**Racing Rules of Sailing**

**Rule 16.2**

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

**Purpose or Objective**

To make rule 16.2 more relevant and easier to understand by restricting its application to any dial-down manoeuvre on a beat to windward.

**Proposal**

16.2 In addition, when after the starting signal a port-tack boat is *keeping clear* by sailing to pass astern of a starboard-tack boat, the starboard-tack boat shall not change course if as a result the port-tack boat a starboard-tack boat is on a beat to windward, she shall not bear away if as a result a port-tack boat that was *keeping clear of her* would immediately need to change course to continue *keeping clear*.

**Current Position**

As above.

**Reasons**

1. The primary purpose of rule 16.2 has always been to control dial-downs on a beat to windward. By addressing this problem alone, the proposal removes current difficulties of interpretation with the words ‘sailing to pass astern’ and when the boats dial-down more than 90 degrees.

2. The rule is rarely used or relevant on downwind legs. Restricting application of the rule to windward legs permits a major simplification.

3. Restrictions to the normal rights of a starboard-tack boat are minimised.

*Note: If this submission is approved, the rule number ‘16.2’ needs to be added to Case 132 in the question and in the first line of the answer.*