Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 18.3

A submission from Australian Sailing

Purpose or Objective

Change the title of 18.3 to align the title with the rule requirement

Proposal

Amend the title of 18.3 as follows:

18.3 **Tacking Changing tack in the Zone**

If a boat in the zone of a mark to be left to port passes head to wind from port to starboard tack and is then fetching the mark, she shall not cause a boat that has been on starboard tack since entering the zone to sail above close-hauled to avoid contact and she shall give mark-room if that boat becomes overlapped inside her. When this rule applies between boats, rule 18.2 does not apply between them.

Current Position

As above

Reasons

1. Rule 18.3 applies in a circumstance where a boat passes head to wind and changes tack in the zone. It does not apply to a boat that has changed tack outside the zone but is ‘Tacking’ from head to wind until her close hauled course, if the latter part of that ‘tacking’ is in the zone.

2. Rule 13 “While Tacking” refers to a boat from past head to wind until close hauled.

3. Changing the name of the rule would more specifically align the name of the rule with the requirement of the rule, distinguishing it from the context of how “tacking” is used elsewhere in the rules.