

Another Mark Rounding case! This case may look similar to last weeks, but look closer.

Case 93 last week, Case 95 this week.

Further: **Reminder: “World Sailing publishes interpretations of the racing rules in The Case Book for 2017-2020 and recognizes them as the authoritative interpretations and explanations of the rules.”**

Case 95 produced below, including the diagram that is included with the case. The coloured diagram and notes (page 2) are my TSS creation and I have included my notes ex the case notes.

## CASE 95

### Definitions: “Mark-Room” & “Room”

### Rule 18.1(a), Mark-Room: When Rule 18 Applies

### Rule 18.2(b), Mark-Room: Giving Mark-Room

### Rule 18.3, Mark-Room: Tacking in the Zone

### Rule 21(b), Exoneration

### Rule 64.1(a), Decisions: Penalties and Exoneration

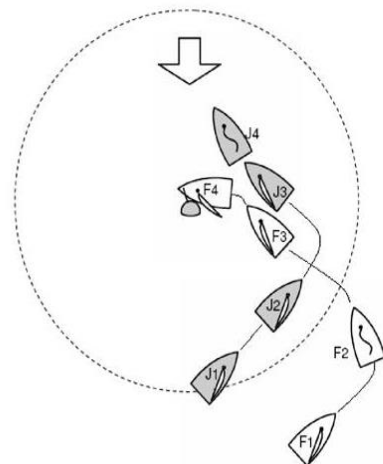
*If two overlapped boats on the same tack are on a beat to windward and are subject to rule 18.2(b), rule 18 ceases to apply when either of them turns past head to wind. When a boat is required to give another boat mark-room, the space she must give includes space for the other boat to comply with rule 31. When the boat entitled to mark-room is compelled to touch the mark while sailing within the mark-room to which she is entitled, she is exonerated for her breach of rule 31.*

### Facts:

1. Approaching the windward mark, Jagga and Freebird were overlapped on port tack, Freebird being between one and two boat-lengths to leeward.
2. Freebird tacked and entered the zone on starboard tack.
3. Jagga then tacked into a position to windward of Freebird.
4. Jagga luffed so that her swinging stern required Freebird to change course to avoid contact, which she did, touching the mark as a result.
5. Freebird protested. The protest committee disqualified Jagga under rule 18.3. Jagga appealed on the grounds that, because she was an inside overlapped boat when she entered the zone, she was entitled to room to pass the mark.

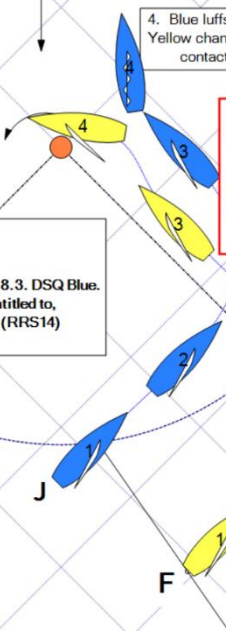
### Decision:

1. When Jagga reached the zone she was overlapped inside Freebird. From that time until Freebird turned past head to wind, rule 18.2(b) required Freebird to give Jagga mark-room.
2. When Freebird turned past head to wind, the boats were on opposite tacks on a beat to windward, and so rule 18 ceased to apply (see rule 18.1(a)).
3. After Freebird completed her tack, she had right of way under rule 10, but initially she was subject to rule 15. She complied with that rule because Jagga had room to keep clear by crossing ahead of her.
4. Between positions 2 and 3 Jagga passed head to wind and was then on the same tack as Freebird. At that time Jagga was fetching the mark and Freebird had been on starboard tack since entering the zone, so rule 18.3 began to apply.
5. While rule 18.3 applied, rule 18.2 did not. However, a short time later when Jagga completed her tack, Freebird was overlapped inside her, and Jagga was required by rule 18.3 to give Freebird mark-room.
6. After Jagga crossed ahead of Freebird, Freebird had right of way, first under rule 10, then under rule 13 and finally under rule 11. Therefore, Jagga had no protection from rule 15 during that time.
7. After position 3, rule 11 required Jagga to sail so that Freebird could ‘sail her course with no need to take avoiding action’ (see the definition Keep Clear).
8. The fact that, when Jagga luffed, Freebird had to change course to avoid contact was evidence that Jagga broke rule 11 by not keeping clear. Also, when Jagga luffed she did not give Freebird space to sail to the mark and comply with her obligation under rule 31. Therefore, Jagga broke rule 18.3 (see also the definitions Mark-Room and Room).
9. The protest committee correctly disqualified Jagga under rule 18.3, but she also broke rule 11. Freebird broke rule 31 when she touched the mark, but she is exonerated under either rule 21(b) or rule 64.1(a). Jagga’s appeal is dismissed.



**RRS18.3 Tacking in the Zone**  
 If a boat in the zone of a mark, she shall not cause a boat that has been on starboard tack since entering the zone to sail above close-hauled to avoid contact and she shall give mark-room if that boat becomes overlapped inside her.  
 When this rule applies between boats, rule 18.2 does not apply between them.

**Case 95**



**NOTES:**  
 1. Full details in the attached case.  
 2. Read: Definition "Keep clear".  
 3. Blue failed to give Yellow mark-room as required by RRS18.3. DSQ Blue.  
 4. When Blue failed to give Yellow the mark-room she was entitled to, Yellow was compelled to break RRS31 to avoid contact (RRS14) and is exonerated under RRS21(b).

4. Blue luffs. No contact.  
 Yellow changes course to avoid Blue & makes contact with the mark breaking RRS31.

3. Yellow is on Starboard in the zone.  
 Blue passes head to wind (RRS13-Keep clear) in the zone.  
 "RRS 18.2(d) - RRS18.2(b) & (c) cease to apply when the boat entitled to mark room.....if she passes head to wind....."  
 Blue is no longer entitled to mark-room under 18.2(b).  
 Yellow acquires an inside overlap to Leeward (RRS11) on Blue.  
 Read above RRS18.3. Blue is now required to give mark-room to Yellow.

2. F Yellow (Leeward-RoW) tacks (RRS13-Keep clear) onto Starboard (RRS10-RoW on Blue) and enters the zone subject to RRS15.  
 Yellow passes astern of Blue (Port).

1. RRS11 Both Boats overlapped on Port  
 Freebird F (Yellow) Leeward RoW  
 Jagga J (Blue) Windward Keep clear  
 RRS18.2(b) applies as J enters zone  
 "outside boat at that moment shall thereafter give the inside boat mark-room"  
 Blue entitled to mark-room