

IYT / SiA RULES OF THE ROAD

What does 'Rules of the Road' mean?

The phrase 'Rules of the Road', refers to a set of regulations, enshrined in maritime law that all water users must comply with. It is similar to the Highway Code for motorists!

How many Rules are there?

There are 38 rules altogether (and 4 annexes) covering everything from lights we should exhibit at night, to who gives way to who and why!

Do I need to know all of these rules?

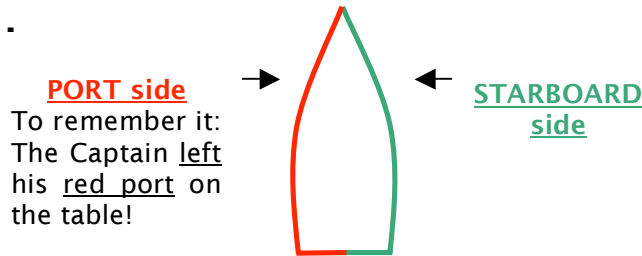
You should have a working knowledge of the rules and be aware of the main rules. One of these is Rule 12. Look below!

Where can I find out more?

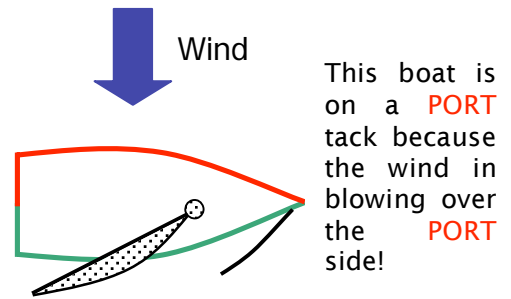
The 'Rules of the Road' form part of the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea (IRPCS). Your local nautical bookshop should have a copy!

Background Knowledge:

1.



2.

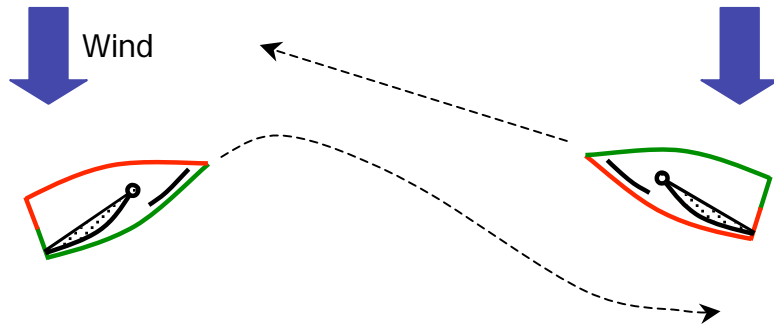


RULE 12 - Sailing Vessels

When you are sailing on busy waters, there will be times when a risk of collision exists between your vessel and another. To decide who must give way, we use Rule 12, which is split into three parts. These parts are listed below in the order of priority that is taken:

Part 1 - Opposite tacks.

When two vessels are on opposite tacks, so as to involve the risk of collision (shown), the vessel sailing on a PORT tack vessel shall give way.



Part 2 - Same tacks.

When two vessels are on the same tack, so as to involve the risk of collision, (shown) the boat sailing nearest the wind shall give way.

