Racing Rules of Sailing

Appendix B - Definition Proper Course, Rules 16.3 and 17.

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective
To delete the rule B2.16.3 and to add the changed definition Proper Course and rule B2.17.

Proposal 1
Delete rule B2.16.3.

Proposal 2
Add rule B2.17:

**B2.17 ON THE SAME TACK; PROPER COURSE**

**Rule 17 is deleted, except for starts of races with a reaching start.**

**Change the definition Proper Course for races with a reaching start as follows:**

**Proper Course**  A course a board would sail to finish as soon as possible in the absence of other boards referred to in the rule using the term. A board has no proper course until 30 seconds before her starting signal.

Rule 17 is changed to:

**When at the warning signal, the course to the first mark is approximately ninety degrees from the true wind, a board shall keep a shortest course to the first mark during the last 30 seconds before her starting signal. If a board is overlapped to leeward of another board on the same tack during the last 30 seconds before her starting signal, she shall not sail above her proper course while they remain overlapped, unless in doing so she promptly sails astern of the other board.**

PART 2 RULES DELETED

Rules 17 (except for starts of races with a reaching start) and 18.3 are deleted.

Current Position
As above.
Reasons

1. The current rule 16.3 does not cover the situation at the reaching start (Slalom) where leeward board may sail on a course closer to the wind and force all windward boards to luff and even close the gap to the committee boat.

2. The rule 16.3 is not needed anymore when new rule 17 starts to apply.

3. The new rule 17 requires a board to sail the shortest track to the first mark during the last 30 seconds before the starting signal. The leeward board having a right of way over the windward board may luff to sail to the starting line pin end but not more. The second sentence of the new rule requires a board to sail a proper course (see new definition Proper Course) while they are overlapped.