



Umpire Questions and Answers

QA012

12 February 2021 based on RRSAC v3.03

Rule 16.2, 16.3 Changing Course

Question 1

At the starting signal and before starting, is a yacht sailing to a mark that is to windward or a mark that is to leeward?

Answer 1

When a yacht is below the starting line or its extensions, she is sailing to a mark that is to windward. A starboard tack yacht in this situation may be limited by rule 16.2.

When a yacht is on or above the starting line or its extensions, she is sailing to a mark that is to leeward. A starboard tack yacht in this situation may be limited by rule 16.3.

Question 2

Further to Question 1, how will the umpires determine what the proper course is for a starboard tack yacht?

Answer 2

Until the umpires are certain that the starboard tack yacht has only one proper course option, they will assume that her proper course is to either bear away or luff.