

The Racing Rules of Sailing 69 addresses the fundamental rules of sportsmanship. Some Clubs may consider it necessary to ensure that everyone in their Fleet observes the principles of good sportsmanship which are described below. The following suggested guidelines may be useful to ensure all skippers have a good understanding of their obligation to make sailing enjoyable for others.

Radio Sailing Guidance

Members and their invited guests who race in our Club come with the encouragement, support and approval of all members. Proper standards of behaviour are essential to maintain this support.

Radio sailing requires fine-motor skills, visual acuity and a sound knowledge of racing rules, and we have these skills in varying degrees. We recognise that racing in a confined area with a very responsive boat inevitably means that rules will be unintentionally broken and collisions will occur.

We must acknowledge our mistakes and those of others with grace, and observe good sportsmanship at all times. When we infringe rules we will, in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), sail clear of other boats and take a penalty turn before continuing. It is courteous to wait until the infringed boat is racing again before rejoining the race. Any on-water directions by the RO or an Observer are final. Other matters unresolved on the water may be heard by Arbitration. There is no appeals procedure.

Our policy is to provide well managed racing in a congenial atmosphere with an emphasis on fellowship and enjoyment, and recognition that there is a range of abilities and skills in our Fleet.

Unacceptable behaviour includes the following:

- shouting at others
- engaging in argument with others
- displaying anger
- disparaging others
- bullying others
- failing to accept the penalty imposed by *Racing Rules of Sailing* and *“Instructions for Radio Sailors”*.
- failing to follow a ruling of the RO or Observer
- disputing decisions of RO, Observers, Starter or Scorer
- acting as an observer on matters that do not involve your boat
- vexatious protest calls

Calls during racing should be kept to a minimum. If necessary, skippers may briefly and politely warn another boat by number of an impending collision, or indicate their belief that an infringement of the rules has occurred.

In any race, if two or more members of the Management Committee agree that a boat has failed to observe good manners and fair sailing, discretionary scoring penalties can be imposed. Continuing failure to observe the principles of good sportsmanship will lead to withdrawal of invitations to participate in events run by the Club.

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