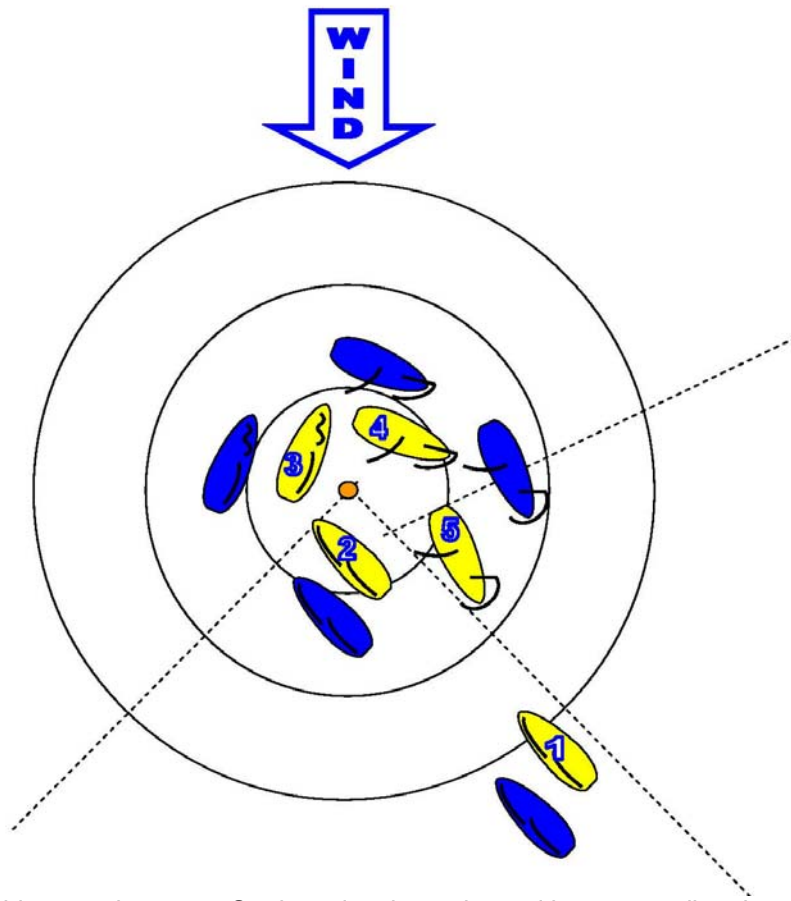


This rule discussion will address some of concerns about Starboard mark roundings.

Graphic 1:



In Graphic 1, we have two Starboard tack overlapped boats rounding the mark to starboard.

At position 1, Yellow is overlapped to windward of Blue and rule 11 requires Yellow to keep clear of Blue. Yellow has also reached the zone for a windward mark and is now entitled to Mark-Room (Rule 18.2), which includes room to sail to the mark and while at the mark, to sail her proper course around which includes the right to tack in this situation because Yellow is the inside windward overlapped boat. The second sentence of Mark-Room entitles the inside windward overlapped boat to tack.

At position 2, Yellow is at the mark and can now tack around the mark and Blue must provide room for Yellow to tack. .

At position 3, Blue does provide room for Yellow to tack and Yellow does tack. As Yellow passed head to wind, she is now on port tack and rule 10 requires her to keep clear of Blue, which Yellow does. Blue while providing room for Yellow to tack also passes head to wind to round the mark and is now on port tack also. Blue is now on port tack and must keep clear of Yellow who is the leeward port tack boat (Rule 11).

At position 4, Yellow, as the leeward ROW boat can sail her course to the next mark and Blue must keep clear while Blue is overlapped to windward.

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.**

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

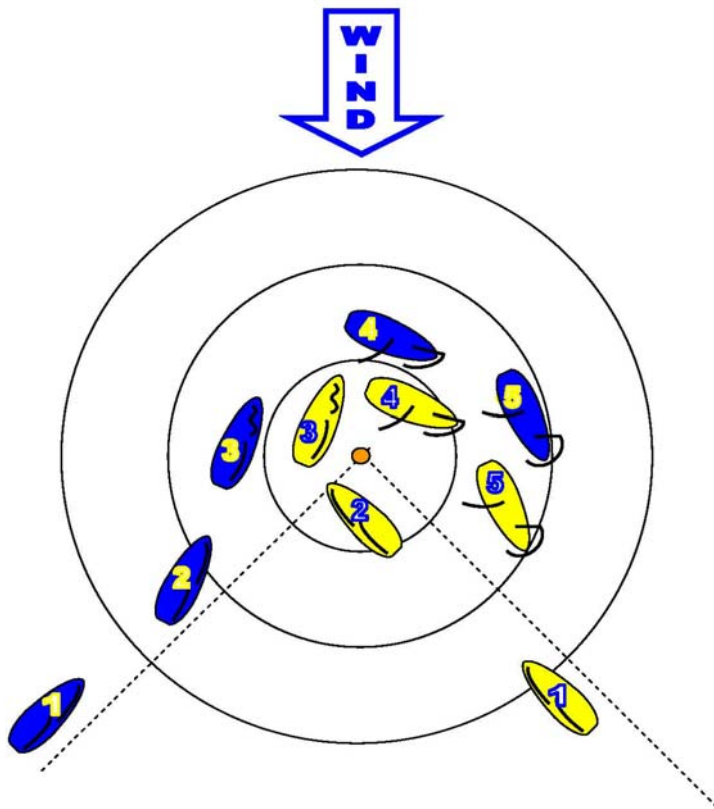
When boats are on the same tack and overlapped, a windward boat shall keep clear of a leeward boat.

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

Graphic 2



In Graphic 2 Yellow and Blue boat are approaching a windward mark on opposite tacks.

At position 1, The starboard Yellow has reached the zone and Rule 10 requires the port tack Blue to keep clear.

At position 2, Yellow has reached the mark and Blue has slowed to keep clear of Yellow. Yellow continues on starboard tack to force Blue to also luff and keep clear while Yellow rounds the mark.

At position 3, Yellow has passed head to wind and rule 13 requires Yellow to keep clear of Blue until she is on a close hauled course. Blue is not obligated to provide room and opportunity to Yellow while she is tacking (Rule 13) and, because it was the action of Yellow tacking that made Blue the ROW boat. Yellow must keep clear of Blue until she is on a close hauled course. Once Yellow is on a close hauled course, she again is the ROW boat and Blue must keep clear of Yellow while Yellow is overlapped to leeward of Blue (Rule 11).

Note:

In situations like Graphic 2, Blue has several options. As Blue approached the mark and the Yellow

starboard boat, she could luff her sails to allow Yellow to pass the mark. Blue could duck Yellow and hope she can still round the mark. Blue could luff up to head to wind with Yellow and hope that Yellow will tack and be forced to keep clear of Blue while tacking. The most important thing for Blue to remember is that Blue must keep clear of Yellow until she passes head to wind or until Blue passes head to wind onto starboard and becomes the ROW boat while Yellow is still on starboard.

Rule 18.3 addresses boats on an opposite tack and one of them passes head to wind. Rule 18.3 specifically addresses boats when approaching a mark. Since Yellow was no longer approaching the mark, but at the mark when she passed head to wind, only rule 13 applies to her. Yellow must keep clear of Blue until she is on a close hauled course.

Another situation might be that there are more than one boat on port tack approaching the mark and Rule 10 would require both of them to keep clear of the starboard tack boat or boats. In this situation, the starboard tack boats are an obstruction to the port tack boats and Rule 19 allows the leeward ROW port tack boat to decide which side of the obstruction to pass while keeping clear. If the Port tack ROW boat decides to duck the starboard boat obstruction, she must also provide room for the windward Port tack boat to pass astern of the starboard tack boat. If the Port tack Row boat decides to tack to keep clear of the starboard boat obstruction, Rule 19 requires the windward Port tack boat to tack as soon as possible and the Port tack ROW boat must also immediately tack.

The rules apply equally to both port or starboard mark roundings. If you apply good tactics when approaching the mark and while at the mark, you will be successful. Approaching a windward mark on port tack has the same risks either rounding to starboard or port. Plan your approach to a windward mark to have you arrive on Starboard tack layline prior to reaching the zone! Problems at the windward mark do not materialize because of how the mark is left, problems materialize because skippers don't follow the rules and use good tactics!

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

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.

