Racing Rules of Sailing

New Rule D1.1(x)

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To implement an updated and tested rule 16.2 for team racing.

Proposal

Add new rule D1.1(x) as follows:

Rule 16.2 is changed to:

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

Current Position

Part 2 rule 16.2 applies for team racing.

Reason

1. The current rule 16.2 does not work for team racing, particularly when, on a windward leg, the starboard-tack boat sails below 90° to the true wind.

2. A new test rule 16.2 was developed and was widely used in the spring and summer 2018, particularly for keelboat team racing in Europe and in the USA. As a result of reports received on the trials, the test rule was modified and further tested in 2019.

3. This 2019 test rule has received general acceptance from competitors and officials.