

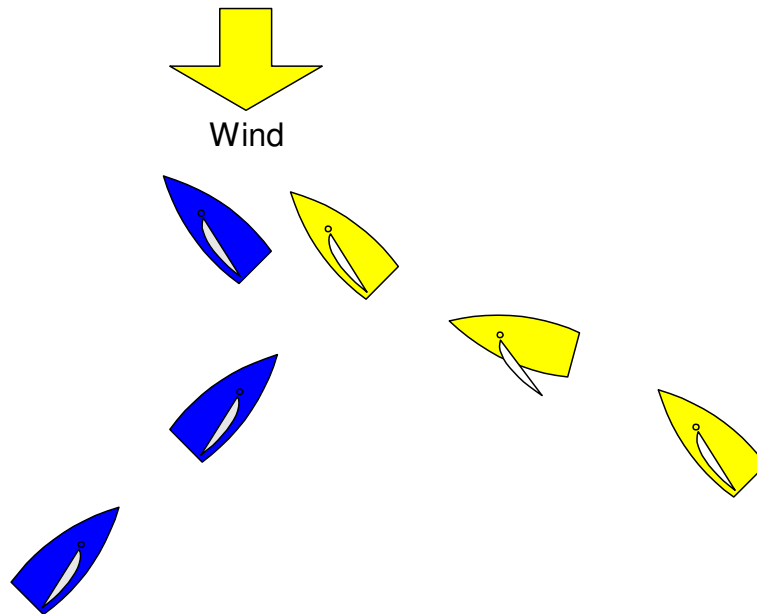
Blue was OCS at her starting signal and is returning to the pre-start side of the line to start. Yellow has not yet started. They collide, without any injury or damage, and protest. Your decision?

1. Disqualify Yellow?
2. Disqualify Blue?
3. Disqualify both boats?

ANSWER
Disqualify Blue.

Although Blue is on starboard tack and Yellow is on port tack, Blue is the keep-clear boat when she is returning until she is completely on the pre-start side of the starting line. See rule 21.1.

Yellow, the right-of-way boat, may have broken rule 14, Avoiding Contact, but is not to be penalized, since there was neither damage nor injury.



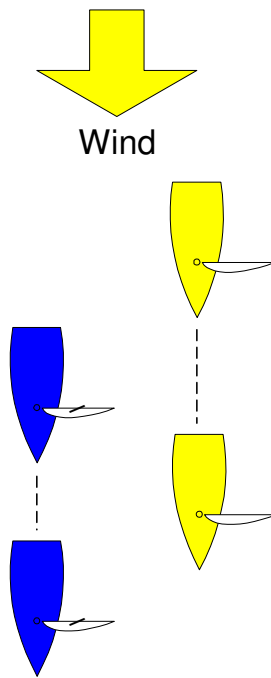
After the starting signal, Blue's course will take her astern of Yellow. Yellow bears away towards Blue. Blue needs to act immediately to continue to keep clear and does so by tacking in a seamanlike way. There is no contact. There is a protest. Your decision?

1. Disqualify Yellow under rule 16.1?
2. Disqualify Yellow under rule 16.2?
3. Dismiss the protest – no rule broken?

ANSWER

Yellow did not break rule 16.1. When she changed course, she gave Blue room to keep clear.

A rule was broken. Yellow broke rule 16.2. Blue was keeping clear by sailing to pass astern of Yellow, Yellow changed course, and Blue now needed an immediate change of course to continue keeping clear.

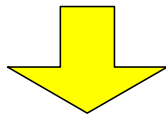


After the starting signal, Yellow becomes overlapped within two of her hull lengths from clear astern to leeward of Blue. She must not now sail above a proper course. Name six ways that Yellow can become entitled to sail above her proper course again.

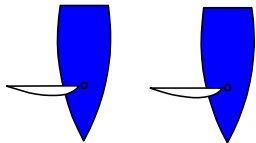
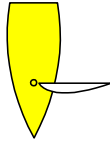
ANSWERS

Rule 17 says Yellow must not sail above a proper course while the boats remain overlapped on the same tack within two of Yellow's hull lengths from Blue. So the proper course limitation on Yellow will end –

- By Yellow becoming clear ahead of Blue
- By Yellow becoming clear astern of Blue
- By Yellow increasing the gap to more than two hull lengths then closing it
- By Blue gybing to the opposite tack
- By Yellow gybing to the opposite tack
- By Yellow gybing and gybing back onto the same tack



Wind



Yellow is catching the two Blue boats ahead. Which of the following is true?

- Yellow can sail between the Blue boats only when the gap is wide enough to sail through
- Yellow can get the Blue boats to give her room if she can get her bow between them
- The Blue boats must keep clear of Yellow

ANSWER

This is not an obstruction situation, and particularly not a continuing obstruction situation. It's straight-forward port and starboard (rule 10). The Blue boats on port must keep clear of Yellow on starboard.