

Racing Rules of Sailing

New Rule D1.1(f)

A submission from US SAILING

Proposal

D1.1 Changes to the Definitions and the Rules of Part 2

(f) When rule 20 applies, the following arm signals by the helmsman are required in addition to the hails:

- (1) for ‘Room to tack’, repeatedly and clearly pointing to windward; and**
- (2) for ‘You tack’, repeatedly and clearly pointing at the other boat and waving the arm to windward.**

Current Position

None.

Reason

The proposed rule is identical to match racing rule C2.7. In team racing, just as in match racing, it is essential that competitors and umpires know when a hail for room to tack or a hail of ‘You tack’ has been made. In heavy wind and seas, hearing a hail is difficult. Even in light air conditions, motor noise and other factors make it easy for umpires to miss a hail.

While the principal reason for this new rule involves umpired racing, there are also benefits for non-umpired races. Moreover, to avoid confusion it makes sense to apply the same rule whether or not races are umpired.
