



AMERICA'S CUP

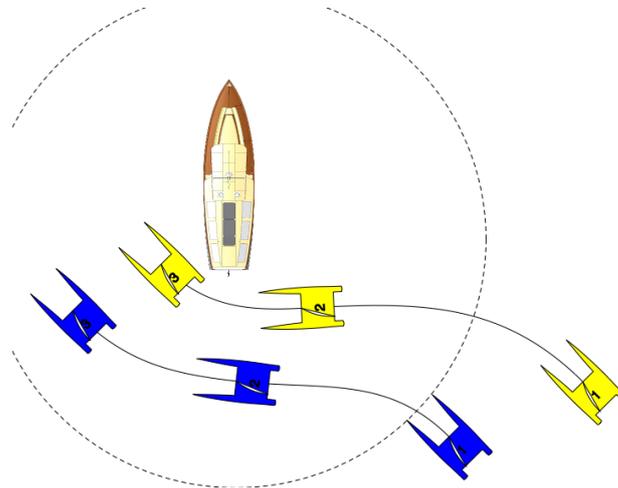
AC35 Umpire Call 03

Rule 19 Room To Pass An Obstruction

Definitions Obstruction

Question A:

Blue and Yellow are approaching a spectator boat that is within the course boundary. Blue bears away to go astern of the spectator boat and Yellow bears away to also go astern of the spectator boat. Blue has to bear away further in order for Yellow to pass between her and the spectator boat. Blue Y flag protests at position 3, what should the call be?



Answer A:

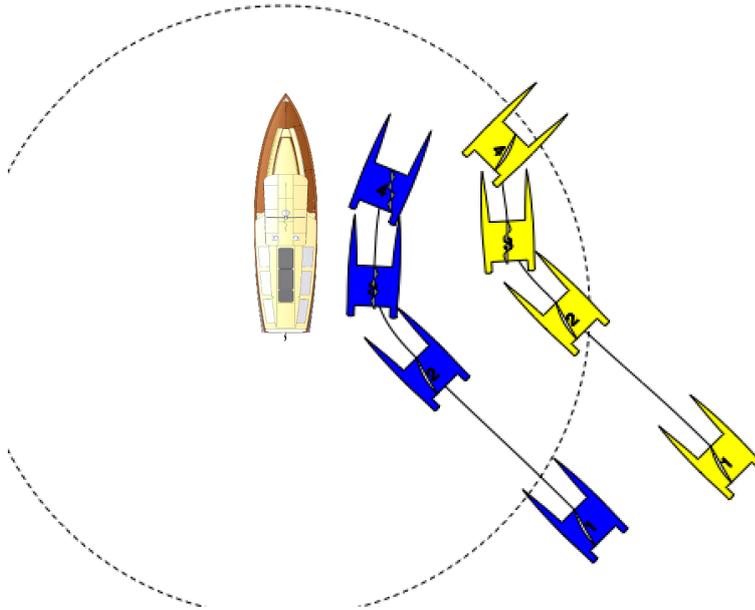
Signal 'No Penalty'.

The spectator boat is an obstruction. Blue is the leeward, right of way yacht and chooses to go astern of the spectator boat. Rule 19.2(b) requires Blue to give Yellow room at the obstruction while the yachts are overlapped. Blue has given Yellow this room.

Blue only needs to give Yellow room at the obstruction while Yellow is the inside overlapped yacht and Blue is able to give the room once the overlap begins

Question B:

Blue and Yellow are approaching a spectator boat that is within the course boundary. Blue luffs to pass the boat on her port side. Blue then tacks to avoid the spectator boat. Yellow has to avoid Blue when Blue is on port and Yellow on Starboard. Yellow Y flag protests at position 4, what should the call be?



Answer B:

Signal 'No Penalty'.

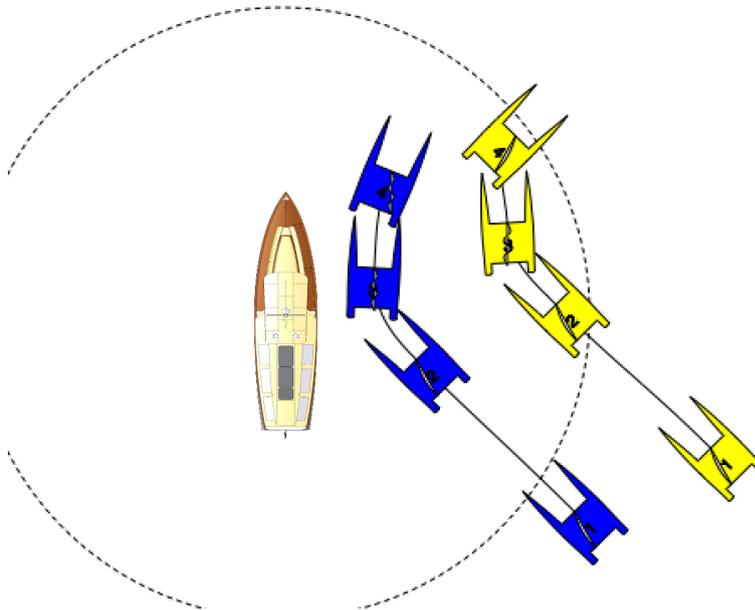
The spectator boat is an obstruction. Blue is the leeward, right of way yacht and chooses to pass the spectator boat on the port side. When Blue is passing the obstruction, the only way to continue to keep clear of the obstruction is to tack. Rule 19.2(b) requires Yellow to give Blue room at the obstruction while the yachts are overlapped and to give Blue room to tack once Blue is taking the obstruction to port. Yellow has given Blue this room.



Question C:

In a similar scenario as Question B, the only difference is the approach position of Blue relative to the spectator boat.

Blue and Yellow are approaching a spectator boat that is within the course boundary. Blue luffs to pass the boat on her port side. Blue then tacks to avoid the spectator boat. Yellow has to avoid Blue when Blue is on port and Yellow on Starboard. Yellow Y flag protests at position 4, what should the call be?



Answer C:

Penalize Blue.

When the umpires are certain that Blue had an option to luff on starboard and then bear away over the front of the obstruction then the room entitled to Blue in rule 19.2 does not include room to tack.

NOTE: For the umpires to be certain that Blue does not need to tack, they will take into account current, weather conditions, the speed of Blue and the size of the obstruction that Blue must avoid.

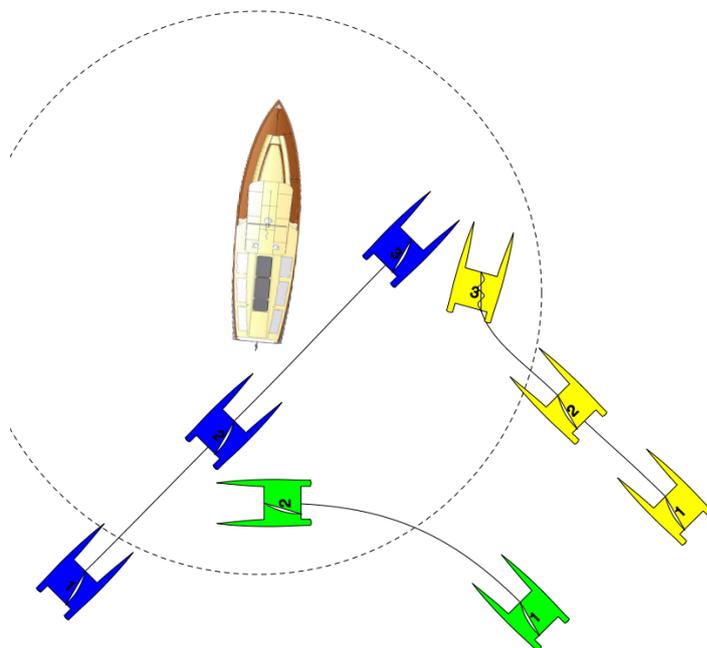


Question D:

At position 2, Green (starboard tack) has to change course to avoid Blue (on port tack).
Green Y flag protests at position 2.

At position 3, Yellow (starboard tack) has to change course to avoid Blue (on port tack).
Yellow Y flag protests at position 3.

What should the calls be?



Answer D:

Rule 19 applies when Blue reaches the zone of the obstruction (the spectator boat). When rule 19 first applied Green and Yellow are the right-of-way yacht (in relation to Blue). The umpires are certain that Green's course is to leave the obstruction to starboard and Yellow's course is to leave the obstruction to port.

Blue is the outside overlapped yacht to Green and also is required under rule 10 to keep clear of Green. Blue did not keep clear of Green (rule 10). Penalty Blue for incident at position 2.

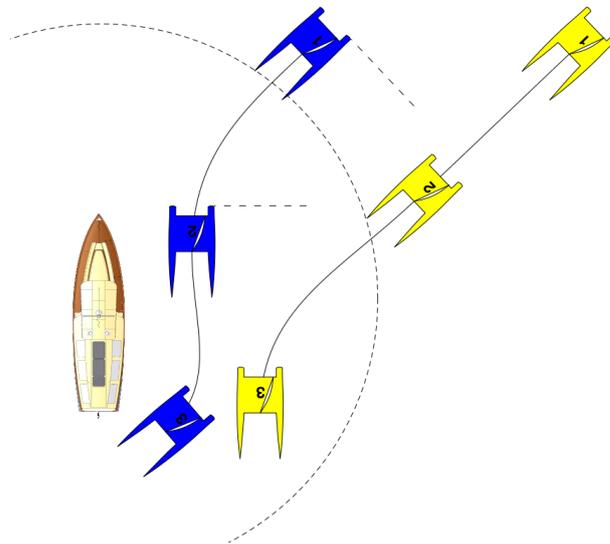
Blue is the inside overlapped yacht to Yellow and both yachts are passing the obstruction on the port side (rule 19 applies). Blue is entitled to room at the obstruction and this room includes the space to continue on port and then tack at a position no further than to clear



the obstruction on starboard. Blue has not taken any more room than she is entitled to. Signal 'No Penalty' for the incident at position 3.

Question E:

Blue and Yellow are approaching a spectator boat that is within the course boundary. Blue is clear ahead at the zone of the spectator boat and has an option to sail either side of the spectator boat. Blue bears away and leaves the spectator boat to starboard. Yellow, sailing faster, becomes overlapped to leeward of Blue and then has to bear away to avoid Blue at position 3. Yellow Y flag protests at position 3, what should the call be?



Answer E:

Signal 'No Penalty'.

The spectator boat is an obstruction. Blue is the right-of-way yacht at that time and can choose to pass the obstruction on either side. Yellow is right of way yacht when she overlaps to leeward of Blue but is required under rule 19.2(b) to give Blue room. Blue has breached rule 11 but is exonerated under rule 19.3.