



## Umpire Questions and Answers

### QA17

09 March 2021

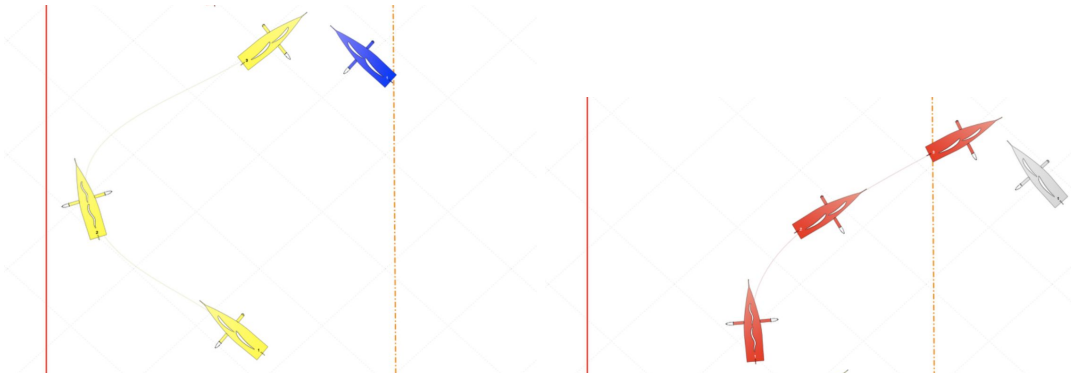
based on RRSAC v3.04

Rule 19

Room to Pass an Obstruction

#### Question

The diagrams show two pre-start scenarios. What room is an inside or clear ahead yacht entitled to when approaching an obstruction on starboard tack?



#### Answer

In the first scenario, Yellow is entitled to tack to pass the obstruction if it is the only option - see QA009 for reference.

Tack is a term used in the sense ordinarily understood in nautical use, and hence, room to tack refers to room for a yacht to go from a close-hauled course on one tack to a close-hauled course on the other tack.

When Yellow reaches the obstruction, Blue must give her room to complete a tack. Thereafter, Yellow must maneuver to keep clear of Blue, which may require tacking back to starboard, and may include the room needed to make this maneuver.

In the second scenario, Red is entitled to room to tack to pass the obstruction. At position 1, Red is not yet at the obstruction so she is not entitled to room to tack at that moment and does not have any added protection.