

Global Team Race Question 4

Situation:

A boat is sailing downwind and makes a gybe:

- In position 2 she starts to sail by the lee
- In position 3 her sail is no longer filled but still on the same side
- In position 4 her boom is in the middle of the boat
- In position 5 her sail is filled on the new side



Question 1:

At position 3 the boat is not sailing by the lee and mainsail is not filled. Has the boat changed tack?

Answer 1:

No. Until the umpires are certain her main would normally lie on her port side, her windward side remains port. Once it is clear the sail would normally lie on her port side, her windward side is starboard and she has changed tacks. See General Principle #1: Last Point of Certainty.

Question 2:

Would the answer be different if at position 3 a crewmember prevents the boom from crossing and the top of the sail is starting to fill from the starboard side?

Answer 2:

Yes. The boat's windward side is now her starboard side. See TR Call G1.