

Racing Rules of Sailing

New Team Racing Call H5

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To clarify when mark-room has been given.

Proposal 1

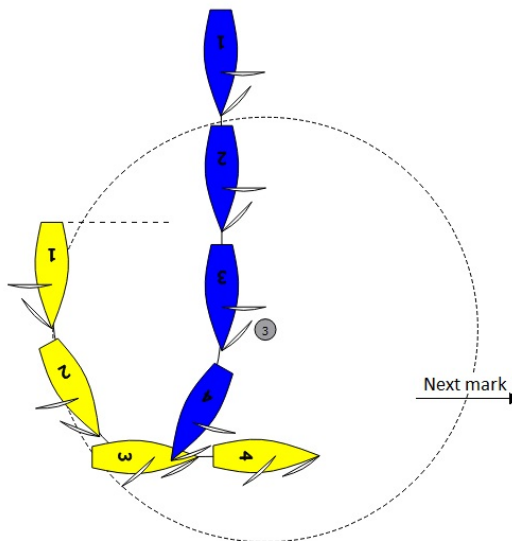
Add new call to the Team Racing Call Book as follows:

TR CALL H5

Definition Mark-Room
Rule 18.2 Giving Mark-Room
Rule 21 Exoneration

Question

At the zone of a port hand leeward mark, Y is on port tack and clear ahead of B on starboard tack. Y sails to leeward of the mark and turns onto her course to the next mark before position 3. B holds her course until, just before position 4, she luffs to avoid Y. B protests. What should the call be?



Answer

No penalty.

Mark-room includes "room to leave a mark on the required side". If a boat is still approaching a mark, or is passing a mark, she is still in the process of leaving it on the required side.

Y is clear ahead of B when she enters the zone and rule 18.2(b) requires B to give Y mark-room thereafter. When Y is at position 4, mark-room has not yet been fully given, so rule 18.2(b) still applies and rule 18.2(d) does not. B gives Y mark-room and room for Y to sail her proper course as required by rule 18.2(c)(2). B breaks no rule.

At positions 3 and 4 Y is sailing her proper course so she is sailing within the room to which she is entitled from B. Exonerate Y under rule 21(a) for breaking rule 10 with B.

When a boat rounds a mark wide, especially an offwind mark, her proper course may cease to be close to the mark before she has left the mark on the required side. In such a case rule 18.2(b) still applies but the mark-room to which she is entitled no longer includes room to sail to the mark.

Proposal 2

If this submission is approved, amend related calls as necessary for consistency.

Current Position

None. This is a new call.

Reason

1. Rule 18.2(d), which is new in 2017, ends the obligation of a boat to give mark-room under rules 18.2(b) and (c) when the boat entitled to mark-room has been given that mark-room. This makes it important to clarify when that situation exists.
 2. The definition Mark-Room includes room "to leave a mark on the required side". This is a process that begins with steering a course to the correct side of the object, then passing the object on that side, and finally leaving it. The proposed Call makes it clear that room to leave a mark on the required side includes all phases of the manoeuvre, and mark-room has not been given until that process has been completed.
 3. The intent of rule 18.2(b) is to ensure that mark-room responsibilities between two boats are determined when the first of them enters the zone, so that both boats know that their respective rights and obligations will continue throughout the rounding or passing of the mark. This call also clarifies that the new words in 18.2(d) do not change the application of other rules within rule 18. The new words were added only to confirm that a boat's entitlement to mark-room ceases once all parts of mark-room have been given.
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