

Signal Code Flag Meaning

- A - Diver below (when stationary); I am undergoing a speed trial
- B - I am taking on or discharging explosives
- C - Yes (affirmative)
- D - Keep clear of me; I am manoeuvring with difficulty
- E - I am altering my course to starboard
- F - I am disabled; communicate with me
- G - I require a pilot
- H - I have a pilot on board
- I - I am altering my course to port
- J - I am going to send a message by semaphore
- K - You should stop your vessel instantly
- L - You should stop; I have something important to communicate
- M - I have a doctor on board
- N - No (negative)
- O - Man overboard
- P - The Blue Peter - all aboard, the vessel is about to proceed to sea. (At sea) your lights are out or burning badly
- Q - My vessel is healthy, and I request free pratique
- R - the way is off my ship. You may pass your way past me
- S - My engines are going full speed astern
- T - Do not pass ahead of me
- U - You are standing into danger
- V - I require assistance (not distress)
- W - I require medical assistance
- X - Stop carrying out your intentions and watch for my signals
- Y - I am carrying mail
- Z - To be used to address or call shore stations

Signal Flags are also used for signaling to competitors during dinghy and yacht racing e.g.

- B = protest
- C = position of the next mark has been changed
- D = don't launch/follow this rib
- I - round the ends
- L - change to SIs or another amendment
- M = there is a mark missing
- N - abandon
- O = rule 42 is waived
- P - preparatory
- R = rule 42 is restored
- S = shortened course
- U = one step less stringent than a black flag, allows boats back in after a general recall or abandonment.
- X = individual recall
- Y - lifejackets must be worn
- Z = 20% scoring penalty
- Answer = Postponement
- 1st Substitute = General Recall