

Racing Rules of Sailing

New Definition *On a Beat to Windward*

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose

To include in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* a significant definition that appears only in a case.

Proposal

1. Add new definition as follows:
On a Beat to Windward A boat is *on a beat to windward* when the course she would sail to *finish* as soon as possible in the absence of all other boats is close-hauled or above.
However, a boat is not *on a beat to windward* before her starting signal
2. Italicize ‘on a beat to windward’ in rule 18.1(a), rule 42.3(c) and, if the submission to change rule 16.2 is approved, in rule 16.2.
3. Delete Case 132.

Current Position

The proposed definition is new.

Reasons

1. The term ‘on a beat to windward’ is currently used in rules 18.1(a) and 42.3(c). If the submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee that proposes a change in rule 16.2 is accepted, the term will be important to an understanding of that rule. Currently, readers can find the definition only in Case 132. Including the definition in the rulebook will simplify the task of learning the rules for competitors and officials.
 2. If the new definition is approved, Case 132 will longer be needed.
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