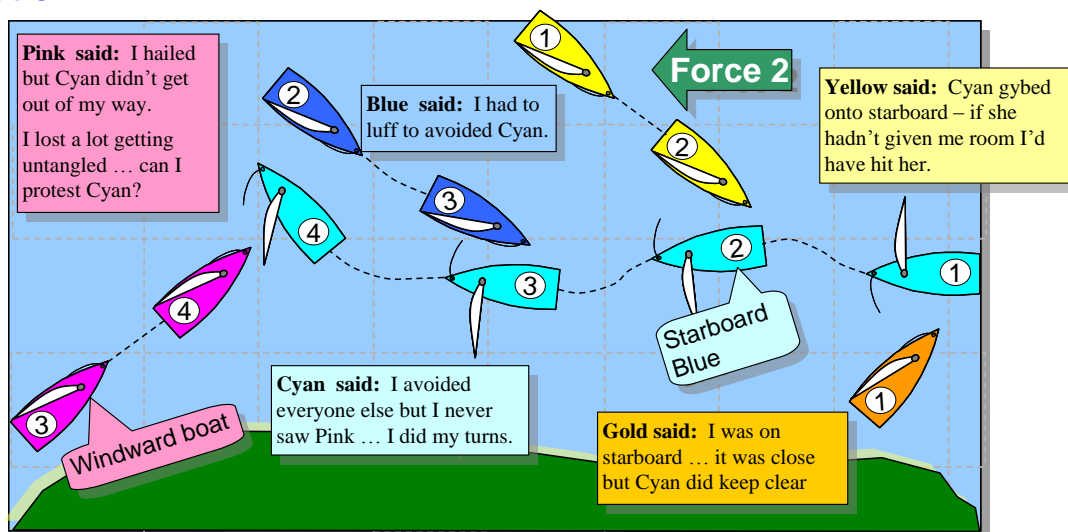


08 There's so much happening ...

In confined spaces, like the channel, a lot can happen very quickly when several boats meet each other whilst going in opposite directions.

Description



Commentary

#	Facts & Rules	RoW
①	Cyan, running on Port, has to keep clear of Gold, beating on Starboard (Rule 10 “On opposite tacks”) so she gybes away ...	Gold
②	Cyan, now on Starboard, has right of way over Yellow, close-hauled on Port (Rule 10 “On opposite tacks”). However as Cyan has just acquired right of way she must allow Yellow <i>room</i> to keep clear (Rule 15 “Acquiring right of way”) and she does this by altering course ...	Cyan
③	Cyan hails clearly to Blue who, with a small alteration of course to windward, is able to <i>keep clear</i> (Rule 10 “On opposite tacks”). Meanwhile Pink is approaching with <i>right-of-way</i> over Cyan (Rule 11 “on same tack, overlapped”) ...	Cyan
④	Cyan tries to <i>keep clear</i> of Pink by luffing but fails and her boom snags on Pink’s forestay (Rule 11 “On same tack, overlapped”).	Pink

Learning-points

A lot going on for Cyan as rights-of-way switch on and off in bewilderingly quick succession but once the situations are broken down rights are clear.

A lesson for Pink that forcing right-of-way can be unwise – Pink clearly breaks **Rule 14** “Avoiding contact” and would be penalised if injury or damage had resulted; as none did she cannot claim redress (**Rule 62.1** “Redress”)!

Cyan’s choice of avoiding action was poor – in such a situation bearing-away is the best way to improve the chance of avoiding a collision.

It pays to think ahead, make clear calls about rights-of-way and responsibilities, and be prepared to waive your rights when it doesn’t cost you anything.

08 There's so much happening ...

Facts-Found

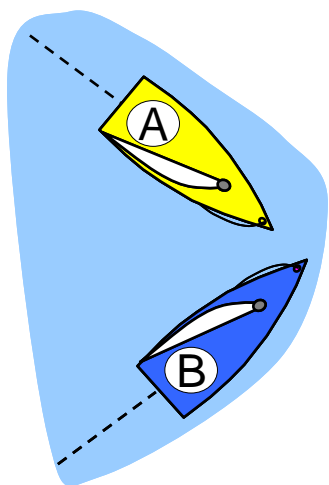
Pink, close-hauled on starboard, is heading towards Cyan, running dead downwind and also on starboard. Pink hails but makes no change of course to avoid contact. Cyan luffs but fails to avoid a collision as her boom hits Pink's forestay.

Quiz questions

In each scenario below identify which boat (A or B) has *right-of-way* at this instance:

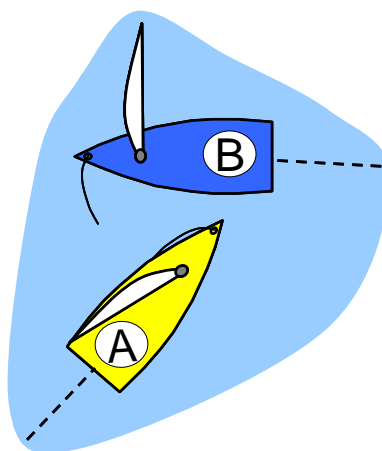
Q08-1)

Both A and B have been close-hauled for sometime.



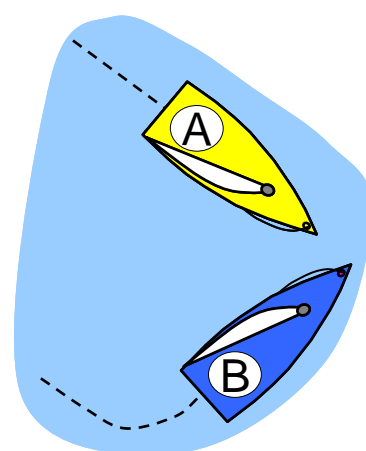
Q08-2)

Both A and B have kept to their *proper-courses*



Q08-3)

B has just completed a tack very close to A



Q08-4) As Cyan, on Port, crosses close ahead of Pink, on starboard, her boom briefly hits Pink's jib. Should she:

- A) Keep sailing and hope no-one notices
- B) Agree with Pink to ignore the incident
- C) Take a 1-turn penalty as the collision was minor
- D) Take a 2-turn penalty

Quiz answers

A08-1) B

B is on starboard (**Rule 10** "On opposite tacks") – no excuses for A!

A08-2) A

A is on starboard (**Rule 10** "On opposite tacks") – no excuses for B; whether boats are on *proper-course* or not is irrelevant here.

A08-3) B

B is on starboard and so has *right-of-way* (**Rule 10** "On opposite tacks"), however she must give A *room* to avoid her under **Rule 15** "Acquiring right of way"

A08-4) D

This incident is covered by **Rule 10** "On opposite tacks" which is from Part 2 of the RRS and hence a 2-turn penalty is applicable (**Rule 44.1** "Taking a penalty"). Boats agreeing to ignore an incident like this risk breaking **Rule 2** "Fair Sailing".