

Part 2 – When Boats Meet continued:**SECTION C – At Marks and Obstructions****Obstruction definition:**

- An object that a boat could not pass **without changing course substantially**, if she were sailing directly towards it and **one** of her **hull lengths** from it.
- An object that can be **safely passed on only one side** and an **object, area, or line** so **designated** by the **sailing instructions** are also **obstructions**.
- However, a **boat racing is not an obstruction** to other boats **unless they are required to keep clear** of her **or**, if **rule 22 applies**, avoid her. A **vessel under way**, including a boat **racing**, is **never a continuing obstruction**.

19 ROOM TO PASS AN OBSTRUCTION**19.1 When Rule 19 Applies**

Rule 19 applies between two boats at an **obstruction** **except**

- when the **obstruction is a mark** the boats are required to **leave on the same side**, or
- when rule 18 applies** between the boats and the **obstruction is another boat overlapped with each of them**.

However, at a **continuing obstruction**, **rule 19 always applies** and **rule 18 does not**.

Rule 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. A boat is capsized when her masthead is in the water.

A boat racing is not an obstruction

19.2 Giving Room at an Obstruction

- A **right-of-way boat** may choose to **pass** an **obstruction** on **either side**.
- 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**.
- 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), and
 - while** the boats remain **overlapped**, **she shall keep clear** and rules 10 and 11 do not apply.

Interesting that the definition doesn't use the word "continuing" obstruction

10 ON OPPOSITE TACKS

port-tack shall keep clear of starboard-tack boat.

11 ON THE SAME TACK, OVERLAPPED

*same tack **and** overlapped, windward shall keep clear*

20 ROOM TO TACK AT AN OBSTRUCTION

20.1 Hailing

A boat may **hail** for **“room to tack”** and avoid a boat on the **same tack**.

However, she shall **not hail unless**

- (a) she is **approaching an obstruction** and will soon need to make a **substantial course change to avoid it safely, and**
- (b) she is sailing **close-hauled or above**.

In addition, she shall **not hail** if the **obstruction is a mark** and a **boat** that is **fetching** it **would be required to change course** as a result of the hail.

I added the quotes around room to tack. RRS don't state verbiage for the hail. Seems for everyone involved to expect a hail to say something similar to “room to tack please”

20.2 Responding

- (a) After a boat hails, she shall give a hailed boat time to respond.
- (b) A **hailed boat shall respond even if the hail breaks rule 20.1**.
- (c) A hailed boat shall **respond** either by **tacking** as soon as possible, **or** by immediately **replying ‘You tack’** and then giving the hailing boat *room* to tack and avoid her.
- (d) When a hailed boat responds, the hailing boat shall tack as soon as possible.
- (e) From the **time a boat hails until** she has **tacked and avoided a hailed boat**, rule **18.2 does not apply** between them.

18.2: Giving mark-room

20.3 Passing On a Hail to an Additional Boat

When a boat has been hailed for *room* to tack and she intends to respond by tacking, she **may hail another boat** on the same *tack for room to tack* and avoid her. She **may hail even if** her hail does **not meet the conditions of rule 20.1**. Rule 20.2 applies between her and a boat she hails.

20.2: Responding

20.4 Additional Requirements for Hails

- (a) When conditions are such that a hail may not be heard, the boat shall also make a signal that clearly indicates her need for *room* to tack or her response.
- (b) The notice of race may specify an alternative communication for a boat to indicate her need for *room* to tack or her response, and require boats to use it.

Plan is to add to sailing instructions. Not a very likely event but no harm to add so everyone knows the plan.

Part 2 – When Boats Meet continued:**SECTION D – Other Rules**

When rule 21 or 22 applies between two boats, Section A rules do not.

Section A: Right-of-way. Rules 10 – 13.

10 ON OPPOSITE TACKS

11 ON THE SAME TACK, OVERLAPPED

12 ON THE SAME TACK, NOT OVERLAPPED

13 WHILE TACKING

21 STARTING ERRORS; TAKING PENALTIES; BACKING A SAIL

21.1 A boat sailing towards the pre-start side of the starting line or one of its extensions after her starting signal to start or to comply with rule 30.1 shall *keep clear* of a boat not doing so until her hull is completely on the pre-start side.

21.2 A boat taking a penalty shall *keep clear* of one that is not.

21.3 A boat moving astern, or sideways to windward, through the water by backing a sail shall *keep clear* of one that is not.

30.1 I Flag Rule

If flag I has been displayed, and any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line or one of its extensions during the last minute before her starting signal, she shall sail across an extension so that her hull is completely on the pre-start side before she starts.

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. A boat is capsized when her masthead is in the water.

23 INTERFERING WITH ANOTHER BOAT

23.1 If reasonably possible, a boat not racing shall not interfere with a boat that is racing.

23.2 If reasonably possible, a boat shall not interfere with a boat that is taking a penalty, sailing on another leg, or subject to rule 21.1.

However, after the starting signal this rule does not apply when the boat is sailing her proper course.

After the starting signal, if you're sailing your proper course, you don't have to worry about interfering with boats taking a penalty or subject to rule 21.1. As we know from the Proper Course definition, "a boat has no proper course before her starting signal."