

## SECTION A

### RIGHT OF WAY

*A boat has right of way over another boat when the other boat is required to **keep clear** of her. However, some rules in Sections B, C and D limit the actions of a right-of-way boat.*

#### 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.

#### 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*.

## SECTION B

### GENERAL LIMITATIONS

#### 14 AVOIDING CONTACT

A boat shall

- (a) avoid contact with another boat,
- (b) not cause contact between boats, and
- (c) not cause contact between a boat and an object that should be avoided,

if reasonably possible. However, a right-of-way boat or one entitled to *room* or *mark-room* need not act to avoid contact until it is clear that the other boat is not *keeping clear* or giving *room* or *mark-room*.

#### 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 When sailing to a mark that is to windward, a starboard-tack boat shall not bear away to a course that is below her proper course if at that moment the port-tack boat that is keeping clear by sailing a course to pass astern of her has to immediately change course to continue keeping clear.
- 16.3 When sailing to a mark that is to leeward, a starboard-tack boat shall not luff to a course that is above her proper course if at that moment the port-tack boat that is keeping clear by sailing a course to pass astern of her has to immediately change course to continue keeping clear.

## SECTION C

### AT MARKS AND OBSTRUCTIONS

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.

#### 18 MARK-ROOM

##### 18.1 When Rule 18 Applies

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*. However, it does not apply between a boat approaching a *mark* and one leaving it.

##### 18.2 Giving Mark-Room

- (a) When the first boat reaches the *zone*,
  - (1) if boats are *overlapped* the outside boat at that moment shall thereafter give the inside boat *mark-room*
  - (2) if boats are not *overlapped*, the boat that has not reached the *zone* shall thereafter give *mark-room*.
- (b) If the boat entitled to *mark-room* leaves the *zone*, the entitlement to *mark-room* ceases and rule 18.2(a) is applied again based on the relationship of the boats considered at the time rule 18.2(a) re-applied.
- (c) If a boat obtained an inside *overlap* and, from the time the *overlap* began, the outside boat has been unable to give *mark-room*, she is not required to give it.

##### 18.3 Tacking or Gybing

- (a) If *mark-room* for a boat includes a change of *tack*, such tack or gybe shall be done no faster than a tack or gybe to sail her *proper-course*.
- (b) When an inside *overlapped* right-of-way boat must change *tack* at a *mark* to sail her *proper course*, until she changes *tack* she shall sail no farther from the *mark* than needed to sail that course. Rule 18.3(b) does not apply at a gate *mark* or a finishing *mark* and a boat shall not be penalized for breaking this rule unless the course of another boat was affected by the breach of this rule.

#### 19 ROOM TO PASS AN OBSTRUCTION

##### 19.1 When Rule 19 Applies

Rule 19 applies between boats when at least one of them is in the *zone* of an *obstruction*, except when it is also a *mark* the boats are required to leave on the same side. Except as noted in rule 20.1, rule 19 does not apply when rule 20 applies.

##### 19.2 Giving Room at an Obstruction

- (a) When rule 19 first applies, the right-of-way boat at that time 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
  - (1) she has been unable to do so from the time the *overlap* began.
  - (2) she has been unable to do so because she is giving or taking *mark-room* under rule 18.2(a), or
  - (3) she is unable to do so because she is taking *room* under rule 20.2.

However, *room* in rule 19.2 does not include *room* to change *tack* unless it is the only option to pass the *obstruction*.

## **20 ROOM TO PASS A BOUNDARY**

### **20.1 When Rule 20 Applies**

Unless the sailing instructions state that rule 19 applies to part of the boundary, rule 20 applies between boats that have *started* when at least one of them is in the *zone* of a *boundary*.

### **20.2 Giving Room at a Boundary**

- (a) When rule 20 first applies, an outside *overlapped* or *clear-astern* boat at that moment shall thereafter give an inside or *clear-ahead* boat *room* to sail her *proper course*, including *room* to tack or gybe, while the boat entitled to room is in the *zone*, unless the boat required to give *room* is unable to do so because she is giving or taking *mark-room* under rule 18.2(a).
- (b) When boats are passing a *boundary* on opposite sides, a boat sailing on a leg to a windward *mark* or windward gate shall be considered the inside boat.

## **SECTION D**

### **OTHER RULES**

*When rule 22 applies between two boats, Section A rules do not.*

### **22 CAPSIZED, ANCHORED OR AGROUND; RESCUING**

If possible, a boat shall avoid a boat that is *capsized* or has not regained control after *capsizing*, is anchored or aground, or is trying to help a person or vessel in danger.

### **23 INTERFERING WITH ANOTHER BOAT**

- 23.1** If reasonably possible, a boat not *racing* shall not interfere with a boat that is *racing* or an umpire boat.
- 23.2** If reasonably possible, a boat shall not interfere with a boat that is sailing on another leg. However, after the starting signal this rule does not apply when the boat is sailing her *proper course*.
- 23.3** In a match race, when boats in different matches meet, any course sailed by either boat shall be consistent with complying with a *rule* or trying to win her own match.
- 23.4** After she has *started* and except when sailing her *proper course*, a boat shall not interfere with a boat taking a penalty.