

Rules Specialist Group 2021-2024 Racing Rules of Sailing

Questions regarding RRS 33

Issued 27 April 2022

Question 1

When the Race Committee decides to change the position of the Windward Mark (that has an offset Mark), in this case, named Mark 1 (windward mark) and Mark 1a (offset mark), what are the protocols for Mark 1a?

Answer 1

When the position of a mark is changed in accordance with rule 33, subsequent marks should be moved to maintain the course configuration. No further signalling is required for the subsequent changes. (See Rule 33(c))

Question 2

Sailing Instructions often state that the new mark (Mark 1) will be a different colour but what colour should Mark 1a be?

Answer 2

If the Sailing Instructions specify a different colour or description for a replacement mark It is only the next mark after flag C has been displayed that needs to be the specified colour and description. Subsequent marks should remain as their original colour and description.

Question 3

If a Change of Course was being signalled from the Top Mark, it would make the most sense to me for it to be done from Mark 1a, the Offset Mark but, again, are you able to clarify?

Answer 3

Rule 33 advises that a change of leg of the course should be made at the mark that begins the leg being changed. So, a change of position of a leeward mark should be signalled at the preceding mark which, in this case, is the offset mark (mark 1a).

On behalf of Australian Sailing Rules Specialist Group

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