

The Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012

Basic Separation Rules
Howard Elliott IJ AUS



Agenda

- Fundamental rules
- Basic separation rules
- Limitations on the separation rules
- Marks and Obstructions
- Other Rules

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Fundamental Rules

- Helping those in danger
- Adequate Life Saving equipment
- Fair sailing
- Acceptance of the Rules
- Anti Doping

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1 SAFETY

1.1 Helping Those in Danger

A boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.

1.2 Life-Saving Equipment and Personal Flotation Devices

A boat shall carry adequate life-saving equipment for all persons on board, including one item ready for immediate use, unless her class rules make some other provision. Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing a personal flotation device adequate for the conditions.

2 FAIR SAILING

A boat and her owner shall compete in compliance with recognized principles of sportsmanship and fair play. A boat may be penalized under this rule only if it is clearly established that these principles have been violated. A disqualification under this rule shall not be excluded from the boat's series score.

3 ACCEPTANCE OF THE RULES

By participating in a race conducted under these racing rules, each competitor and boat owner agrees

- (a) to be governed by the *rules*;
- (b) to accept the penalties imposed and other action taken under the *rules*, subject to the appeal and review procedures provided in them, as the final determination of any matter arising under the *rules*; and
- (c) with respect to any such determination, not to resort to any court of law or tribunal.

4 DECISION TO RACE

The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* is hers alone.

5 ANTI-DOPING

A competitor shall comply with the World Anti-Doping Code, the rules of the World Anti-Doping Agency, and ISAF Regulation 21, Anti-Doping Code. An alleged or actual breach of this rule shall be dealt with under Regulation 21. It shall not be grounds for a *protest* and rule 63.1 does not apply.

Avoiding Collisions

- Rule 14

- Must avoid collisions where reasonably possible
- Often the PC will disqualify both boats
- RoW boat can be penalised if there is injury or physical damage

If there is a collision then BOTH boats will need to prove to the PC that they tried to avoid a collision.

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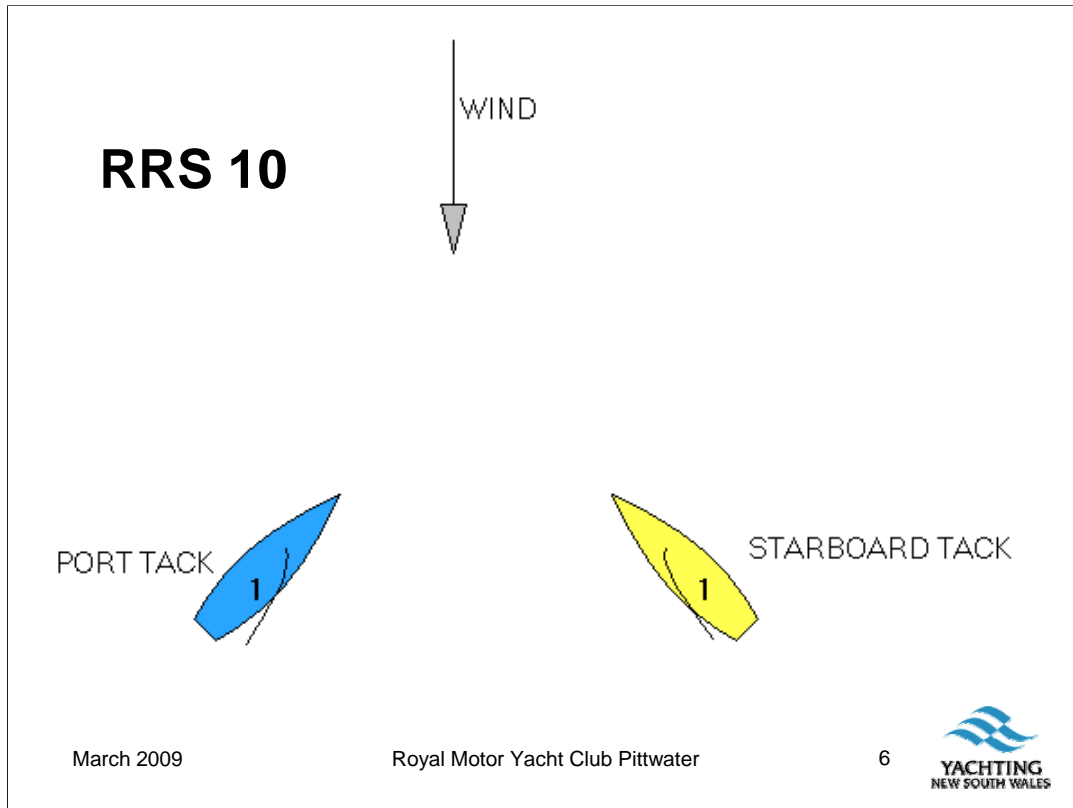
14 AVOIDING CONTACT

A boat shall avoid contact with another boat if reasonably possible. However, a right-of-way boat or one entitled to *room* or *mark-room*

- (a) need not act to avoid contact until it is clear that the other boat is not *keeping clear* or giving *room* or *mark-room*, and
- (b) shall not be penalized under this rule unless there is contact that causes damage or injury.

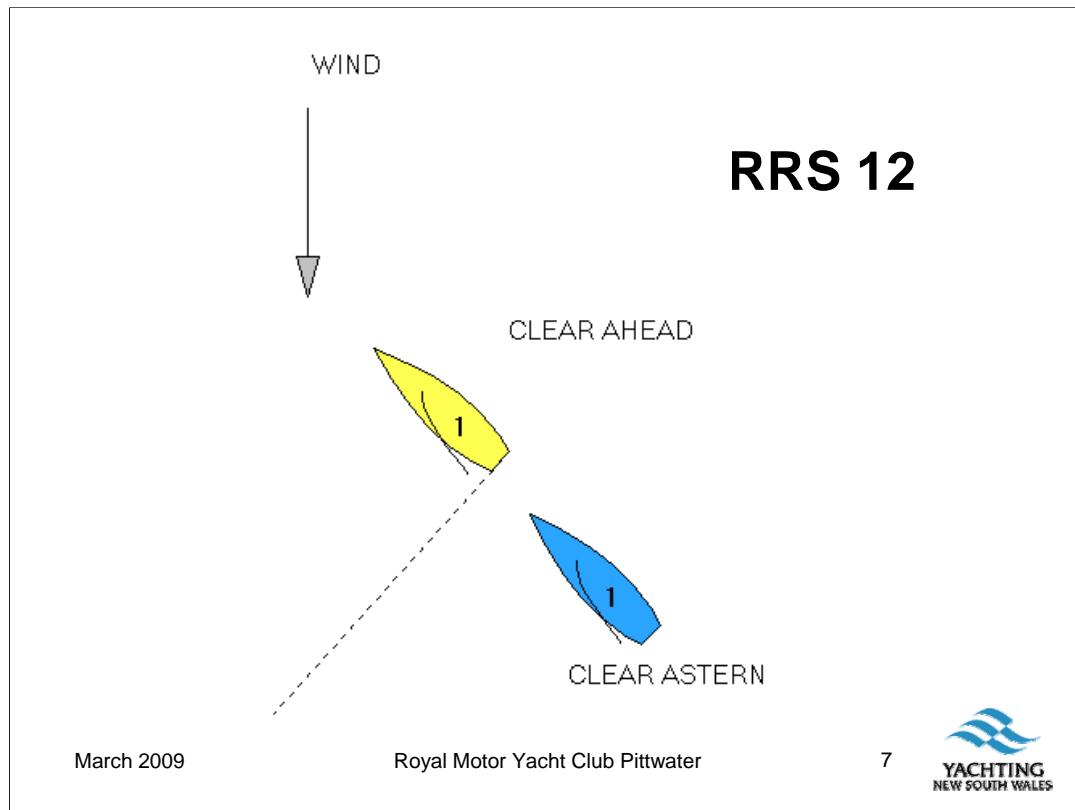
Basic Rules





10 ON OPPOSITE TACKS

When boats are on opposite *tacks*, a *port-tack* boat shall *keep clear* of a *starboard-tack* boat.



12 ON THE SAME TACK, NOT OVERLAPPED

When boats are on the same *tack* and not *overlapped*, a boat *clear astern* shall *keep clear* of a boat *clear ahead*.

Overlapped ?

- Key definition which has been changed in the new rules
- If neither boat is clear astern then they are overlapped
- Always applies to boats on the same tack
- Does not apply to boats on opposite tacks **UNLESS**
 - Rule 18 applies; or
 - Both boats sailing more than 90° from TRUE wind

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Clear Astern and Clear Ahead; Overlap One boat is *clear astern* of another when her hull and equipment in normal position are behind a line abeam from the aftermost point of the other boat's hull and equipment in normal position. The other boat is *clear ahead*. They *overlap* when neither is *clear astern*. However, they also *overlap* when a boat between them *overlaps* both. These terms always apply to boats on the same *tack*. They do not apply to boats on opposite *tacks* unless rule 18 applies or both boats are sailing more than ninety degrees from the true wind.

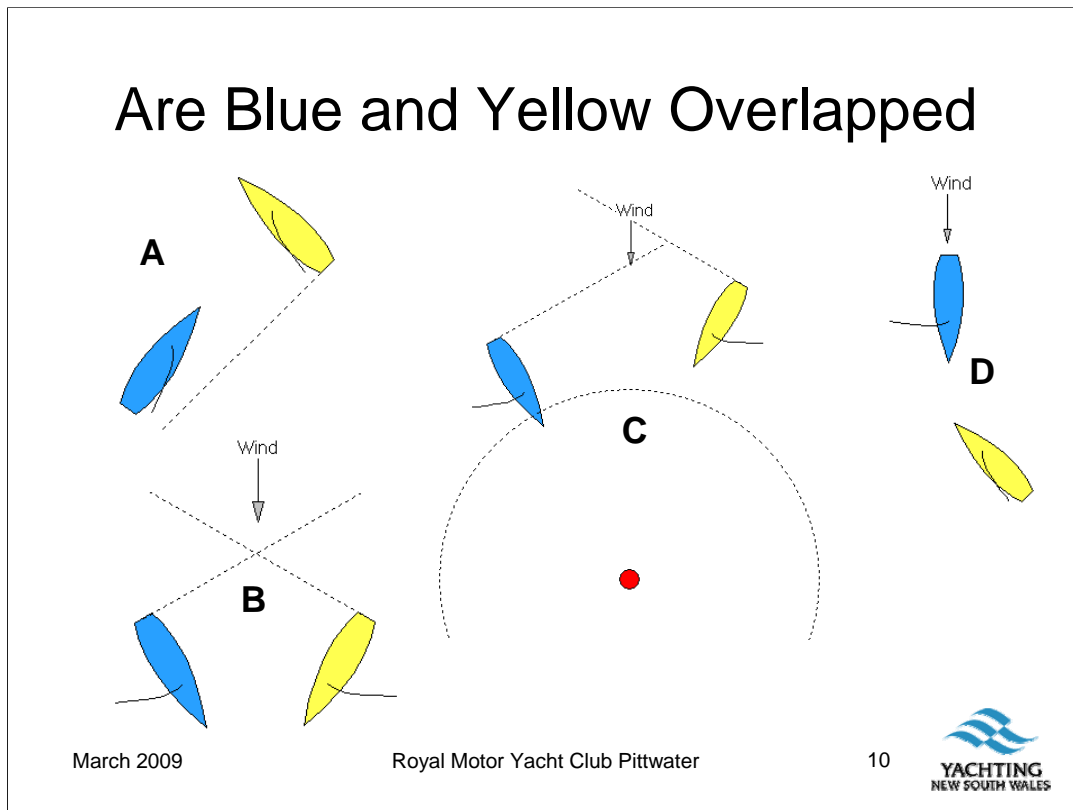
Are Blue and Yellow Overlapped ?

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- A – Yes
- B – Yes
- C – Yes
- D – Yes
- E - Yes

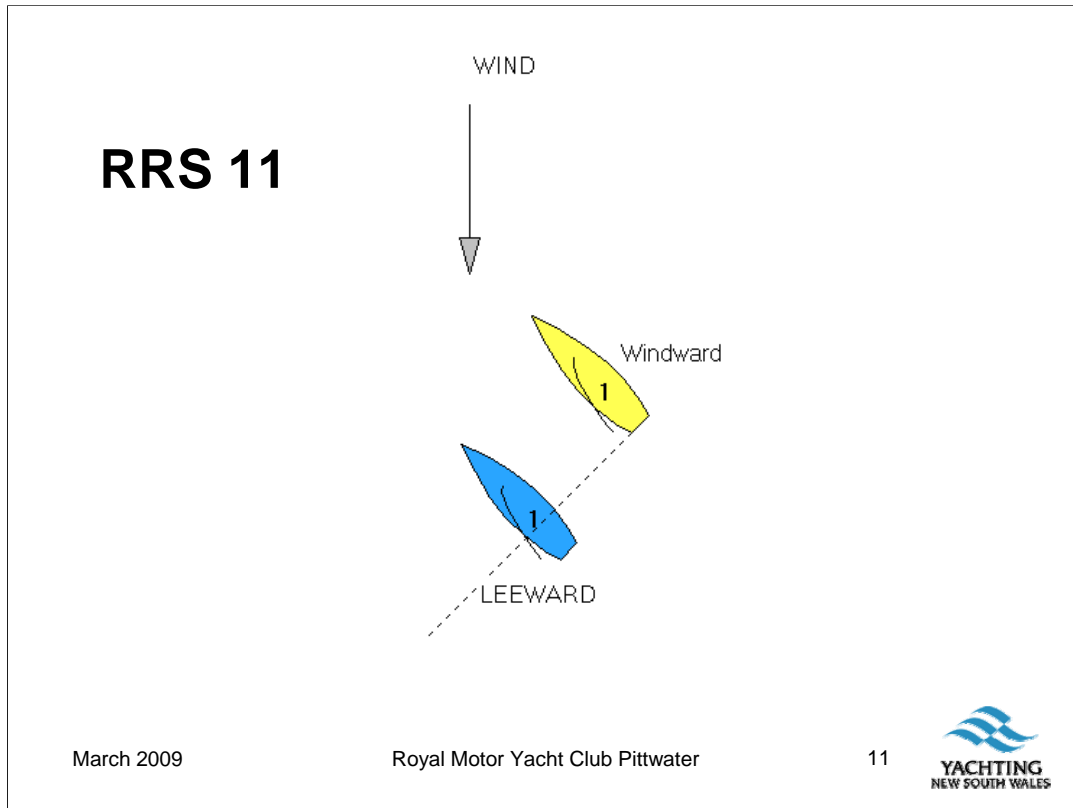


A – No – opposite tacks

B – Yes – both boats more than 90 from true wind

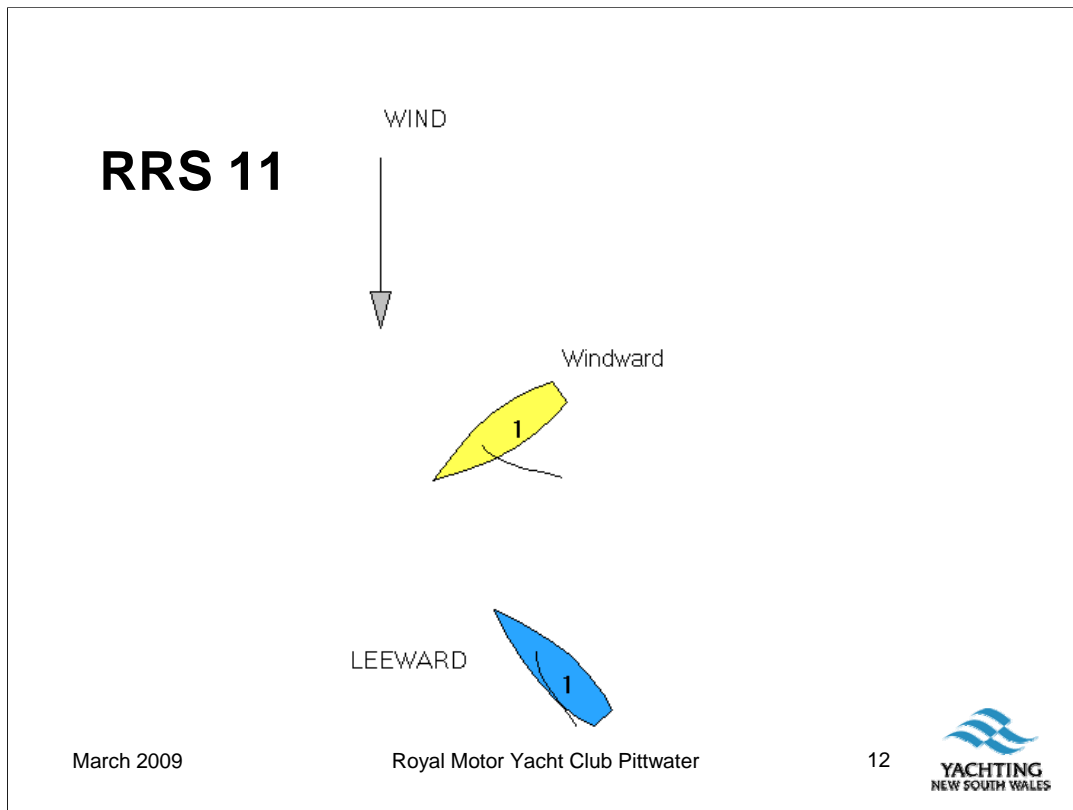
C – Yes – Rule 18

D – No – only one boat more than 90 from true wind



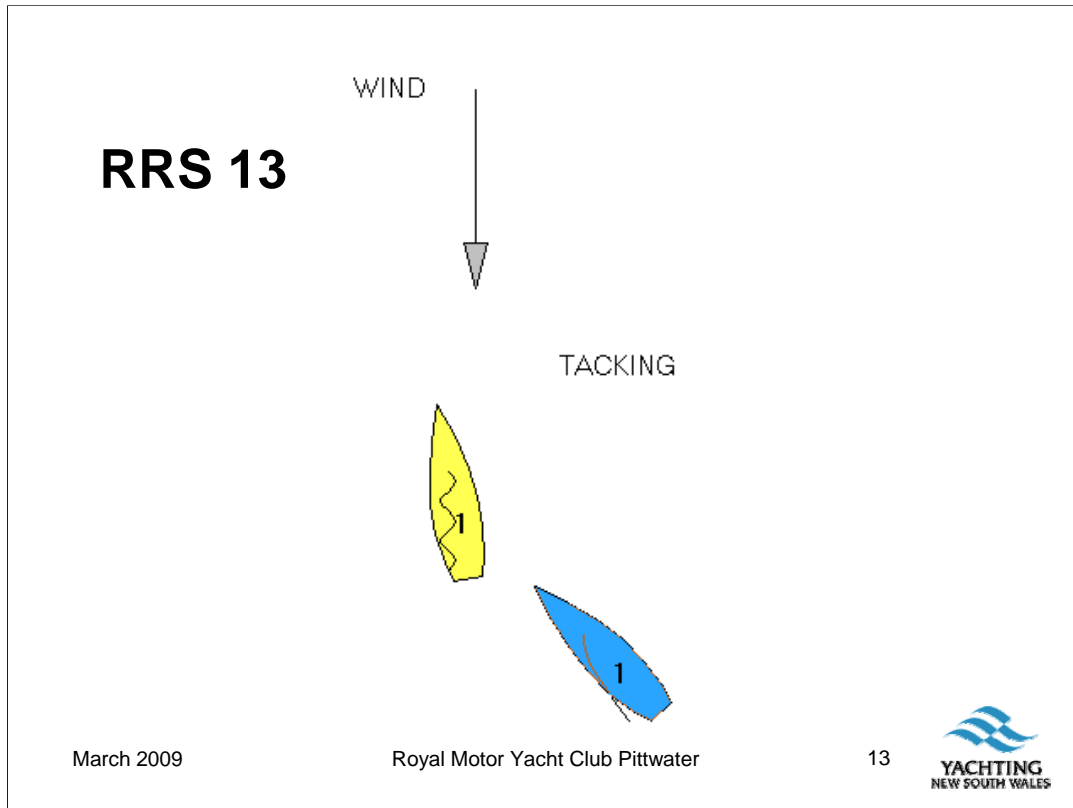
11 ON THE SAME TACK, OVERLAPPED

When boats are on the same *tack* and *overlapped*, a *windward* boat shall *keep clear* of a *leeward* boat.



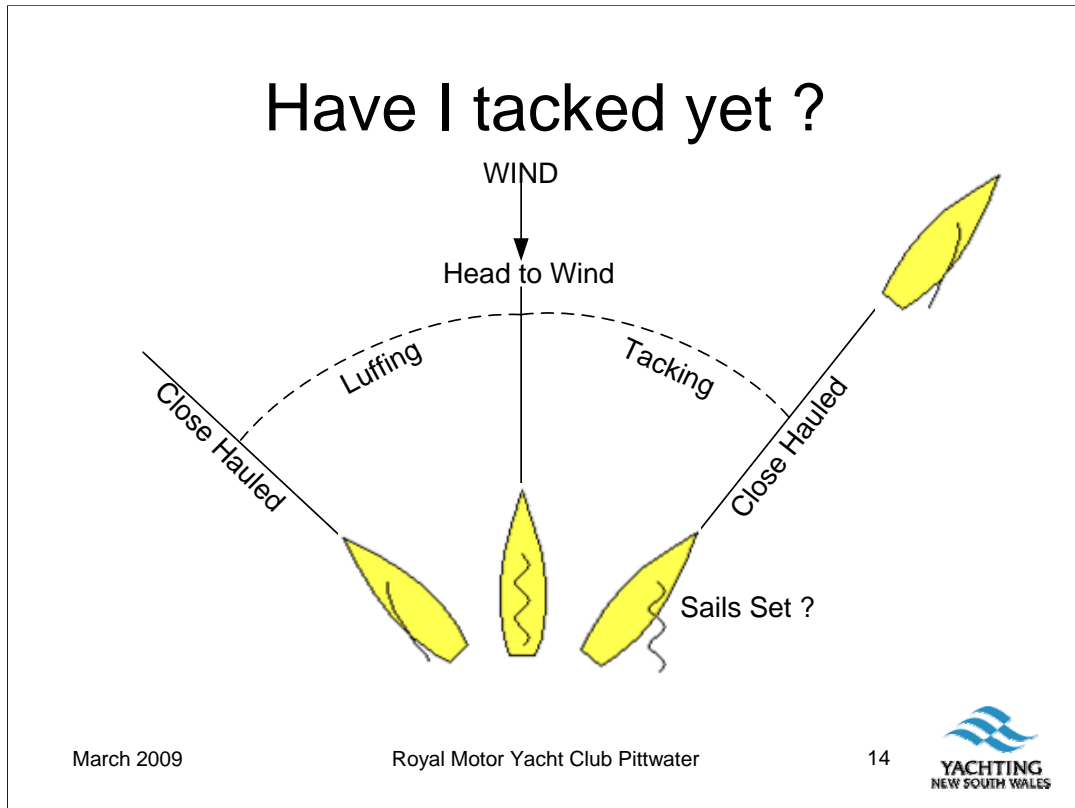
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When boats are on the same *tack* and *overlapped*, a *windward* boat shall *keep clear* of a *leeward* boat.



13 WHILE TACKING

After a boat passes head to wind, she shall *keep clear* of other boats until she is on a close-hauled course. During that time rules 10, 11 and 12 do not apply. If two boats are subject to this rule at the same time, the one on the other's port side or the one astern shall *keep clear*.



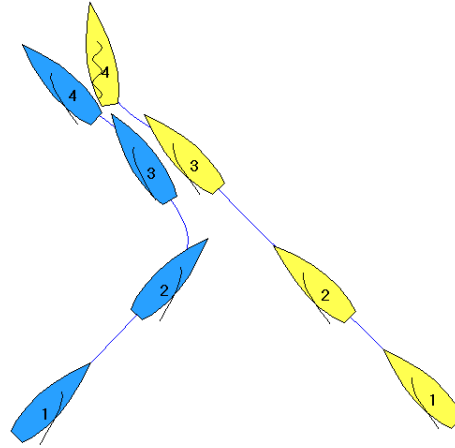
Limitations

These rules restrict a right of way
boat



Acquiring RoW

When you acquire
RoW you must
initially give other
boats room to avoid
you.



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15 ACQUIRING RIGHT OF WAY

When a boat acquires right of way, she shall initially give the other boat *room to keep clear*, unless she acquires right of way because of the other boat's actions.

Changing Course

- A RoW boat can not change course preventing the other boat from keeping clear
- Starboard tack can not “hunt” port tack

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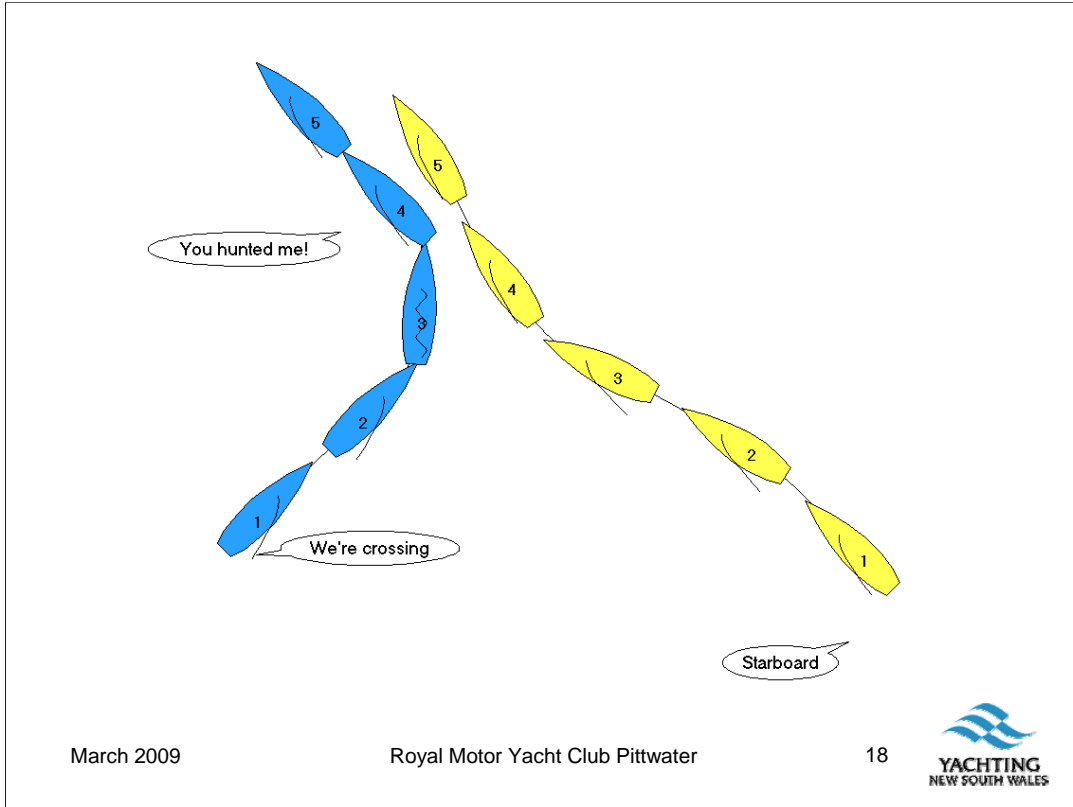
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16 CHANGING COURSE

16.1 When a right-of-way boat changes course, she shall give the other boat *room to keep clear*.

16.2 In addition, when after the starting signal a *port-tack* boat is *keeping clear* by sailing to pass astern of a *starboard-tack* boat, the *starboard-tack* boat shall not change course if as a result the *port-tack* boat would immediately need to change course to continue *keeping clear*.



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Proper Course

Rule 17

No proper course before the start

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17 ON THE SAME TACK; PROPER COURSE

If a boat

- (1) *clear astern*
- (2) *becomes overlapped*
- (3) *within two of her hull lengths to leeward*
- (4) *of a boat on the same tack,*

she shall not sail above her *proper course* while they remain on the same tack and overlapped within that distance, unless in doing so she promptly sails astern of the other boat. This rule does not apply if the *overlap* begins while the *windward* boat is required by rule 13 to *keep clear*.

Marks and Obstructions

Rules 18, 19 and 20

**** NEW ****



Marks and Obstructions

- Rule 18 – Rounding and Passing **Marks**
- Rule 19 – Room to **pass** an **obstruction**
- Rule 20 - Room to **tack** at an **obstruction**

None of these apply at starting marks

No blanket override of Section A and B rules

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Now clear definition between the rules and where they apply.

Rule 18 – Rounding and Passing **Marks**

Rule 19 – Room to pass an obstruction

Rule 19 - Room to Tack at an obstruction

Preamble to Section C has changed

*Section C rules do not apply at a starting **mark** surrounded by navigable water or at its anchor line from the time boats are approaching them to **start** until they have passed them. When rule 20 applies, rules 18 and 19 do not.*

In the old rules there was an override clause – when these rules conflicted with a rule of Section A or B then Section C took precedence. THIS NO LONGER APPLIES.

Rule 18 Mark Room

- 18.1 When rule 18 applies
 - Leaving a mark on the same side
 - Must be in the **zone**

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Rule 18 applies between boats when they are required to leave a *mark* on the same side and at least one of them is in the *zone*.

What's the zone ?

Zone The area around a *mark* within a distance of three hull lengths of the boat nearer to it. A boat is in the *zone* when any part of her hull is in the *zone*.

However, it does not apply

- (a) between boats on opposite *tacks* on a beat to windward,
- (b) between boats on opposite *tacks* when the *proper course* at the *mark* for one but not both of them is to tack,
- (c) between a boat approaching a *mark* and one leaving it, or
- (d) if the *mark* is a continuing *obstruction*, in which case rule 19 applies.

Rule 18 Mark Room

- 18.1 When rule 18 applies
 - Zone ?
 - 3 hull lengths of the boat nearer to it
 - In the zone ?
 - Any part of the hull in the zone

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Rule 18 applies between boats when they are required to leave a *mark* on the same side and at least one of them is in the *zone*.

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- (c) between a boat approaching a *mark* and one leaving it, or
- (d) if the *mark* is a continuing *obstruction*, in which case rule 19 applies.

Rule 18 Mark Room

- 18.1 When rule 18 applies
 - Leaving a mark on the same side
 - Must be in the zone
- Does not apply
 - Opposite tacks on a beat to windward
 - Opposite tacks, but one must tack
 - Approaching and leaving
 - Continuing obstruction

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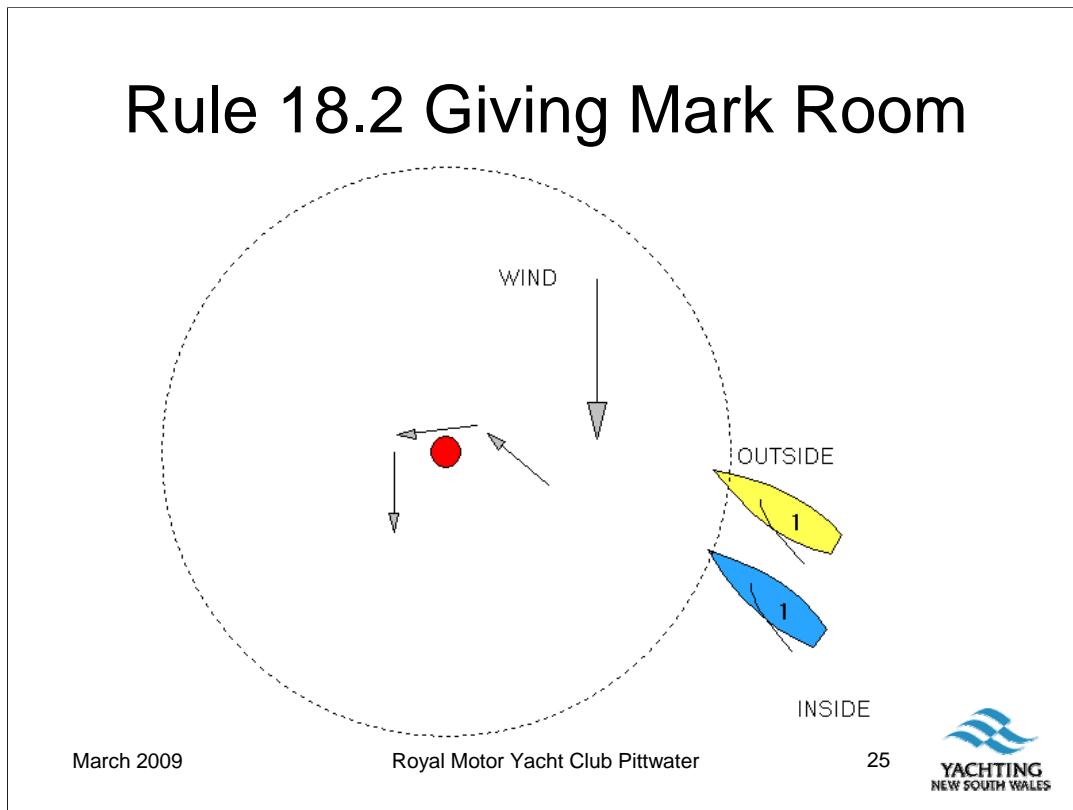
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However, it does not apply

- (a) between boats on opposite *tacks* on a beat to windward,
- (b) between boats on opposite *tacks* when the *proper course* at the *mark* for one but not both of them is to tack,
- (c) between a boat approaching a *mark* and one leaving it, or
- (d) if the *mark* is a continuing *obstruction*, in which case rule 19 applies.



18.2 Giving Mark-Room

(a) When boats are *overlapped* the outside boat shall give the inside boat *mark-room*, unless rule 18.2(b) applies.

Rule 18.2 Giving Mark Room

- Mark Room ?
 - Room to sail TO the mark

And then

- Room to sail her proper course while at the mark

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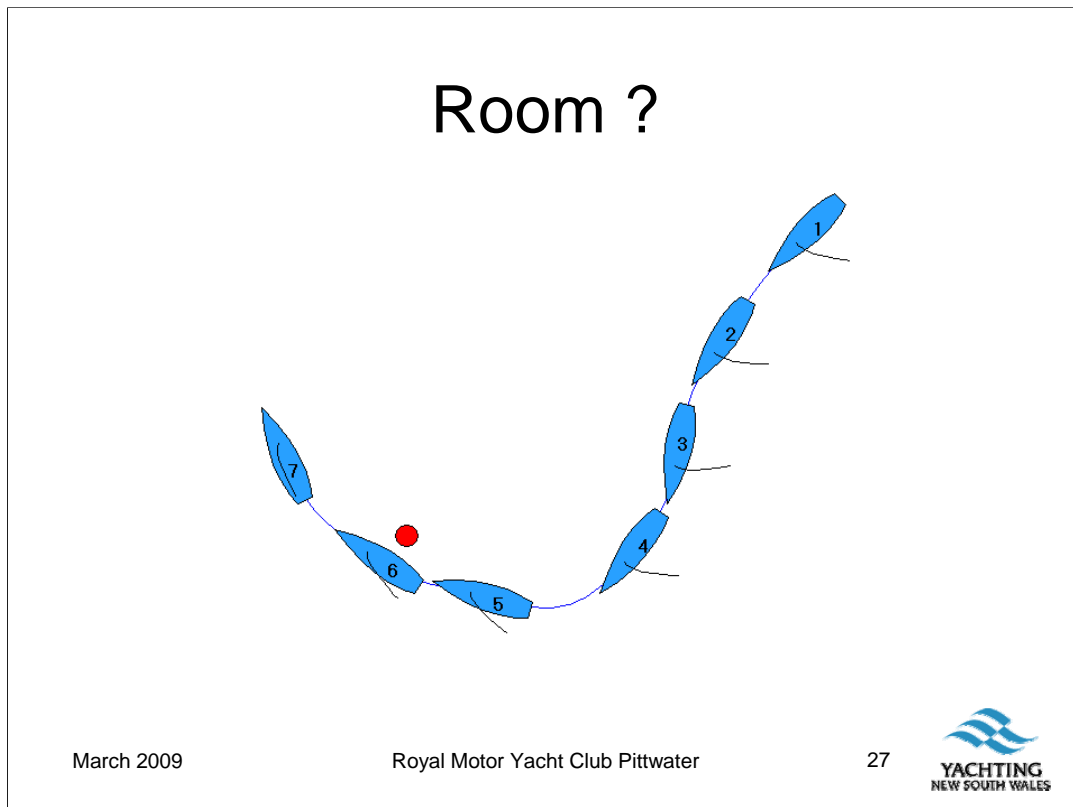


Mark-Room Room for a boat to sail to the *mark*, and then *room* to sail her *proper course* while at the *mark*. However, *mark-room* does not include *room* to tack unless the boat is *overlapped* to *windward* and on the inside of the boat required to give *mark-room*.

Room The space a boat needs in the existing conditions while manoeuvring promptly in a seamanlike way.

Proper Course A course a boat would sail to *finish* as soon as possible in the absence of the other boats referred to in the rule using the term. A boat has no *proper course* before her starting signal.

Note the two part definition. This does not mean tactical roundings.

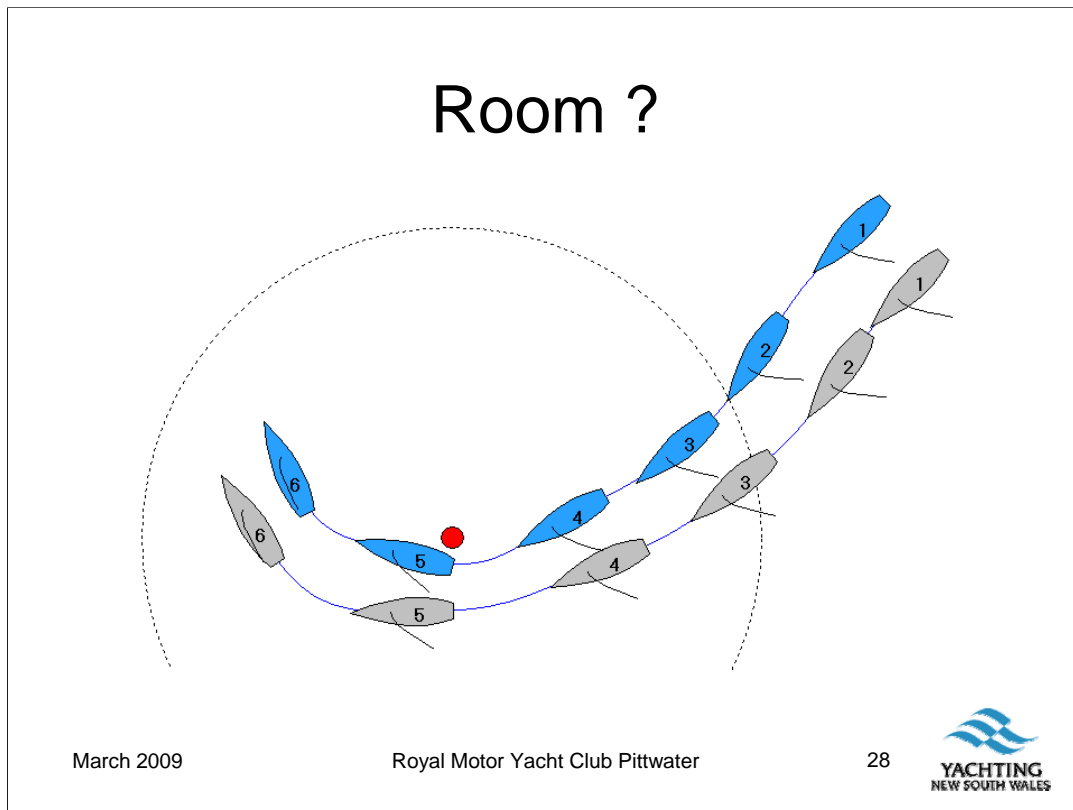


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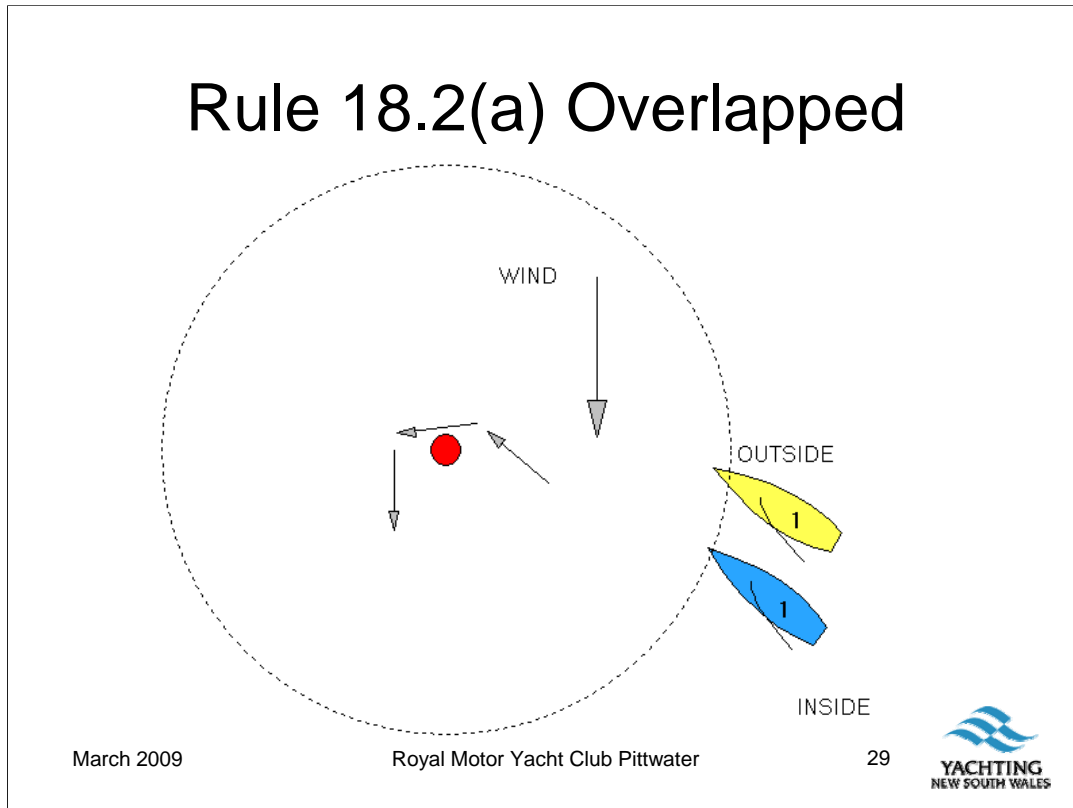


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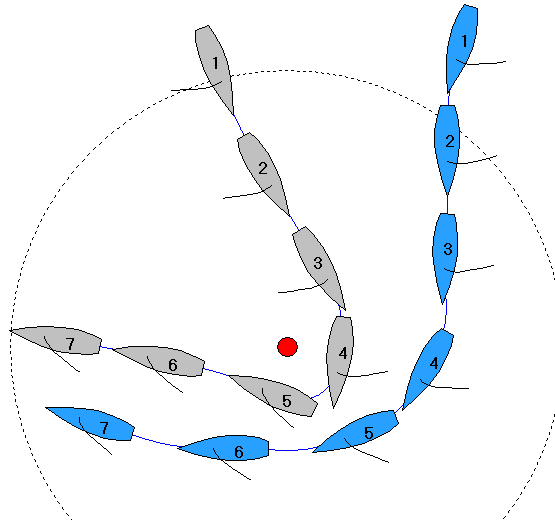
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18.2 Giving Mark-Room

(a) When boats are *overlapped* the outside boat shall give the inside boat *mark-room*, unless rule 18.2(b) applies.

Rule 18.2(a) Overlapped



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18.2 Giving Mark-Room

(a) When boats are *overlapped* the outside boat shall give the inside boat *mark-room*, unless rule 18.2(b) applies.

Continuing Obligations

- Overlapped at the zone
 - outside boat continues to give mark room
- Clear ahead at the zone
 - clear astern continues to give mark room
- Overlap Broken
 - Keep giving room

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18.2 Giving Mark-Room

(a) When boats are *overlapped* the outside boat shall give the inside boat *mark-room*, unless rule 18.2(b) applies.

(b) If boats are *overlapped* when the first of them reaches the *zone*, the outside boat at that moment shall thereafter give the inside boat *mark-room*. If a boat is *clear ahead* when she reaches the *zone*, the boat *clear astern* at that moment shall thereafter give her *mark-room*.

(c) When a boat is required to give *mark-room* by rule 18.2(b), she shall continue to do so even if later an *overlap* is broken or a new *overlap* begins.

However, if either boat passes head to wind or if the boat entitled to *mark-room* leaves the *zone*, rule 18.2(b) ceases to apply.

Rule 18.2 (b) qualifiers

- Ceases to apply:
 - Either boat passes head to wind
 - Boat entitled to room leaves the zone
- Reasonable doubt – assume no
- Unable to give room

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18.2 Giving Mark-Room

(a) When boats are *overlapped* the outside boat shall give the inside boat *mark-room*, unless rule 18.2(b) applies.

(b) If boats are *overlapped* when the first of them reaches the *zone*, the outside boat at that moment shall thereafter give the inside boat *mark-room*. If a boat is *clear ahead* when she reaches the *zone*, the boat *clear astern* at that moment shall thereafter give her *mark-room*.

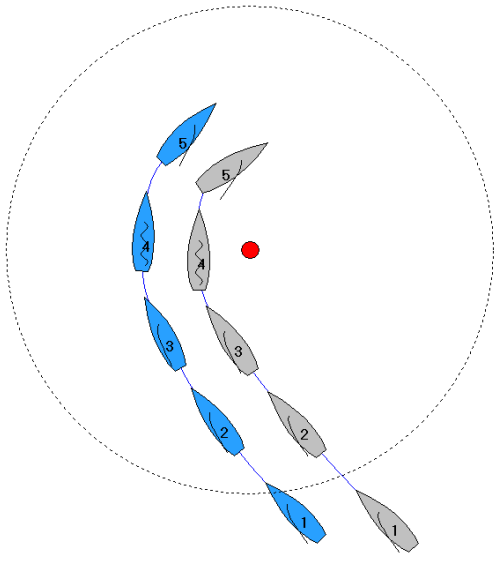
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However, if either boat passes head to wind or if the boat entitled to *mark-room* leaves the *zone*, rule 18.2(b) ceases to apply.

Note:

(d) If there is reasonable doubt that a boat obtained or broke an *overlap* in time, it shall be presumed that she did not.


(e) If a boat obtained an inside *overlap* from *clear astern* and, from the time the *overlap* began, the outside boat has been unable to give *mark-room*, she is not required to give it.



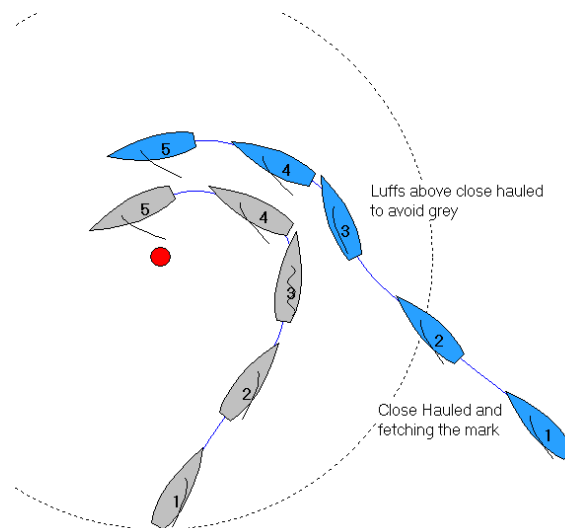
The diagram shows a five-member committee arranged in a semi-circle. The members are numbered 1 through 5. Members 1, 2, and 3 are on the left side, colored blue. Members 4 and 5 are on the right side, colored grey. A red dot is positioned in the center of the semi-circle. A dashed circle encloses the entire group of members.

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18.3 Tacking When Approaching a Mark



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18.3 Tacking When Approaching a Mark

If two boats were approaching a *mark* on opposite *tacks* and one of them changes *tack*, and as a result is subject to rule 13 in the *zone* when the other is *fetching* the *mark*, rule 18.2 does not thereafter apply. The boat that changed *tack*

- (a) shall not cause the other boat to sail above close-hauled to avoid her or prevent the other boat from passing the *mark* on the required side, and
- (b) shall give *mark-room* if the other boat becomes *overlapped* inside her.

18.4 Gybing

- Can't sail past the mark

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18.4 Gybing

When an inside *overlapped* right-of-way boat must gybe at a *mark* to sail her *proper course*, until she gybes she shall sail no farther from the *mark* than needed to sail that course. Rule 18.4 does not apply at a gate *mark*.

18.5 Exoneration

When a boat is taking *mark-room* to which she is entitled, she shall be exonerated

- (a) if, **as a result of the other boat failing to give her *mark-room***, she breaks a rule of Section A, or
- (b) if, by rounding the *mark* **on her *proper course***, she breaks a rule of Section A or rule 15 or 16.

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18.5 Exoneration

When a boat is taking *mark-room* to which she is entitled, she shall be exonerated

- (a) if, as a result of the other boat failing to give her *mark-room*, she breaks a rule of Section A, or
- (b) if, by rounding the *mark* on her *proper course*, she breaks a rule of Section A or rule 15 or 16.

Rule 19 Passing Obstructions

- When this rule applies
 - At an *obstruction*
 - Not a mark that both boats are required to pass on the same side
 - Always applies at a *continuing obstruction*

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19.1 When Rule 19 Applies

Rule 19 applies between boats at an *obstruction* except when it is also a *mark* the boats are required to leave on the same side. However, at a continuing *obstruction*, rule 19 always applies and rule 18 does not.

Obstruction An object that a boat could not pass without changing course substantially, if she were sailing directly towards it and one of her hull lengths from it. An object that can be safely passed on only one side and an area so designated by the sailing instructions are also *obstructions*. However, a boat *racing* is not an *obstruction* to other boats unless they are required to *keep clear* of her, give her *room* or *mark-room* or, if rule 22 applies, avoid her. A vessel under way, including a boat *racing*, is never a continuing *obstruction*.

Obstruction ?

- Substantial alteration of course
 - Sailing directly at it 1 boat length away
- Can only be passed safely on one side
- Area designated in the SIs
- Not an obstruction ?
 - A boat racing unless you have to keep clear, avoid or give mark room
 - A vessel under way including a racing boat is never a continuing obstruction

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Obstruction An object that a boat could not pass without changing course substantially, if she were sailing directly towards it and one of her hull lengths from it. An object that can be safely passed on only one side and an area so designated by the sailing instructions are also *obstructions*. However, a boat *racing* is not an *obstruction* to other boats unless they are required to *keep clear* of her, give her *room* or *mark-room* or, if rule 22 applies, avoid her. A vessel under way, including a boat *racing*, is never a continuing *obstruction*.

19.2 Giving Room at an Obstruction

- RoW boat can pass either side
- Outside boat gives inside boat room

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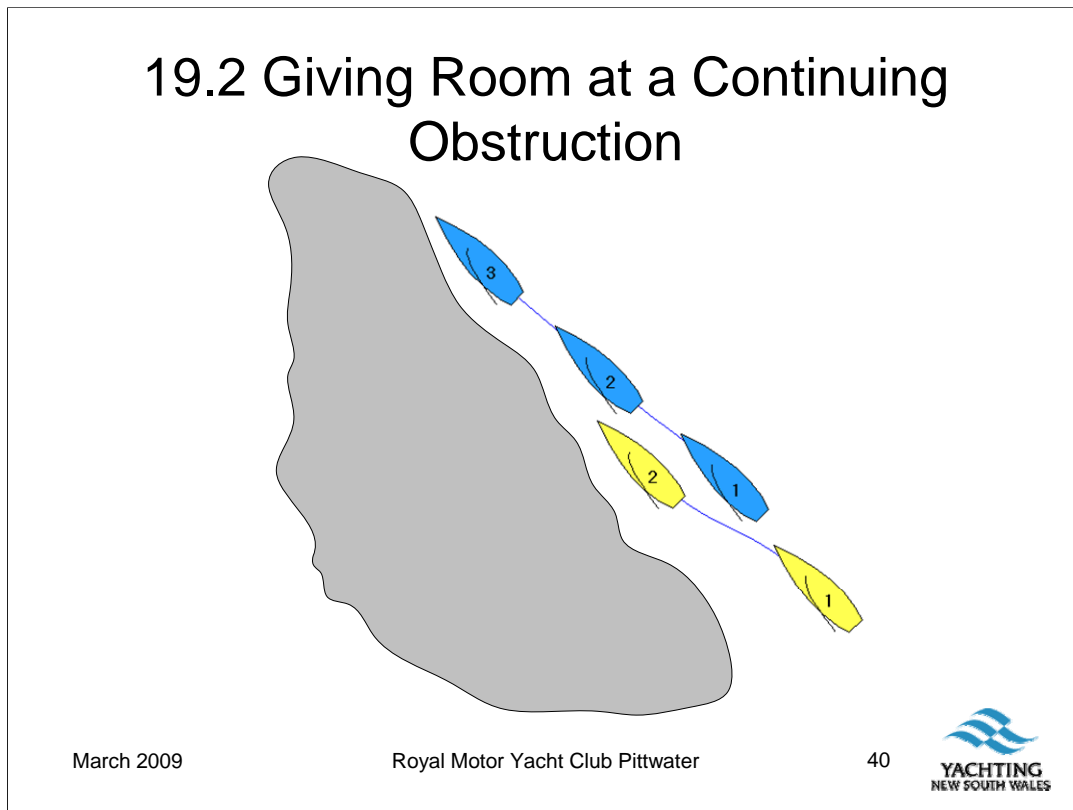


19.2 Giving Room at an Obstruction

(a) A right-of-way boat may choose to pass an *obstruction* on either side.

(b) When boats are *overlapped*, the outside boat shall give the inside boat *room* between her and the *obstruction*, unless she has been unable to do so from the time the *overlap* began.

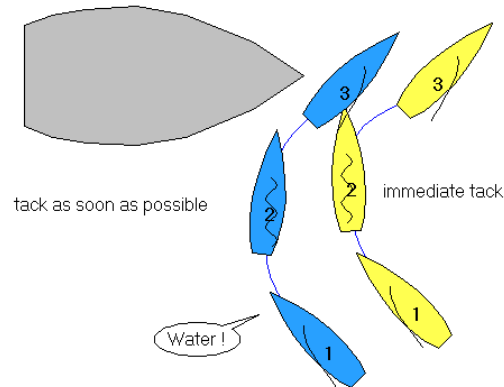
(c) While boats are passing a continuing *obstruction*, if a boat that was *clear astern* and required to *keep clear* becomes *overlapped* between the other boat and the *obstruction* and, at the moment the *overlap* begins, there is not *room* for her to pass between them, she is not entitled to *room* under rule 19.2(b). While the boats remain *overlapped*, she shall *keep clear* and rules 10 and 11 do not apply.



19.2 Giving Room at an Obstruction

- (a) A right-of-way boat may choose to pass an *obstruction* on either side.
- (b) When boats are *overlapped*, the outside boat shall give the inside boat *room* between her and the *obstruction*, unless she has been unable to do so from the time the *overlap* began.
- (c) While boats are passing a continuing *obstruction*, if a boat that was *clear astern* and required to *keep clear* becomes *overlapped* between the other boat and the *obstruction* and, at the moment the *overlap* begins, there is not *room* for her to pass between them, she is not entitled to *room* under rule 19.2(b). While the boats remain *overlapped*, she shall *keep clear* and rules 10 and 11 do not apply.

20 Room to tack at an Obstruction



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20 ROOM TO TACK AT AN OBSTRUCTION

20.1 Hailing and Responding

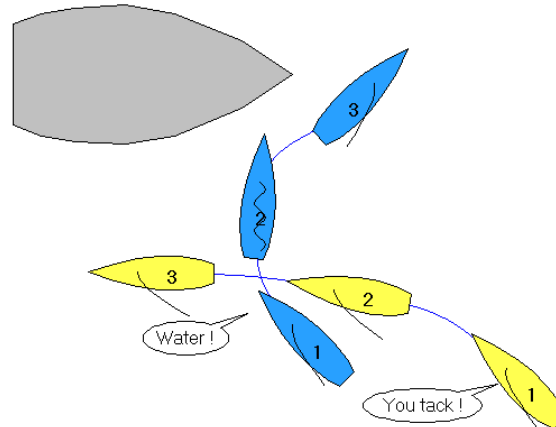
When approaching an *obstruction*, a boat sailing close-hauled or above may hail for *room* to tack and avoid another boat on the same *tack*. After a boat hails,

- (a) she shall give the hailed boat time to respond;
- (b) the hailed boat shall respond either by tacking as soon as possible, or by immediately replying 'You tack' and then giving the hailing boat *room* to tack and avoid her; and
- (c) when the hailed boat responds, the hailing boat shall tack as soon as possible.

20.2 Exoneration

When a boat is taking *room* to which she is entitled under rule 20.1(b), she shall be exonerated if she breaks a rule of Section A or rule 15 or 16.

20 Room to tack at an Obstruction



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20 ROOM TO TACK AT AN OBSTRUCTION

20.1 Hailing and Responding

When approaching an *obstruction*, a boat sailing close-hauled or above may hail for *room* to tack and avoid another boat on the same *tack*. After a boat hails,

- (a) she shall give the hailed boat time to respond;
- (b) the hailed boat shall respond either by tacking as soon as possible, or by immediately replying 'You tack' and then giving the hailing boat *room* to tack and avoid her; and
- (c) when the hailed boat responds, the hailing boat shall tack as soon as possible.

20.2 Exoneration

When a boat is taking *room* to which she is entitled under rule 20.1(b), she shall be exonerated if she breaks a rule of Section A or rule 15 or 16.

20.3 When not to hail

- A boat shall not hail unless **safety** requires her to make a **substantial** course change to avoid the *obstruction*.
- Also, she shall not hail if the *obstruction* is a *mark* that the hailed boat is **fetching**.

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20.3 When Not to Hail

A boat shall not hail unless safety requires her to make a substantial course change to avoid the *obstruction*. Also, she shall not hail if the *obstruction* is a *mark* that the hailed boat is *fetching*.

Other Rules



28 Sailing The Course

- Start
- Leave all marks on the required side and in the required order
- String rule

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28.1 A boat shall *start*, leave each *mark* on the required side in the correct order, and *finish*, so that a string representing her track after *starting* and until *finishing* would when drawn taut

- pass each *mark* on the required side,
- touch each rounding *mark*, and
- pass between the *marks* of a gate from the direction of the previous *mark*.

She may correct any errors to comply with this rule. After *finishing* she need not cross the finishing line completely.

44 Penalties

- For most times I break a rule
 - Two turns
 - 2 tacks and 2 gybes
- If I hit a mark
 - 1 circle
 - 1 tack and 1 gybe
- Sail clear and do it promptly

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44.1 Taking a Penalty

A boat may take a Two-Turns Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while *racing* or a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken rule 31. Sailing instructions may specify the use of the Scoring Penalty or some other penalty. However,

- (a) when a boat may have broken a rule of Part 2 and rule 31 in the same incident she need not take the penalty for breaking rule 31;
- (b) if the boat caused injury or serious damage or gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach her penalty shall be to retire.

44.2 One-Turn and Two-Turns Penalties

After getting well clear of other boats as soon after the incident as possible, a boat takes a One-Turn or Two-Turns Penalty by promptly making the required number of turns in the same direction, each turn including one tack and one gybe. When a boat takes the penalty at or near the finishing line, she shall sail completely to the course side of the line before *finishing*.

Questions and Discussion



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