

Competitive 420 Boathandling

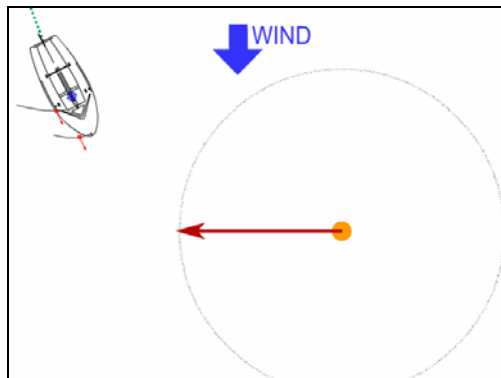
Chalk Talk Notes:

The Leeward Mark

Two Stages to the Rounding

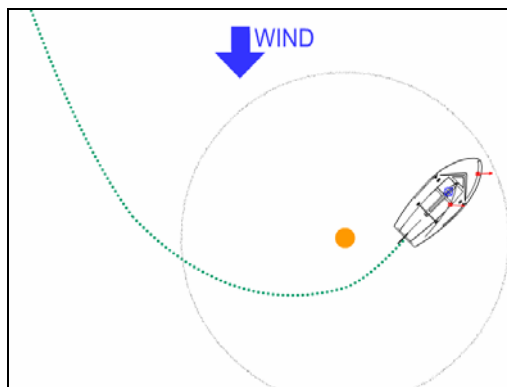
Set-up stage

- Before the two boat-length zone
- When overlap hails and rules discussions take place
- When the spinnaker comes down on the Club 420



The Turn

- Tactical roundings always
- Incorporates weight, sailtrim and rudder
- Exit the turn next to the mark



A quick note for the Crew:

The rule "jib follows main" also applies at the leeward mark. This is difficult to train crews for because the crew has a lot less line on the jib sheet to pull in compared to the driver who has a lot of

mainsheet to pull in. The crew should watch the telltales or the luff of the jib to “key off of”. Allowing the luff of the jib to appear slightly too eased as you make the turn will allow the main to drive the boat through the turn, or allow the inside telltale on the jib to lift (stall) through the turn.

Measure of a good Leeward Mark Rounding

- 1. Maintain speed**
- 2. Maintain or gain position**
- 3. Have tactical options after the rounding (ability to tack)**

A quick note:

Like the windward mark, there are several judgments about the traffic and the speed (which = time) at which you’re approaching the mark. A tactical rounding can not be executed without the spinnaker in the bag and good positioning in the set-up stage. It’s not uncommon for a team to be pursuing that good positioning for the set-up the entire last third of the leeward leg. So, preparing and recognizing early the trouble signs, traffic and speed at which things develop is “key” in adapting to the competition as it unfolds at the rounding. This is the place where your hard work pays off most.