



## Umpire Questions and Answers

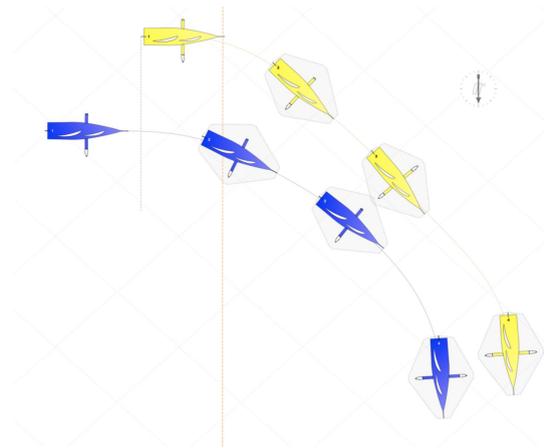
### QA19

09 March 2021 based on RRSAC v3.04

Rule 19 Room to Pass an Obstruction

#### Question 1

Prior to the starting signal, Yellow enters the zone of the boundary clear ahead of Blue. Yellow bears away to pass the obstruction to port. Blue bears away, but the Keep Clear Borders intersect at position 3. Blue protests. What should the call be?



#### Answer 1

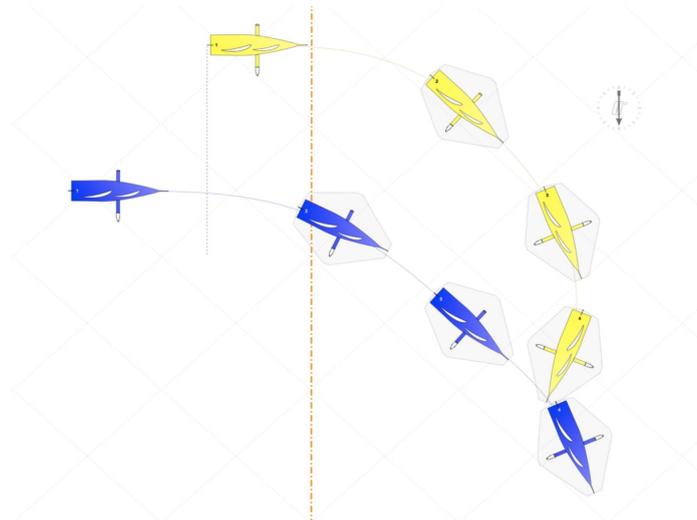
Penalize Yellow.

When Yellow enters the zone of the boundary, the umpires are not certain which side of the boundary the right-of-way yacht will pass and so will consider that Yellow will luff to pass it - see Umpire Call 02 for reference. Therefore, when Yellow bears away, she becomes a windward yacht, must keep clear of Blue, and rule 19 does not apply.

Note: If the umpires were certain that Yellow is passing the obstruction to port when entering the zone of the boundary, Yellow would be the inside yacht and Blue would have to give Yellow room between her and the obstruction. Unless the umpires are certain that Yellow is not sailing within the room to which she is entitled to pass the obstruction, they would Penalize Blue for breaking rule 19.2(b).

## Question 2

Prior to the starting signal, Yellow enters the zone of the boundary obstruction clear ahead of Blue. Yellow bears away to pass the obstruction to port and gybes at position 4. Blue bears away, but the Keep Clear Borders intersect at position 4. Yellow protests. What should the call be?



## Answer 2

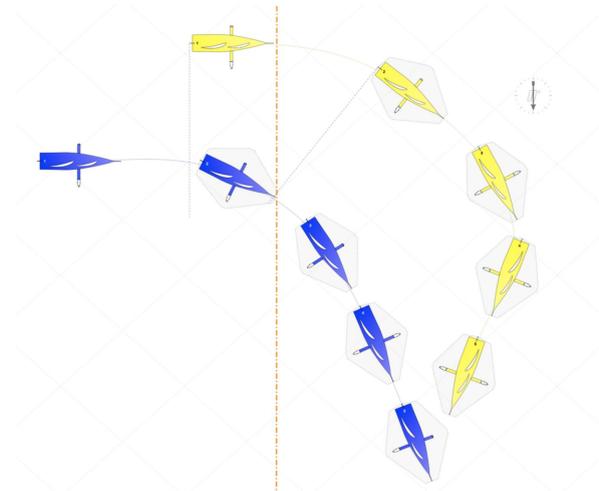
Penalize Yellow.

When Yellow enters the zone of the boundary, the umpires are not certain which side of the boundary the right-of-way yacht will pass and so will consider that Yellow will luff to pass it - see Umpire Call 02 for reference. Therefore, when Yellow bears away, she becomes a windward yacht, must keep clear of Blue, and rule 19 does not apply. When Yellow gybes to starboard, she is required to give Blue room to keep clear, initially by rule 15, and then by rule 16, but breaks one of these rules when the keep clear borders intersect.

Note: If the umpires were certain that Yellow was passing the obstruction to port when entering the zone of the boundary, Yellow would be the inside yacht and Blue would have to give Yellow room between her and the obstruction. This room would not include room to gybe unless changing tacks would be necessary for Yellow to maneuver in a seamanlike way. When Yellow gybes and turns away from the boundary, she is initially subject to rule 15, and subsequently rule 16, and is required to give Blue room to keep clear.

### Question 3

Prior to the starting signal, Yellow enters the zone of the boundary clear ahead of Blue. Yellow bears away to pass the obstruction to port. Blue chooses to bear away. Yellow gybes to starboard and the yachts are on a collision course at position 4. Both yachts protest. What should the call be?



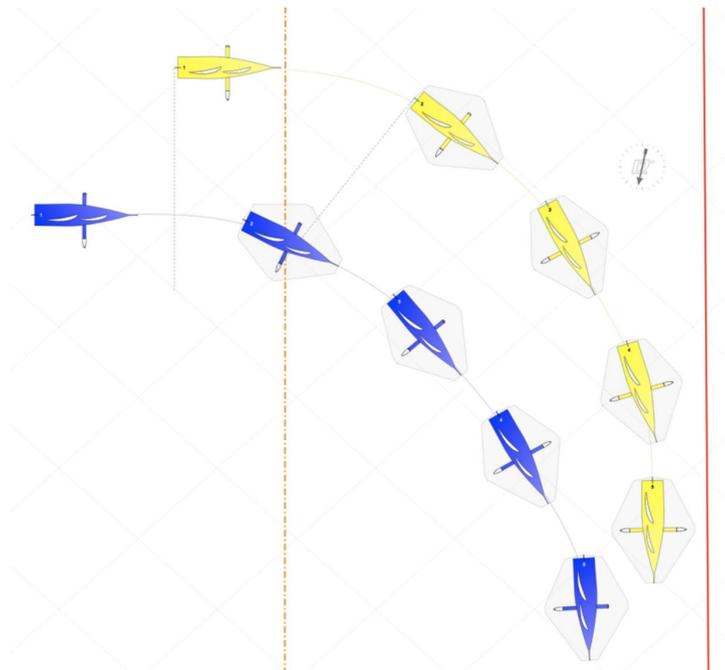
### Answer 3

Penalize Blue.

When Yellow enters the zone of the boundary, the umpires are not certain which side the right-of-way yacht will pass and so will consider that Yellow will luff to pass it - see Umpire Call 02 for reference. When Yellow bears away, she becomes a windward yacht, must keep clear of Blue, and rule 19 does not apply. When Yellow gybes to starboard, Yellow is required to give Blue room to keep clear as required by rule 15 and rule 16, which she has done. Blue takes no action to keep clear and breaks rule 10.

#### Question 4

Prior to the starting signal, Yellow enters the zone of the boundary clear ahead of Blue. Yellow bears away to pass the obstruction to port. Blue bears away and gives Yellow room to pass the obstruction to port. Blue protests. What should the call be?



#### Answer 4

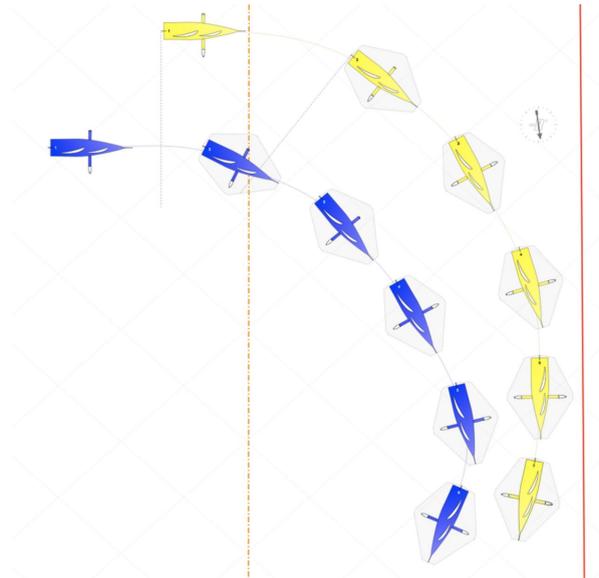
Penalize Yellow.

When Yellow enters the zone of the boundary, the umpires are not certain which side of the boundary the right-of-way yacht will pass and so will consider that Yellow will luff to pass it - see Umpire Call 02 for reference. Therefore, when Yellow bears away, she must keep clear as a windward yacht, and rule 19 does not apply. If Blue did not bear away, the Keep Clear Borders of the yachts would intersect.

Note: If the umpires were certain that Yellow is passing the obstruction to port when entering the zone of the boundary, Yellow would be the inside yacht. Blue gives Yellow room between her and the obstruction and the umpires would signal 'No penalty'.

## Question 5

Prior to the starting signal, Yellow enters the zone of the boundary clear ahead of Blue. Yellow bears away to pass the obstruction to port. Blue bears away, and gives Yellow room to pass the obstruction to port. Yellow gybes to starboard and then luffs. Blue protests. What should the call be?



## Answer 5

When Yellow enters the zone of the boundary, the umpires are not certain which side of the boundary the right-of-way yacht will pass and so will consider that Yellow will luff to pass it - see Umpire Call 02 for reference. When Yellow bears away, she becomes a windward yacht, must keep clear of Blue, and rule 19 does not apply.

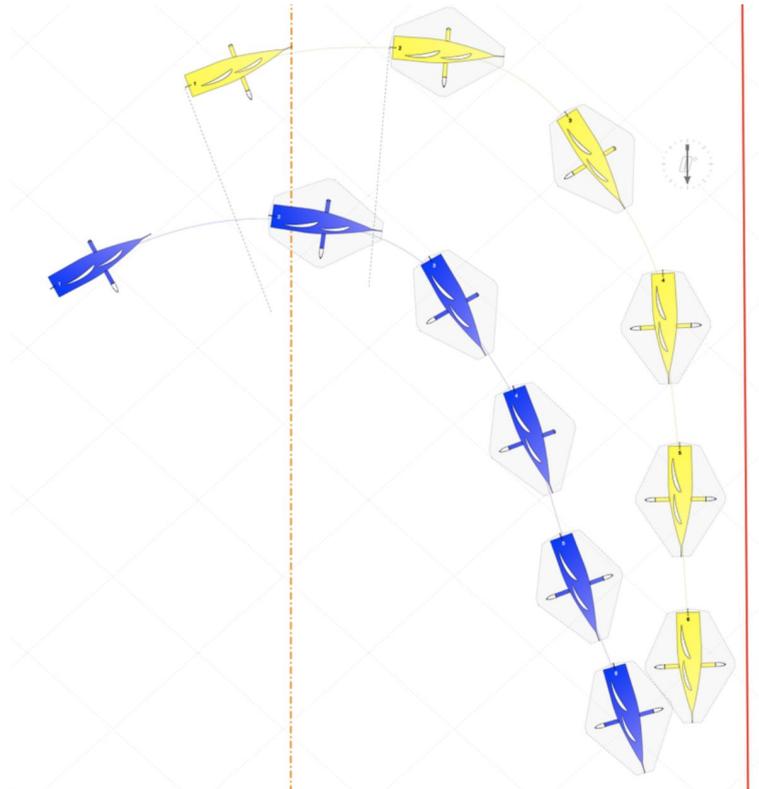
If the umpires are certain that Yellow did not keep clear of Blue prior to gybing, they will penalize Yellow for breaking rule 11.

After gybing, Yellow becomes the right-of-way yacht under rule 10. If she gives Blue room as required by rules 15 and 16, and the umpires are certain that Yellow was keeping clear prior to gybing, they will signal 'No penalty'.

Note: If the umpires were certain that Yellow is passing the obstruction to port when entering the zone of the boundary, Yellow would be the inside yacht, and Blue would have to give Yellow room between her and the obstruction. Yellow is able to gybe to starboard while taking the room given by Blue, becomes the right-of-way yacht, and is able to luff away from the boundary obstruction. No penalty.

## Question 6

Prior to the starting signal, Yellow enters the zone of the boundary clear ahead of Blue. Yellow is steering a course to pass the obstruction to starboard. Yellow then bears away to pass the obstruction to port. Blue bears away, becomes overlapped to leeward, and slowly converges with Yellow. Blue protests. What should the call be?



## Answer 6

Penalize Yellow.

When Yellow enters the zone of the boundary, the umpires are certain Yellow will pass the obstruction to starboard. When Yellow bears away to pass the obstruction to port, rule 19 does not apply, she becomes a windward yacht, and must keep clear of Blue which she fails to do.