Racing Rules of Sailing

TR Call D2

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To resolve the current difficulty in controlling dial-downs on a windward leg.

Proposal

In Team Racing Call D2 amend question 1 and replace question 2, all as follows.

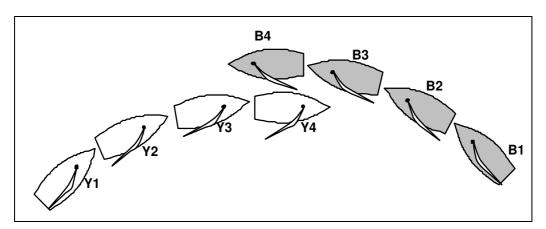
TR CALL D2

Rule 10 On Opposite Tacks Rule 16 Changing Course

Definition Room

Question 1

On a beat to windward in light winds, B on starboard tack and Y on port tack are on converging courses. At approximately three lengths from B, Y bears away to avoid B. B then bears away, so that the boats remain on a collision course. Both Y and B continue to bear away, until they finally pass one another with the wind approximately abeam. Y protests. What should the call be?



Answer 1

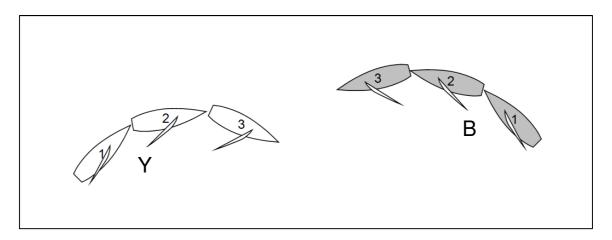
Penalize B. After the start rule 16.2 prohibits a starboard tack boat from changing course if that requires a port tack boat, that is keeping clear by sailing to pass astern of her, to have to change course immediately to continue to keep keeping clear.

When Y starts bearing away she begins sailing to pass astern of B, even though her course is still above B's stern. When B alters course between position 1 and 2, Y does not have to make an immediate change of course, so no rule is broken.

When B alters course between positions 2 and 3, Y must immediately change course to continue keeping clear and B she breaks rule 16.2. Boat Y was keeping clear by sailing to pass astern of B, but after B's latest change of course Y has to change course immediately to continue to keep clear.

Question 2

On a beat to windward, Y on port tack will need to change course to keep clear of B on starboard tack. Y bears away to pass behind B and, shortly afterwards, B also bears away. At position 2, Y will pass astern of B if both boats hold their courses. After position 2, B bears away to a downwind course so that Y must now respond immediately. Y protests. What should the call be?



Answer 2

At position 2 Y is passing astern of B and has no need to change course keep clear of B. B does not break rule 16.1 or 16.2. Later, when B is sailing a downwind course, Y is no longer sailing a course to pass astern of B and rule 16.2 no longer applies.

If Y is unable to continue keeping clear in a seamanlike way, B breaks rule 16.1. Penalise B.

If Y is able to continue keeping clear in a seamanlike way, no penalty.

The expression 'sailing to pass astern' in rule 16.2 refers to the overall actions of the porttack boat clearly attempting to pass astern of the starboard-tack boat, and not necessarily to the course or heading she is sailing at any moment.

When the wind is stronger or the boats are moving faster, if B performs a similar manoeuvre she will break rule 16.1 or rule 16.2 when further from Y.

 $\mathsf{Submission:}\, 099\text{--}16\,\mathsf{Cont'd}$

Current Position

As above.

Reason

The revised question 2 clarifies the anomalous interpretation in the current call where the port boat, when she starts to sail more than 90° from the wind, instantly changes from sailing astern of the starboard boat to sailing ahead of her.