For Racing Rules Committee, 2020 has been a year of two halves, first producing the revised Racing Rules of Sailing that become effective on 1 January 2021, then working on the many related documents. Throughout the year, RRC have worked with Race Officials Committee and the joint Q&A panel to respond to rules questions.


The final approved RRS 2021-24 was provided to World Sailing on the 1st July 2020. This was shortly followed up with a versions known as the translators and study versions specifically designed to help readers by showing every change (almost 200) since the 2017-20 version and a link to the source submission causing the change.

Notice of Race and Sailing Instruction Guides – Previously RRS Appendix K and L.

For the first time, the Notice of Race and Sailing Instruction guides will be published separately and available online. They have also been brought up to date with current practice. They are on schedule to be approved by RRC at the end of October 2020 and published shortly afterwards.

Case Book and Call Books

Historically the Case Book and Call Books for Team and Match racing have been published early in the first quarter of the first year the revised rules take effect. We are pleased to report that we are on schedule to publish these authoritative interpretations of the RRS in November 2020. A Call Book for Umpired Fleet Racing is planned for publication in 2021.

Windsurfing and Kiteboarding Rules

In addition to Appendices B (Windsurfing) and F (Kiteboarding), for the first time, the Windsurfing Slalom and Expression and the Kiteboarding Slalom and Mixed Relay rules have been published separately from the RRS and are available online.

Other Appendices and Test Rules

Due to the diversity of our sport we have a number of appendices and test rules that are not published in the Racing Rules of Sailing. Each of these are at various stages of updating to the RRS 2021-24 and will be published as soon as they have been approved. These include:

- The High Speed Rules of Sailing
- Appendix RV – Restricted Visibility
- Appendix SY – Superyacht Racing Rules
- Appendix UF – Umpired Fleet Racing Rules
- Addendum Q – Umpired Medal Racing Rules
- Appendix CBS – Blind Match Racing

Like every other committee in World Sailing it has been a challenge to adapt our working and meeting practices due to Covid-19 restrictions and I would like to thank every member of the RRC, its 22 working parties and the World Sailing staff for their commitment to achieving these massive tasks.

It has been a privilege to Chair Racing Rules Committee for the past 4 years and I wish the new committee every success.

John Doerr
Chair, Racing Rules Committee - October 2020