

## IASF Rule Changes for RRS 2013 – 2016

### Rule 20 Changes

#### Old rule 20

#### 20 ROOM TO TACK AT AN OBSTRUCTION

##### 20.1 Hailing and Responding

When approaching an obstruction, a boat sailing close-hauled or above may hail for room to tack and avoid another boat on the same tack. After a boat hails,

- (a) she shall give the hailed boat time to respond;
- (b) the hailed boat shall respond either by tacking as soon as possible, or by immediately replying 'You tack' and then giving the hailing boat room to tack and avoid her; and
- (c) when the hailed boat responds, the hailing boat shall tack as soon as possible.

##### 20.2 Exoneration

When a boat is taking room to which she is entitled under rule 20.1(b), she shall be exonerated if she breaks a rule of Section A or rule 15 or 16.

##### 20.3 When Not to Hail

A boat shall not hail unless safety requires her to make a substantial course change to avoid the obstruction. Also, she shall not hail if the obstruction is a mark that the hailed boat is fetching.

#### New Rule 20

#### 20 ROOM TO TACK AT AN OBSTRUCTION

##### 20.1 Hailing

When approaching an obstruction, a boat may hail for room to tack and avoid a boat on the same tack. However, she shall not hail if

- (a) she can avoid the obstruction safely without making a substantial course change,
- (b) she is sailing below close-hauled, or
- (c) the obstruction is a mark and a boat that is fetching it would be required to respond and change course.

##### 20.2 Responding

(a) After a boat hails, she shall give the hailed boat time to respond.

(b) The hailed boat shall respond even if the hail breaks rule 20.1.

(c) The hailed boat shall respond either by tacking as soon as possible, or by immediately replying 'You tack' and then giving the hailing boat room to tack and avoid her.

(d) When the hailed boat responds, the hailing boat shall tack as soon as possible.

(e) From the time a boat hails until she has tacked and avoided the hailed boat, rule 18.2 does not apply between them.

### 20.3 Passing On a Hail to an Additional Boat

When a boat has been hailed for room to tack and she intends to respond by tacking, she may hail another boat on the same tack for room to tack and avoid her. She may hail even if her hail does not meet the conditions of rule 20.1. Rule 20.2 applies between her and the boat she hails.

### Discussion

The changes made to Rule 20 are to make it easier to understand. The new Rule 20.3 is an important change that provides that a boat that has been hailed for room to tack, may hail another boat on the same tack for room to tack even though her hail does not meet the conditions of Rule 20.1. You should notice that Rule 20.2 in the old rule, covered exoneration and is not part of the new rule 20. Since Rule 20 is a Part 2, Section C Rule, the exoneration in Rule 21 now covers Rule 20.