

Racing Rules of Sailing ([wikipedia](#))

1. Boats on a port tack shall give way to boats on starboard tack ([Rule 10](#)).
2. When boats are on the same tack, the boat to [windward](#) shall keep clear of a [leeward](#) boat ([Rule 11](#)).
3. When boats are on the same tack, the boat that is astern shall keep clear of the boat ahead. ([Rule 12](#)).
4. When a boat is tacking (changing tack) it shall keep clear of boats that are not tacking [Rule 13]

PORT

When both sailboats are on opposite tacks (one has the wind on the port side and the other has the wind on the starboard side), the PORT tack vessel has to stay out of the way of the other sailboat.

WIND

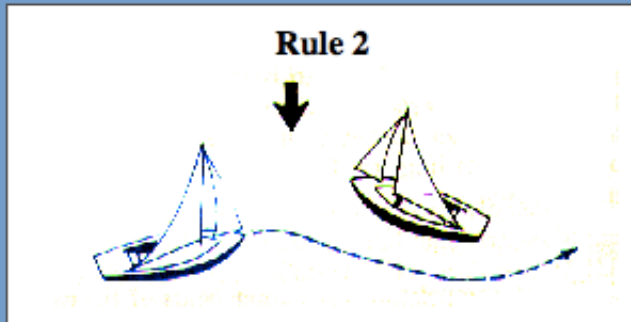
When both sailboats have the wind on the same side (same tack), the sailboat to WIND-ward has to stay out of the way of the sailboat to leeward. (The boat furthest from the source of wind, leeward, has right of way)

O

When one sailboat O-vertakes another sailboat from behind the beam, it has to stay out of the way of the other sailboat. This applies to vessels under sail or under power.

Right of Way (ROW) Rule 2

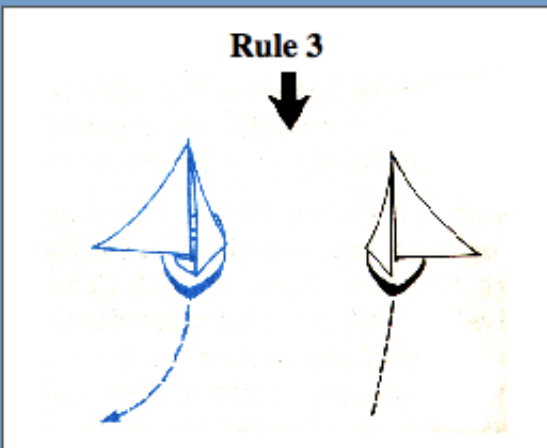
The arrow indicates the direction of the wind. The black boat is "privileged", and has the right-of-way. The blue boat is the "burdened" boat and must get out of the way.



A sailboat close hauled on the port tack must keep clear of a sailboat close hauled on the starboard tack.

Right of Way (ROW) Rule 3

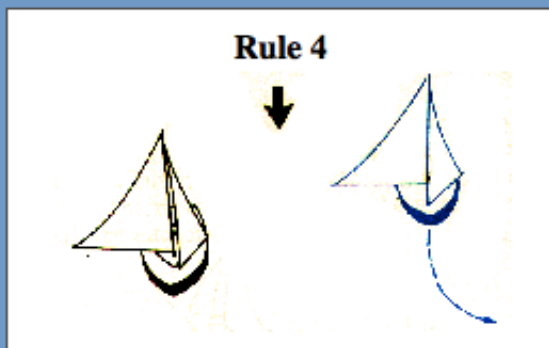
The arrow indicates the direction of the wind. The black boat is "privileged", and has the right-of-way. The blue boat is the "burdened" boat and must get out of the way.



When both boats are running free on opposite tacks the vessel with the wind on the port side must keep clear.

Right of Way (ROW) Rule 4

The arrow indicates the direction of the wind. The black boat is "privileged", and has the right-of-way. The blue boat is the "burdened" boat and must get out of the way.



When both boats are running free on the same tack the boat to windward must keep clear.

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