The

CASE BOOK

for 2017 – 2020

Addition to
2018 Case Book Supplement
Effective 3 December 2018

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December 2018
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Summary of Changes

On 3 December 2018, World Sailing published the revised version of Case 132 shown below. The revised case became effective on that date. It interprets the phrase ‘on a beat to windward’ which is used in rules 18.1(a) and 42.3(c).

The revised case has been published as an addition to the 2018 Supplement to the Case Book because of an issue that arose during 2018 that could have resulted in dangerous situations under the previous version of the case.

Note: A 2019 Supplement to the Case Book will be published in early 2019. It will contain new cases approved at the 2018 World Sailing Annual Conference.

CASE 132

Rule 18.1(a), Mark-Room: When Rule 18 Applies
Rule 42.3(c), Propulsion: Exceptions

Interpretation of the phrase ‘on a beat to windward’.

Question 1

Rule 18.1(a) states that rule 18 does not apply between boats on opposite tacks on a beat to windward. For the purpose of rule 18.1(a), when are boats ‘on a beat to windward’?

Answer 1

For the purpose of rule 18.1(a), which is only needed in multi-boat situations when at least one boat is in the zone, two boats on opposite tacks are considered to be ‘on a beat to windward’

(1) when the proper course for each of them is close-hauled or above, or
(2) when one or both of them have overstood the close-hauled layline to the mark and are sailing below close-hauled.

Consider the following four situations, each involving boats on opposite tacks in the zone of a mark to be left to port. The mark could be a windward mark, a finishing mark at the port end of a finishing line, a windward gate mark, or a limit mark that is not a rounding mark. In each of these situations, the boats shown are ‘on opposite tacks on a beat to windward’ and, therefore, rule 18 does not apply between them.
Question 2

Rule 42.3(c) states that a single pull on any sail when surfing or planing is possible is permitted except on a beat to windward. For the purpose of rule 42.3(c), when is a boat ‘on a beat to windward’?

Answer 2

Rule 42 addresses each boat in a race individually. For the purpose of rule 42.3(c), a boat is ‘on a beat to windward’ provided that, in the absence of all other boats, the course she would sail to sail the course and finish as soon as possible is close-hauled or above.

World Sailing 2013; substantially revised 2018