

## ISAF Racing Rules Question and Answer Service



**M 014**

**Q&A 2011-027**

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### Question 1

Considering the use of the three verbs 'to leave, to round and to pass' in rules 18.1, 18.5(b), 19.2(a), 19.2(c) and the definition Fetching, what are the interpretations of these three actions as used in these rules?

### Answer 1

Leaving, rounding and passing are not defined terms and so the last sentence of Introduction; Terminology applies - the terms are used 'in the sense ordinarily understood in nautical or general use'.

### Question 2

When is a boat passing a mark and when is a boat rounding it?

### Answer 2

See answer 1

### Question 3

A boat is sailing close-hauled on starboard tack on starboard layline to the windward mark (Mark 1) and has to continue sailing close-hauled to fetch the offset mark (Mark 1A). When the boat is at the windward mark (and continues close-hauled on starboard tack) - is she then rounding Mark 1 or is she passing Mark 1?

### Answer 3

She is passing Mark 1, even though for the purpose of rule 28.1 she will be rounding it.

### Question 4

What are the fundamentals of the difference between rules 18.5 (a) and 18.5 (b) with regard to rules 15 and 16?

### Answer 4

When a boat entitled to mark-room is sailing to the mark, she must comply with rules 15 and 16. However, sometimes complying with these rules means that the boat entitled to mark-room will not be able to actually round the mark. This is why rule 18.5(b), contrary to rule 18.5(a), provides for exoneration for a boat entitled to mark-room that breaks either of those rules while rounding the mark on her proper course.