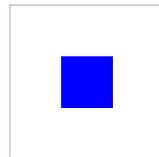


How to SHORTEN COURSE (quick version)

See other side for more information

At a Gate. (The gate must be part of the course)

1. Wait at least until the leader has rounded the mark immediately prior to the gate and is heading to the gate.

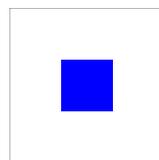


(blue inside white)

2. 2 Horns, and raise the "S" flag.
3. Finish as usual between the orange flag on the RC boat and the pin.

At a Mark. (The mark must be part of the course)

1. Motor a boat (slowly) to the mark and position it to make a finish line between the boat and the mark.
2. Wait at least until the leader has rounded the previous mark and is heading to the mark.



(blue inside white)

3. 2 Horns, and raise the "S" flag.
4. Finish between the S flag and the mark.

See other side for more information

How to SHORTEN COURSE (discussion)

See other side for the quick version

The act of raising the “S” flag and making the sounds creates a new finish line between the “S” flag and “a mark of the course”. So, it’s important to do that at the right time. Don’t do it when you’re motoring to a mark, or when people are sailing past the committee boat, in an attempt to be helpful and give advanced notice. That would just cause confusion. Instead, wait until the leading boat is sailing towards where you want the new finish line before shortening course.

You can wait as late as you need to as the sailors approach the “line” before deciding to shorten course. So, if you want to shorten course at mark 5, for example, and are motoring slowly over there, you just have to get there ahead of the fleet and be on station when you shorten course. Indeed, you can slowly motor around (no wake), and decide whether or not to shorten when you see what the wind does.

For finishing at the Gate, it is good practice to give the fleet as much warning as practical (after they round the previous mark, of course). This is because the Gate can be quite a long line, and it is very likely that a sailor would be sailing differently for a finish, as compared to what they would be doing to simply pass through the gate on their way to the next mark. They might sail to a different end, or cover other boats differently. This could easily make a difference in placing.

Note that the rules do not prohibit Race Committee from making sounds at other times so, if you think people may not realize that you shortened course, it is certainly acceptable to hold the flag out in a way that is easily visible and make two sounds again.

If you are finishing at a Mark, you should position the finish boat to starboard of that Mark, as seen by the approaching fleet, and a little beyond it. This will put the finish line in a position that fits with the natural mark-rounding that the racers are working towards.

See other side for the quick version