



SMYC 2025 Race Seminar



Presented By: Kiran Bisaccia

Purpose of Racing

- Improve sailing abilities
- Learn the racing rules of sailing in a familiar environment
- Have FUN!



SMYC 2025 Races

- Small boat race series (8 total)
- Oorah Regatta (Sat 1 Nov)

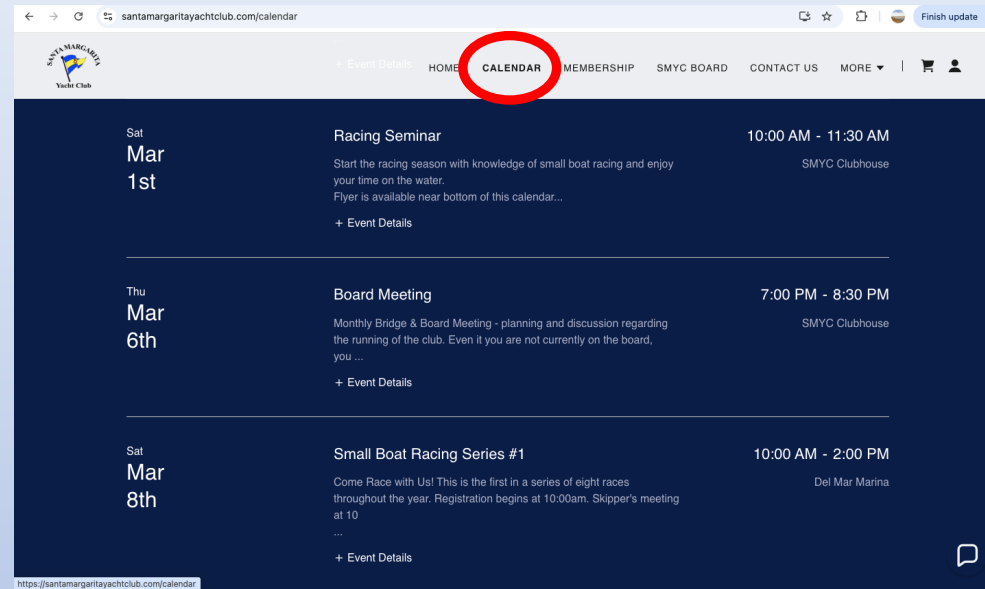
TBD

- Ladies Race
- Seamanship Race
- Frostbite Regatta



Small Boat Race Series Schedule 2025

- 8 March
- 12 April
- 3 May
- 7 June
- 12 July
- 16 August
- 13 September
- 4 October



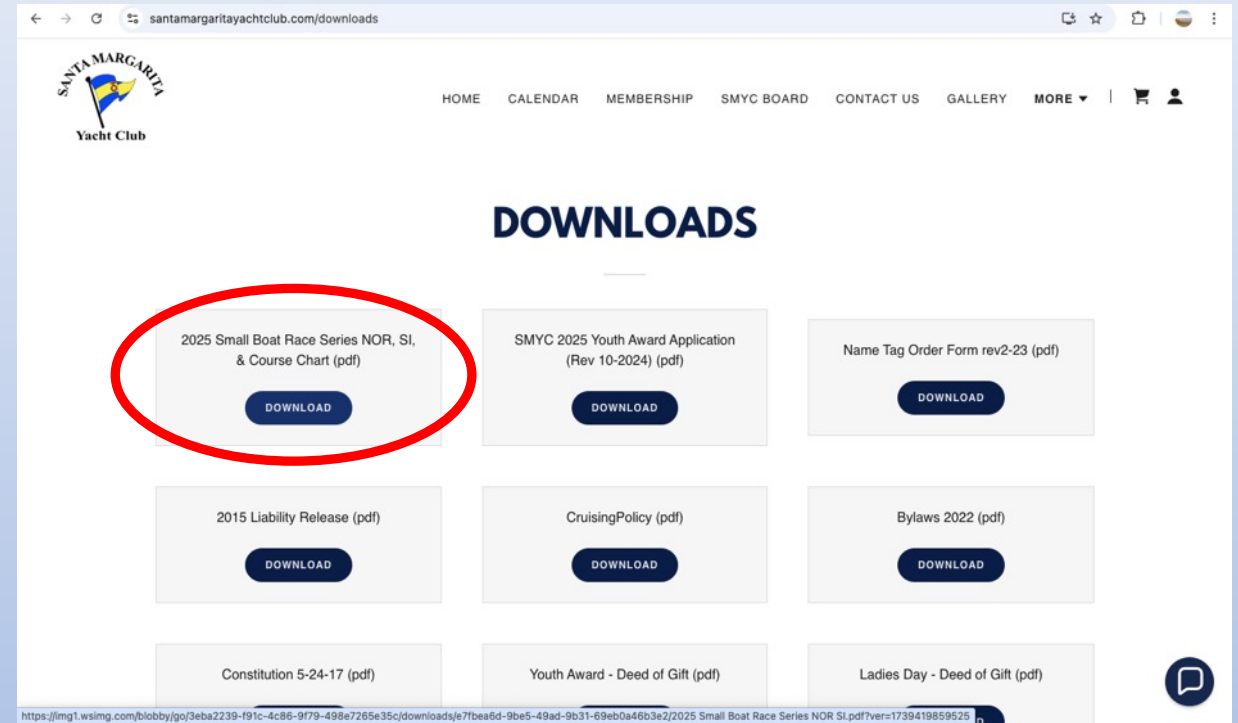
- 25 October: Alternate date in the event of any cancelations to current schedule
- All race dates fall on a Saturday and are posted on the SMYC website calendar

Daily Schedule for Race Day

- 10:00 registration at SMYC clubhouse
- 10:30 Skipper's Meeting at SMYC patio
- 10:45 First race commences with three races held followed by a 30 minute bathroom/lunch break, then back on the water for the final two races
- Up to racers if they want a break or just want to race all five straight through

Sailing Instructions and Notice of Race

- Provide relevant information to specific upcoming race
- Published prior to racing season and applies to all SMYC races
- Covers a lot of what is in this seminar
- Known as “SI”s and “NOR”



Entries

- Open to all skippers who are SMYC members, spouses, and children authorized to rent and sail Capri 16.5' and 9.5' RS Teras
- Eligible skippers/crews will complete a SMYC race entry form and a liability release form prior to beginning of the race
- Late entries will be accepted at the discretion of the Race Committee, boats will be rented on a first come basis
- Boats will be rigged by racing crews
- Two or more boats will make a class for scoring

Liability Forms

- SMYC members must all sign a liability release form prior to racing in the SMYC races
- Racers are not required to have completed any Del Mar Marina sailing classes in order to use the Capris and RS Teras for the SMYC races
- Must be filled out and signed once per calendar year for each racer participating

LIABILITY RELEASE

In consideration of the use of the Santa Margarita Yacht Club, boats and boating facilities of MCCS and the Del Mar Marina, which use is entirely upon my own risk and responsibility and at my request,

I _____ do hereby for myself, my
(Print)

heirs, executors, and administrators, release and forever discharge the Santa Margarita Yacht Club, it's members, and officers, Marine Corps Community Services (MCCS), the United States Marine Corp and the United States Government from any and all claims, demands, actions, or causes of action on account of death or on account of any injury to person or property which may occur from any cause while using any of the boats or boating facilities and programs of said Del Mar Marina or Santa Margarita Yacht Club. Furthermore, I do hereby agree to indemnify MCCS-Del Mar Marina and the Santa Margarita Yacht Club, it's members, board of directors, and officers for all damages to boats, spars, rigging, hardware, sails, etc. which occurs while I am using said equipment **regardless of fault**. Appropriate indemnification will be determined by MCCS Director, Camp Pendleton in coordination with the Santa Margarita Yacht Club Race Committee, not to exceed the actual cost of repairs or replacement value both parts and labor.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
(if under the age of 18, parent or guardian)

Yacht Club: _____

Home Phone: _____

Home Address: _____
(Street - City - Zip)

Boat Classes

- Capri 16.5' (2 person vessel)
- 9.5' RS Tera (1 person vessel)
- Racers can be anyone over the age of 10 years old



Boat Rental

- At the current rates published by MCCS, there is no entry fee and SMYC does not profit from racing/rental fees
- \$30 for use of a Capri
- \$25 for use of a RS Tera
- Payment methods: Cash, check (made out to SMYC race committee member), or pay app (Venmo, Zelle, etc)
- These fees are paid to the race committee upon registration on the day of the race, the race committee then pays a lump sum directly to Del Mar Marina

Racing Area and Course

- Racing area will be in the Del Mar basin and the entry channel
- Course charts are available from the race committee on each race day
- The race committee will signal the course using placards with course in Arabic numbers and laps in roman numerals from the race committee boat/dock



Racing Area and Course

- Marks will be orange ball shaped floats 18" in diameter
- Standard right of way rules per the COLREGS apply when encountering any vessel in the channel or basin



Start of the Race

- Check-Ins on the Water:
 - Before the warning signal of the first race of the day, each boat shall sail past the race committee on starboard tack and announce her sail number
- Races will be started in accordance with rule 26 using a five-minute sequence (with an “intention signal” of five horn blasts at the six-minute mark)



(no sound)

Orange flag.
The staff
displaying
this flag is
one end of the
starting line.

Start of the Race

- The starting line will be between an orange flag on the committee boat/dock and an orange ball shaped float
- Boats' class whose warning signal has not yet been made shall keep clear of the starting area and all boats whose warning signal has been made



Starting Signals



Pennant 1 ↑ • • ↓ •



Pennant 2 ↑ • • ↓ •

Class 1

Class 2



↑ • ↓ —

P Preparatory
signal.

Starting Signals



Starting Sequence

<i>Minutes before starting signal</i>	<i>Visual signal</i>	<i>Sound signal</i>	<i>Means</i>
5*	Class flag	One	Warning signal
4	P, I, Z, Z with I, U, or black flag	One	Preparatory signal
1	Preparatory flag removed	One long	One minute
0	Class flag removed	One	Starting signal

Multiple Laps

- When more than one lap is ordered, a boat shall complete each lap by crossing the finish line from the direction of the last mark
- When this requires crossing from the direction opposite of the start, the boat shall sail through the line, and round the line mark farthest from the race committee station, and then assume her proper course on the first leg of the next lap

Finishing

- The finish line will be between a blue flag on the committee boat/dock and an orange ball shaped float
- Race Committee will sound a short horn blast when each boat crosses the finish line
- After starting and before finishing, boats shall not sail through the finish line except to complete a lap of a multi-lap race



(no sound)

Blue flag.
The staff
displaying
this flag is
one end of the
finishing line.

Finishing



Scoring

- The low point scoring system, Appendix A of the RRS will apply, accumulated for the day and season
- The first boat across the finish line is scored as one point, each subsequent boat to finish is given one additional point (per vessel)
- Two or more boats will make a class for scoring

Scoring

- Racers may adjust their Series score by discarding the results of 4 individual races out of the 2024 series
- A boat that did not compete/start, did not finish, retired after finishing, or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in that day's races
- Racers must be in a Del Mar Marina Capri or RS Tera in order to be scored

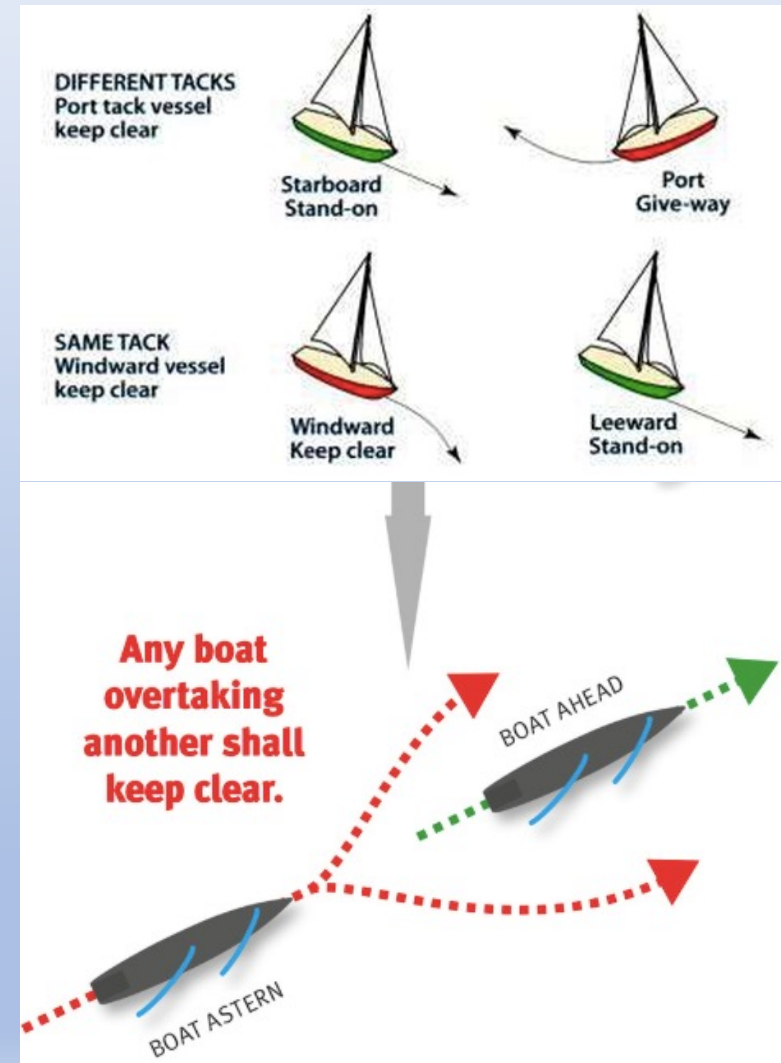
Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)

- Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (specifically parts 1-7, Appendices A, J, G, L)
- US Sailing App
- *Italicized* words in text represent defined terms
- Take note of Rules:
 - Rules 10-13: Right of Way
 - Rule 14: Avoiding Contact
 - Rule 16: Changing Course
 - Rule 17: Proper Course
 - Rule 18: Mark Room
 - Rules 19 & 20: Room to Tack/Hailing at Obstructions
 - Rule 26: Starting Races
 - Rule 29: General and individual recalls
 - Barging



RRS – Rules 10-13: Right of Way

- Rule 10: On Opposite Tacks
 - When boats are on opposite tacks, a port-tack boat shall keep clear of a starboard-tack boat
- Rule 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
- Rule 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
- Rule 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.

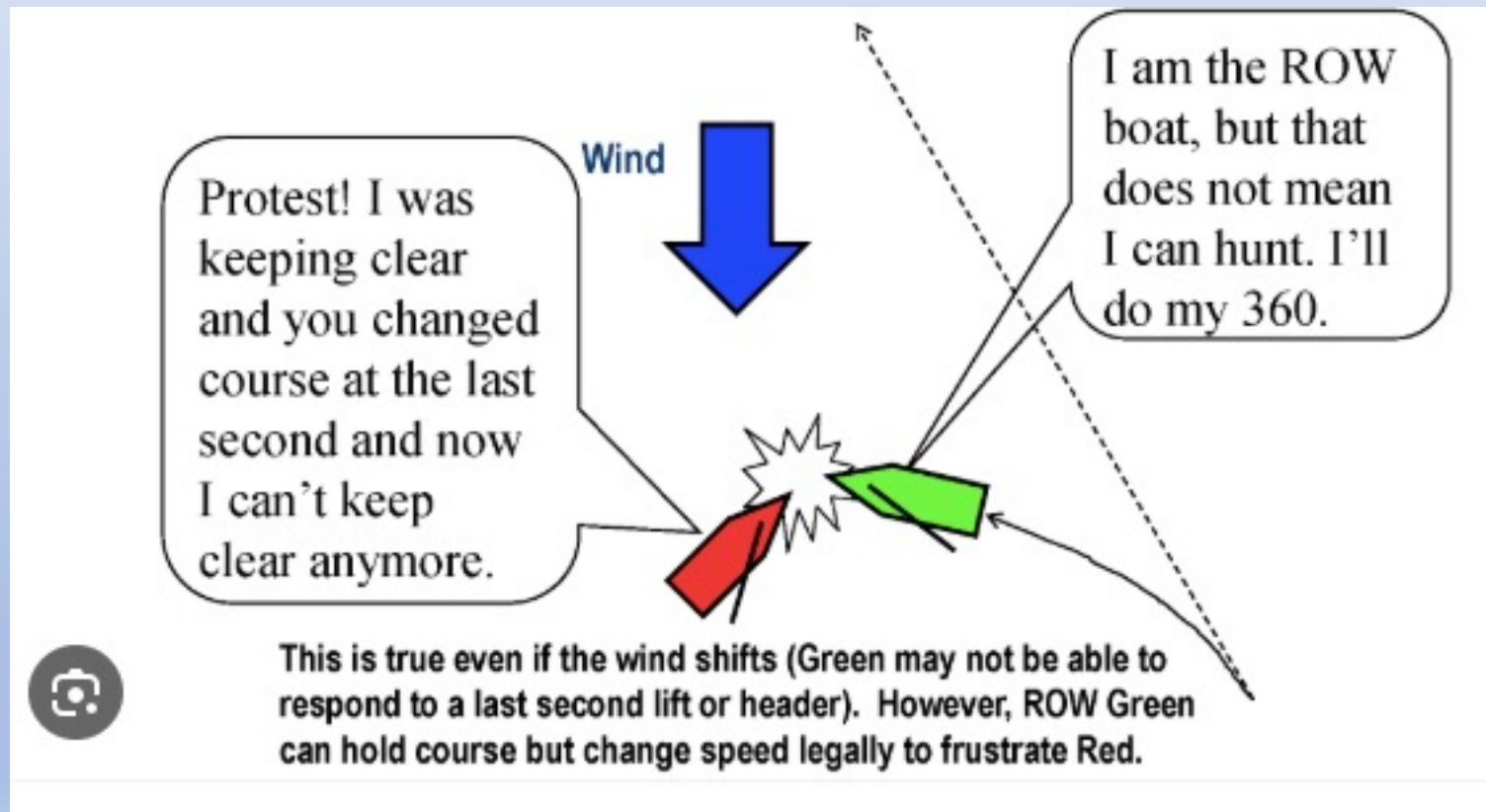


RRS – Rule 14: Avoiding Contact

- If reasonably possible, a boat shall:
 - (a) avoid contact with another boat
 - (b) not cause contact between boats
 - (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

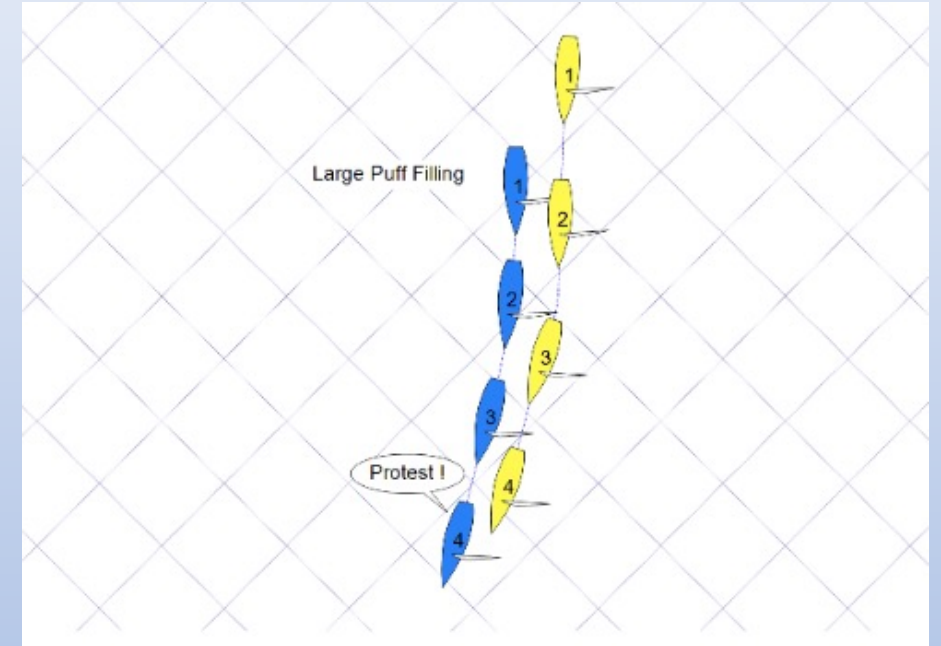
RRS – Rule 16: Changing Course

- When a right-of-way boat changes course, she shall give the other boat room to keep clear



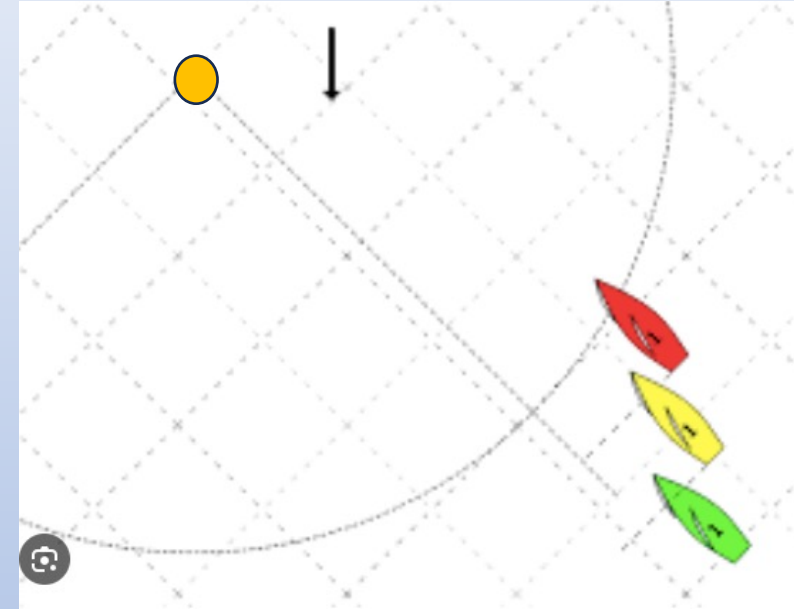
RRS – Rule 17: On Same Tack; Proper Course

- A boat overlapped with another boat on the same tack cannot sail above its proper course
- Applies when a leeward boat overlaps a windward boat from astern
- Applies when the boats are within two hull lengths of each other



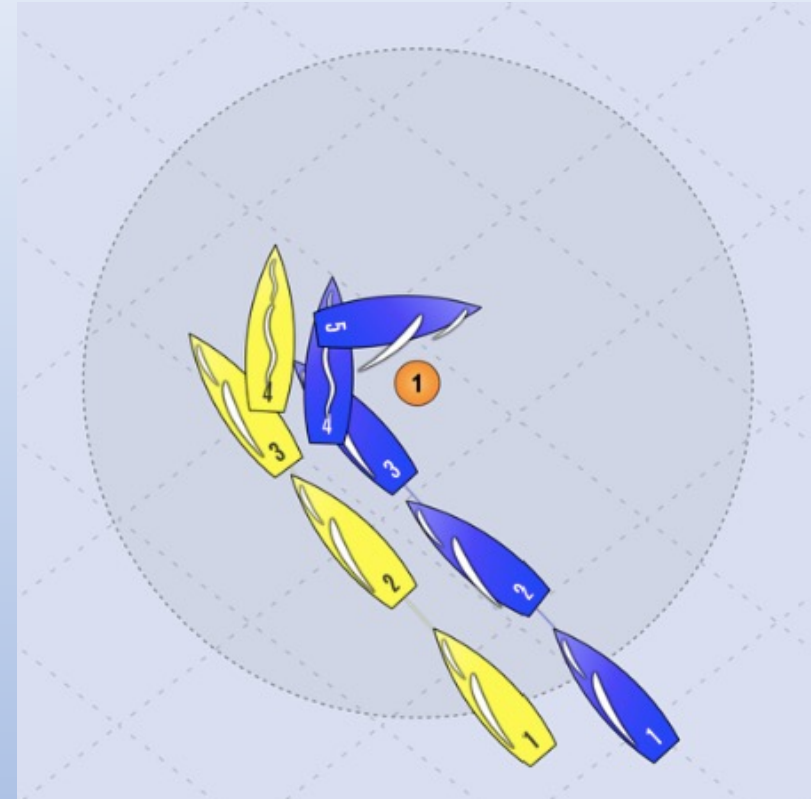
RRS – Rule 18: Mark Room

- Mark room governs how boats give each other room when approaching a mark
- "Mark room" means space to sail proper course
- Applies between overlapped boats when they are required to leave a mark on the same side and at least one of them is in the "zone"
 - Zone = Distance of three boat lengths from the mark



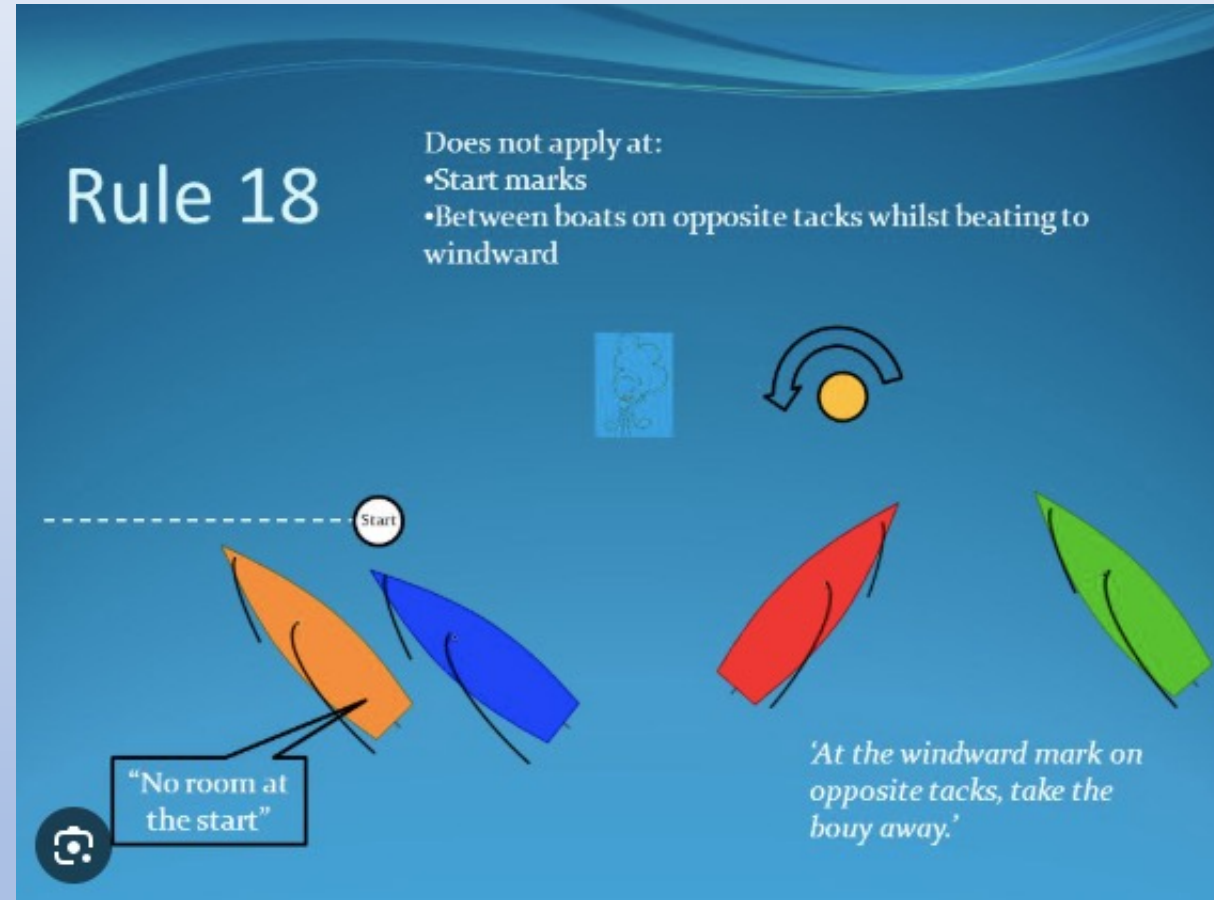
RRS – Rule 18: Mark Room

- When boats are overlapped, the outside boat must give the inside boat room
- When a boat is required to give mark-room by this rule, she shall continue to do so even if later an overlap is broken or a new overlap begins
- If boats are not overlapped, the boat that reaches the zone first gets room



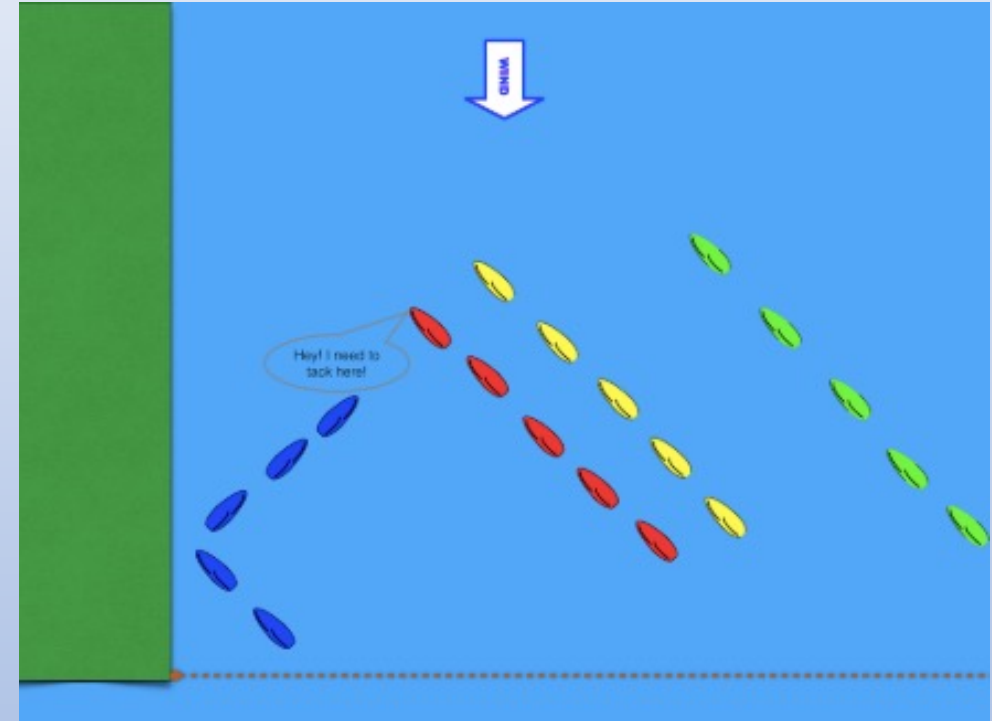
RRS – Rule 18: Mark Room

- It does not apply:
 - 1) Between boats on opposite tacks on a beat to windward
 - 2) At the starting line

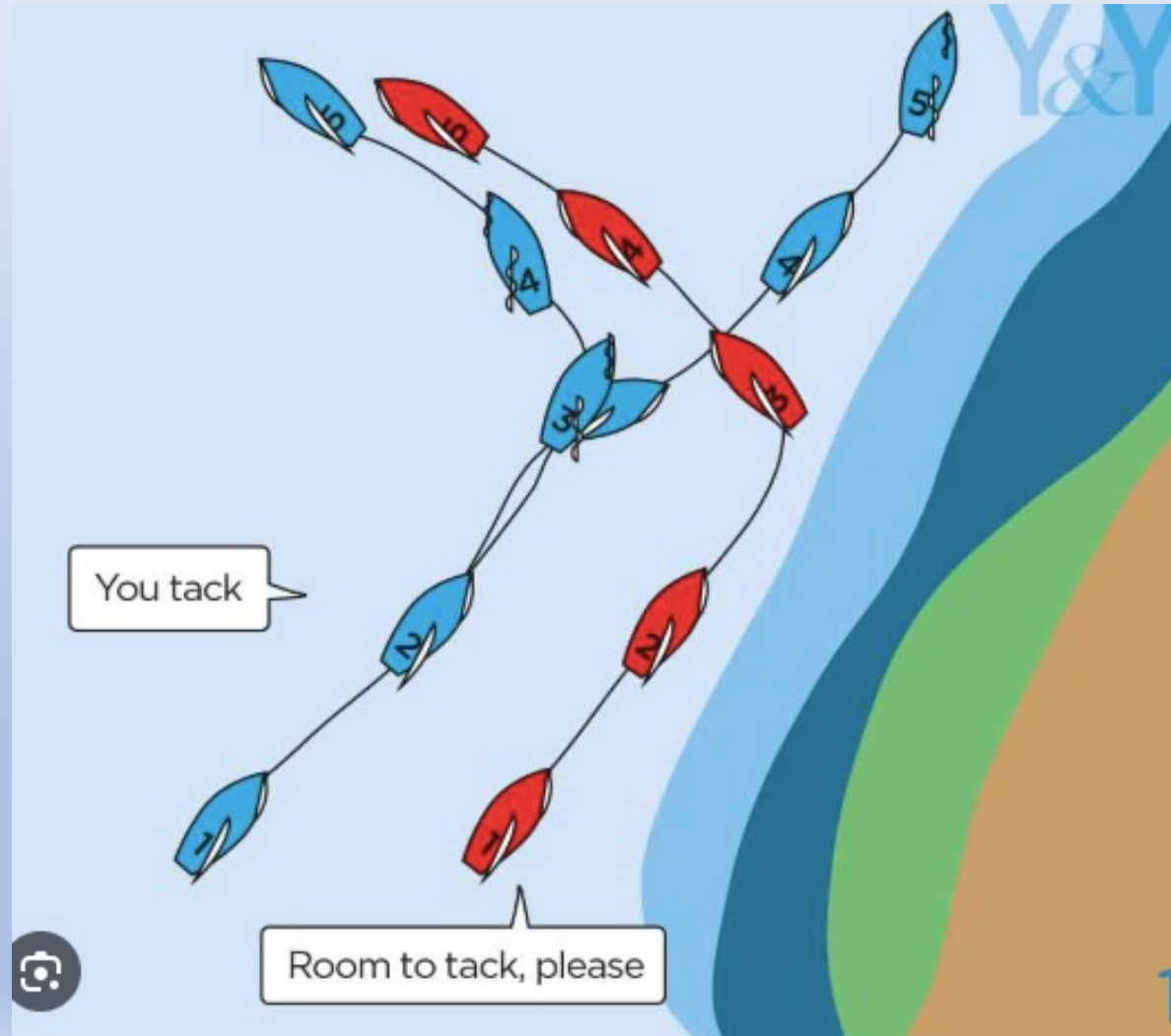


RRS – Rules 19 & 20: Room at Obstructions

- Rule 19: Room to Pass an Obstruction
 - When the boats are overlapped, the outside boat shall give the inside boat room between her and the obstruction
- Rule 20: Room to Tack at an Obstruction
 - A boat may hail for room to tack and avoid a boat on the same tack by hailing “Room to tack”



RRS – Rules 19 & 20: Room at Obstructions

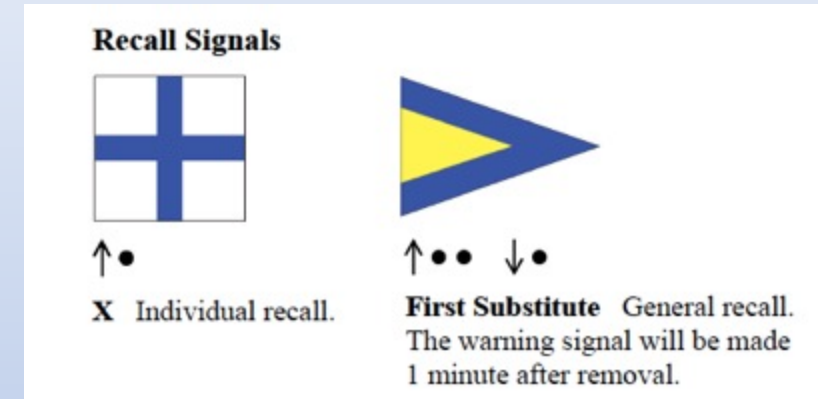


RRS – Rule 26: Starting Races

<i>Minutes before starting signal</i>	<i>Visual signal</i>	<i>Sound signal</i>	<i>Means</i>
5*	Class flag	One	Warning signal
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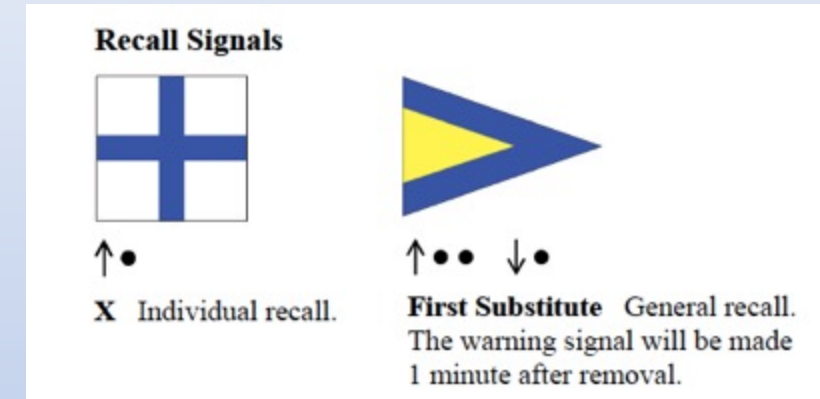
RRS – Rule 29: Individual & General Recalls

- Rule 29: Individual Recalls
 - If hull of boat is over the starting line prior to the final starting whistle, then that boat is “OCS” (On Course Side) and must restart (her complete hull must fully return to the non-course side of the start line and then begin the race)
- Boats should self-identify or can be identified by the Race Committee
- Race Committee will identify OCS boats by a whistle/horn blast, calling out the sail number and waving the X-Ray Flag



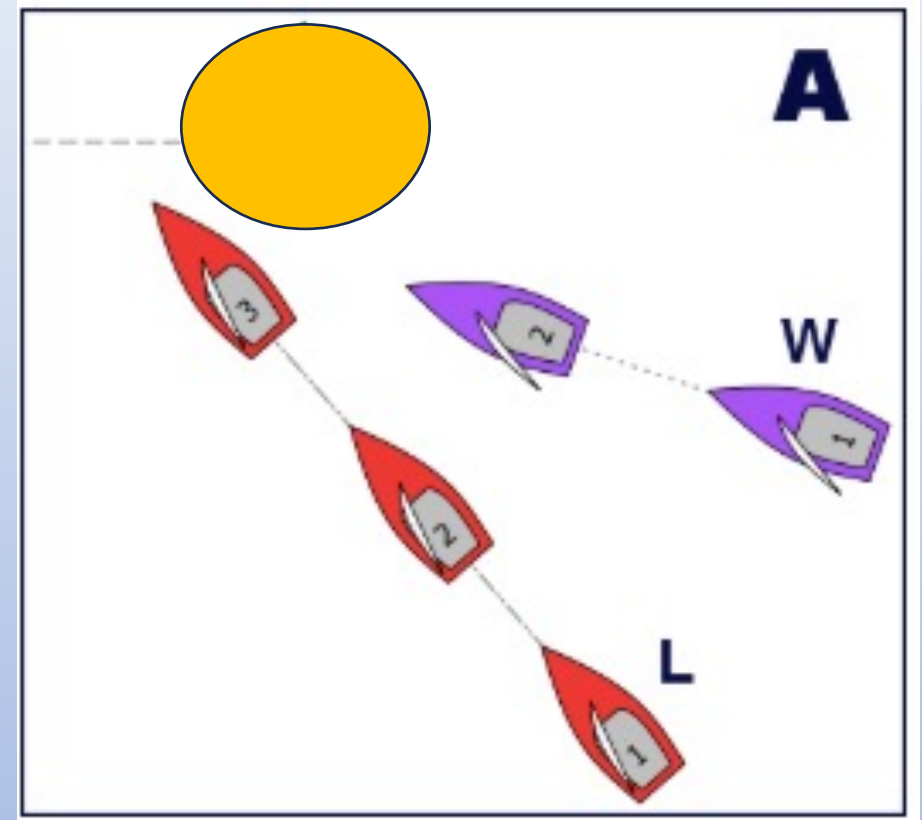
RRS – Rule 29: Individual & General Recalls

- Rule 29: General Recalls
 - If multiple boats are all OCS, race committee can decide to signal a "General Recall" where all boats in that class must restart
 - Signaled by raising the First Substitute flag with two whistle/horn blasts
 - Following removal of the First Substitute flag and one whistle/horn blast, one minute later the starting sequence will begin for entire class to restart

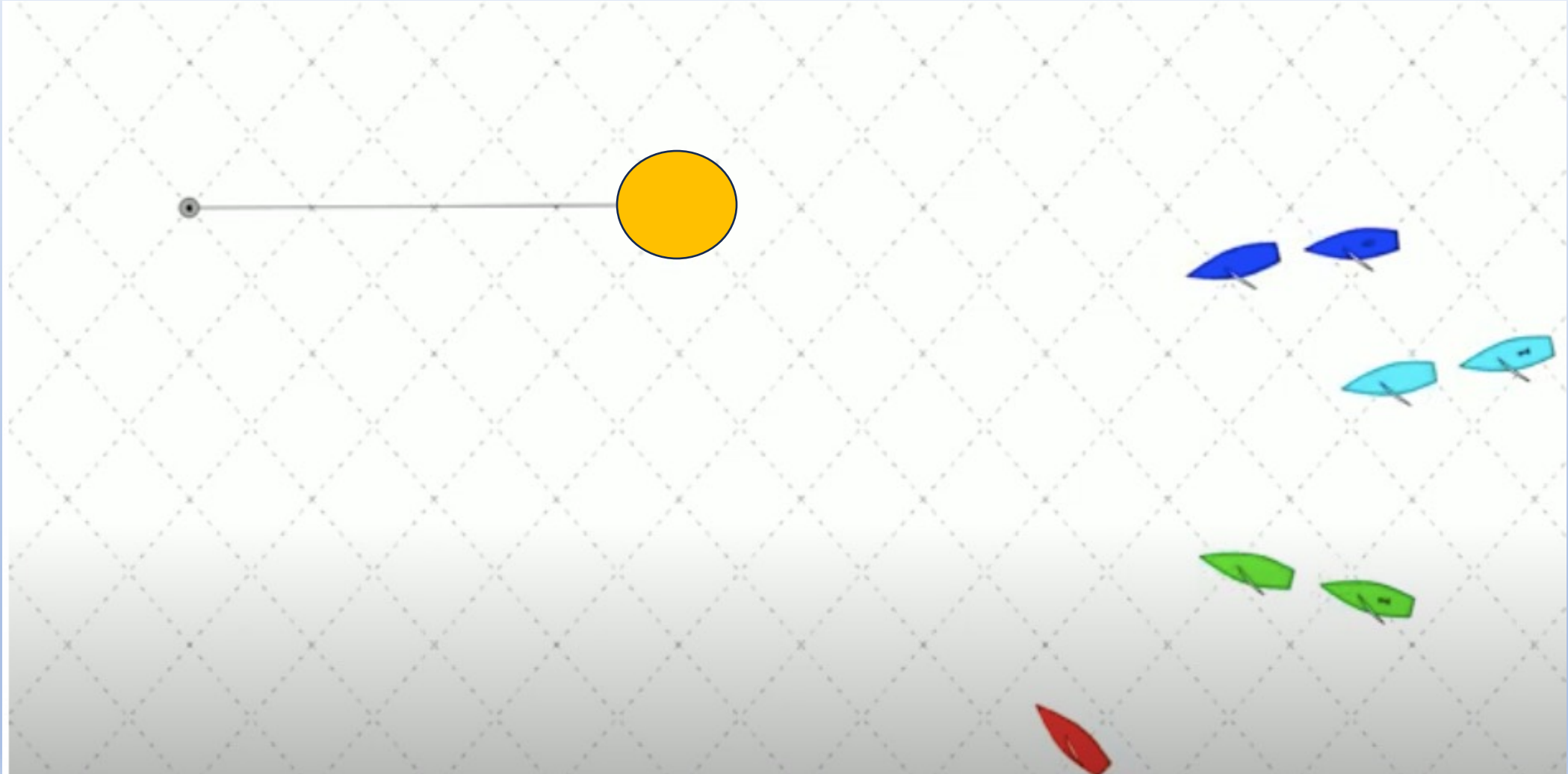


Barging

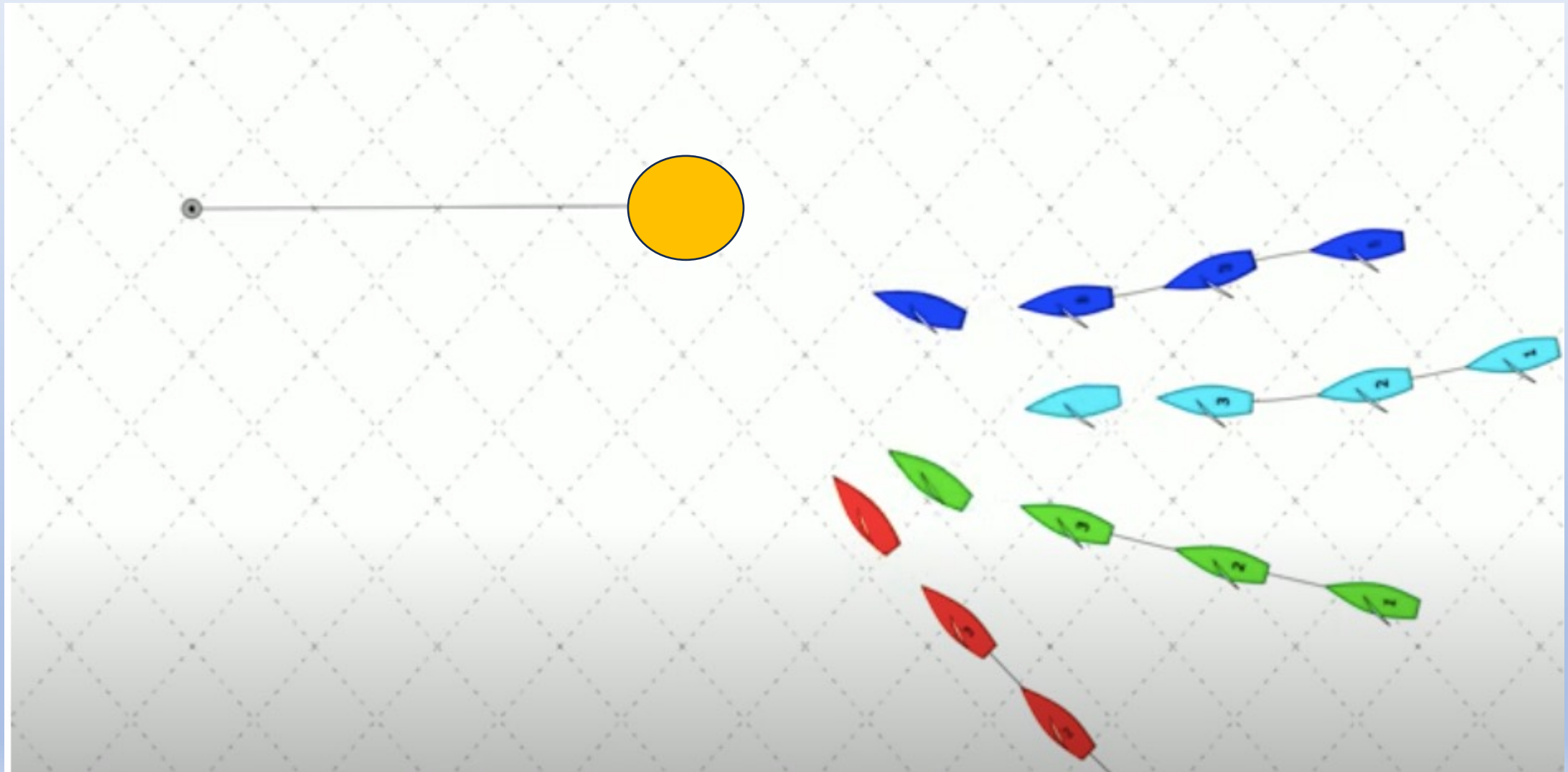
- Barging is when an inside windward boat takes unauthorized room at a starting mark
- Forces a leeward boat to alter course to avoid a collision, essentially "barging" into them
- Concept is governed by the general principles of keeping clear of leeward boats (Rule 11) and giving proper room when changing course (Rule 16)



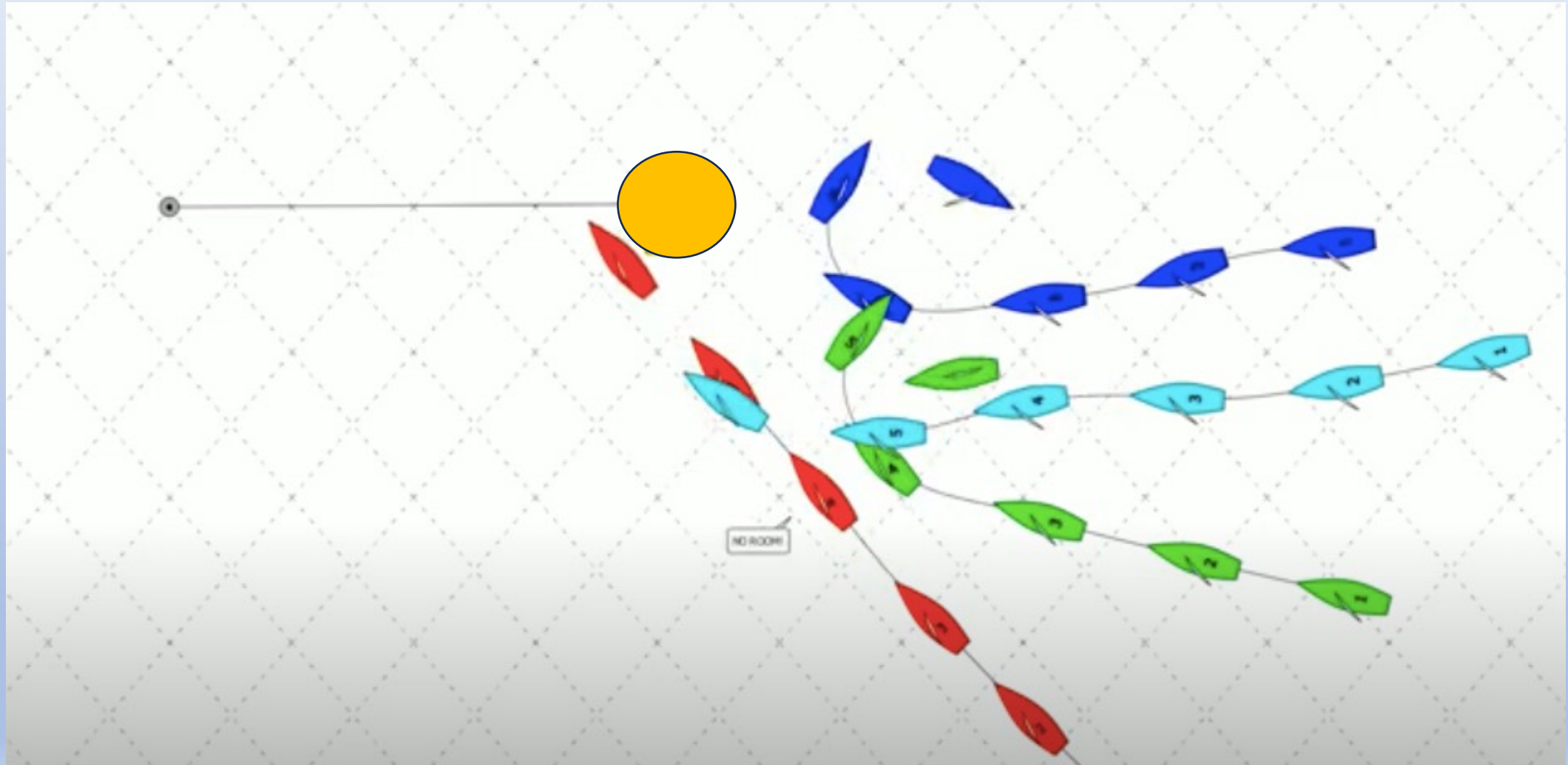
Barging Example: Red Maintains ROW



Barging Example: Red Maintains ROW

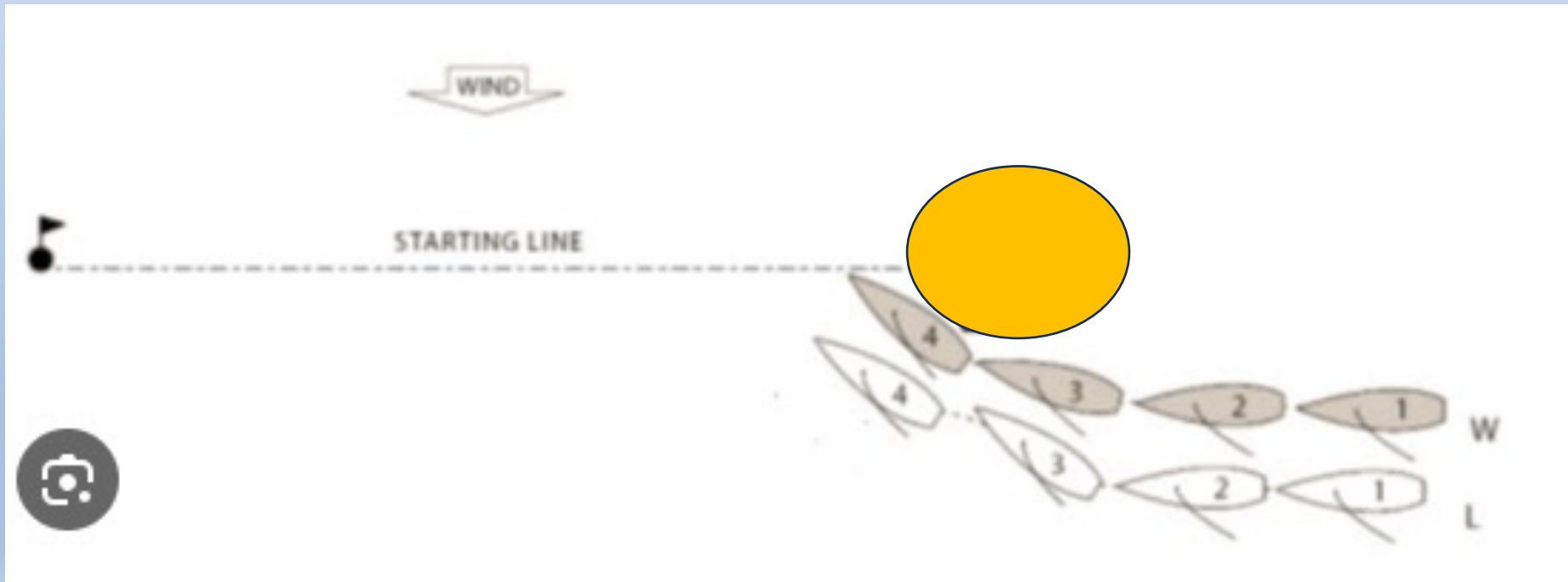


Barging Example: Red Maintains ROW



Barging

- When boats are approaching a starting mark to start and a leeward boat luffs a windward boat, the windward boat is exonerated if she breaks rule 11 while sailing within the room to which she is entitled under rule 16



Violations of Rules and Penalties

- It is the individual racers' responsibility to admit and/or identify violations of themselves and other boats (not the responsibility of the race committee)
- Common examples of rule violations are touching a mark or making contact/obstructing another vessel on the course who has right of way

Violations of Rules and Penalties

- One 360 degree turn is required upon the violation occurring and must be conducted as soon as able (ensure it is safe to make your 360 prior to execution)
- 360 degree turn is defined as one tack and one gybe
- Changed from RRS requirement to complete a 720 degree turn to only one 360 turn for SMYC races

Protests

- Notify race committee upon finishing individual race wherein infraction occurred (no red flag needed for SMYC races)
- Protest forms are available and can be filled out and submitted to the race committee



Safety

- No alcohol shall be consumed prior to or during SMYC racing
- Racers are required to wear USCG approved PFDs at all times while in Del Mar Marina boats (available in boathouse)
- It is mandatory that racers will reef their main when the wind speed reaches 10 knots or more
- Race committee and/or other racers shall assist in the event of an emergency, the Del Mar Marina staff is also on hand and available on VHF channel 68 to assist

Awards and Trophies

- The race committee shall post the daily and cumulative series results at the SMYC clubhouse ASAP and results will be announced on race day along with prizes
 - Donations to the prize bin are welcomed!
- Trophies for the overall series, first, second, and third place champions for each class will be awarded at the SMYC Holiday/Change of Watch party in December



Oorah Regatta

- Saturday, 1 November Time TBD
- Top two SMYC Capri teams will represent the club against Navy Yacht Club Long Beach and Navy Yacht Club San Diego
- If top finishing team(s) are unavailable then Oorah Regatta racing spot will go to next available top finishing team
- Oorah Regatta course is slightly different than typical small boat race series course



Race Committee

- Race Committee Chair: Rear Commodore Kurt Bowen
 - US Sailing Basic Race Seminar
 - 2024 Race Committee Chair
- Assisted by Director Jon Coats and Director Patrick Murty
- Any members who would like to volunteer to assist on race committee can contact Kurt at cabowen@cox.net



Questions?

