

## Extracts from Upwind Newsletters of October 2010 and October 2011

### Basic Sailing Rules:

#### Main right of way rules:[Part 2,Section A]



**Rule 10.** Boats on a port tack shall give way to boats on starboard tack.

**Rule 11.** When boats are on the same tack and overlapped, the boat to windward (the boat closest to the wind) shall keep clear of a leeward boat.

**Rule 12.** When boats are on the same tack and not overlapped, the boat that is astern shall keep clear of the boat ahead..

**Rule 13.** When a boat is tacking (changing tack) it shall keep clear of boats that are not tacking.

#### Rules with general limitations: [Part 2,Sec B]



**Rule 14.** Even if you have right-of-way, it is your duty to avoid a collision, once it becomes apparent that the other boat is not giving way.

**Rule 15.** If you acquire right of way, you must initially give the other boat room to keep clear, unless you get right of way because of the other boat's actions.

**Rule 16.** A boat that changes course, even if it has the right-of-way, shall do so in a manner that gives the burdened boat a chance to "keep clear" and give way.

**Rule 17.** If you catch up with another boat and you want to pass it to leeward, you may not sail above your proper course i.e you shall not luff higher than you would have done if that boat wasn't there.

**Rule 18.** Approaching a mark, when the first boat reaches the 4 boat length zone any boats overlapped inside must be given mark-room until the mark is rounded or it goes past head-to-wind. This does not apply to boats on opposite tacks at a windward mark where rule 10 applies.



*7. How much room do you need Geoff?*

### The Ten Commandments of Sailing:

1. Port keeps clear of starboard
2. Windward keeps clear of leeward
3. The boat astern keeps clear of the boat ahead
4. A boat tacking or gibing keeps clear of one that is not
5. Avoid collisions. Racing rules are defensive to prevent collisions, not offensive racing tactics
6. If you gain right of way or change course, give the other boat time to keep clear
7. The inside boat(s) at 4 boat lengths from the mark is entitled to room to round the mark
8. A boat that is backing up or not racing must keep clear
9. If you have violated a rule, take a 360 penalty
10. It is better to give way than to spend hours in the protest room (or get tangled)



The Port / Starboard rule also applies to boats on different legs. In this case John (11) going upwind on port should have kept clear of Geoff (40) going downwind on starboard.

However, tangling didn't help either win the race.