



# Paradise Radio Yacht Club (Inc.)

## RACING RULES OF SAILING WORKSHOP 2021 – 2024

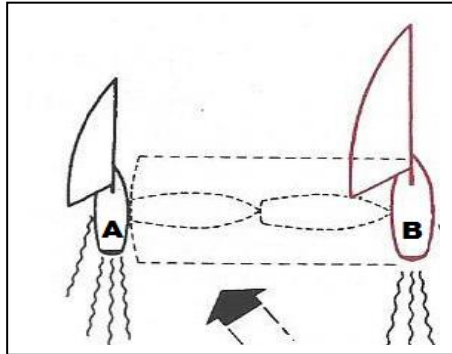
### MODULE 5 - Part 2 section B – GENERAL LIMITATIONS RRS 17 – ON THE SAME TACK; PROPER COURSE

1. In the last module we covered RRS 16 –CHANGING COURSE. This rule is found in Part 2 Section B – General Limitations.
2. Revision of Module four.
3. Rule 16 Key Points are:
  - a. The rule is turned on when a ROW boat alters course.
  - b. The rule is addressed to the ROW boat.
  - c. Unlike rule 15, rule 16 applies at all times.
  - d. The give-way boat must act promptly in a seamanlike manner to *keep clear* or risk losing the protection of this rule. and
  - e. A *starboard- tack* boat must not bear away if as a result, the *port-tacking* boat must immediately change course.

### Part 2 section B – GENERAL LIMITATIONS RRS – 17 – ON THE SAME TACK; PROPER COURSE

6. **OBJECTIVE:** At the end of this module, you will be able to:
  - c. Identify the obligations of a right-of-way boat under rule 17.
  - c. State the definition of *Proper Course*. and
  - d. State the exception to rule 17.
7. R 17. ON THE SAME TACK; PROPER COURSE

If a boat *clear astern* becomes *overlapped* within two of her hull lengths to *leeward* of a boat on the same *tack*, she shall not sail above her *proper course* while they remain on the same *tack* and *overlapped* within that distance, unless in doing so she promptly sails astern of the other boat. This rule does not apply if the *overlap* begins while the *windward* boat is required by rule 13 to *keep clear*.



### Definition of *Proper Course*

***Proper Course*** A course a boat would choose in order to *sail the course* and *finish* as soon as possible in the absence of the other boats referred to in the rule using the term. A boat has no *proper course* before her starting signal.

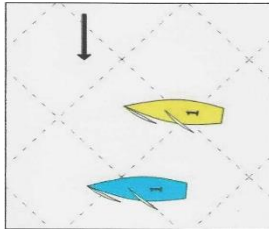
8. A protest under rule 17 is difficult to prove. A boat sailing on her own can sail any course she chooses. Rule 17 applies because another boat is near. This rule does not prevent a boat from sailing her *proper course*, that is the course she would sail if the other boat was not there. This rule restricts her from sailing above this course. It is the leeward boat's proper course that is relevant. This may be different from the course the windward boat wants to sail and not necessarily the course the windward boat believes the leeward boat's proper course should be. The only option for a windward boat in this situation is to *keep clear* of the *leeward* boat and protest if she believes the leeward boat is sailing above his proper course.
9. Key requirements for 17 are:
- a. Overlap must be established from clear astern, closer than 2 boat lengths.
  - b. Overlap must be established to leeward with boats on the same tack.
  - c. Leeward boat must not sail above her *proper course* while the these circumstances remain unchanged.
  - d. R 17 does not apply if the *overlap* begins while the *windward* boat is required by R 13 to *keep clear*.
  - e. The starting signal must have been made (R17 does not apply before the starting signal as there is no proper course before the start.)
10. There are several ways that limitations under R 17 may end:
- a. If either boat gybes to an opposite tack the limitations will end and do not begin again if either gybe back and boats are on the same tack.
  - b. If either boat becomes clear ahead or clear astern. or
  - c. If the gap between boats opens to more than two of the leeward boat hull lengths.

## Rule 17 – On the Same Tack, Proper Course - SailZing

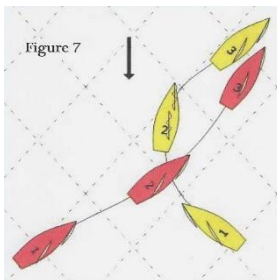
<https://sailzing.com> › racing-rules-of-sailing-2021-2024..

11. See how you are going. Complete the test of objectives below for this modular.
12. In our next module we will commence the rules of Section C. titled AT MARKS AND OBSTRUCTIONS.
13. Further reading on this subject can be found in John's RC Sailing Rules and Tactics, Chapter 8: Proper Course, by John Ball at:  
<https://sites.google.com/site/johnsrcsailingrulesandtactics/>

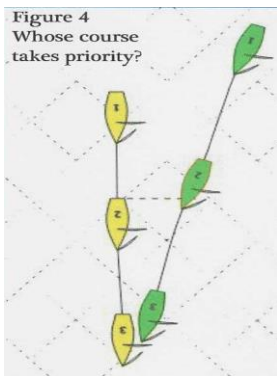
## TEST OF OBJECTIVES RRS 17 – ON THE SAME TACK; PROPER COURSE



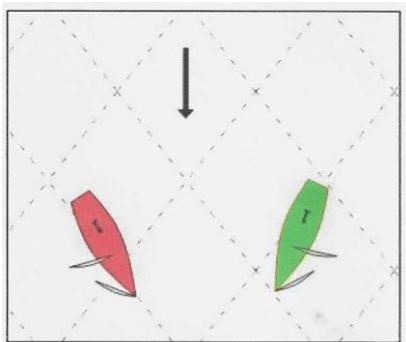
1. In the diagram below, yellow traveling faster than blue has come from behind and established an overlap. Is yellow restricted by R 17?
2. Is Blue restricted by rule 17?



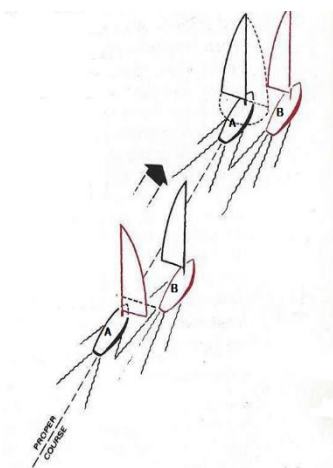
3. In this diagram, is red restricted by R 17 at position 2?



4. In this diagram, is green bound by R17 at position 2?
5. Is green complying with R17 at position 3?
6. Is green bound by rule 16 at position 3?
7. What action does yellow have to take at position 3?



8. In this diagram, is green bound by R 17?



9. At position 1 is A bound by R 17?

10. Half way between positions 1 and 2, A gybes onto starboard tack and gains an overlap. Is A bound by R 17 at position 2?

#### ANSWERS:

1. No. Yellow is a windward boat.
2. No. Blue acquired ROW because of the actions of yellow.
3. No. The overlap began while the windward boat, yellow, was required by R 13 to *keep clear*.
4. Yes. Green has established her overlay from clear astern closer than 2 boat lengths.
5. Yes. Green is sailing her proper course. R 17 restricts a boat from sailing above her proper course.
6. No. Green has not altered course.
7. Yellow is a windward boat and *must keep clear* of green.
8. No. The boats are on opposite tacks so R 17 does not apply.
9. No. The boats were on opposite tacks and are not *overlapped*. B is on starboard and A on port must *keep clear*.
10. Yes. A is now on the same tack and obtained an overlap from clear astern, within two of her hull lengths to leeward when the overlap began.