

SAIL THE COURSE

A boat *sails the course* provided that a string representing her track from the time she begins to approach the starting line from its prestart side to *start* until she *finishes*, when drawn taut,

- (a) passes each *mark* of the course for the race on the required side and in the correct order,**
- (b) touches each *mark* designated in the sailing instructions to be a rounding *mark*, and**
- (c) passes between the *marks* of a gate from the direction of the course from the previous *mark*.**

This new definition is essentially the “string rule” language from the previous rule 28. It clarifies what it means to “sail the course,” a phrase used in rule 28.1 (Sailing the Race) and throughout the rule book. Note that the race committee is required to score a boat NSC (Did not *sail the course*) without a protest hearing if it knows a boat did not *sail the course* in compliance with rule 28.1 (see rule A5.1, Scores Determined by the Race Committee).