APPENDIX WP
RULES FOR RACING AROUND WAYPOINTS

Use of this appendix is recommended for offshore races when the race committee may wish to specify waypoints instead of physical marks which boats are required to pass to sail the course.

Races shall be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing *as changed by this appendix only if the notice of race and sailing instructions so state.*

WP1   CHANGES TO THE DEFINITIONS

WP1.1 The definition S*tart* is changed to:

Start   A boat *starts* when, having been entirely on the pre-start side of the starting line at or after her starting signal, and having complied with rule 30.1 if it applies, any part of her hull, crew or equipment crosses the starting line in the direction of the course.

WP1.2 Add new definition:

Waypoint   A position, other than a *mark*, described by latitude and longitude coordinates that the course requires a boat to leave on a specified side.

WP2   Add new rule 18.5 in Part 2 of the RRS:

18.5   ROOM TO PASS A WAYPOINT

(a)   Rule 18.5 applies between boats when they are required to leave a *waypoint* on the same side and at least one of them is approaching it. However, when rule 20 applies, rule 18.5 does not.

(b)   When *overlapped* boats are approaching a *waypoint* to pass it on the required side, the outside boat shall give the inside boat *room* to pass the *waypoint*, unless the outside boat has been unable to do so from the time the *overlap* began.

(c)   If the inside boat has reasonable doubt that she has *room* to pass the *waypoint*, she may hail the outside boat accordingly. The outside boat shall then give the inside boat additional space unless she is unable to do so.

WP3   Rule 28 is changed to:

28   SAILING THE COURSE

28.1   A boat shall s*tart*, sail the course described in the sailing instructions and *finish.* While doing so, she may leave on either side a *mark* or *waypoint* that does not begin, bound or end the leg she is sailing. After *finishing* she need not cross the finishing line completely.

28.2   A string representing a boat's track from the time she begins to approach the starting line from its pre-start side to *start* until she *finishes* shall, when drawn taut,

(a)   pass each *mark* or *waypoint* on the required side and in the correct order,

(b)   touch each rounding *mark*, touch a hypothetical object at each rounding *waypoint*, and

     (c)   pass between the *marks* or *waypoints* of a gate from the direction of the previous *mark* or *waypoint*.

She may correct any errors to comply with this rule, provided she has not *finished*.

28.3   The sailing instructions may specify criteria to determine whether a boat has rounded or passed a *waypoint* on the required side.

WP4 ELECTRONIC POSITION FIXING

When data from electronic position fixing systems is used to determine the position of a boat for the purpose of verifying compliance with the *rules*, precedence shall be given to data from the boat's primary navigation system.

Note: Approved as an appendix to be placed on the World Sailing website for development of offshore racing with an option to use a Waypoint instead of a Mark. The appendix may be amended with the approval of the Chairman of the World Sailing Racing Rules Committee.

Guidance notes for race organizers are available at
http://www.sailing.org/documents/racingrules/experimental-rules.php