

## Rules Discussion:

Take the time to use the Dave Perry's process to determine what rules apply to each situation. Almost all situations on the water will involve more than just one rule. Always determine the section A rule that applies to each boat first, then determine what other limitations apply to each boat in Section B, C, & D rules.

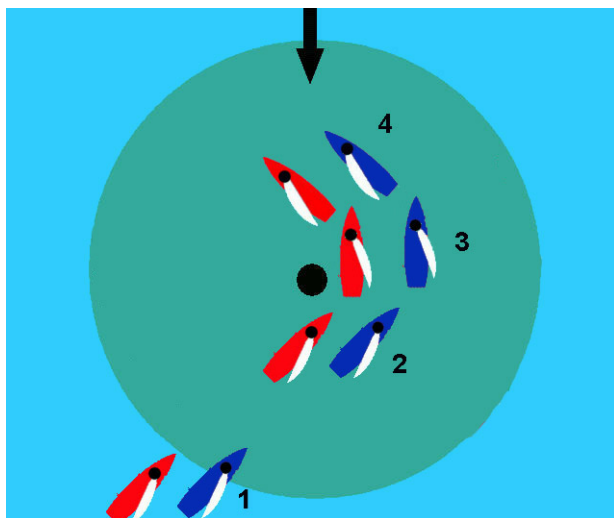
A look at a situation involving Mark-Room and ROW boats.

### Situation 1:

Two boats approaching the windward mark overlapped for a port rounding.

#### Question:

1. At position 1, who is the ROW boat?
2. At position 2, who is the ROW boat?
3. At position 3, who is the ROW boat?
4. At position 4, who is the ROW boat?
5. At position 1, what rules apply?
6. At position 2, what rules apply?
7. At position 3, what rules apply?
8. At position 4, what rules apply?



#### Answers:

1. Blue, Blue is the overlapped leeward boat.
2. Blue, Blue is the overlapped leeward boat.
3. Blue, Blue is the overlapped leeward boat.
4. Red, Red is the overlapped leeward boat.
5. Rule 11, overlapped same tack, Rule 18.2, Inside boat entitled to Mark-Room, Rule 14 & 16
6. Rule 11, overlapped same tack, Rule 18.2, inside boat entitled to Mark-Room , Rule 14 & 16
7. Rule 11, overlapped same tack, Rule 18.2, inside boat entitled to Mark-Room and entitled to Tack at the mark because she is the inside boat overlapped to windward and Mark-Room includes room to tack in this situation.
8. Rule 13, while tacking, Rule 11, overlapped same tack, Rule 15, Aquiring the ROW, Rule 14, & 16

In this situation, Blue is the ROW boat prior to entering the zone and continues to be the ROW until she tacks or the overlap is broken.

Red boat was obligated to Keep Clear of the leeward ROW blue boat out side the zone and that

requirement continues inside the zone Rule 11.

As they enter the zone, Rule 18.2 requires the leeward Blue ROW boat to give Mark-Room to the inside windward Red boat.

Because Blue boat is the ROW boat, she only has to give enough room for the inside Red boat to **sail to the mark and while at the mark, sail her proper course around the mark** and, in this situation, allow room for the inside windward boat to tack at the mark. The Red boat cannot make a wide rounding as she is not the ROW boat and has no luffing rights over the Blue boat and is only entitled to enough room to round the mark in a seaman like manner. Blue boat must allow enough room to ensure that the inside Red boat can complete her tack without contacting her.

As the boats pass head to wind at the mark, they are now on starboard tack and the leeward Red boat must keep clear of the Blue boat until she is on a CLOSE-HAULED course and becomes the new leeward ROW boat (Rule 13). The now Red leeward ROW must initially give room and opportunity for Blue boat to Keep Clear (Rule 15). At position 4, both boats have passed the mark and Blue boat has room and opportunity to Keep Clear. Red boat has full luffing rights over Blue because she did not start the overlap from clear astern and Mark-Room no longer applies, (Rule 11) does. Rule 16 applies to Red boat as she must allow room and opportunity for Blue boat to keep clear if Red boat alters her compass course. Both boats, throughout this situation, must avoid contact with each other, Rule 14.

If the Blue boat failed to provide enough Mark-Room for the Red boat to sail to the mark or tack at the mark, and made contact with the Red boat, the Red boat shall be exonerated for breaking a section A rule or rule 15 & 16. Red boat shall also be exonerated for breaking rule 14 if the contact was caused by Blue boat failing to provide the Mark-Room.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

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

(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.