

# RANSA

## 2025 CHANGES TO THE RACING RULES

John Allan

# RANSA Rules Presentation

- Review
  - Fair Sailing, Rules Problems, Lookout and Foresight
  - When Boats Meet, Right of Way, Room, Mark-room
- 2025 Changes to When Boats Meet Rules
  - Avoiding and Causing Contact
  - At Marks and Obstructions
- 2025 Other Changes
  - Start, Finish, Sail the Course
  - Protests and Hearings
  - Other Changes
- Questions

# RANSA Rules Presentation

Questions?

# RANSA Rules Presentation

- **Fundamental Rules – Fair Sailing**

## **2 FAIR SAILING**

*A boat and her owner shall compete in compliance with recognized principles of sportsmanship and fair play.*

# RANSA Rules Presentation

## How Rules Problems Happen

- Misjudgement of:
  - Space and time between boats
  - Time needed to set up and execute a manoeuvre
- Sometimes when several boats and several rules are in play.

# RANSA Rules Presentation

## Avoiding Contact

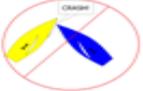
### ***14 AVOIDING CONTACT***

*A boat shall avoid contact with another boat if reasonably possible.*

- Lookout and Foresight

# RANSA Rules Presentation

## When Boats Meet – Right of Way

|                                                                                            |                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| don't hit other boats                                                                      |    |
| port and starboard                                                                         |    |
| while tacking                                                                              |    |
| windward leeward                                                                           |    |
| clear astern/clear ahead                                                                   |   |
| Don't mess with a boat that is keeping clear of you                                        |                                                                                       |
| Don't run another boat off the racecourse or into something like an obstruction or a mark. |  |

# RANSA Rules Presentation

Questions?

# RANSA Rules Presentation

## **2025 Changes to When Boats Meet Rules**

- Avoiding Contact, Avoiding Causing Contact

# Avoid Contact, Avoid Causing Contact

Rule 14 has always said

*If reasonably possible, a boat shall*

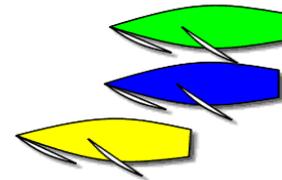
*a) avoid contact with another boat,*

It now also says

*b) not cause contact between boats, and*

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

# Avoid Contact, Avoid Causing Contact



Avoid Contact, Avoid Causing Contact

Questions?

# At Marks and Obstructions

## 2025 Changes to When Boats Meet Rules

- At Marks and Obstructions
  - At a Starting Mark
  - Mark-room
    - Definition of mark-room
    - Rule 18.2 Giving mark-room
    - Rule 18.3 Tacking in the zone
  - Obstructions
    - Definitions Obstruction, Continuing Obstruction
    - Rule 19.2 Giving Room at an Obstruction
    - Rule 20 Room to tack at an Obstruction

# At Marks and Obstructions

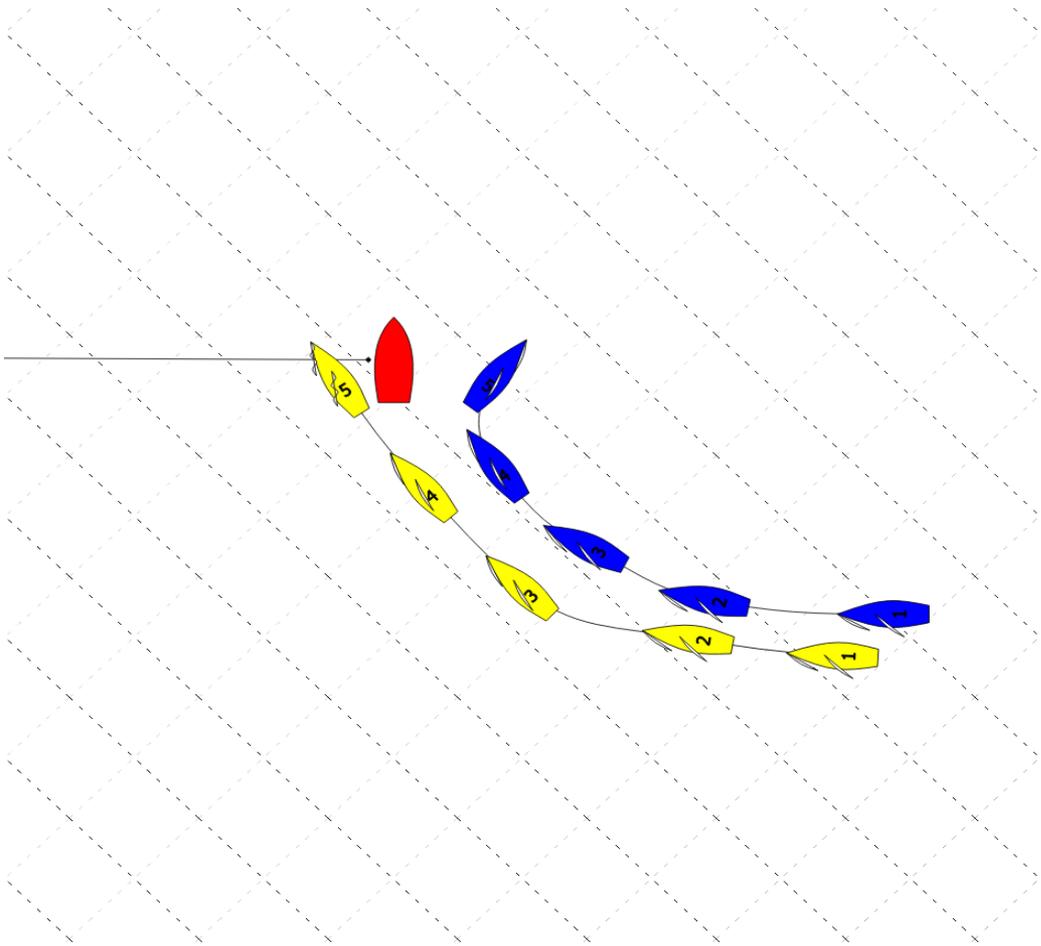
## At a Starting Mark

The Preamble to Part 2 Section C At Marks and Obstructions says

- *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**.*

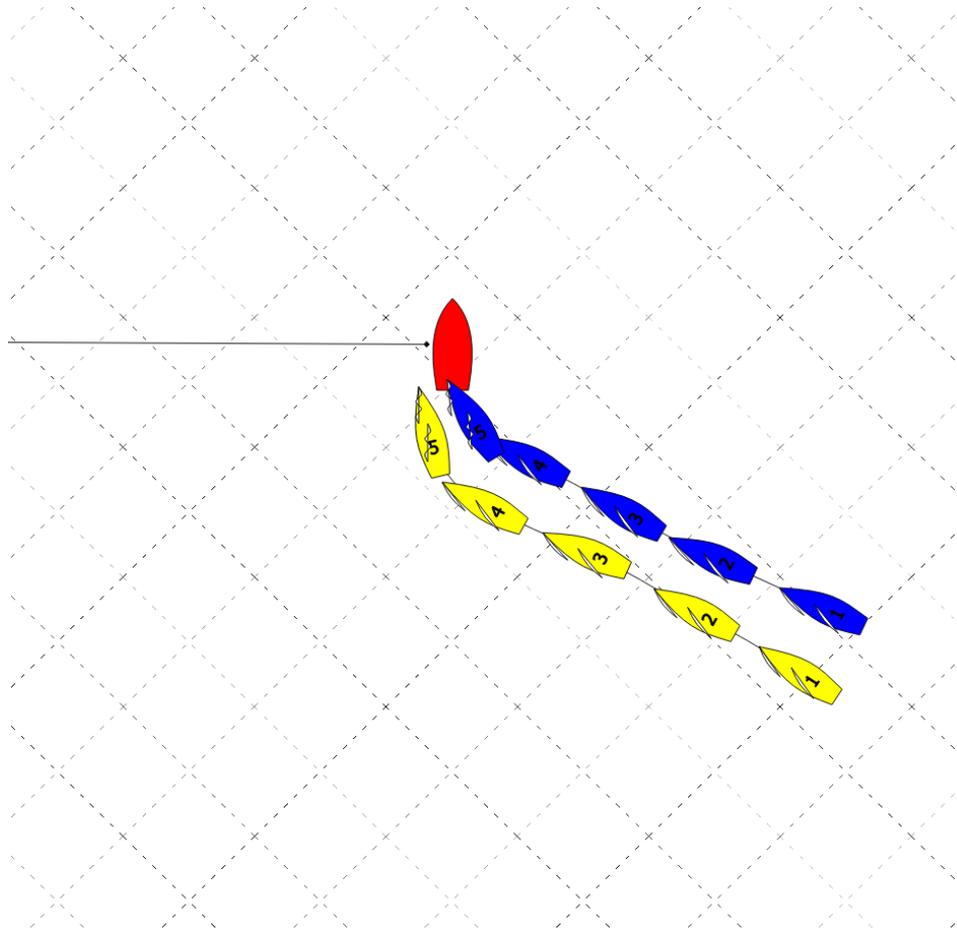
# At Marks and Obstructions

## At a Starting Mark



# At Marks and Obstructions

## At a Starting Mark

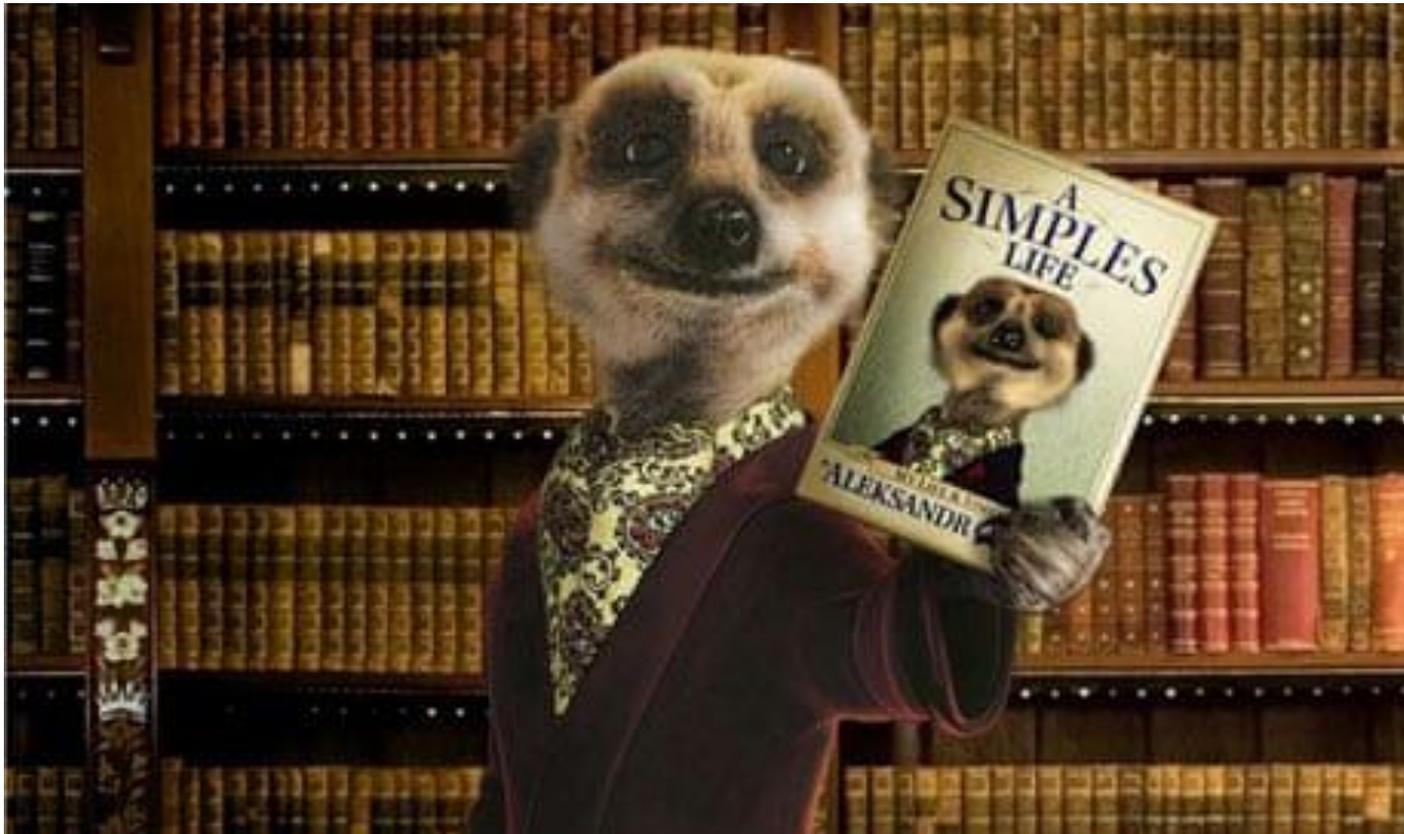


At Marks and Obstructions

Questions?

# Mark-room

## Definition of mark-room Simples



# Mark-room

## Definition of mark-room

***Mark-Room*** Room for a boat

- (a) to sail to the *mark* when her *proper course* is to sail close to it,
- (b) to round or pass the *mark* on the required side, and
- (c) to leave it astern.

Mark-room has been given when an entitled boat leaves the mark-astern

# Mark-room

**Definition of mark-room**

# Questions?

# Mark-room

## Rule 18.2 Giving Mark-room

### 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*.

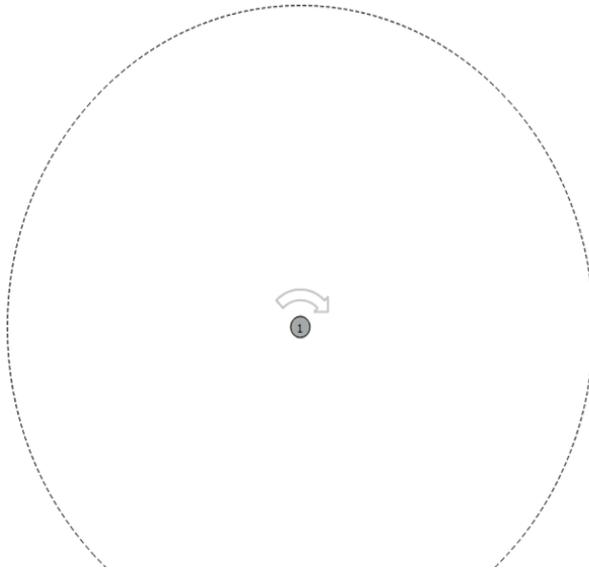
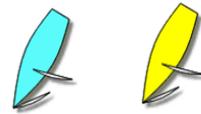
# Mark-room

## Rule 18.2 Giving 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.

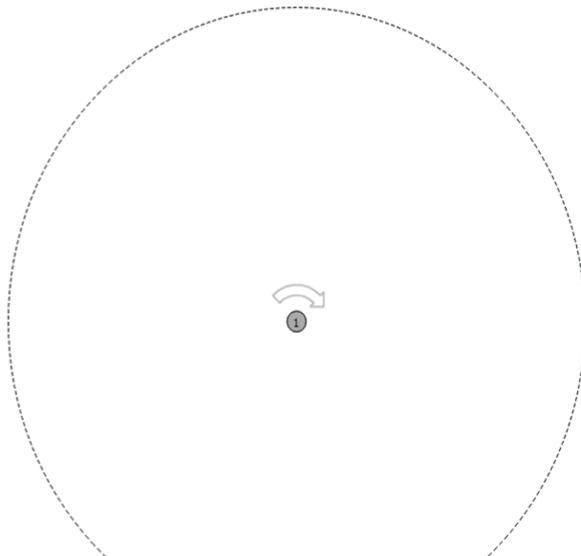
# Mark-room

## Rule 18.2 Giving Mark-room



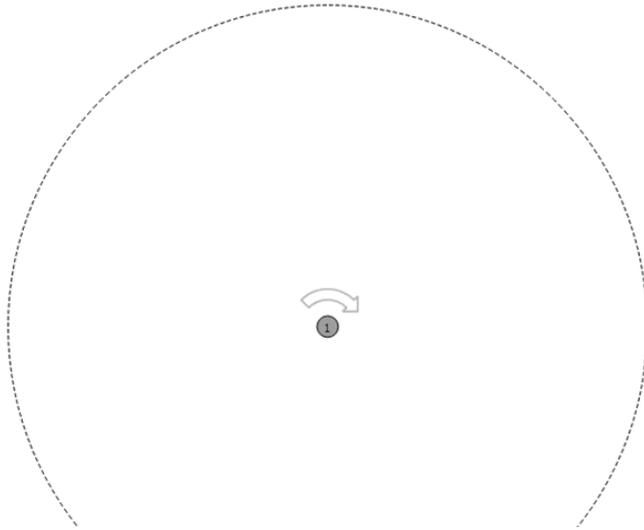
# Mark-room

## Rule 18.2 Giving Mark-room



# Mark-room

## Rule 18.2 Giving Mark-room



# Mark-room

**Rule 18.2 Giving Mark-room - rearrangement**

# Questions?

# Mark-room

## Change to Rule 18.2 Boats not overlapped

Old rule 18.2(b) said

*If a boat is clear ahead when she reaches the zone, the boat clear astern at that moment shall thereafter give her mark-room.*

2025 rule 18.2 now provides

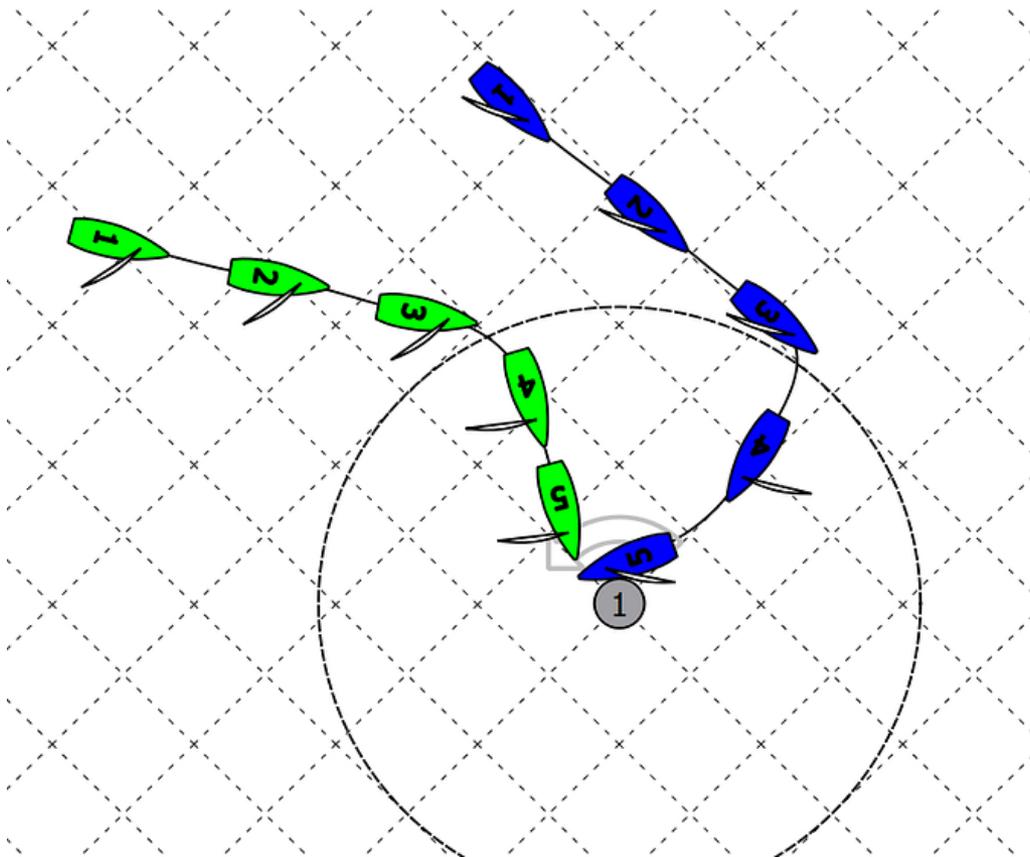
*When the first of two boats reaches the zone, ... if the boats are not overlapped, the boat that has not reached zone, at that moment shall give the other boat mark-room.*

So it's now 'first to the zone'

# Mark-room

## Change to Rule 18.2 Boats not overlapped

Rare Situation



# Mark-room

**Change to Rule 18.2 Boats not overlapped**

# Questions?

# Mark-room

## Rule 18.3 Tacking in the zone

Here's the 2025 rule

### ***18.3 Tacking in the Zone***

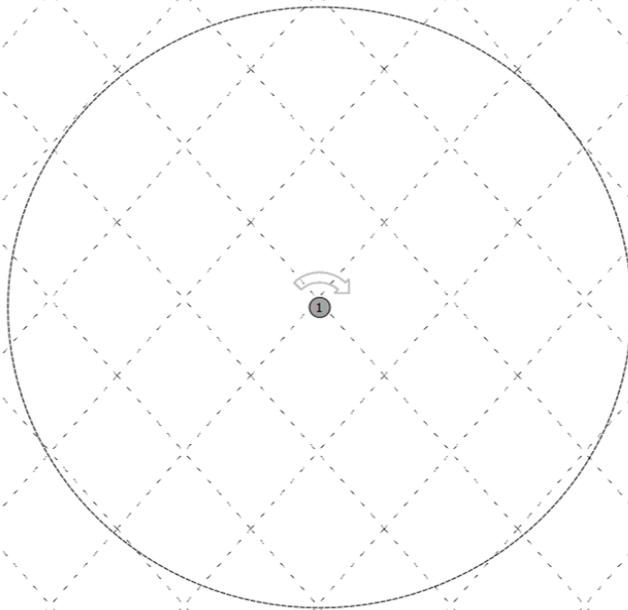
*If a boat passes head to wind from port to starboard tack in the zone of a mark to be left to port, rule 18.2 does not apply between her and another boat on starboard tack that is fetching the mark. If the other boat has been on starboard tack since entering the zone, the boat that passed head to wind*

- 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.*

# Mark-room

## Rule 18.3 Tacking in the zone

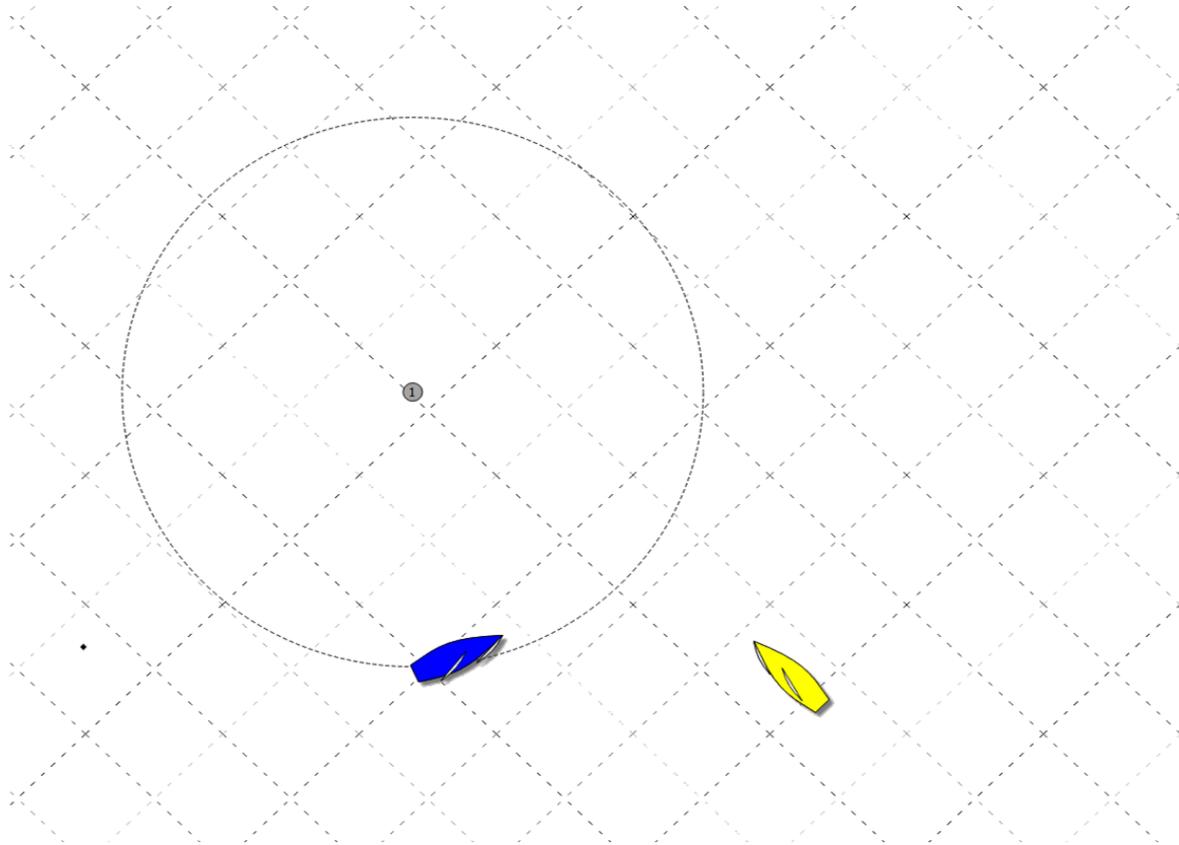
Rule 18.3 does NOT apply at a starboard mark



# Mark-room

## Rule 18.3 Tacking in the zone

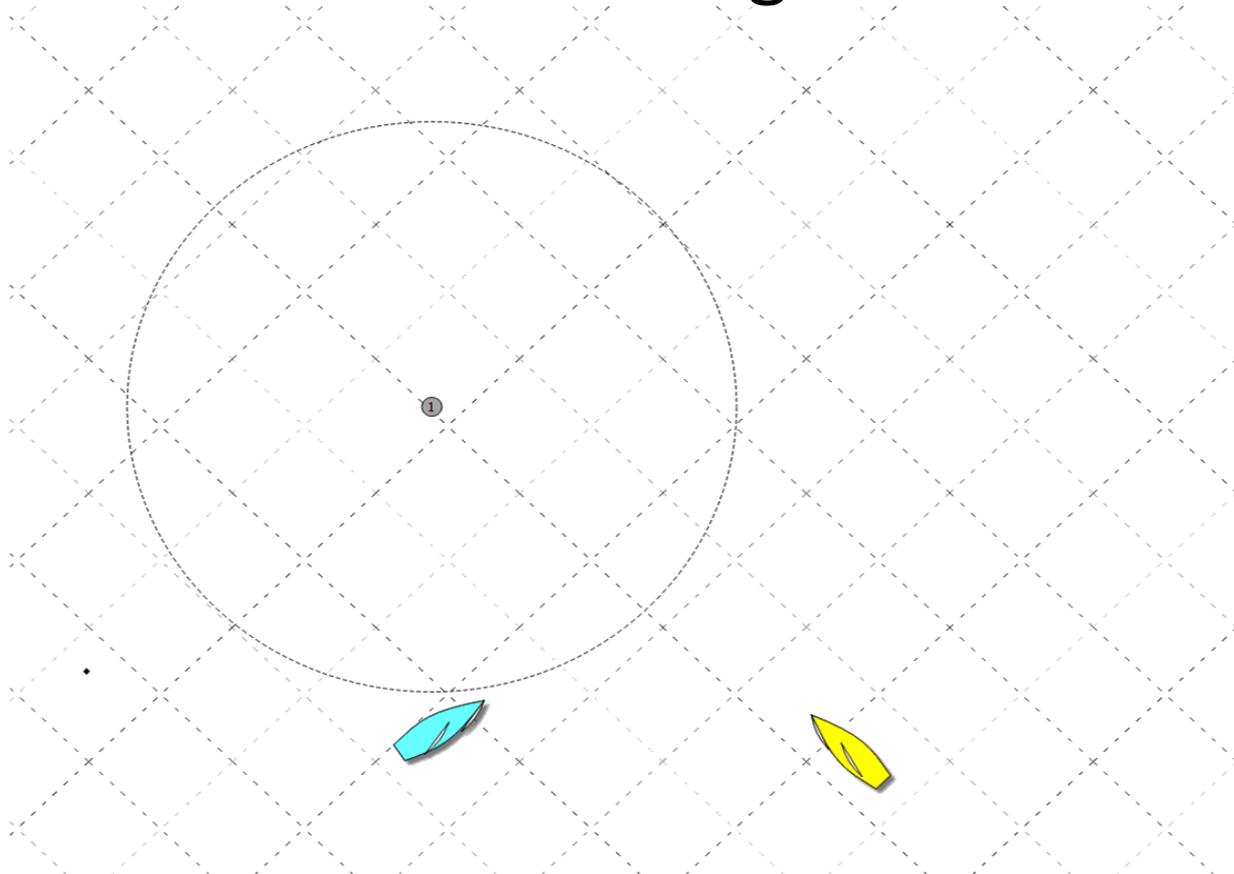
### Common Case Tacking Boat inside Other Boat



# Mark-room

## Rule 18.3 Tacking in the zone

Common Case Tacking Boat outside Other Boat



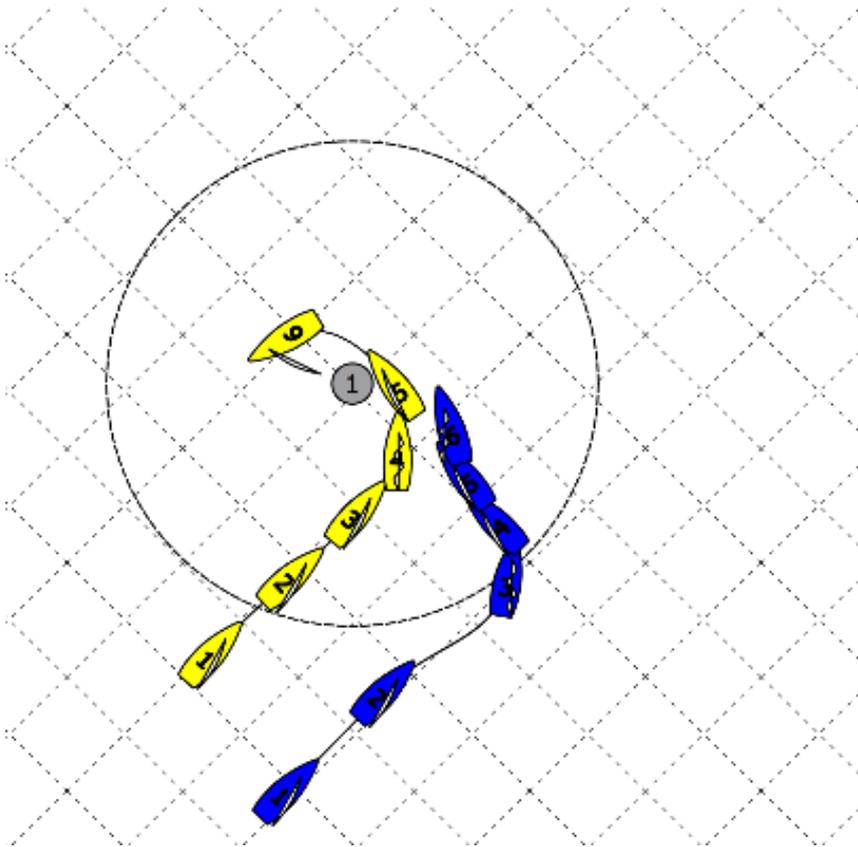
# Mark-room

## Rule 18.3 Tacking in the zone

- Fetching the mark now applies to the other boat
- 2 Step process
  - Other boat on starboard and fetching: Rule 18.2 OFF
  - Other boat has been fetching since entering the zone: Rule 18.3(a) and (b) ON

# Mark-room

## Rule 18.3 Tacking in the zone



**Both boats tack in the zone**  
**@3 B passes head to wind in the zone**

**@4 Y passes head to wind, Rule 18.3 applies to switch OFF Rule 18.2.**

**B has not been on starboard since entering the zone: Rules 18.3(a) and (b) do NOT apply: only Right of way and room to keep clear rules apply.**

# Mark-room

**Rule 18.3 Tacking in the zone**

# Questions?

# Obstructions

## Definition of Obstruction

Here is the Definition of Obstruction

***Obstruction*** *An obstruction is*

- a) 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;*
- b) an object that is so designated in a rule;*
- c) an object that can be safely passed on only one side; or*
- d) an area or line in a rule that boats are prohibited from entering or crossing.*

*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.*

# Obstructions

## Definition of Continuing Obstruction

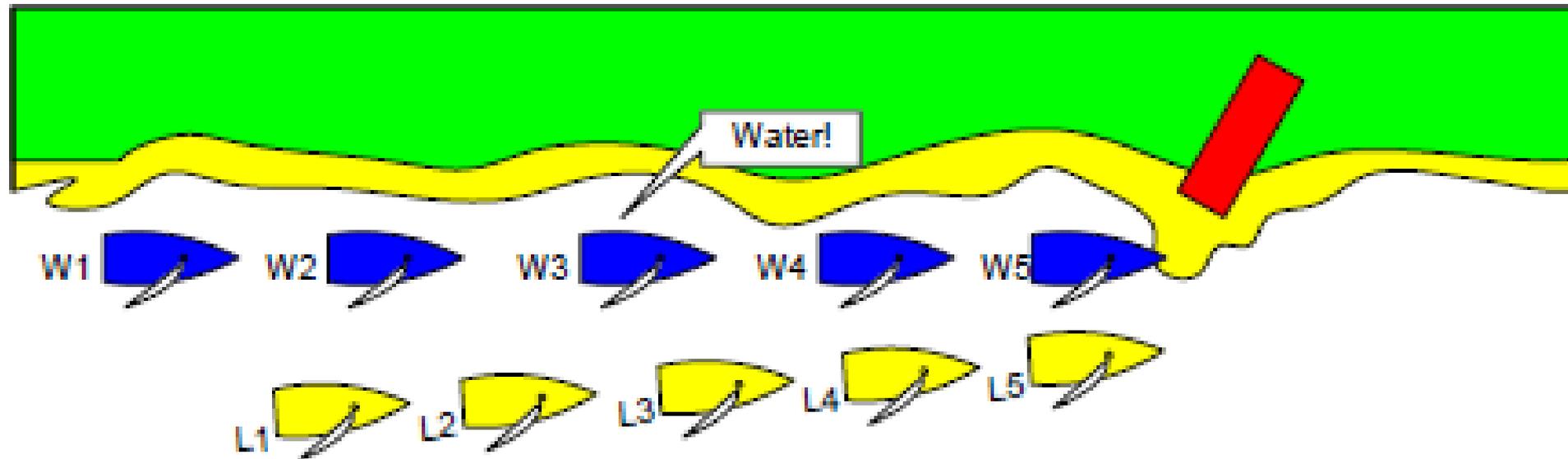
Here is the new definition of Continuing Obstruction.

***Continuing Obstruction*** *An obstruction is a continuing obstruction when the boat with the shortest hull referred to in the rule using the term will pass alongside it for at least three of her hull lengths. However, the following are not a continuing obstruction:*

- *a vessel under way,*
- *a boat racing, or*
- *a race committee vessel that is also a mark*

# Obstructions

## Example of a Continuing Obstruction



# Obstructions

## Rules where 'continuing obstruction' appears

### Rule 18.1 When Rule 18 Applies

- Rule 18 does not apply if the *mark* is a *continuing obstruction*, in which case rule 19 applies

### Rule 19.1 When Rule 19 Applies

- At a *continuing obstruction*, rule 19 always applies and rule 18 does not.

### Rule 19.2 Giving Room at an Obstruction

- (a) 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,

# Obstructions

**Obstructions - Definitions**

# Questions?

# Obstructions

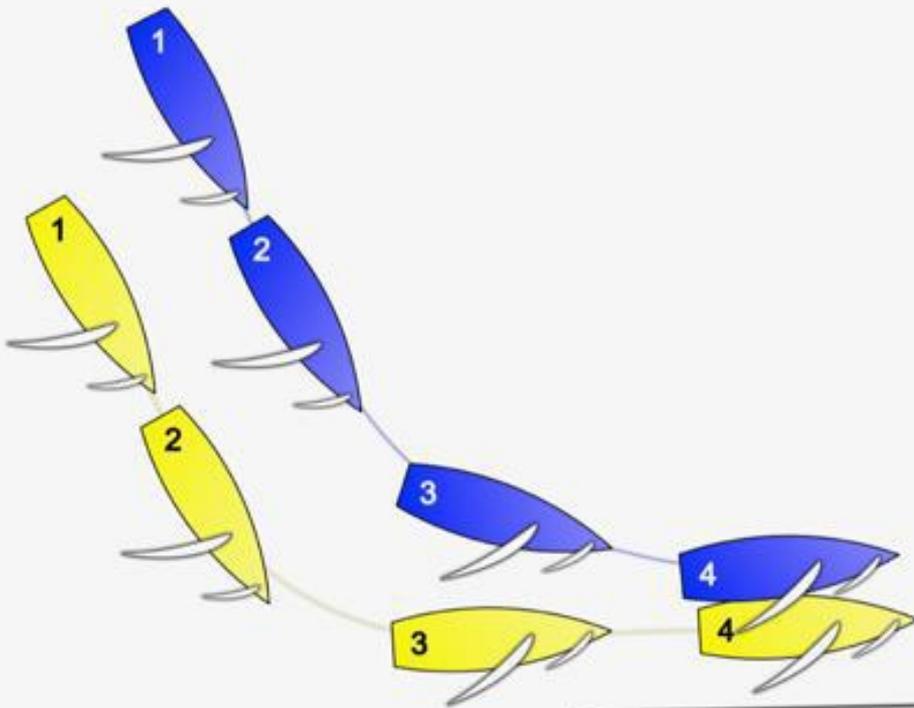
## **Rule 19.2 Giving Room at an Obstruction**

The following has been added to Rule 19.2(a)

*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.*

# Obstructions

## Rule 19.2 Giving Room at an Obstruction



# Obstructions

**Rule 19.2 Giving Room at an Obstruction**

# Questions?

# Room to tack

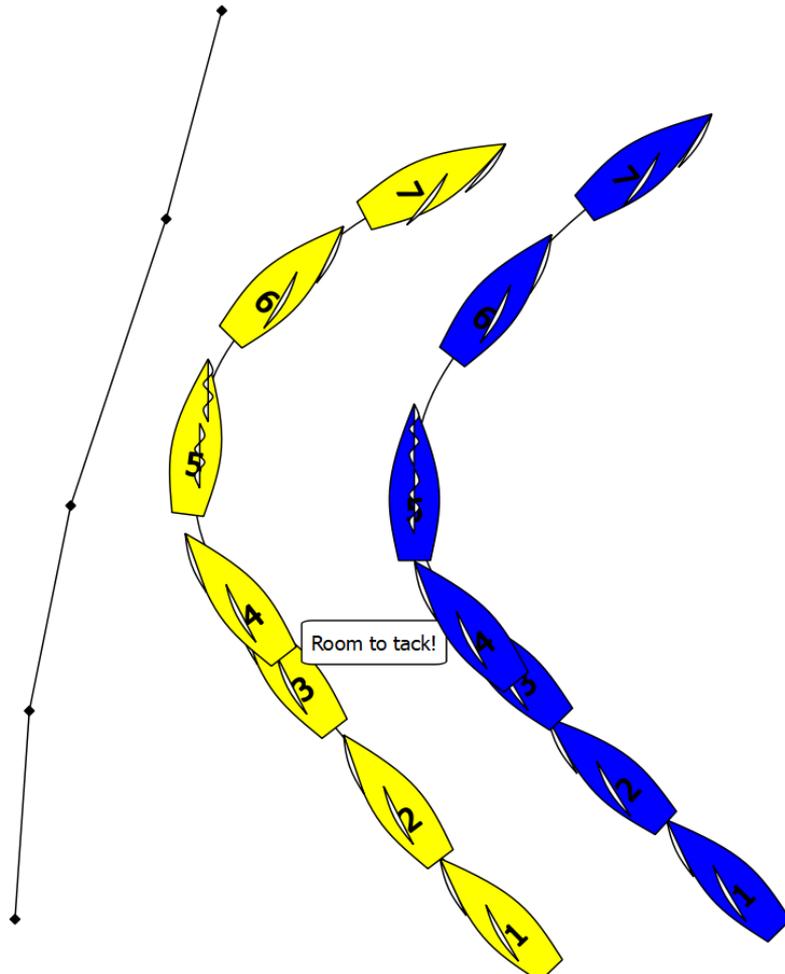
## Rule 20.1 Hailing

Rule 20.1 Hailing says

*A boat may hail for room to tack and avoid a boat on the same tack **by hailing** 'Room to tack'.*

# Room to tack

## Rule 20.1 Hailing Room to tack Example



# Room to tack

**Rule 20.1 Hailing for Room to tack**

# Questions?

# RANSA Rules Presentation

## **2025 Other Changes**

- Start, Finish, Sail the Course
- Protests and Hearings
- Other Changes

# Other Changes

## **Start, Finish, and Sail the Course, Rule 28**

Lot of Deck Chair moving



No change to the game

# Other Changes

## Start, Finish, and Sail the Course, Rule 28

Rule 28 used to say

*A boat shall start, sail the course, and finish.*

The defined terms *start* and *finish* have now been moved into the definition of *sail the course*, where the old stretched string rule has been since 2021.

In 2025 it says

*A boat shall sail the course.*

# Other Changes

## **Start, Finish, and Sail the Course, Rule 28**

It still means simply that

You must *start, sail around the course, and finish.*

Also

A boat may correct any errors in sailing the course, provided she has not finished

# Other Changes

**Start, Finish, and Sail the Course, Rule 28**

# Questions?

# Other Changes

## **Part 5 Protests and Hearings**

Major rewrite and restructuring, so that all the rule numbers will change.

Not intended to make any significant game change

# Other Changes

## **Part 5 Protests and Hearings**

- Protests are part of the game
- If you think a boat has broken a rule and should be penalised
- On the water, as soon as possible (immediately)
  - Hail ‘protest’
  - Fly your red flag
- Ashore, if you want to go on, deliver your protest form

# Other Changes

## Part 5 Protests and Hearings

- Penalties
  - On Water Turns Penalties
    - 1 Turn for hitting a mark
    - 2 Turns for any other boat vs boat incident
  - Post Race Penalties
    - 30% Scoring Penalty, after coming ashore, looking up the rule book and thinking about it.
  - Retirement: Injury, Serious Damage, Significant Advantage

# Other Changes

## **Part 5 Protests and Hearings**

# Questions?

# Other Changes

## **Other Changes**

Lots of minor editorial changes

Not intended to significantly change the game

# RANSA Rules Presentation

## Summary

- 2025 Changes to When Boats Meet Rules
  - Avoiding and Causing Contact
  - At Marks and Obstructions
- 2025 Other Changes
  - Start, Finish, Sail the Course
  - Protests and Hearings
  - Other Changes

# RANSA Rules Presentation

- Thank you for coming along, I hope you've enjoyed the presentation
- Questions

*Are there any questions???*