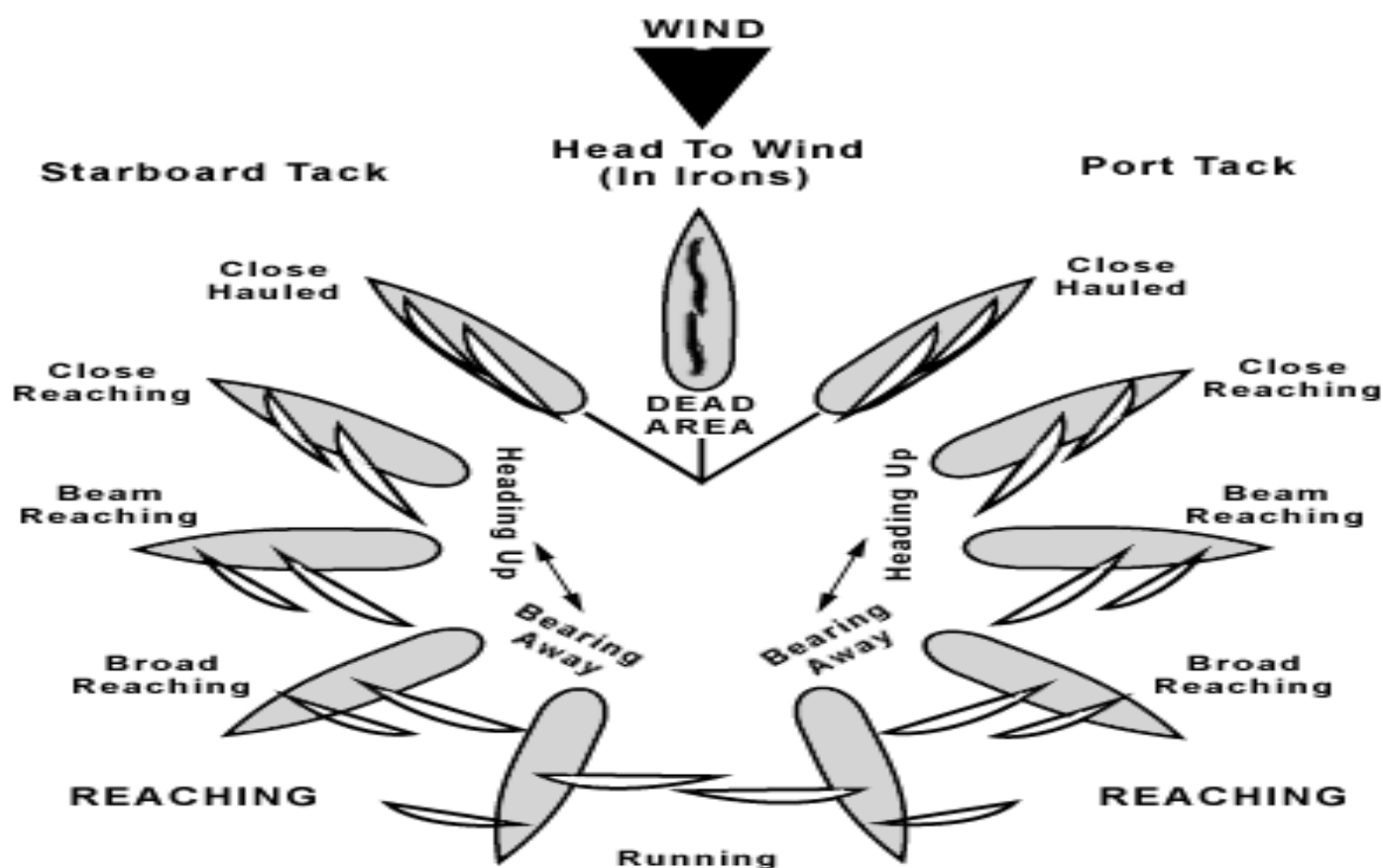


Basic Definitions, Rules and Penalties

DEFINITIONS

TACK, STARBOARD TACK OR PORT TACK AND POINTS OF SAIL: A boat is on the tack, starboard or port, corresponding to her windward side. See Diagram Below



STARBOARD: Right side of the boat

PORT: Left side of the boat

BOW: Front end of the boat.

STERN: Back end of the boat

TACKING: Turning the bow of the boat through the eye of the wind

GYBING: Turning the stern of the boat through the eye of the wind.

LEEWARD AND WINDWARD: A boat's leeward side is the side that is or, when she is head to wind, was away from the wind. However, when sailing by the lee or directly downwind, her leeward side is the side on which her mainsail lies. The other side is her windward side. When two boats on the same tack overlap, the one on the leeward side of the other is the leeward boat. The other is the windward boat.

LUFFING: The fluttering of a sail when a boat is pointed too close to the wind or the sail is eased out too far.

OBSTRUCTION: 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 area 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 give her room. **YOU MUST GIVE WAY TO A BOAT TRYING TO AVOID AN OBSTRUCTION**

BEAT: To sail to windward, also known as sailing close-hauled. (See Diagram)

BLANKETING: A tactical maneuver in which one yacht position is itself to obstruct or disturb its competitor's wind.

BASIC SAILING AND RACING RULES

OVERLAP - CLEAR ASTERN AND CLEAR AHEAD; OVERLAP: One boat is clear astern of another when her hull and equipment in normal position are behind a line abeam from the aftermost point of the other boat's hull and equipment in normal position. The other boat is clear ahead. They overlap when neither is clear astern or when a boat between them overlaps both. These terms do not apply to boats on opposite tacks.

FOUR-ZONE LENGTH: The area around a mark or obstruction within a distance of Four hull lengths of the boat nearer to it.

ON OPPOSITE TACKS: When boats are on opposite tacks, a port-tack boat shall keep clear of a Starboard-tack boat.

RIGHT OF WAY: A boat has right of way when another boat is required to keep clear of her. A Starboard Tack Boat Has Right Of Way over a Port Tack Boat .

ON THE SAME TACK, OVERLAPPED: When boats are on the same tack and overlapped, a windward boat shall keep clear of a leeward boat.

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.

AVOIDING CONTACT: All boats MUST avoid contact at all times. However, a right-of-way boat or one entitled to room

(a) need not act to avoid contact until it is clear that the other boat is not keeping clear or giving room, and

(b) shall not be penalized under this rule unless there is contact that causes damage or injury.

CHANGING COURSE: When after the starting signal a port-tack boat is keeping clear by sailing to pass astern of a starboard-tack boat, the starboard-tack boat shall not change course if as a result the port-tack boat would immediately need to change course to continue keeping clear.

ROUNDING AND PASSING MARKS AND OBSTRUCTIONS:

In rule 18, room is room for an inside boat to round or pass between an outside boat and a mark or obstruction, including room to tack or gybe when either is a normal part of the maneuver. This Rule Applies only when boats are overlapped AND within four boat lengths of the buoy or mark, the outside boat shall give the inside boat room to round or pass the mark or obstruction, and if the inside boat has right of way the outside boat shall also keep clear.

OVER THE STARTING LINE EARLY: A boat or any part of a boat that breaks the line between the two starting buoys/marks prior to the starting gun sounding. No boat may go over the start line within one minute of the starting gun sounding.

PENALTIES

PENALTY: If any of the aforementioned rules are broken the offending boat must complete one circle – that is, one tack and one gybe before rounding the next mark. A boat making a penalty circle shall keep clear of one that is not.

OVER STARTING LINE EARLY: If a boat is over the starting line within one minute of the starting gun the boat(s) must return to the proper side of the start line by going around one end buoy of the start line.