

## **FETCHING**

A boat is *fetching a mark* when she is in a position to pass to windward of it and leave it on the required side without changing *tack*.

Assume you are on *starboard tack* approaching the windward *mark* to be left to port. You are sailing a close-hauled course and it is close whether you are going to make it around the *mark*. You luff up to head to wind, coast around the *mark*, and then bear away onto the next leg of the course. You “fetched” the *mark* because you never went past head to wind during your rounding maneuver. If you had gone past head to wind, you would have instantly changed *tack* from *starboard tack* to *port tack* and you would have failed to “fetch” the *mark*. Anytime you are in a position where you can “fetch” the *mark*, you are *fetching*.

Note: if a boat on *port tack* is approaching the windward *mark* to be left to port and has to tack to round the *mark* (i.e., change *tack*), she is not *fetch-ing* the *mark*.