

Round The County 2019

Answer to Competitor's Question about SI 9.2.6

The RC received the following question:

Question:

Should this specify a distance other than 1" to the west?

9.2.6. Leave a point one inch to the West of Lydia Shoal buoy to Starboard as a virtual mark of the course.

Reply:

The Sailing Instruction is correct as written. It is a technical Sailing Instruction to require boats to cross the finish line from West to East, leaving the RC boat to Port. Because of the challenge anchoring in the finishing area, it is likely that the finish line will run nearly North-South. Any boat passing to the West of Lydia Shoal buoy will correctly round this *virtual mark* if they do not hit the Lydia Shoal buoy. From the RRS, the relevant portion of definition of finish is:

Finish A boat *finishes* when any part of her hull, or crew or equipment in normal position, crosses the finishing line from the course side.

Because the furthest East point of land in the race course may be East of the finish line, putting a mark to the West of the finish line, with SI 9.2.6 is necessary.

RRR 86 prevents the SIs from changing the definitions, so we are unable to just write an instruction to say "Finish from West to East".

Charley Rathkopf
Principal Race Officer
November 7 2019 0730 hours