

## **RRS 2025 -2028 – ESSENTIAL CHANGES FOR HAVERSHAM SAILORS**

### **Mark-room**

The definition has been changed to:

Room for a boat

- (a) to sail to the mark when her proper course is to sail close to it,
- (b) to round or pass the mark on the required side, and
- (c) to leave it astern.

It no longer includes room to tack in certain situations.

### **Rule 14**

The obligation to avoid contact with another boat has been widened to include “not cause contact between boats”, and “not cause contact between a boat and an object that should be avoided”. All obligations are still subject to the test of “if reasonably possible”.

### **Rule 17**

A ‘rule 17 overlap’ can now be created whilst the windward boat is still tacking.

### **Rule 18**

The rule has undergone a number of changes in terms of its layout but there is no substantive change to how the rule operates.

Rule 18.3 concerning tacking in the zone remains substantially the same, however in order for it to apply the boat that has been on starboard since entering the zone needs to be fetching the mark and there is no requirement for the boat which tacked from port to starboard to be fetching the mark. The new rule clarifies that, in deciding which side to pass the obstruction, the right of way boat must give the other boat room to keep clear if she changes course.

### **Rule 20**

It is now mandatory to use the words ‘room to tack’.

### **Race Signals N, N over A, N over H**

This now applies to races *in progress* being abandoned. If races *not started* are abandoned the equivalent ‘AP over’ signal should be used.

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28<sup>th</sup> December 2024