



SYRA Case Study #3

Leeward Port-Starboard At Finish

The Racing Rules of Sailing apply as changed by Appendix SY.

Blue and Yellow, both 37 metre yachts approach the finishing line overlapped on opposite tacks (see the last sentence of the definition *Clear Astern and Clear Ahead; Overlap*). The sailing instructions define the finishing line as being between an orange flag on the race committee signal boat and an orange cylinder buoy on the other end. However, an inner limit mark (ILM) is set near the signal boat which both boats must leave to starboard. RRS 18.2(b) applies at position 2 when Blue enters the zone, 300 metres from the mark. At that time, Yellow, the outside boat is obligated under RRS 18.2(b) to give Blue, the inside boat, *mark room*, which in this case, includes *room* to sail to the *mark* and *room* to leave the mark on the required side with no less than 40 metres between the boats.

Yellow breaks rule 18.2(b) just before position 4 when the boats came within less than 40 metres of each other. Note that if Blue hits the mark, or fails to keep clear of Yellow on starboard, she will be exonerated under RRS 21 because Yellow failed to give her *mark room*.

