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 states, 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 boats 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

If reasonably possible, a boat shall

(a) avoid contact with another boat,

(b) not cause contact between boats, and

(c) not cause contact between a boat and an object that should be avoided.

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.

SECTION C
AT MARKS AND OBSTRUCTIONS

*Section C rules do not apply between boats when the **mark** or **obstruction** referred to in those rules is a starting **mark** surrounded by navigable water or its anchor line, from the time the boats are approaching it to **start** until they have left it astern.*

18 MARK-ROOM

18.1 When Rule 18 Applies

(a) Rule 18 applies between boats when they are required to leave a *mark* on the same side and at least one of them is in the *zone*. However, it does not apply

(1) between boats on opposite *tacks* on a beat to windward,

(2) between boats on opposite *tacks* when the *proper course* at the *mark* for one but not both of them is to tack,

(3) between a boat approaching a *mark* and one leaving it, or

(4) if the *mark* is a *continuing obstruction*, in which case rule 19 applies.

(b) Rule 18 no longer applies between boats when *mark-room* has been given.

18.2 Giving Mark-Room

(a) When the first of two boats reaches the *zone*,

(1) if the boats are *overlapped*, the outside boat at that moment shall give the inside boat *mark-room*;

(2) if the boats are not *overlapped*, the boat that has not reached the *zone* at that moment shall give the other boat *mark-room*.

When a boat is required to give *mark-room* by this rule, she shall continue to do so for as long as this rule applies, even if later an *overlap* is broken or a new *overlap* begins.

(b) Rule 18.2(a) no longer applies if the boat entitled to *mark-room* passes head to wind or leaves the *zone*.

(c) When rule 18.2(a) does not apply and the boats are *overlapped*, the outside boat shall give the inside boat *mark-room*.

(d) If a boat obtained an inside *overlap* from *clear astern* or by tacking to *windward* of the other boat and, from the time the *overlap* began, the outside boat has been unable to give *mark-room*, rules 18.2(a) and 18.2(c) do not apply between them.

(e) If there is reasonable doubt that a boat obtained or broke an *overlap* in time, it shall be presumed that she did not.

18.3 Tacking in the Zone

If a boat passes head to wind from *port* to *starboard* *tack* in the *zone* of a *mark* to be left to port, rule 18.2 does not apply between her and another boat on *starboard* *tack* that is *fetching* the *mark*. If the other boat has been on *starboard* *tack* since entering the *zone*, the boat that passed head to wind

(a) shall not cause the other boat to sail above close-hauled to avoid contact, and

(b) shall give *mark-room* if the other boat becomes *overlapped* inside her.

18.4 Gybing in the Zone

When an inside *overlapped* right-of-way boat must gybe at a *mark* to sail her *proper course*, until she gybes she shall sail no farther from the *mark* than needed to sail that course. Rule 18.4 does not apply at a gate *mark*.

19 ROOM TO PASS AN OBSTRUCTION

19.1 When Rule 19 Applies

Rule 19 applies between two boats at an *obstruction* except when rule 18 applies between them and

(a) the *obstruction* is the *mark*, or

(b) the *obstruction* is another boat *overlapped* with each of them.

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

19.2 Giving Room at an Obstruction

(a) A right-of-way boat may choose to pass an *obstruction* on her port or starboard side. If a right-of-way boat changes course when choosing on which side to pass the *obstruction*, she shall give the other boat *room* to *keep clear*.

(b) When the 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.

(c) 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,

(1) she is not entitled to *room* under rule 19.2(b), and

(2) while the boats remain *overlapped*, she shall *keep clear* and rules 10 and 11 do not apply.

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* by hailing 'Room to 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.

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.

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.

20.4 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.

SECTION D
OTHER RULES

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

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.

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*.