

**South of Perth Yacht Club**  
**Rules Session Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019**  
**Christina Heydon (National Judge)**

We continued to cover RRS18 – Mark Room.

**Handouts:**

1. Case 59 with Tactical Sailing Solution (TSS) pictures. The handout only had a TSS picture identical to the Case, with the wind from the top of the page. The PowerPoint presentation had an additional TSS picture where I added 2 extra positions. I have added this extra picture to the document. We can cover this again in future weeks.
2. Coffee Pointers Week 6 (April 2019) Who's "zone" is it?  
RRS18, Mark-room, Zone  
World Sailing Racing Rules Q&A - B 011 Q&A 2016.001  
Published: 5 January 2016
3. Coffee Pointers – Week 9 (April 2019)  
RRS18, Definitions: Mark-Room & Exoneration

**4. Homework handout.**

**NEXT SESSION MONDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JULY @ 1800**

**MOCK PROTEST & ARBITRATION**

Go to 22<sup>nd</sup> July link.

We will be covering Case 2.

The handout included a protest form with a diagram from Case 2 plus Case 2.

The homework is to fill in item 7 of the protest form.

Half the group First names A to L to be Protestor Boat A.

Half the group First names M to Z to be Protestor Boat B.

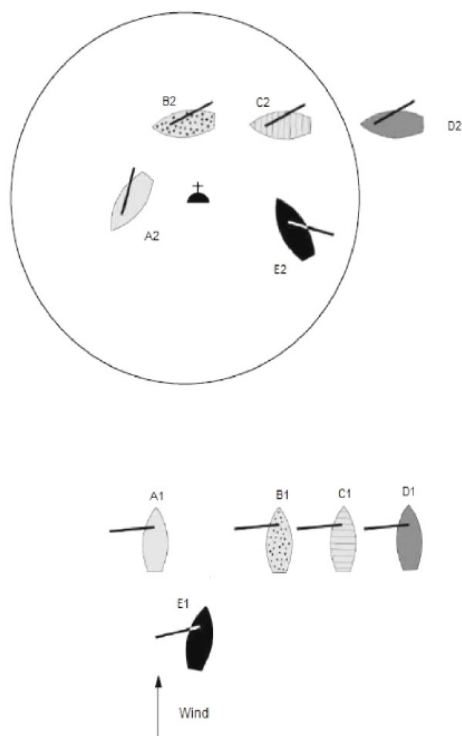
We have been discussing the items that are relevant for you to present at a protest, these include the wind, sea state, distances between the boats at various positions, zone. Fill in item 7 briefly (not War & Peace!) and make notes separately for presentation as if you are the Protestor.

**CASE 59**

**Rule 18.2(a), Mark-Room: Giving Mark-Room**

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

*When a boat comes abreast of a mark but is outside the zone, and when her change of course towards the mark results in a boat that is in the zone and that was previously clear astern becoming overlapped inside her, rule 18.2(a) requires her to give mark-room to that boat, whether or not her distance from the mark was caused by giving mark-room to other boats overlapped inside her.*



**Assumed Facts**

Five boats were approaching a leeward mark dead before the wind. Four of them were overlapped in line with A nearest the mark. The fifth boat, E, was clear astern of A, B and C when those three boats reached the zone.

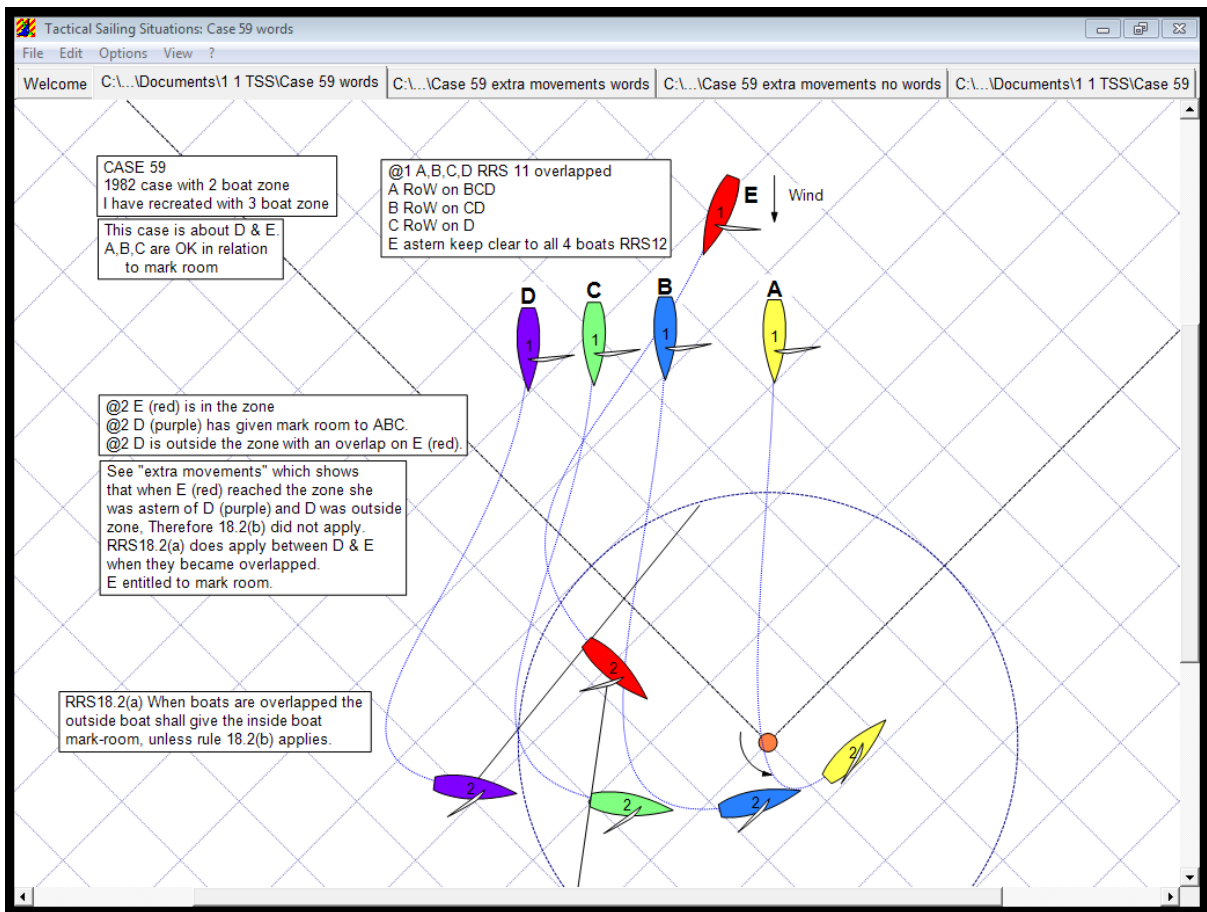
When D came abreast of the mark and turned to round it, E became overlapped inside D. This occurred after E had already reached the zone and before D reached it. E rounded the mark behind A, B and C but inside D, which was able to give mark-room to E.

**Question**

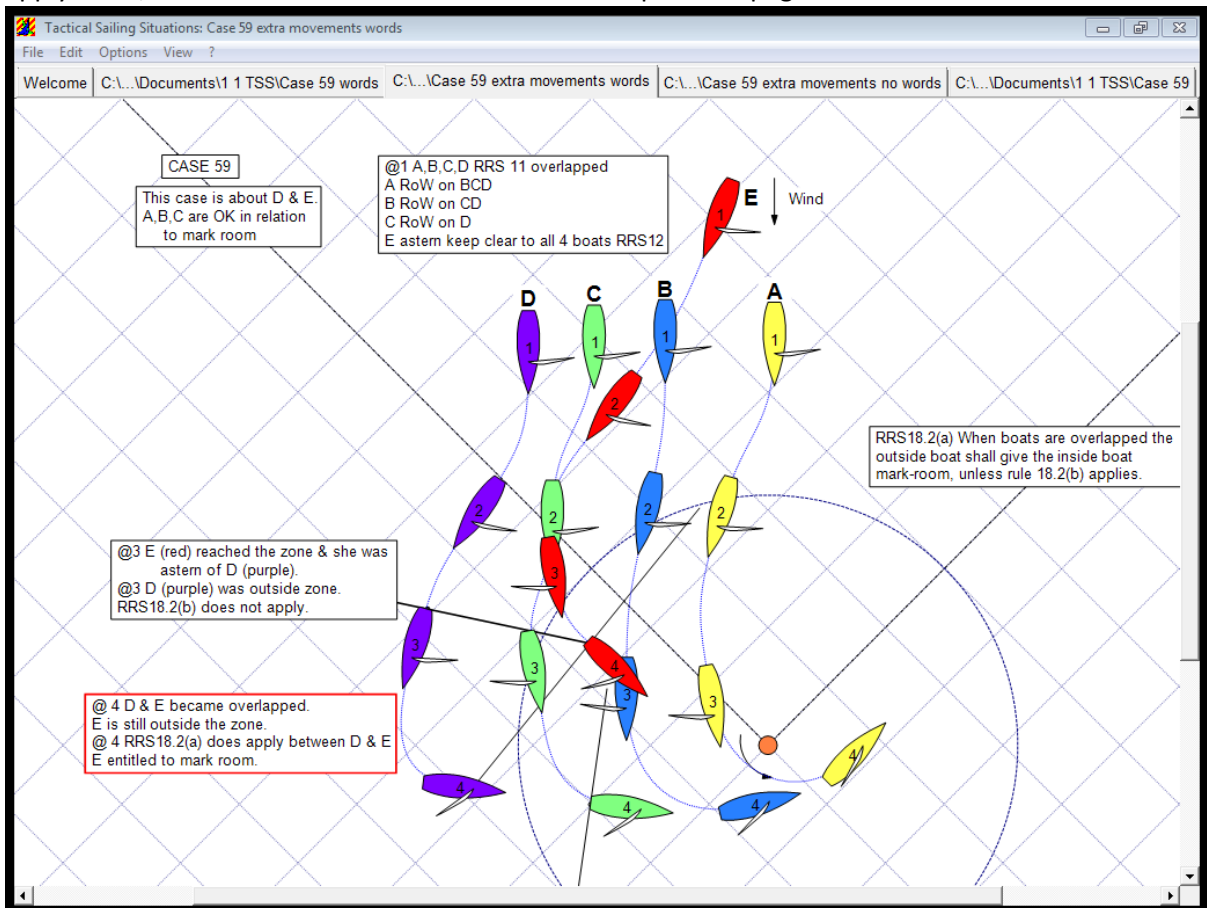
Was E entitled to mark-room under rule 18.2(a) from D?

**Answer**

Yes. Because E was clear astern of A, B and C when they reached the zone, she was required by rule 18.2(b) to give each of them mark-room. Between E and D, however, a different relationship developed. In order to leave room for the three inside boats with their booms fully extended, D had to approach the mark on a course that brought her abreast of it outside the zone. When E reached the zone, she was clear astern of D and D was still outside the zone. Therefore, rule 18.2(b) did not apply between D and E. When D changed course towards the mark, E obtained an inside overlap and rule 18.2(a) began to apply between D and E. E was entitled to mark-room under that rule, which D was able to give.



The above picture is in accordance with the Case. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> picture below I have added positions 2 & 3 (with position 4 becoming the same as the above pictures position 2). By putting the extra 2 positions in, you can see RED E enter the zone @ "3" with Purple "D" ahead! Read 18.2(b) – D & E are not overlapped and E is not clear ahead when she reached the Zone, therefore 18.2(b) does not apply. Now, re read the Answer with the Case on the previous page.



**RRS18 Mark-Room!**

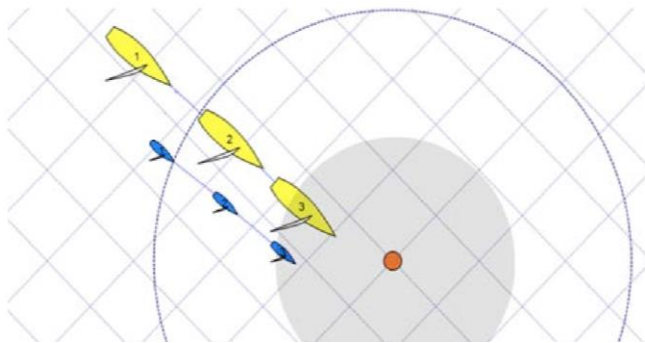
Over the following weeks we will cover RRS18. When we start talking about mark-room, the Zone and Big boat v Small boat comes into the equation. Please read RRS18 & the definitions Mark, Mark-Room & Zone.

**Definition: Zone: The area around a mark within a distance of 3 hull lengths of the boat nearer to it. A boat is in the zone when any part of her hull is in the zone.**

I am not going to "reinvent the wheel" as the following Q&A covers this.

**World Sailing Racing Rules Q&A - B 011 Q&A 2016.001 Published: 5 January 2016****Situation:**

1. There are different types of boats racing in a Yardstick race.
2. Two boats (different kinds & different boat lengths) are approaching a leeward mark.
3. In the diagram, the three-length zones for each of the two boat's hull lengths are drawn.



4. Position 1 Blue is clear ahead of Yellow.
5. Position 2 Yellow (sailing faster) establishes an inside overlap on Blue, but still Blue is the boat nearer to the mark.
6. Position 3 Before Yellow reached the smaller circle, she became the boat nearer to the mark.

**Question: How does rule 18 apply in respect of the mark rounding in these circumstances?**

**Who, if any, is entitled to mark-room?**

**Answer:**

1. In position 3, Yellow is entitled to mark-room under rule 18.2.
2. The zone in rule 18 is the area around the mark within a distance of 3 hull lengths of the boat nearer to the mark.
3. In position 1, Blue is nearer to the mark and therefore the zone based on three of Yellow's hull lengths is not relevant.
4. If Blue is still the boat nearer to the mark when she enters 'her' zone (before position 3), then Blue will be required to give mark-room to Yellow under the first sentence of rule 18.2(b).
5. However, if Yellow has become the boat nearer to the mark before Blue came within three of her hull lengths from the mark, the first sentence of rule 18.2(b) cannot apply. If they remain overlapped at the mark, rule 18.2(a) applies and requires Blue to give mark-room to Yellow while the boats are overlapped.

NOTE: IT HELPS WHEN READING RRS18.2(a) & 18.2(b) TO SPLIT THE SENTENCES UP & WORK THROUGH EACH ONE. DO ALL THE WORDS APPLY?

Edited by: Christina Heydon (National Judge)

This week I am enclosing a copy of RRS18-Mark-Room, RRS21-Exoneration and some of the relevant definitions. Please look at the rules, relevant to the cases, that I have included over the past weeks. There will be more mark-room cases and it is important to think about what each **part** of the rule states.

### SECTION C: AT MARKS AND OBSTRUCTIONS

Section C rules **do not apply** at a starting mark surrounded by navigable water or at its anchor line from the time boats are approaching them to start until they have passed them.

#### 18 MARK-ROOM

##### 18.1 When Rule 18 Applies

Rule 18 applies between boats when they are required to leave a mark on the same side and at least one of them is in the zone. However, it does not apply

- (a) between boats on opposite tacks on a beat to windward,
- (b) between boats on opposite tacks when the proper course at the mark for one but not both of them is to tack,
- (c) between a boat approaching a mark and one leaving it, or
- (d) if the mark is a continuing obstruction, in which case rule 19 applies.

##### 18.2 Giving Mark-Room

- (a) When boats are overlapped the outside boat shall give the inside boat mark-room, unless rule 18.2(b) applies.
- (b) If boats are overlapped when the first of them reaches the zone, the outside boat at that moment shall thereafter give the inside boat mark-room. If a boat is clear ahead when she reaches the zone, the boat clear astern at that moment shall thereafter give her mark-room.
- (c) When a boat is required to give mark-room by rule 18.2(b),
  - (1) she shall continue to do so even if later an overlap is broken or a new overlap begins;
  - (2) if she becomes overlapped inside the boat entitled to mark-room, she shall also give that boat room to sail her proper course while they remain overlapped.
- (d) Rules 18.2(b) and (c) cease to apply when the boat entitled to mark-room has been given that mark-room, or if she passes head to wind or leaves the zone.
- (e) If there is reasonable doubt that a boat obtained or broke an overlap in time, it shall be presumed that she did not.
- (f) If a boat obtained an inside overlap from clear astern or by tacking to windward of the other boat and, from the time the overlap began, the outside boat has been unable to give mark-room, she is not required to give it.

##### 18.3 Tacking in the Zone

If a boat in the zone of a mark to be left to port passes head to wind from port to starboard tack and is then fetching the 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.

##### 18.4 Gybing

When an inside overlapped right-of-way boat must gybe at a mark to sail her proper course, until she gybes she shall sail no farther from the mark than needed to sail that course. Rule 18.4 does not apply at a gate mark.

### DEFINITIONS

**Mark** - An object the sailing instructions require a boat to leave on a specified side, and a race committee vessel surrounded by navigable water from which the starting or finishing line extends. An anchor line or an object attached **accidentally** to a mark is not part of it.

**Mark-Room** - Room for a boat to leave a mark on the required side. Also,

- (a) room to sail to the mark when her proper course is to sail close to it, and
- (b) room to round the mark as necessary to sail the course.

However, mark-room for a boat **does not include room to tack** unless she is overlapped inside and to windward of the boat required to give mark-room **and she would be fetching the mark** after her tack.

**Zone** The area around a mark within a distance of three hull lengths of the boat nearer to it. A boat is in the zone when any part of her hull is in the zone.

### SECTION D - OTHER RULES

**21 EXONERATION** When a boat is sailing within the room or mark-room to which she is entitled, she shall be

exonerated if, in an incident with a boat required to give her that room or mark-room,

- (a) she breaks a rule of Section A, rule 15 or rule 16, or
- (b) she is compelled to break rule 31.