

REPORTING COMMITTEE - RACING RULES  
OTHER COMMITTEE -

Racing Rules of Sailing  
On the Same Tack: Proper Course

A submission from the Royal Yachting Association

**PROPOSAL:**

**17 ON THE SAME TACK; PROPER COURSE**

**17.1** If a boat *clear astern* becomes *overlapped* within two of her hull lengths to *leeward* of a boat on the same *tack*, she shall not sail above her *proper course* while they remain *overlapped* within that distance, unless in doing so ~~she promptly sails astern of the other boat~~ **the overlap is promptly broken**. This rule does not apply if the *overlap* begins while the *windward* boat is required by rule 13 to *keep clear*.

**CURRENT POSITION:**

See above

**REASON:**

The words 'sails astern of the other boat' are often ambiguous in a multiple boat overlap. The proposal uses the defined word 'overlap' to clarify when a boat subject to this rule may sail above a proper course.