



Paradise Radio Yacht Club (Inc.)

RACING RULES OF SAILING WORKSHOP 2021 – 2024

MODULE 4 - Part 2 section B – GENERAL LIMITATIONS RRS 16 – CHANGING COURSE

1. In the last module we covered RRS 14 – Avoiding Contact and RRS 15 – Acquiring Right of Way. These rules are found in Part 2 Section B – General Limitations.
2. Revision of Module Three: As previously stated, the rules of Section B places limitation under, specific circumstances, on the right-of-way boat actions. Unlike the rules of Section, A, which are directed at the Give-way boat, these rules address the actions of the right-of-way boat. They only affect the right-of-way boat and only the right-of-way boat can be penalized under them. They do not add any additional obligation to the give-way boat.
3. Rule 14 Key Points are:
 - a. This rule recognizes that preventing damage or injury is more important than preserving the right of way.
 - b. If you are a right-of-way boat and need to act to avoid contact, you assert your rights by protesting the other boat, not by letting contact occur.
 - c. If you are a right-of-way boat or sailing within the mark-room to which you are entitled, you don't need to react until you see that the other boat is not keeping clear. and
 - d. If there is any damage the right-of-way boat or the one sailing within the room or mark-room to which she is entitled will be penalized if it is found that it was reasonably possible to have avoided contact.
4. Rule 15 Key Points are:
 - a. The rule is turned on when a boat acquires ROW.
 - b. The rule is addressed to the ROW boat.
 - c. The rule only applies for a short time as indicated by the words “shall initially give”.
 - d. The newly obligated give-way boat must act promptly in a seamanlike manner or risk losing the protection of this rule. and
 - e. Does not apply if ROW is gained through the actions of the other boat.



5. The phrase 'in a seamanlike way' applies to both boats. Its meaning is not found in the definitions section of the RRS. World Sailing Case 103 has interpreted it to mean:

CASE 103

The phrase 'seamanlike way' in the definition Room refers to boat-handling that can reasonably be expected from a competent, but not expert, crew of the appropriate number for the boat.

**Part 2 section B – GENERAL LIMITATIONS
RRS 16 - CHANGING COURSE AND**

6. **OBJECTIVE:** At the end of this module, you will be able to:
- State the obligations of a right-of-way boat when it changes course.
 - State the exception to rule 16.

7. R 16. CHANGING COURSE

16.1 When a *right-of-way* boat changes course, she shall give the other boat *room to keep clear*.

16.2 In addition, on a beat to windward when a *port-tack* boat is *keeping clear* by sailing to pass to leeward of a *starboard-tack* boat, the *starboard-tack* boat shall not bear away if as a result the *port-tack* boat must change course immediately to continue *keeping clear*.

8. Unlike rule 15, rule 16 applies at all times. The obligation remains on the give-way boat to maneuver promptly in a seamanlike way but the ROW boat that changes course must ensure he has the room to do so. If there are other boats involved, this may include time for them to pass on the hail. In many cases, particularly on the start line, this may prevent or delay the ROW boat from sailing the course she pleases and delay her from maneuvering against the give-way boat. The rule was introduced to reduce the number of contacts within the sport.

9. A boat changes course when she changes the direction in which the boat is heading whether or not she moves her helm. It is legitimate to manoeuvre against a *keep-clear* boat provided that *room* is given when required.

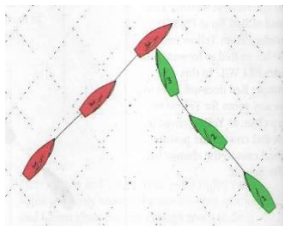
[Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024: Rule 16 – Changing Course](https://sailzing.com › racing-rules-of-sailing-2021-2024...)

<https://sailzing.com › racing-rules-of-sailing-2021-2024...>

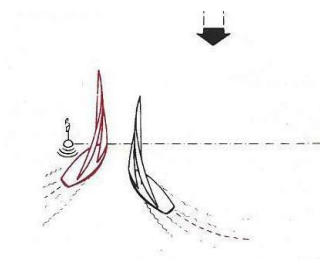
10. See how you are going. Complete the test of objectives for this modular on page 4.

11. In our next module we will cover Section B R17. titled ON THE SAME TACK; PROPER COURSE.

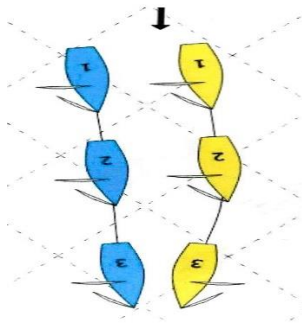
TEST OF OBJECTIVES RRS R 16 - CHANGING COURSE



1. In this diagram, which boat is required to do a penalty?

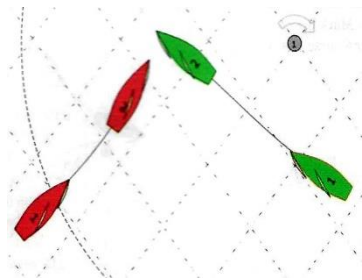


2. In this diagram, which boat is required to do a penalty?



3. In this diagram, is yellow bound by R16.1?

4. What action must the *keep clear* boat take when a ROW boat alters course?



5. In this diagram, does red break R 16.1

ANSWERS:

1. Green. The green boat on starboard is in the wrong and required to do a penalty. She changed course and did not give red *room to keep clear* breaking R 16.1 when the red boat, on port tack, was properly keeping clear by passing ahead of the green boat.
2. Black. Black must take a penalty under R 16.1. The finish line does not change rule 16.1.
3. Yes. Yellow is ROW and if she alters course further and must give the other boat room to keep clear, however, Blue, as keep clear boat must act promptly, in a seamanlike way to continue keeping clear or risk losing the protection of R 16.1
4. Must act promptly in a seamanlike way to continue keeping clear.
5. No. Red is on port and required to *keep clear*. R 16.1 is turned on when the ROW boat changes course.