

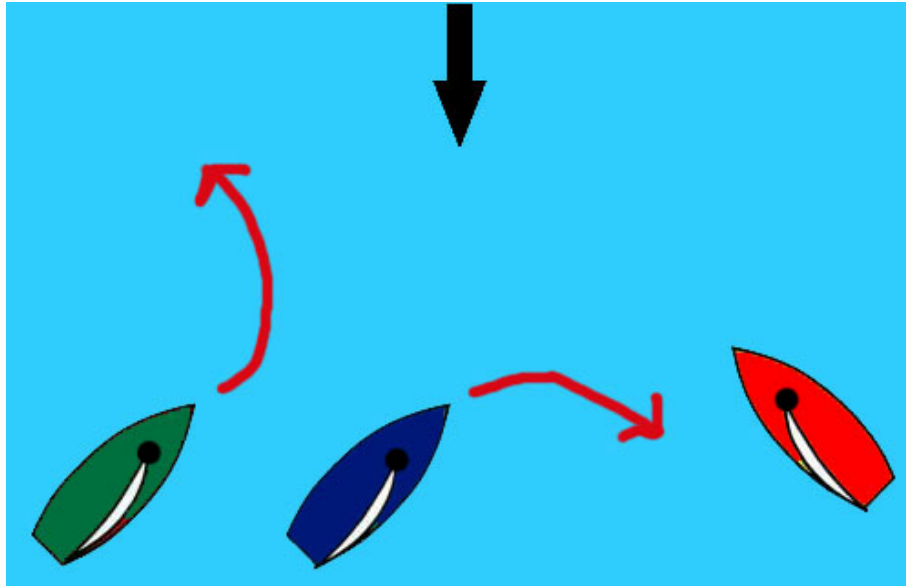
Rule discussion of the week

Situation:

Blue and Green on port tack are approaching Red, a starboard tack boat. Blue hails for room to tack from Green, but after Green tacks, Blue decides to duck Red.

Questions:

1. Who is/are the ROW boat(s)?
2. What rules apply?
3. Has Blue broken a rule?



Answers:

1. Red is the Starboard ROW boat over Blue and Green.
Blue is the Leeward ROW boat over Green.
2. Rule 10. Blue and Green port tack boats must Keep Clear of starboard tack Red boat.
Rule 11. Green windward boat must Keep Clear of leeward Blue boat.
Rule 19. Red is an obstruction to Blue and Green and Rule 19 allows Blue to choose which side of the obstruction to pass.
Rule 20. Blue's Hail for room to tack and Green's response to Blue's hail.
Rule 16. Blue must allow room and opportunity for Green to keep clear when Blue makes a course change.
Rule 14. All boats must avoid contact.
3. Yes. Rule 20.1b and c "when the hailed boat responds, the hailing boat shall tack as soon as possible."

10 ON OPPOSITE TACKS

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

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.

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.

19 ROOM TO PASS AN OBSTRUCTION

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.

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

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.