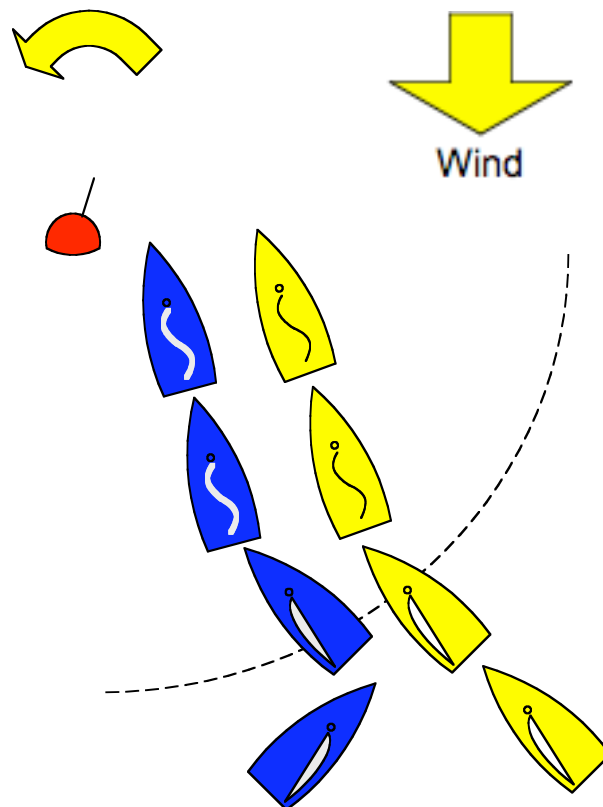


ISAF Racing Rules Question and Answer Service



Q&A 2010-12

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Situation:

Yellow and Blue are heavy boats that can keep way on in the conditions.

Yellow is fetching the mark but, had Blue not been there, she could not pass it without sailing above close-hauled.

Blue is subject to rule 13 in the zone, reaches a close-hauled course and then luffs to pass the mark. Yellow is able to keep clear.

Question:

Does Blue break rule 18.3?

Answer:

Yes.

When Blue luffs, Yellow cannot avoid Blue without sailing above close-hauled. Blue has therefore caused Yellow to sail above close-hauled. The fact that Yellow would not pass the mark without sailing above close-hauled is irrelevant.