



SCOWLINES

Sportsmanship Edition

*Publication of
Inland Lake Yachting Association*

Volume 1, Issue 15

July 10, 2018

Rule of the Week



The ILYA #FAIRSAILING Initiative

And HERE IT IS:

[Video presentations](#) - Rule by Rule

Accessing the quiz:

- Go to the #FairSailing page at SailZing.com.
- [Register for an account at SailZing](#) or log in with your existing account.
- [Click on the link for the #FairSailing Rules Quiz.](#)
- Take the quiz. After submitting your answers you will see the results, with the correct answers explained.

Editor's Comments

I was sent an envelope this week from Ellen and Bill Bentsen. As the ILYA began this endeavor, I recalled the effort of Bill in the massive simplification of the Racing Rules of Sailing back in the late 1990s. (This became known as the Experimental Right-of-Way Rules.) Representing US Sailing, Bill came to the ILYA as one of the larger Yacht Racing Associations in the country with then six classes of boats. He asked us to test the proposed rules. This began as a major overhaul of sailing rules as we knew it. But there we were, the ILYA, learning the rules. I will list their objectives below as they are applicable to us as ILYA sailors as we travel our own path with the execution of the rules with this #FAIRSAILING endeavor.

As a member of the ILYA Board and then Commodore, I had the privilege of listening to Bill and Dick Rose. We ultimately invited Dick Rose out to our Winter Inland to speak. It was then I realized the importance of a set of rules that are not devised by local lakes, or classes of boats but by internationally knowledgeable men who care to have consistency and fairness in our sport. To sit in my formative years at the knee of Rose (who probably doesn't even remember he spoke at that One Design Symposium) and to reside in a region with a resource such as Bentsen, shaped who I would become as an ILYA leader. So today on July 4th as I review Ellen's package, I am again re-invigorated with pride in who we are in the ILYA and how much we prize our skill and fair play but also with awe for these two men who really shaped the Racing Rules of Sailing. Now the younger crowd turns to Dave Dellenbaugh and Dave Perry who carry the baton in such an impassioned manner but also in a modern presentation format which makes you long for more.

And. . . Here we are today with a program that intends to help the ILYA build our clubs. We all see new residents moving on our lakes, intrigued by this sport of ours and wondering how to quickly get up to speed. Our simple, straightforward presentation gets you there in a way we have not utilized before. We all struggle with differing skills of sailors on our race courses. We want the course to be fair for those at the top, fun for those who may never be that champion - we all want a fair playing field and what better way to achieve that than learning the basics to keep the local racing safe, competitive and consistent. We see the competitive nature of sports today where, perhaps, winning at all costs is tempting. That's not who we are - not by our natural Midwest upbringing, not in the sport we chose. But how do our children move from the "win" philosophy seen in today's sports to fair sailing 100% of the time? There is no such thing as halfway. We have always espoused a level of fairness here at home, heralded our heroes and told their tales of sportsmanship. We know what is important and celebrate the victories of the spirit and of character with higher regard than anything else. So this ILYA initiative encourages all that -sportsmanship, ethical play, inviting experiences which can be safe with a consistent playing field. It's a rejuvenation of sorts. And an important one.

Enjoy a visit to the past as included in Bill Bentsen's material.

From January, 1997 Sailing World (with generous support from UK Sailmakers)

"But first, a bit of history. The rules we have been using until now were originally conceived by Harold Vanderbilt. They have been modified in a piecemeal fashion after each of the last 10 Olympics. With each revision, the rules gradually became a bit longer, a bit more poorly organized. ...ISAF challenged its Racing Rules Committee to write a much simpler set of rules by 1997. They were even willing to consider some changes in the "game" if that was needed to achieve simplicity.

The rules are designed to:

- *embody principles of fairness acceptable to most sailors,*
- *discourage contact,*
- *permit close maneuvering with a minimum of anxiety,*
- *encourage sailing fast and discourage impeding others,*
- *minimize exceptions and rules for unusual situations, and*
- *use simple, familiar language."*

So we in the ILYA are tapping into those words. We want to embody those principles of fairness above all. We want to welcome new sailors to our clubs and fleets by discouraging contact and sailing with a minimum of anxiety. Could there be anything faster than our flat-bottomed scows? And we want our youth and elders to understand by a clear, simple and familiar method of presentation. So why this project? This is US, standing at the lead but, mostly, following where we have been led by men like Bill Bentsen.

Now, open that rulebook and look at the small number of pages that address how we sail on the water, pages 11-15. And those five pages determine the fun you have sailing with your fellow competitors and often friends. Is it ever too late or too often that we need to remind ourselves where we come from in our sailing and what shapes our style of racing? If you happen to see Bill Bentsen this summer, thank him and thank him sincerely because he has shaped what you do on the water today. Or send him a note for his efforts some twenty years ago which we are teaching today. His vision along with truly a small group of the most dedicated, cerebral and precise men have given us guidelines that will last for many years to help us remain safe, consistent and sportsmanlike in this joy we pursue.

---- Speaking of those who have given time and talent to this sport, thanks to Terry Bischoff who has become our proofreader or tester. First he provided corrections and, then, we just put him to work. He willingly accepted our request to assist. Thank you.



May
Rules of Week to be featured
1 - Basic Principles, Rules 2-3
8 -

Rule 10 On Opposite Tacks
15 -
Rule 11 On Same Tack, Overlapped
22 -
Rule 12 On Same Tack, Not
Overlapped
29 - Rule 13 While Tacking

June
Visits to Clubs and Sailing Schools
4 - Nagawicka Rules Presentation
I
5 - Rules 14 Avoiding Contact, and
Rule 15 - Acquiring Right of Way
7 - Pewaukee Rules Presentation
11 - Nagawicka Rules Presentation
II
12 Rule 16 Changing Course
19 Rule 17 On the Same Tack,
Changing Course
26
Rule 18.1-2 When Rule 18 Applies
and
Giving Mark Room

July
3 - Rule 18.3
Tacking in the Zone; Rule 18.4
Gybing

#FAIRSAILING
Representatives
Beulah - John Porter
Okoboji - Kelli Farrar
Pewaukee - Rick Roy
Northern WI or Upper
Michigan - Pete
Kulenkamp

Committee presenters:
John Porter
Bruce Martinson

RULE OF THE WEEK - RULES 19 and 20

All videos are contributed by UK Sailmakers, the text was organized by SailZing.

Rule 18 addresses room at marks. Rules 19 and 20 take a similar approach to address room at obstructions. Rule 19 addresses room to pass an obstruction. Rule 20 addresses room to tack at an obstruction. Remember that these rules are in Part 2, Section C and therefore do not apply at a starting mark surrounded by navigable water or its anchor line.

Rule 19 - Room to Pass an Obstruction

Rule 19.1 - When Rule 19 Applies

"Rule 19 applies between two boats at an *obstruction* except

(a) when the *obstruction* is a *mark* the boats are required to leave on the same side, or
 (b) when rule 18 applies between the boats and the *obstruction* is another boat *overlapped* with each of them.

However, at a continuing *obstruction*, rule 19 always applies and rule 18 does not."

Rule 19.2 - Giving Room at an Obstruction

"(a) A right-of-way boat may choose to pass an *obstruction* on either side.

(b) When boats are *overlapped*, the outside boat shall give the inside boat *room* between her and the *obstruction*, unless she has been unable to do so from the time the *overlap* began.

(c) While boats are passing a continuing *obstruction*, if a boat that was *clear astern* and required to *keep clear* becomes *overlapped* between the other boat and the *obstruction* and, at the moment the overlap begins, there is not *room* for her to pass between them, she is not entitled to *room* under rule 19.2(b). While the boats remain *overlapped*, she shall *keep clear* and rules 10 and 11 do not apply."

Definitions

Obstruction An object that a boat could not pass without changing course substantially, if she were sailing directly towards it and one of her hull lengths from it. An object that can be safely passed on only one side and an area so designated by the sailing instructions are also obstructions. However, a boat racing is not an obstruction to other boats unless they are required to keep clear of her or, if rule 23 applies, avoid her. A vessel under way, including a boat racing, is never a continuing obstruction..

Previously-defined terms (click to refresh your memory): [mark](#), [room](#), [overlap](#), [keep clear](#) and [markroom](#)

Rule 19 Key Points

- Rule 19 does not apply when the obstruction is a mark or in mark-room situations with more than two boats overlapped.
- Under Rule 19, the right-of-way boat gets to choose which side to pass an obstruction.
- The outside boat must give inside overlapped boats room to pass an obstruction. This does not apply at a continuing obstruction if the inside boat becomes overlapped from clear astern with no room to pass.

Scenarios

For each scenario, read the description, watch the animation by clicking on the link below the picture, and decide your answer to the question. Then click the Answer link to check your thinking.

#1 "Starting line"

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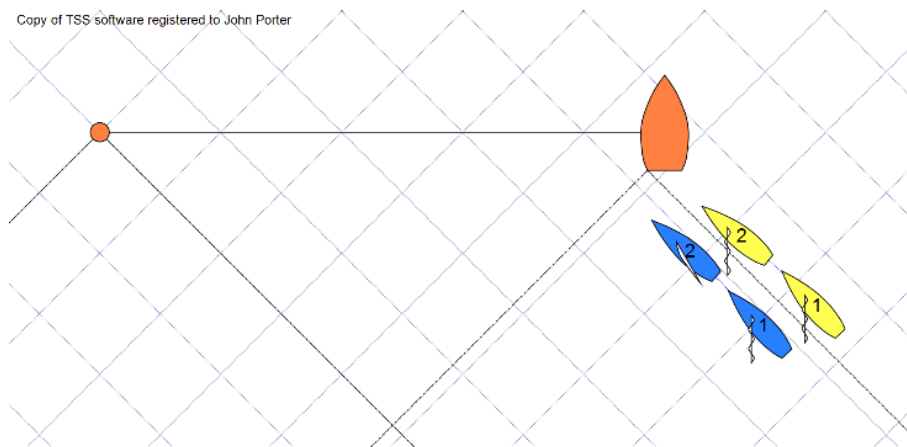
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Click [here](#) to see animation.

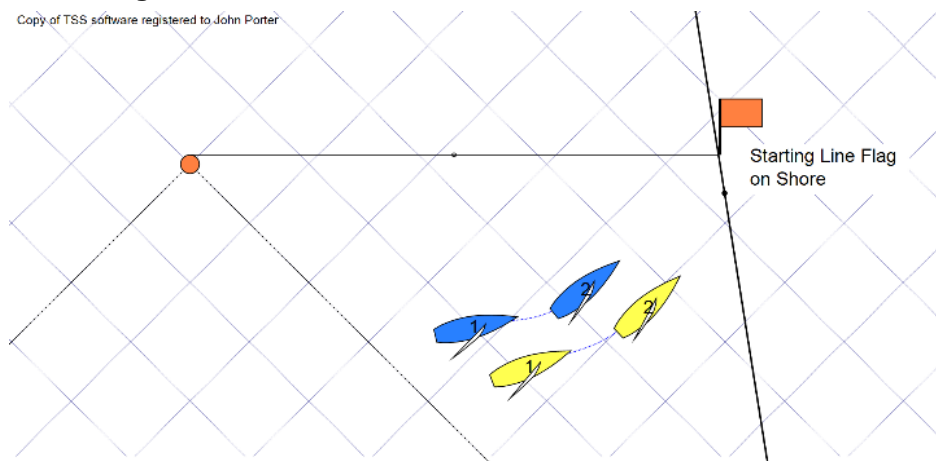
Description:

Yellow and Blue are approaching the race committee boat at the starting line, prior to the start.

Is Blue required to give Yellow room to pass the inside the RC boat? [Answer](#)

#2 "Starting Line on Shore "

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Click [here](#) for animation.

Description:

Yellow and Blue are approaching a starting line that has one end on shore.

Does Rule 19 apply in this situation? [Answer](#)

#3 "Over or Under"



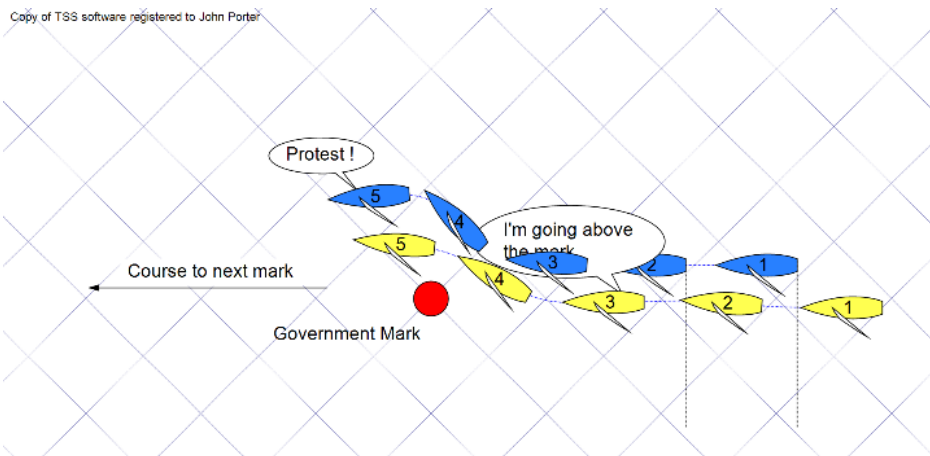
**Thanks to
Bruce Martinson,
Al Haeger
and
John Porter
for their leadership and
volunteer efforts to
further
ILYA #FAIRSAILING**

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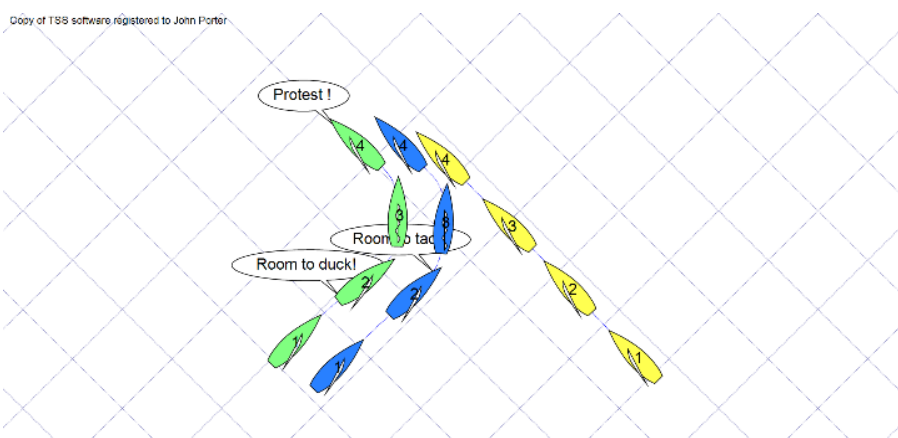
Click [here](#) for animation

Description:

Yellow and Blue are reaching to the next mark, with a government mark in their path. Yellow establishes an overlap from behind and is bound by rule 17 to sail no higher than her proper course. As the boats approach the government mark, Yellow decides to sail to windward of the mark. Blue alleges Yellow broke rule 17 because she could have sailed to leeward of the mark.

Is Yellow required to sail to leeward of the obstruction? [Answer](#)

#4 "Which Room Wins?"



Click [here](#) for animation

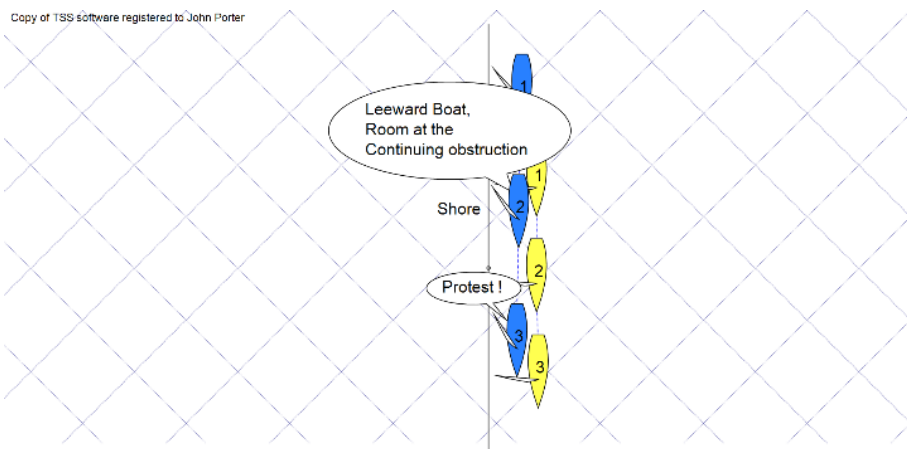
Description:

Blue and Green approach Yellow, a starboard boat and an obstruction. Both Yellow and Green hail for room. Green wants to duck Yellow and Blue wants to tack. Blue tacks. Green protests, alleging Blue broke Rule 19.2. There was no contact.

Did Blue break Rule 19.2? [Answer](#)

Could Blue duck while forcing Green to tack? [Answer](#)

#5 "Overlap from Astern"



Click [here](#) for animation.

Description:

Yellow and Blue are sailing along a shore, which is a continuing obstruction. Blue overlaps Yellow from clear astern. Blue asks Yellow to head up, alleging she is entitled to room.

Is Yellow required to give room to Blue? [Answer](#)

Rule 20 - Room to Tack at an Obstruction

Rule 20.1 - Hailing

"A boat may hail for *room* to tack and avoid a boat on the same *tack*. However, she shall not hail unless

- (a) she is approaching an *obstruction* and will soon need to make a substantial course change to avoid it safely, and
- (b) she is sailing close-hauled or above.

In addition, she shall not hail if the *obstruction* is a *mark* and a boat that is *fetching* it would be required to change course as a result of the hail."

Rule 20.2 - Responding

- "(a) After a boat hails, she shall give a hailed boat time to respond.
- (b) A hailed boat shall respond even if the hail breaks rule 20.1.
- (c) A 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 a 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 a hailed boat, rule 18.2 does not apply between them."

Rule 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 a boat she hails"

Definitions

Previously-defined terms (click to refresh your memory): [fetching](#)

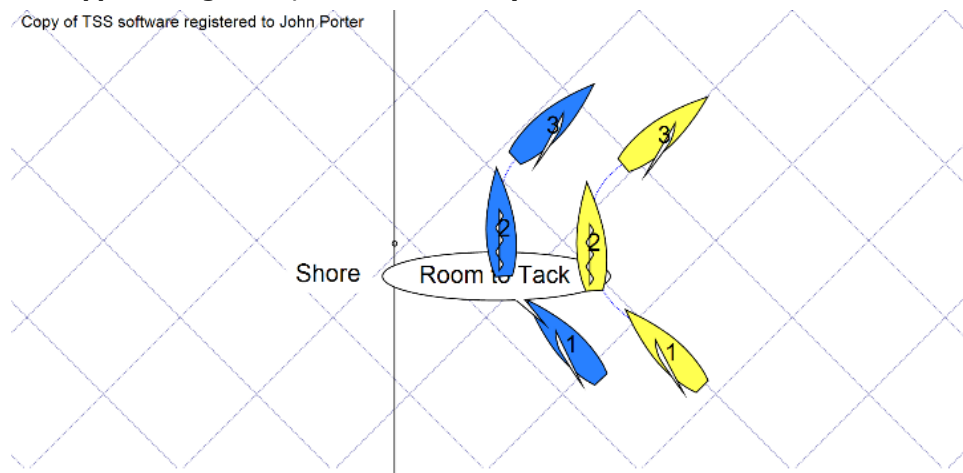
Rule 20 Key Points

- Rule 20 is one of only two rules that require hailing. You must hail "room to tack" when approaching an obstruction if you need to avoid a boat on the same tack.
- The hailed boat must respond either by tacking as soon as possible or by hailing "you tack."
- When a hailed boat responds, the hailing boat must tack as soon as possible.
- The hailed boat may pass on the hail for room to tack to another boat.

Scenarios

#6 - "Approaching Shore, Tack Immediately"

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Click [here](#) for animation

Description:

Yellow and Blue are approaching a shore, sailing close-hauled. Blue hails "room to tack." Yellow tacks immediately and Blue begins her tack as soon as Yellow does.

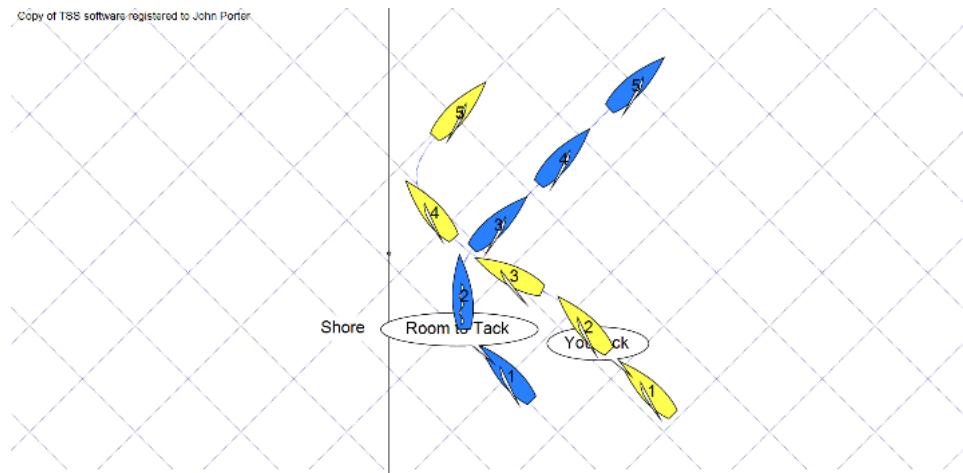
Was Yellow required to hail in response to Blue's hail? [Answer](#)

Could Blue have hailed for room to tack if she were reaching? [Answer](#)

After Yellow tacked, could Blue have sailed further before tacking? [Answer](#)

#- 7 "Approaching Shore, You Tack"

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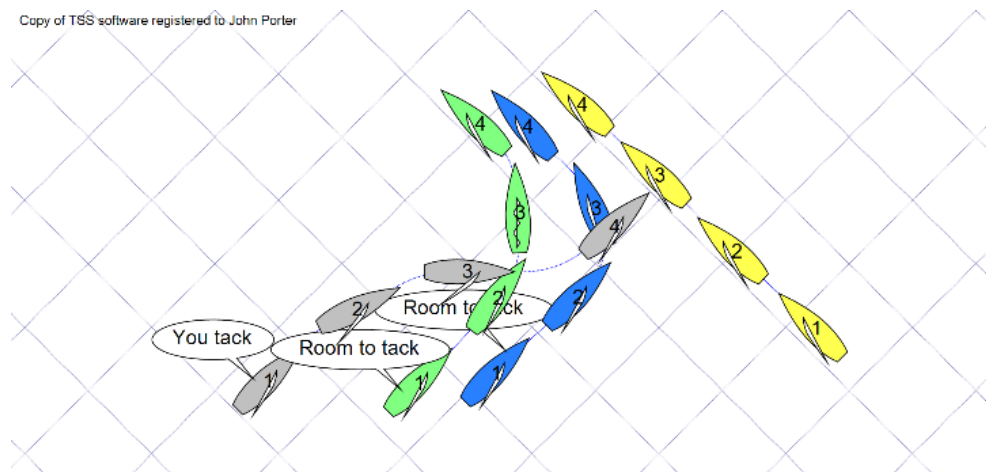
Click [here](#) for animation

Description: Yellow and Blue are approaching a shore, sailing close-hauled. Blue hails "room to tack." Yellow hails "You tack," and ducks Blue.

Could Yellow also tack immediately after responding? [Answer](#)

#8 - "Passing on the Hail"

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Click [here](#) for animation

Description: Blue, Green, and Grey are approaching Yellow, an obstruction. Blue hails "room to tack." Green passes on the hail to Grey by saying "room to tack." Grey responds "you tack." Blue and Green tack, and Grey ducks.

Could Green have decided to hail "you tack" in response to Blue's hail? [Answer](#)

Was Grey required to respond to Green's hail? [Answer](#)

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