



2025 US Team Racing Championship for the George R. Hinman Trophy

September 25-28, 2025
Larchmont, NY



Organizing Authority (OA): US Sailing
Host Club: Larchmont Yacht Club

Question and Answers

Posted: September 25, 2025

QUESTION 1: Are mooring balls which have been covered (the mooring pennants are captured) considered obstructions?

ANSWER: **No.** The definition of Obstruction is:

Obstruction:

- a. an object that a boat could not pass without changing course substantially, if she were sailing directly towards it and one of her lengths from it;
- b. an object that can be safely passed only on one side; or
- c. and object, area or line that is so designated in a *rule*.

A mooring ball in this condition does not satisfy part (a) of the definition of *Obstruction* because a boat would not have to make a substantial course change to avoid it when one of her hull lengths from it and sailing directly towards it.

QUESTION 2: Are mooring balls that are uncovered, with their mooring pennants trailing down current considered obstructions?

ANSWER: **Yes**, if the mooring in this condition would require a boat to make a substantial course change in order to avoid it when sailing directly towards it and one of her hull lengths from it in accordance with part (a) of the definition of Obstruction.

In accordance with RRS 19.1 and WS Case 150, two boats are 'at' an obstruction when they are near it and the obstruction is influencing the course of one or both of them.