

### Answer to Scenario 1 – Mark Room Given?

Boat A is penalized under [rules 10](#), On Opposite Tacks, and [14, Avoiding Contact](#). Boat B breaks no rules.

When A reaches the zone clear ahead, she is entitled to mark-room from B under [rule 18.2\(b\)](#), Giving Mark-Room, until she has been given that mark-room (see rule 18.2(d)). Mark-room is the space A needs to sail to the mark, leave it on the required side, and round it as necessary to sail the course (see the definition Mark-Room). Once A has borne away to her downwind sailing angle on starboard tack and has the space needed to leave the mark to port, she has been given mark-room and rules 18.2(b) and 18.2(c) cease to apply (see rule 18.2(d)). From that point forward, A will not be exonerated under rule 21, Exoneration, if she breaks any rules. When A continues bearing away and then gybes, she breaks rule 10.

Before A rounds the mark, B is required to keep clear of A under [rule 12](#), On the Same Tack, Not Overlapped, and to give her mark-room under rule 18.2(b). She complies with those obligations. When B becomes overlapped with A, A is already on her downwind course and has the space she needs to leave the mark to port; therefore she has been given mark-room, and she is not entitled to room to also sail her proper course under rule 18.2(c)(2) (see rule 18.2(d)). When B becomes overlapped with A, she instantly becomes the right-of-way boat under [rule 11](#), On the Same Tack, Overlapped. But because she becomes overlapped due to A's action of bearing away, B does not need to give A room to keep clear under [rule 15](#), Acquiring Right of Way. Also, B is not permitted to sail above her proper course, under [rule 17](#), On the Same Tack; Proper Course, and she does not.

Both boats are required by rule 14, Avoiding Contact, to avoid contact if reasonably possible. A clearly breaks rule 14, and because the contact causes damage she is penalized for breaking that rule. The interval of time from when A gybes until contact is so short that by the time it becomes clear to B that A is not keeping clear, it is not reasonably possible for B to avoid contact, and so she does not break rule 14 (see rule 14(a)).

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