

Part 2 WHEN BOATS MEET

The rules of Part 2 apply between boats that are sailing in or near the racing area and intend to race, are racing, or have been racing. However, a boat not racing shall not be penalized for breaking one of these rules, except rule [14](#) when the incident resulted in injury or serious damage, or rule [23.1](#).

When a boat sailing under these rules meets a vessel that is not, she shall comply with the [International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea](#) (IRPCAS) or government right-of-way rules. If the notice of race so state, the rules of Part 2 are replaced by the right-of-way rules of the IRPCAS or by government right-of-way rules.

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 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.

13. WHILE TACKING

After a boat passes head to wind, she shall keep clear of other boats until she is on a close-hauled course. During that time rules [10](#), [11](#) and [12](#) do not apply. If two boats are subject to this rule at the same time, the one on the other's port side or the one astern shall keep clear.

Section B GENERAL LIMITATIONS

14. AVOIDING CONTACT

A boat shall avoid contact with another boat if reasonably possible. However, a right-of-way boat or one sailing within the room or mark-room to which she is entitled 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.

In addition, on a beat to windward when a port-tack boat is keeping clear by sailing to pass to leeward of a starboard-tack boat, the starboard-tack boat shall not bear away if as a result the port-

tack boat must change course immediately to continue keeping clear.

17. ON THE SAME TACK; PROPER COURSE

If a boat clear astern becomes overlapped within two of her hull lengths to leeward of a boat on the same tack, she shall not sail above her proper course while they remain on the same tack and overlapped within that distance, unless in doing so she promptly sails astern of the other boat. This rule does not apply if the overlap begins while the windward boat is required by rule [13](#) to keep clear.