



## **Umpires Question and Answer #018** Updated 6 June 2017

These questions are in relation to Match Racing in AC35.

### **Question A**

- i) Must a starboard tack yacht luff to break rule 16.3?

### **Answer A\***

- i) Yes, a bear away is not restricted by 16.3. Note: Rule 16.1 still applies.

### **Question B**

- i) On a leg to a leeward gate, if a port-tack yacht bears away (below her proper course), to remain within the zone of the boundary, is she still protected under 20.2(a)?
- ii) On a leg to a leeward gate, if a port tack yacht luffs above her proper course while in the zone of the boundary, and the starboard yacht has to avoid her, is the port tack yacht protected under rule 20.2(a)?

### **Answer B\***

- i) Yes. Rule 20.2(a) describes the requirements for the outside overlapped or clear-astern yacht. There is no requirement on the inside or clear-ahead yacht to sail her proper course; the requirement is for the right of way yacht to give the other yacht room to sail her proper course.
- ii) No. The protection is effectively from the port tack yacht's proper course and below.

\*Note: Please also see Q&A 016.

### **Question C**

When does a yacht complete a leg of the course?

### **Answer C**

A yacht completes a leg of the course when any part of her hulls cross the extension of the line from the previous mark or the centre of the gate through the mark she is rounding, except:

- i) for the first leg, a yacht completes that leg when any part of her hulls cross the extension of the line from the centre of the leeward gate through the first mark;
- ii) for the last leg to the finish, and only for the purposes of rules 19 and 20, a yacht shall be considered to be on the last leg when any part of her hulls cross the line between the final gate marks. Rule 19 will apply at the boundary which ranks as an obstruction.

**Question D**

In the pre-start Blue is on port tack passing the boundary to starboard. Yellow is on starboard tack sailing a course to pass the boundary to port. In position 2 Blue's course and speed would mean she passes ahead of Yellow. At position 3 Yellow bears away onto a collision course and Blue's only option to keep clear would be to bear away and go outside the Boundary.

Can Blue be forced to sail outside the Boundary in order to keep clear?

**Answer D**

No. When Yellow bears away at position 3 she is required to give Blue room under rule 16 which may include room not to go outside the Boundary.

