

Part 2 Rules for 2009-2012 Categorized

By Dick Rose

Right-of-Way Rules

In each of the following situations, Boat A has right of way and Boat B must *keep clear*.

Rule & Situation	Boat A	Boat B
10 Both boats on opposite tacks	On <i>starboard tack</i>	On <i>port tack</i>
11 Both boats on same tack and overlapped	<i>Leeward</i> boat	<i>Windward</i> boat
12 Both boats on same tack and not overlapped	<i>Clear ahead</i>	<i>Clear astern</i>
13 One boat tacking, one not tacking	Not tacking	Has passed head to wind, but is not yet close-hauled
13 Both boats have passed head to wind, but are not yet close-hauled	On boat B's starboard side or ahead of B	On boat A's port side or astern of A
19.2(c) A <i>clear astern keep-clear</i> boat obtains an inside overlap at a continuing obstruction when there was not <i>room</i> to pass inside	Outside boat	Inside boat
21.1 One boat correcting a starting error after the starting signal	Not sailing back towards starting line to <i>start</i> or to comply with rule 30.1	Sailing back towards starting line to <i>start</i> or to comply with rule 30.1
21.2 One boat making a penalty turn	Not making a penalty turn	Making a penalty turn
21.3 One boat moving astern by backing a sail	Not moving astern by backing a sail	Moving astern by backing a sail

When some Section A, Right-of-Way Rules, do not apply:

- When rule 13 applies, rules 10, 11 and 12 do not.
- When rule 19.2(c) applies, rules 10 and 11 do not.
- When rule 21 or 22 applies, rules 10, 11, 12 and 13 do not.

Rules Requiring a Boat to Give *Room* or *Mark-Room*

- ¶ **Rule 15** Boat A shall give boat B *room* to *keep clear* when A has just acquired right of way and when this was not solely due to the actions of B.
- ¶ **Rule 16.1** When a right-of-way boat changes course, she shall give the other boat *room* to *keep clear*.
- Rule 18.2(a)** When rule 18 applies and boats are *overlapped*, the outside boat shall give the inside boat *mark-room*, unless rule 18.2(b) applies.
- Rule 18.2(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*.
- Rule 18.2(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. Exceptions: (1) If either boat passes head to wind or if the boat entitled to *mark-room* leaves the *zone*, rule 18.2(b) ceases to apply. (2) See rule 18.2(e).
- Rule 18.3(b)** A tacking boat that is subject to rule 13 within the *zone* shall give *room* to a boat *fetching* a *mark* that becomes *overlapped* inside her.
- Rule 19.2(b)** When boats are *overlapped* at an *obstruction*, 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. See the exception in rule 19.2(c).
- Rule 20.1** When rule 20.1 applies and a boat sailing close-hauled or above hails for *room* to tack, the hailed boat shall give the hailing boat *room* to tack and avoid her.

Rules Limiting the Course a Boat Can Sail

- ¶ **Rule 14** Limits a boat's course when contact is imminent.
- ¶ **Rule 16.2** After the starting signal, limits a *starboard-tack* boat's course when a *port-tack* boat is *keeping clear* by sailing to pass astern of the *starboard-tack* boat.
- ¶ **Rule 17** *Leeward* boat not to sail above her *proper course* under certain conditions.
- Rule 18.3(a)** A tacking boat that is subject to rule 13 within the *zone* shall not force a boat *fetching* the *mark* above close-hauled or prevent her from passing the *mark*.
- Rule 18.4** Limits the course of an inside *overlapped* right-of-way boat that must gybe at a *mark* or *obstruction*, until she gybes. (Does not apply at a gate *mark*.)
- ¶ **Rule 22** Limits the course of a boat in the vicinity of a boat that is capsized, anchored, aground or rescuing.
- ¶ **Rule 23.1** Limits the course of a boat not *racing*.
- ¶ **Rule 23.2** In some circumstances limits the course of a boat in the vicinity of a boat making a penalty turn or one on another leg or lap of the course.

Notes: Rules 18.2(d), 18.5, 19.2(a), 20.2 and 20.3 do not fall into any of these three categories. Rules marked with a ¶ limit the actions of a right-of-way boat and, by so doing, they help you to understand what it means to have right of way.