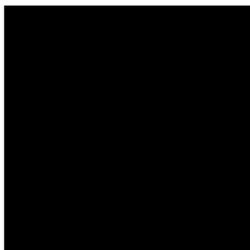
- Instant disqualification if any part of a boat or her crew impinge the triangle created by the ends of the starting line & the first mark of the course
 - No hearing is required
- The DSQ holds even if the race is restarted, resailed, or rescheduled
 - An offending boat shall not sail the race if there is a General Recall or the race is Abandoned after the Start
- The DSQ will be erased if the race is Postponed or Abandoned before the Start



RRS 30.4 is in effect.

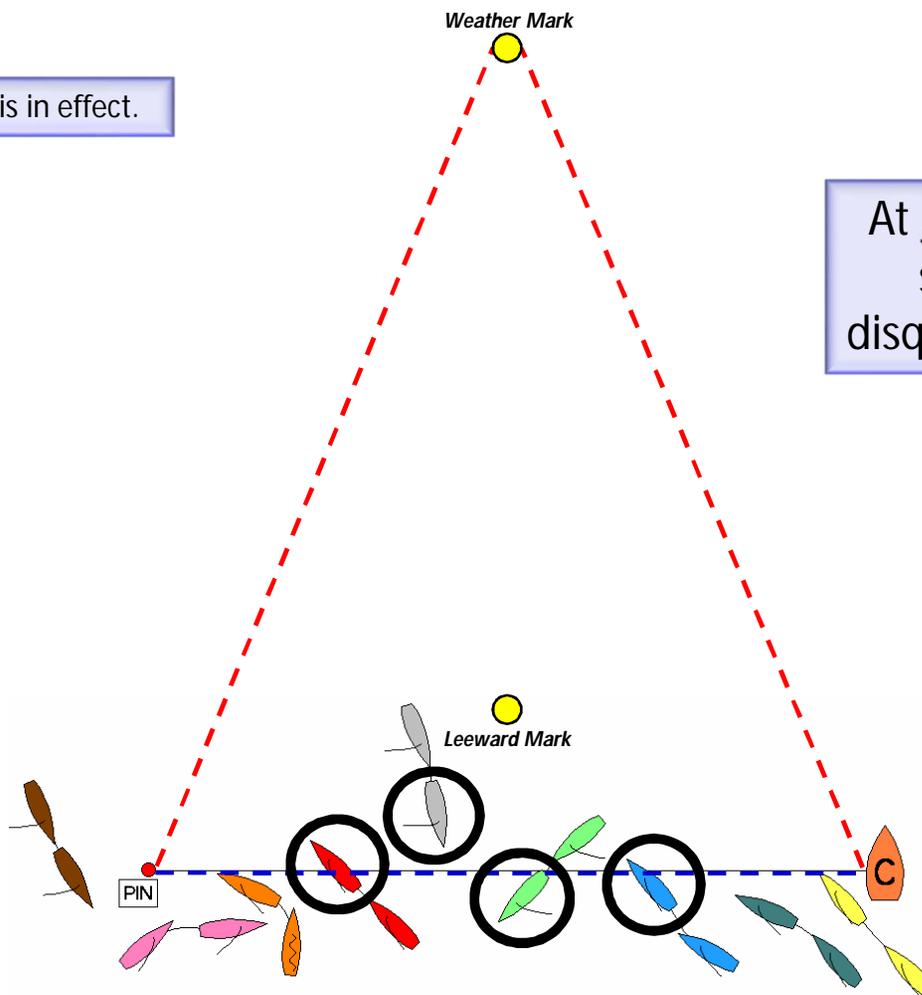


Starting Penalties



RRS 30.4 is in effect.

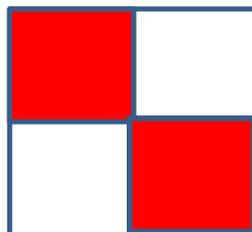
At 35 seconds before the start, who has been disqualified from this race?





Starting Penalties – U Flag

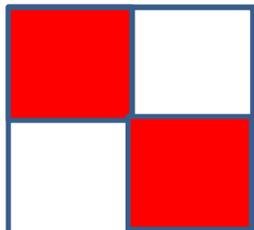
- Instant disqualification if any part of a boat or her crew impinge the triangle created by the ends of the starting line & the first mark of the course
 - No hearing is required
- The DSQ will be erased if the race is restarted, resailed, or rescheduled
- The DSQ will be erased if the race is Postponed or Abandoned before the Start



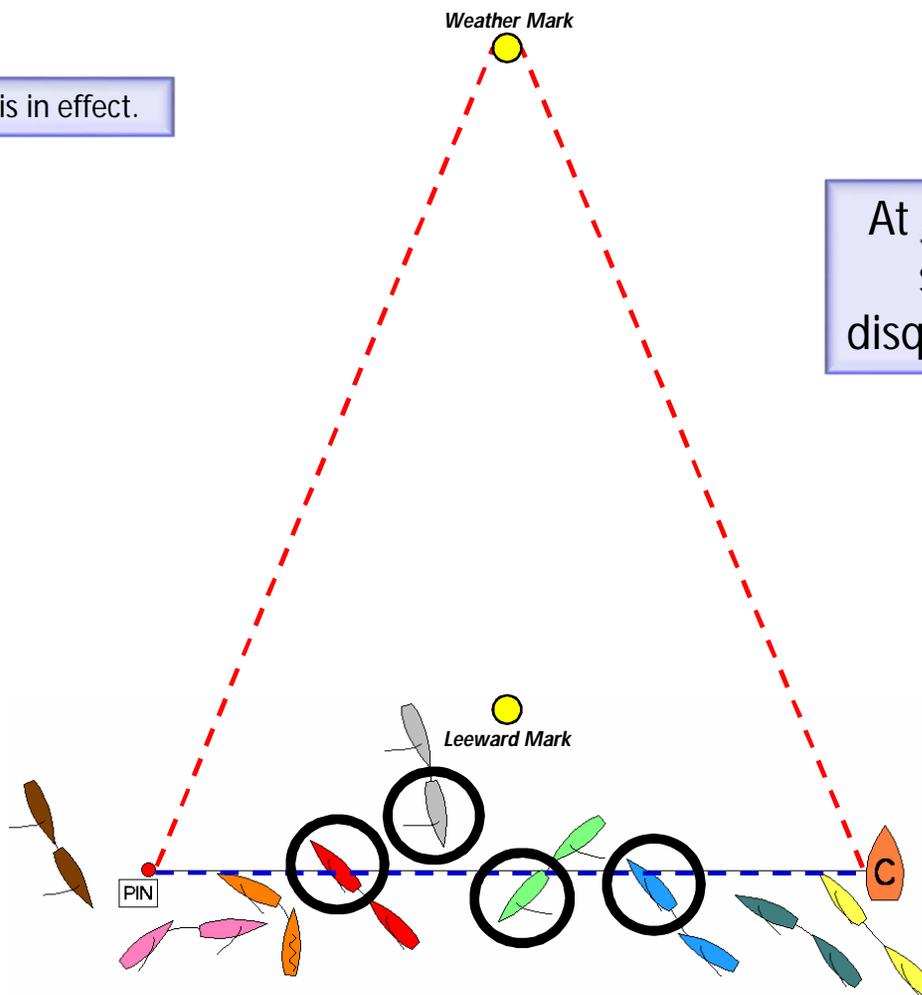
RRS 30.3 is in effect.



Starting Penalties



RRS 30.3 is in effect.

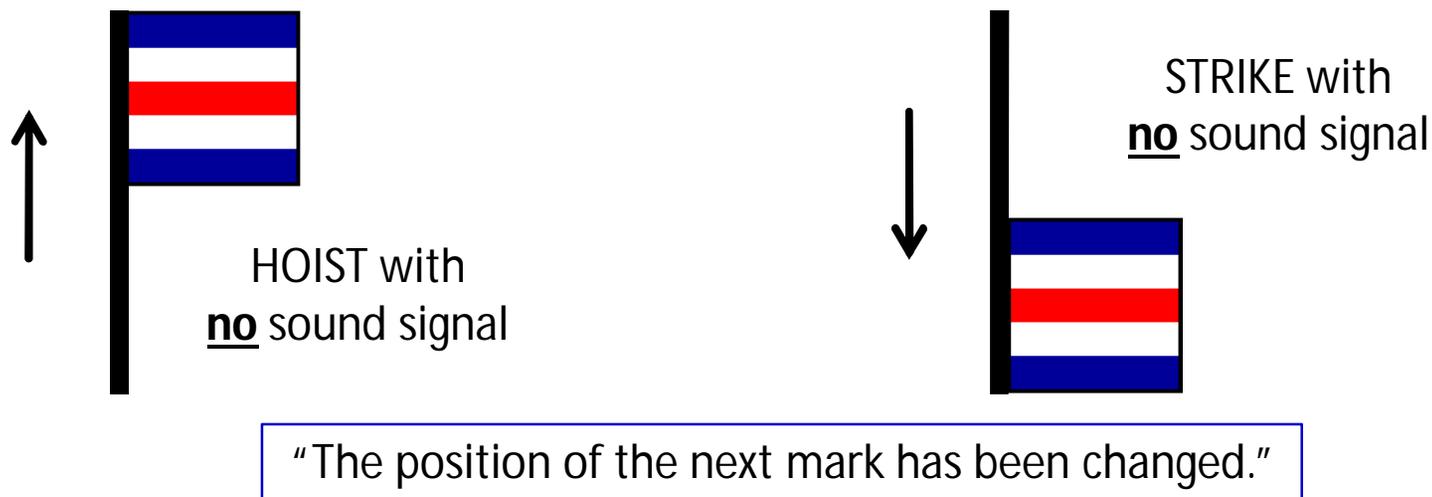


At 35 seconds before the start, who has been disqualified from this race?



Change of Course

- Conditions on the course warrant a change from what was originally posted
 - The wind has either shifted to the left or the right
 - The shift is not large enough to abandon the race
 - The wind has increased or decreased appreciably





Change of Course

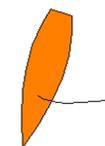
- What can you change?
 - The bearing to the next mark
 - Shift the bearing to the next mark to the left or right
 - The distance to the next mark
 - Increase or decrease the leg length
 - The bearing *and* distance to the next mark
 - Shift the bearing and adjust the leg length simultaneously
 - You can not change the number of legs from what was originally posted



Change of Course

- Requirements
 - A course change ***MUST*** be signaled before boats begin sailing the next leg of the course
 - Repetitive sound signals with an air horn or whistle should be used to draw attention to the signal information
 - The new mark does not have to be in the water when the change is signaled

HINT: Provide sounds in groups of ***4 or more*** so they will not be confused with the "Shorten Course" or "Abandonment" signals.



Leeward Mark

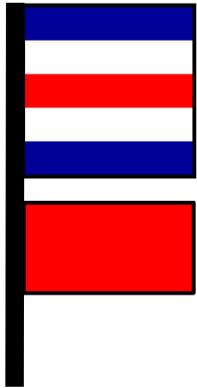
Bad position.
Boats will round before receiving the change signal.



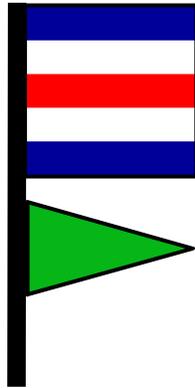
Good position. Signal will be made BEFORE boats round the mark.



Change of Course

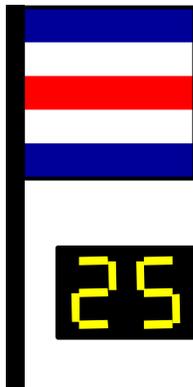


Change course,
new mark to port.

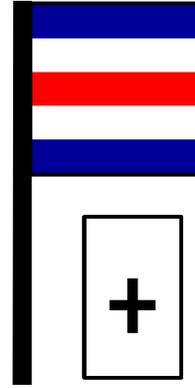


Change course, new
mark to starboard.

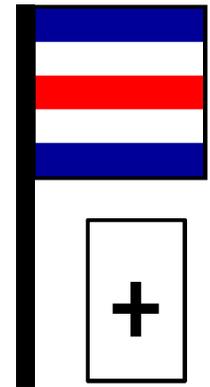
- or -



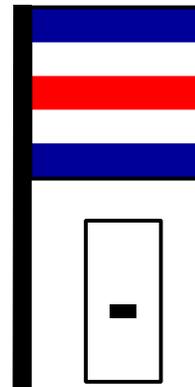
Change course,
new mark on
bearing 250°.



Change course;
leg length
increased.



Change course,
new mark on
bearing 250°;
leg length
increased.

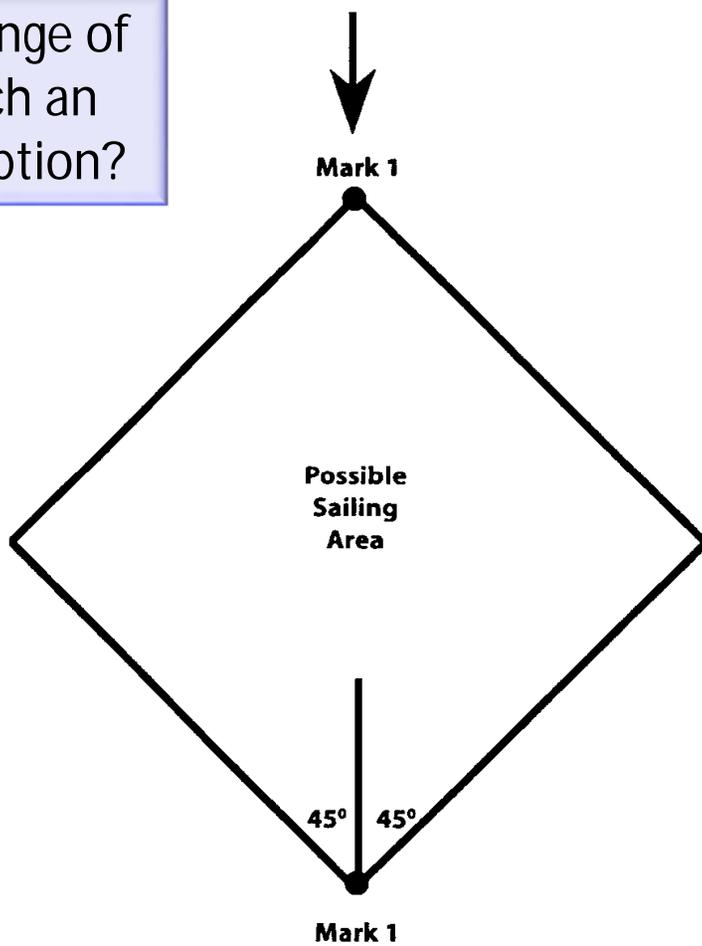


Change course;
leg length
decreased.



Change of Course

Why is a change of bearing such an important option?





Scenarios

- You witness a competitor definitively hit the leeward mark.
 - What does the RRS say?
 - What do you do?
- A competitor snags the weather mark anchor rode, with 4 boats close behind, ready to round the mark.
 - What does the RRS say?
 - What do you do?
- After the “Z” flag is dropped a competitor is identified by the line sighter as “in the triangle.” After the race is over & the results are posted, another competitor claims they - & not the other boat – were the offender.
 - What does the RRS say?
 - What do you do?



For More Information

- Racing Rules of Sailing, 2017-2020
- SMSA Race Circular
- SMSA Race Chair
- US Sailing
 - Basic Race Management Course
 - 1-day event
 - A very valuable course, even if you do not seek to become a certified Race Officer
 - <http://ussailing.org/>
 - Race Management Handbook