

OHYC Racing Rules Review

February 27, 2020

RULES GOVERNING THE RACE

Notice of Race (NOR)
Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)
Sailing Instructions (Sis)
Class Rules

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

Clear Astern and Clear Ahead, Overlap
Keep clear
Leeward and Windward
Proper Course
Mark Room
Zone

FUNDAMENTAL RULES -- Rule 1.1

A boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.

DECISION TO RACE -- Rule 4

The responsibility for a boats decision to participate in a race, or continue racing is hers alone.

STARTING SIGNALS -- Rule 26

5 min. – Warning signal	Class flag up (yellow for PHRF)	one horn
4 min. – Preparatory	“P” flag up	one horn
1 min. --	“P” flag down	one horn
Start --	Class flag down	one horn
Individual recall	“X” flag up (comes down after boats are clear)	one horn
General recall	First Substitute	two horns

Sailboat Racing Rules in a Nutshell

4 Principles:

Safety – Decision to race, **Obligation** to assist vessel or crew in danger

Fair Sailing – Recognized principles of Sportsmanship & Fair Play

Avoid Contact if possible

Right of Way Boat must give other boat a **chance to keep clear**

5 Rules

Port tack boat must keep clear of a **Starboard tack** boat

Windward boat must keep clear of a **Leeward** boat

- If leeward overlaps windward from clear astern, leeward can not sail above proper course

Astern boat must keep clear of **Ahead** boat

Outside boat at a mark must give room to an **Inside** boat

- Overlap is determined 3 boat lengths from mark
- Does **not** apply to starting mark or to port-starboard situation at windward mark

At Obstruction: An outside boat shall give an inside boat room to pass, or room to tack if hailed to do so

3 Situations when a Boat **Must Keep Clear**

When Tacking (from head to wind until close hauled **course** on new tack)

When Returning to Start after being “Over Early”

When Doing a Penalty Turn (after fouling a boat or hitting a mark)

**A "Focus on Keeping Clear" approach to the Racing Rules of Sailing
as suggested by Coach Pat Healy**

KEEP CLEAR

(neutral)

LIMITATIONS

on Right of Way

**If you run into trouble
despite doing all you can
to keep clear over here.....**

**look over here to see what the
other guy might be doing wrong!**

