

Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 17.2

A submission from the Royal Yachting Association

Proposal:

- 17.2** Except on a beat to windward, while a boat is less than two of her hull lengths from a leeward boat or a boat clear astern ~~steering~~ **sailing** a course to leeward of her, she shall not sail below her proper course unless she gybes.

Current Position:

- 17.2** Except on a beat to windward, while a boat is less than two of her hull lengths from a leeward boat or a boat clear astern steering a course to leeward of her, she shall not sail below her proper course unless she gybes.

Reason:

"Steering" (as correctly used in rule 42) relates to the angle of the rudder about which the other boat may have no knowledge, particularly in wheel steered boats. "Sailing a course" relates to the direction in which the boat is travelling. This change is also consistent with the terminology in rule 16.2 and team racing call A2.