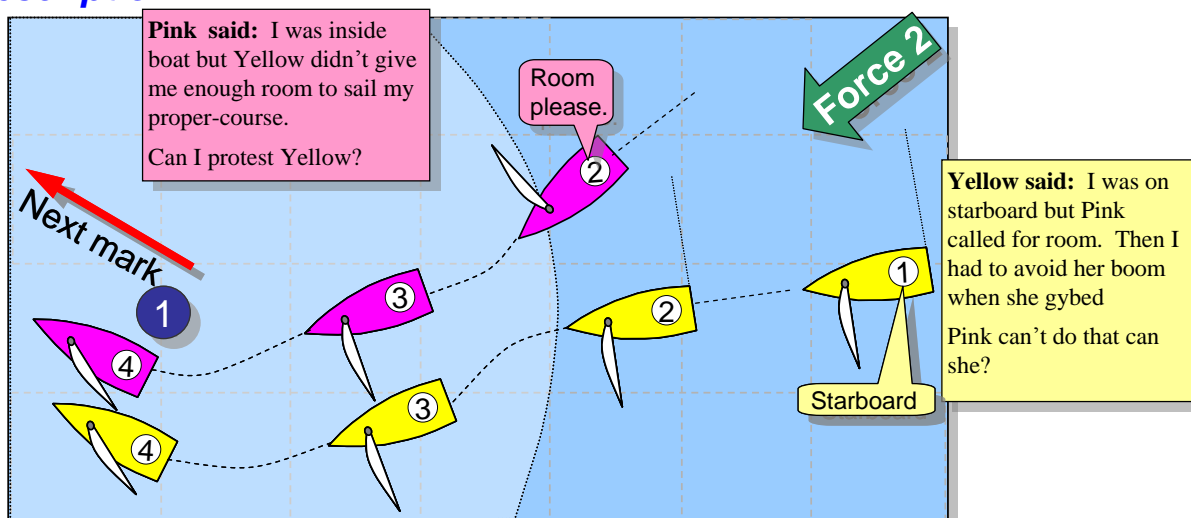


07 But I'm on Starboard ...

We are all familiar with the fact that boats on Starboard-tack have right of way over those on Port-tack; it is one of the 1st rules we learn – but is it always true?

Description



Commentary

#	Facts & Rules	RoW
①	As Pink and Yellow sail down the run on opposite tacks Yellow, on starboard, has right-of-way (Rule 10 “On opposite tacks”). As both boats are more than 90-degrees from the wind and neither is <i>clear astern</i> an <i>overlap</i> exists between them. Yellow sensibly hails ‘starboard’ to ensure that Pink has seen her.	Yellow
②	When Pink enters the zone she calls for <i>mark-room</i> (Rule 18.2b “Giving mark-room”). Yellow must give Pink <i>room</i> to sail to the mark (see definition of mark-room). Yellow still has right-of-way (Rule 10 “On opposite tacks”) so Pink cannot push her wide by making a tactical-rounding.	Pink
③	Pink gybes onto starboard but Yellow retains her right-of-way (Rule 11 “on same tack, overlapped”).	Pink
④	Now at the mark, Yellow must give Pink room to sail her proper-course. Once both boats are round the mark Pink must keep clear of Yellow (Rule 11 “on same tack, overlapped”).	Yellow

Learning-points

Despite the controversy and lack of rules knowledge evident in their statements neither Pink nor Yellow broke any rules during this scenario.

Yellow retains her starboard right of way throughout the scenario but her actions are limited by the need to provide Pink with *mark-room*.

Entitlement to *mark-room* does not mean that Pink can go anywhere in the *zone* as she must also keep clear of Yellow. Hence her actions are also limited.

Right-of-way, *keep-clear* and *room* sound easy concepts but hide complexities!!

07 But I'm on Starboard ...

Facts-Found

Pink on Port and Yellow on Starboard are 2-lengths apart on converging courses. Both are running before the wind. Pink enters the zone with Yellow overlapped outside her. As Pink gybed to sail to the mark Yellow had to bear away to avoid Pink's boom. Pink headed-up on her proper-course at the mark.

Quiz questions

Q07-1) In how many instances does a boat on Starboard have to give a Port boat room or even to keep clear of a boat on Port? Is it:

- A) less than 3-times
- B) 3 or 4 times
- C) 5 or 6 times
- D) 7 or more times

Q07-2) Here are several statements about Mark room:

- 1) Mark-room must still be given even if the overlap is broken inside the zone
- 2) If an outside boat was always unable to give mark-room she is not required to
- 3) If there is doubt that an inside boat established an overlap in time then she didn't
- 4) An inside overlapped right of way boat must sail her proper course at a gybe-mark

which of these are correct:

- A) 1 and 2
- B) 3 and 4
- C) All of the above
- D) None of the above

Q07-3) Rule 18.2b says "If boats are overlapped when the first of them reaches the zone". An overlap is determined by:

- A) a line abeam from the aftermost point of the hull of the first boat
- B) a line abeam from the aftermost point of the hull and equipment of the first boat
- C) a line abeam from the helmsman of the first boat in his normal position
- D) a line abeam from the mast of the first boat

Quiz answers

A07-1) D

Rule 13 "While tacking" (ie unless you are head to wind you **are** on a tack!)

Rule 15 "Acquiring right of way" (eg immediately after a tack or gybe)

Rule 16.1 & 16.2 "Changing course" (eg following a wind-shift or tactical dial-down)

Rule 18.2 "Giving mark-room" (eg at a downwind mark)

Rule 19.2b & 19.2c "Giving room at an obstruction" (eg gybing downwind near the bank)

Rule 20.1b "Hailing and responding" (eg after starboard boat tacked for an obstruction)

Rule 21.1, 21.2, & 21.3 "Starting errors, Penalties and Moving astern" (eg doing 720)

A07-2) C

- 1) True – see 18.2c
- 2) True – see 18.2e
- 3) True – see 18.2d
- 4) True – see 18.4

A07-3) B

The definition of overlap says "a line abeam from the aftermost point of the hull and equipment in normal position."