Rule 18 Workshop

Chris Atkins
RYA Racing Rules Committee

Workshop Contents

Basic Framework of Part 2 Rules

Rule 18 explained

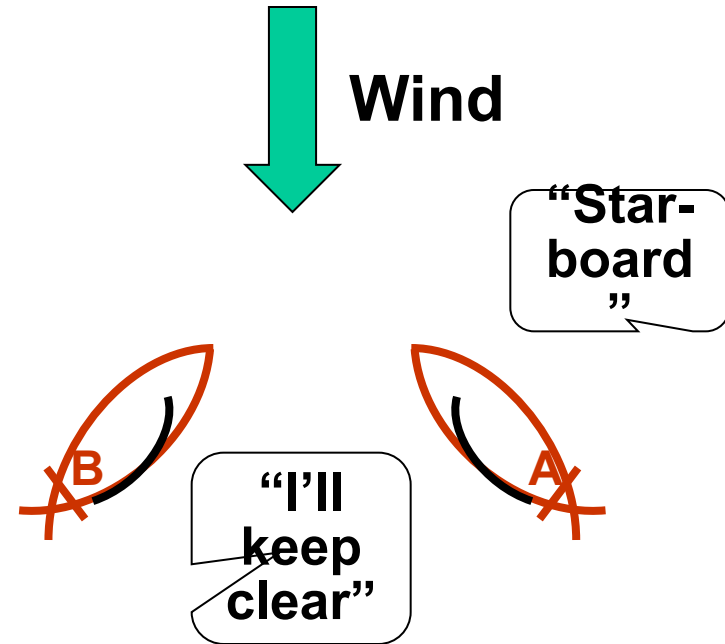**Rule 18 applied to situations**

Basic Framework of Part 2 Rules

Wind

"Star-board"

For any pair of boats:

One boat has to *keep clear*
&
the other is right-of-way boat

"I'll keep clear"

B

A

Boats may have additional obligations:

Rule 14: to avoid contact

Rule 15, 16 & 18: to give *room*

Rule 17: not to sail above / below *proper course*

What does Rule 18 Cover?

- Applies at *marks* and *obstructions*

- Designed to enable boats to go round *marks* & *obstructions* without risk of contact

- Usually requires outside boat to give inside boat *room* to pass the *mark* or *obstruction*

  - *Room* here is *room* "on the inside" & includes *room* to tack or gybe when part of manoeuvre

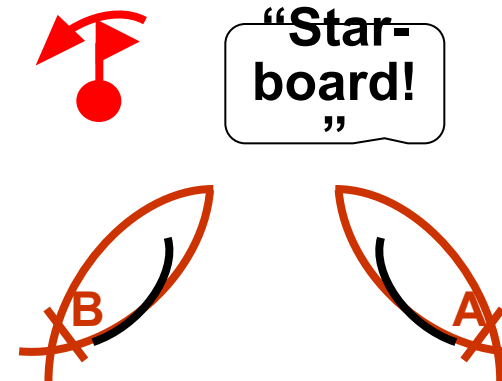- Sometimes over-rides "normal" right of way rules

When does Rule 18 Apply?

Applies at a *mark* or *obstruction*:

- being left on the same side
- when boats are about to pass it
- until they both have passed it

"Room please"

It does NOT apply:

- at a starting *mark* when *starting*
- to boats on opposite tacks on a beat

"Star-board!"

Rule 18.2: the Main Rule

a When *overlapped*, outside boat at a *mark* shall give inside boat *room* except that:

b if *overlapped* at 2 lengths, outside boat must give *room* even if overlap then broken

– and must also *keep clear* if she becomes astern or inside

c if one boat is *clear ahead* at 2 lengths, the other shall *keep clear* (and give *room* if later *overlapped*)

– but if boat *clear ahead* tacks, this rule stops applying

d and if right-of-way boat changes course <u>to round a mark</u>, rule 16 [altering course] does not apply

Rule 18.3: Special Tacking Rule
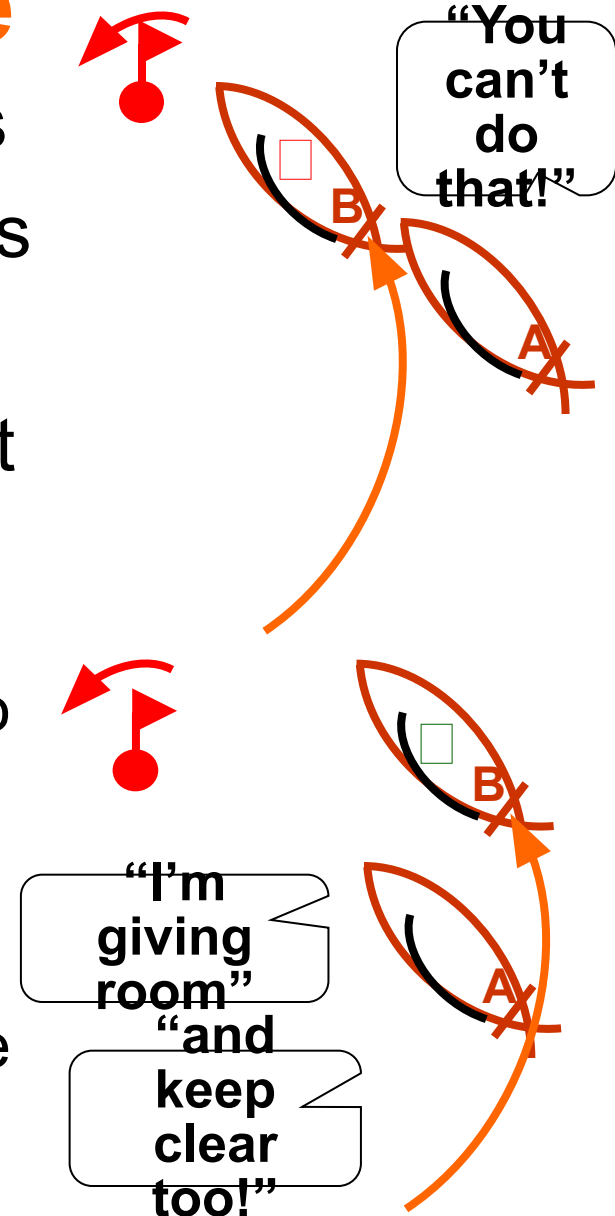
If: boats A & B were on opposite tacks

&: B completes a tack inside 2 lengths when A is fetching the *mark*

1   Rule 18.2 (previous slide) does not apply

2   B shall not

– cause A to sail above close-hauled to avoid her

– prevent A from passing the *mark*

3   B shall give *room* if A becomes *overlapped* inside her   (& rule 15 [acquiring r-o-w] doesn't apply)
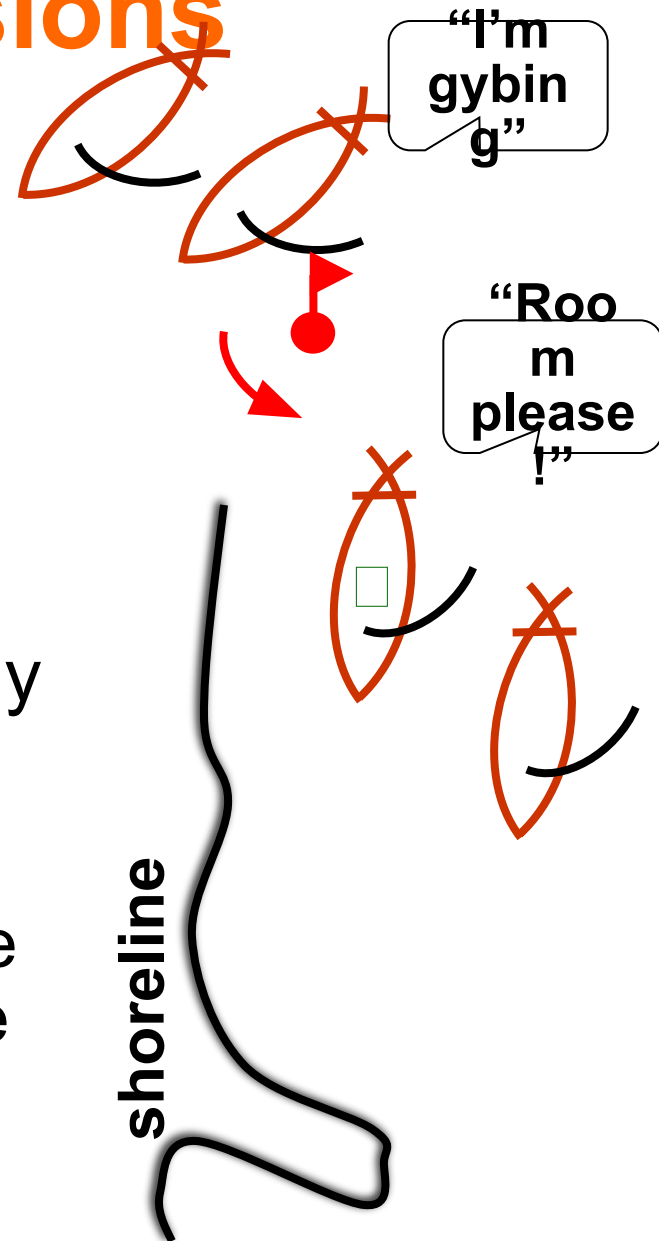
Rules 18.4 & 18.5: Other Provisions

Gybing

- When inside *overlapped* r-o-w boat must gybe at *mark* to sail her *proper course*, she must do so close to *mark*

Continuous Obstruction

- 2 length rules (18.2b & c) don't apply
- When boat astern establishes inside *overlap*
  - she is only entitled to *room* if there is *room* to pass at the moment the *overlap* is established
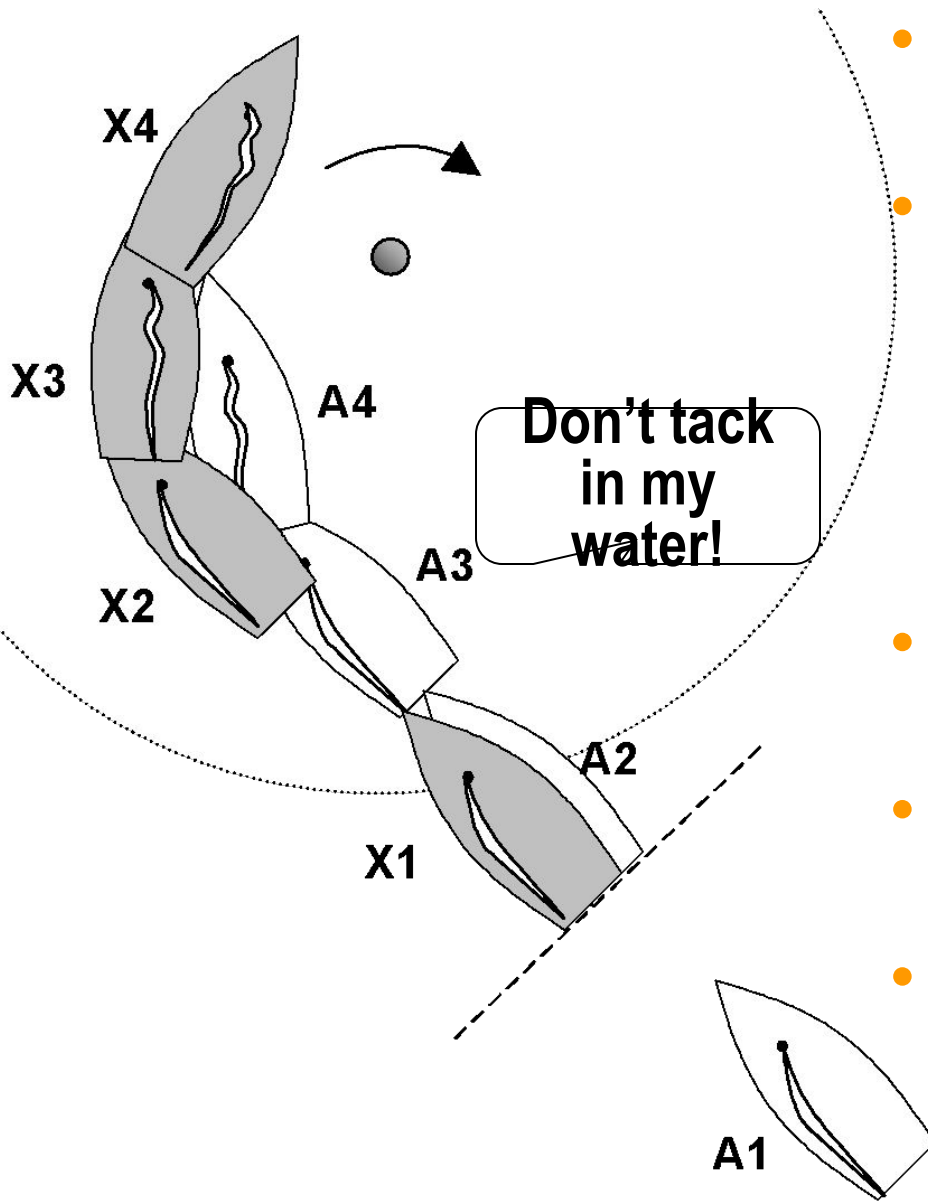 - if not, she must *keep clear*

"I'm gybing"

"Room please!"

shoreline

Rule 18 Summary

Easy, isn't it? 4 steps to heaven ....

1 Does rule 18 apply? Which paragraph?

2 Which boat has right-of-way?

- as rule 18 sometimes over-rides normal r-o-w

3 Does outside boat have to give inside boat *room*?
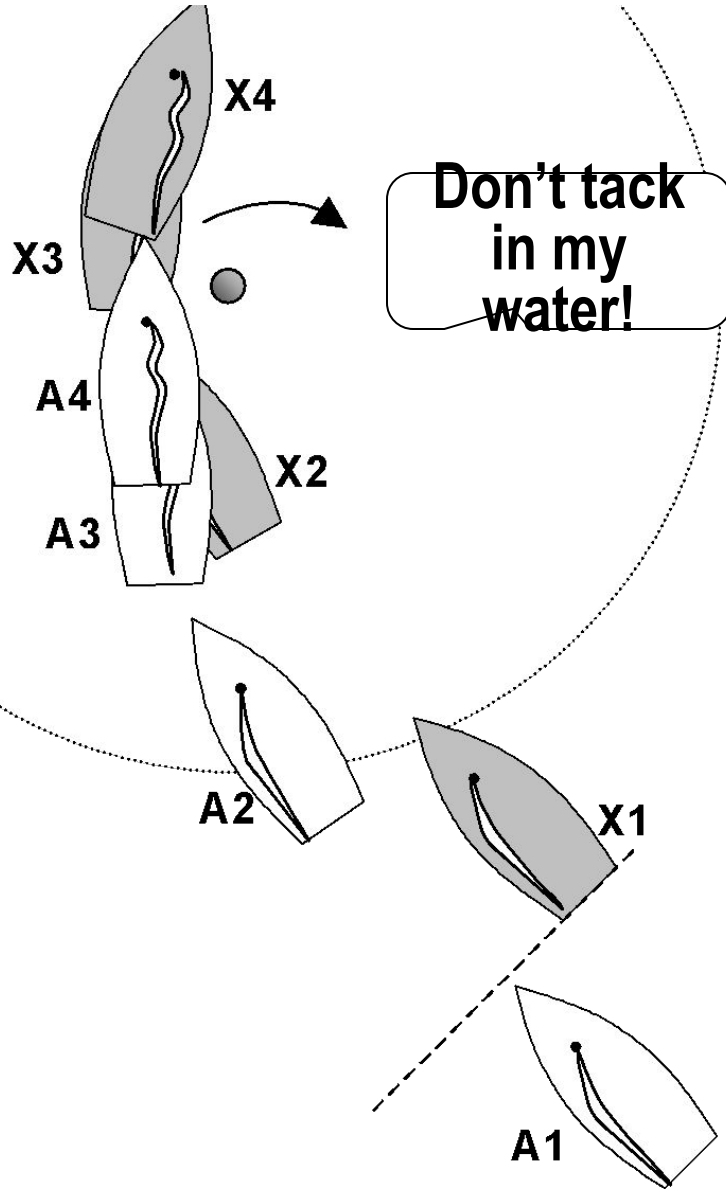
4 Do other rules apply - 14, 15, 16, 17?

Now for the workshop exercises - pick to suit standard of audience!

Situation 1

X4

X3

A4

X2

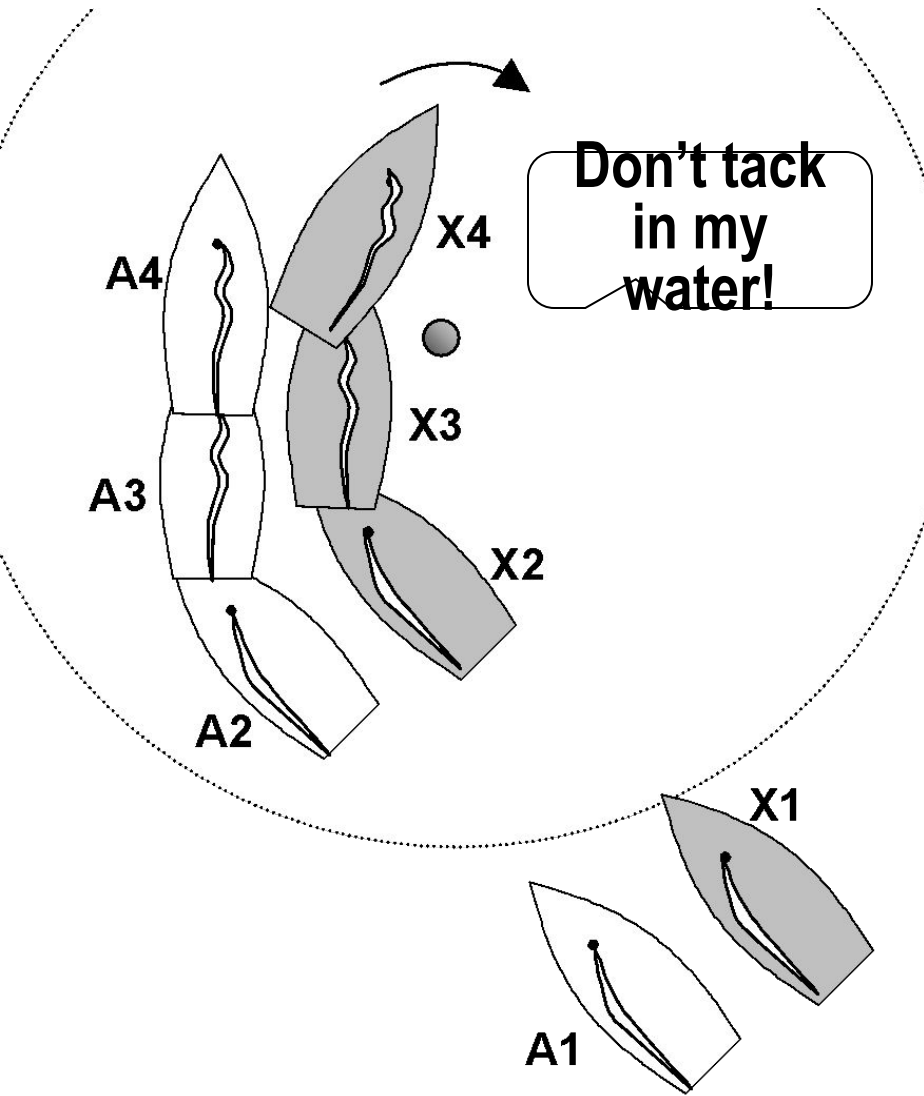**Don't tack in my water!**

A3

X1

A2

A1

- When does rule 18 apply? **1 - 3: 18.2(c)**
- Which boat is r-o-w?
  - pos'n 1 **X**
  - pos'n 2 **X**
  - pos'n 3 **X**
  - pos'n 4 **A**

- Which boat has to give rule18 room? **Neither**
- Does rule 16 or 17 apply? **16: A4**
- Decision:

  Penalise A: A4 rule 16

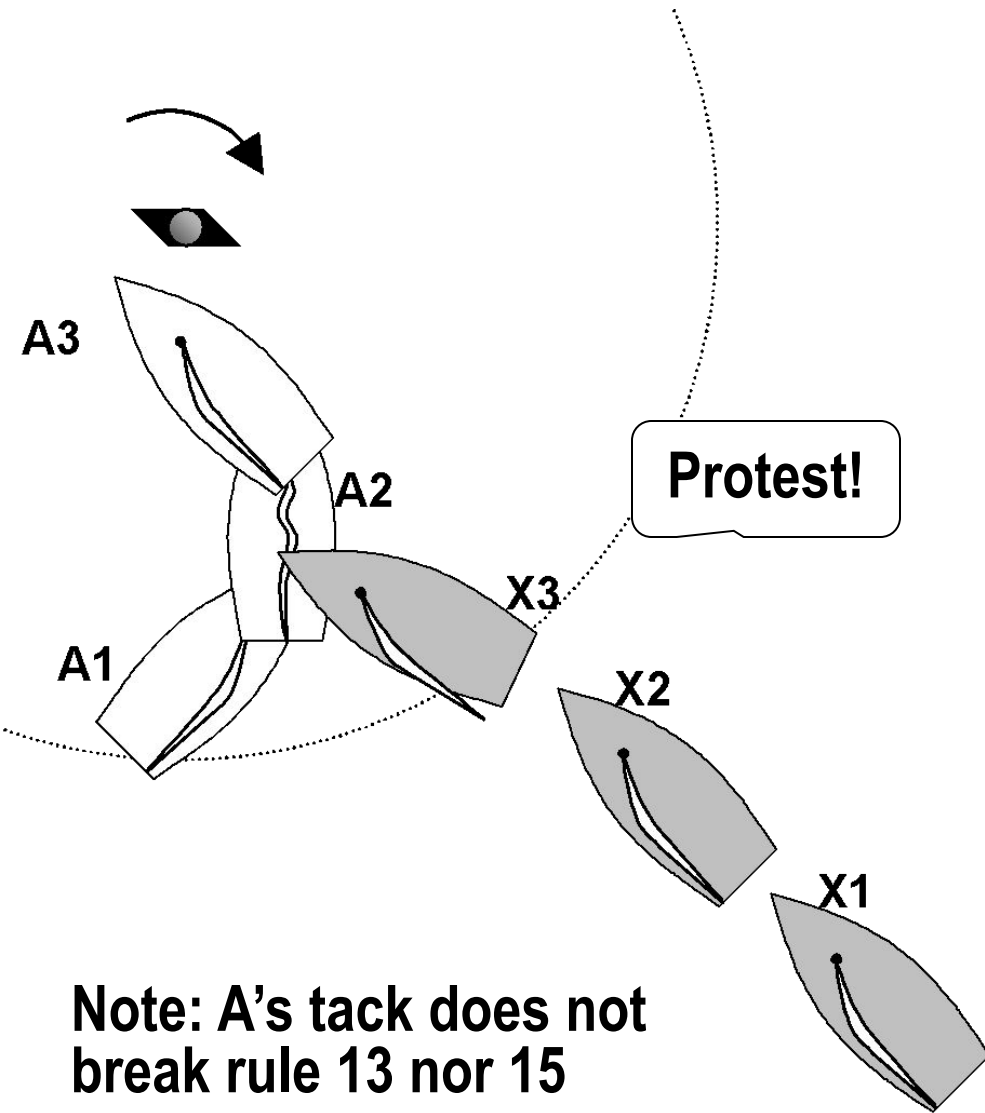# Situation 2

- When does rule 18 apply?   **1 - 3: 18.2(c)**
- Which boat is r-o-w?
  - pos'n 1   **X**
  - pos'n 2   **X**
  - pos'n 3   **X**
  - pos'n 4   **A**

- Which boat has to give rule18 room?   **Neither**
- Does rule 16 or 17 apply?   **No**
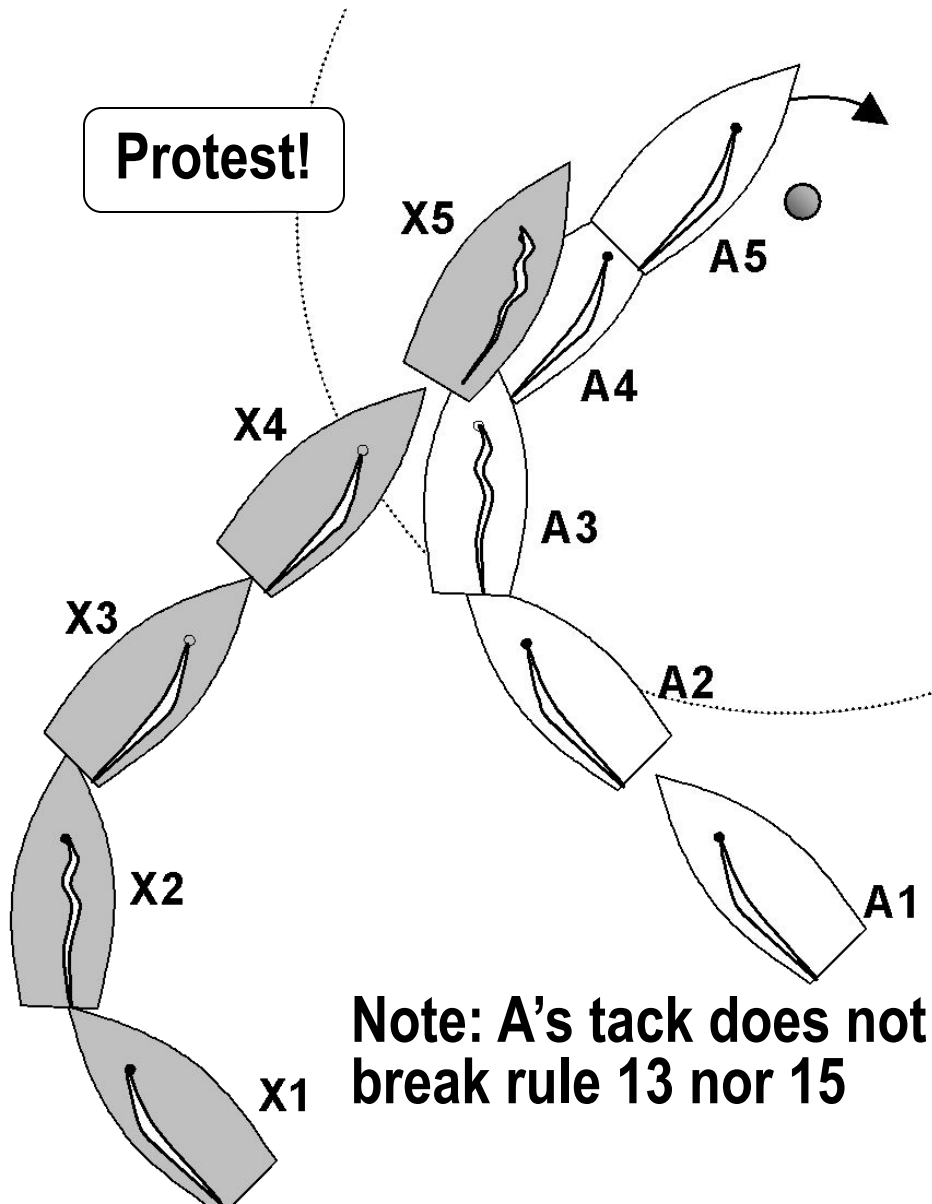- Decision: **Penalise X: X4 rule 13**

Situation 3

- When does rule 18 apply?
- Which boat is r-o-w?
  - pos'n 1
  - pos'n 2
  - pos'n 3
  - pos'n 4
- Which boat has to give rule18 room?
- Does rule 16 or 17 apply?
- Decision:

Situation 4

A3

A2

A1

Protest!

X3

X2

X1

Note: A's tack does not break rule 13 nor 15

- When does rule 18 apply?
- Which boat is r-o-w?
  - pos'n 1
  - pos'n 2
  - pos'n 3
- Which boat has to give rule18 room?
- Does rule 16 or 17 apply?
- Decision:

Situation 5

Protest!

X5

X4

X3

X2

X1

A5

A4

A3

A2

A1

Note: A's tack does not break rule 13 nor 15

When does rule 18 apply?

Which boat is r-o-w?
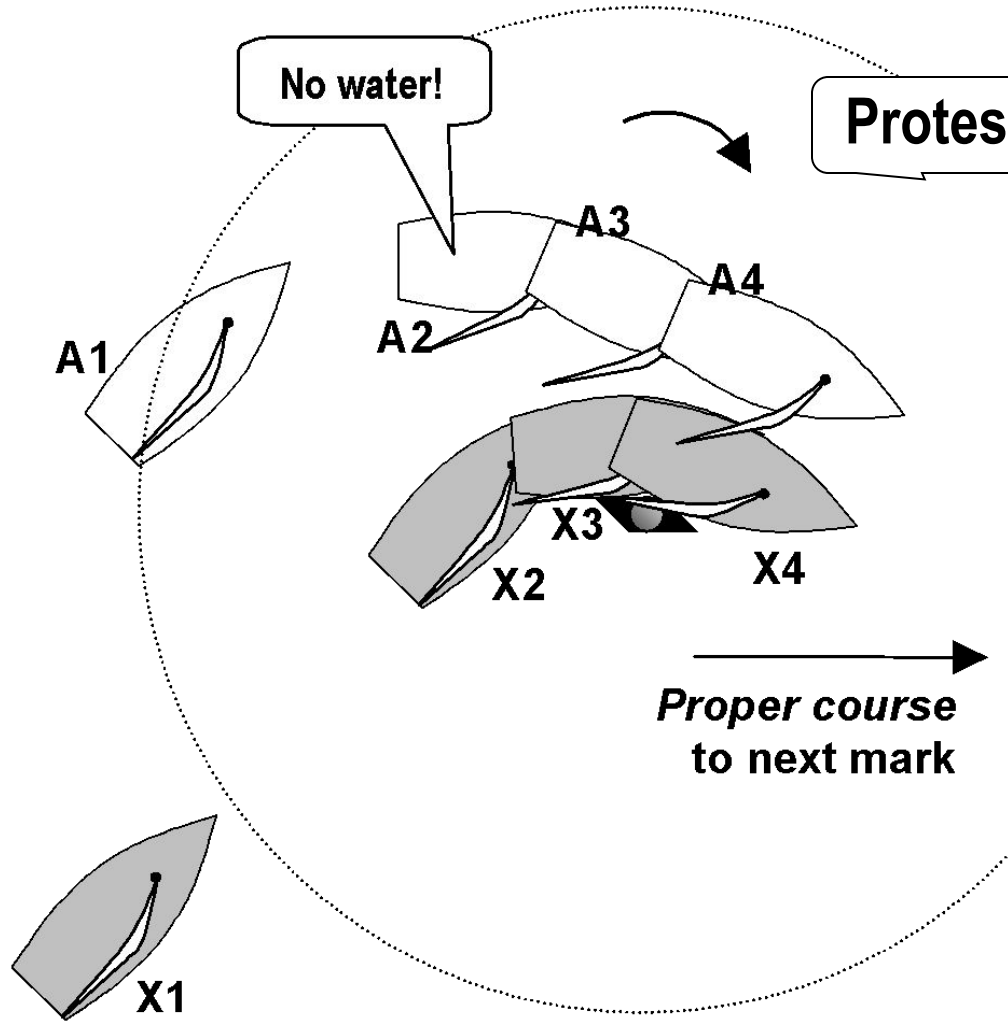
- pos'n 1
- pos'n 2
- pos'n 3
- pos'n 4
- pos'n 5

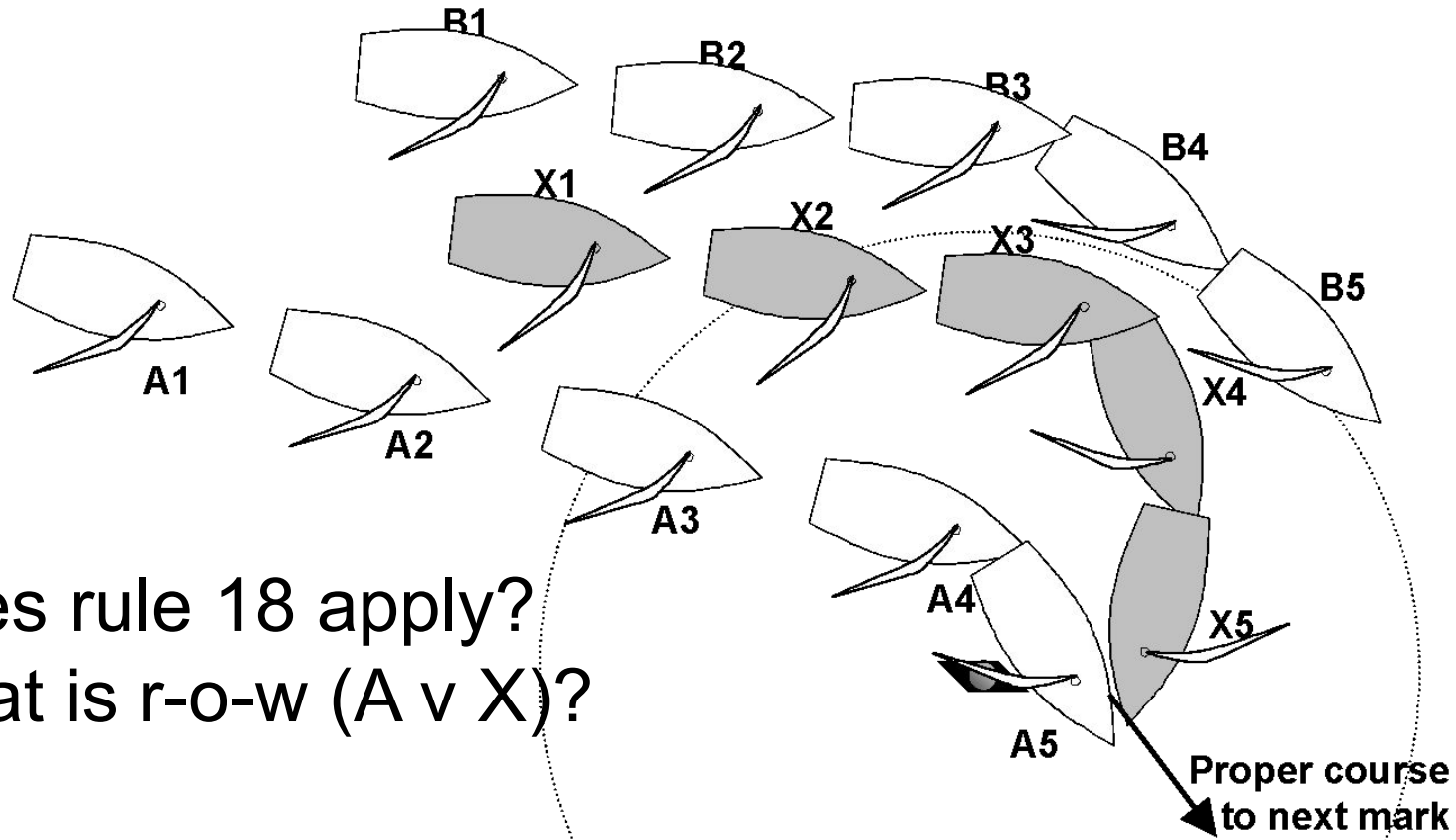Which boat has to give rule18 room?

Does rule 16 or 17 apply?

Decision:

Situation 6

No water!

Protest!

A3

A4

A2

A1

X3

X2

X4

X1

Proper course
to next mark

- When does rule 18 apply?
- Which boat is r-o-w?
  - pos'n 1
  - pos'n 2
  - pos'n 3
  - pos'n 4
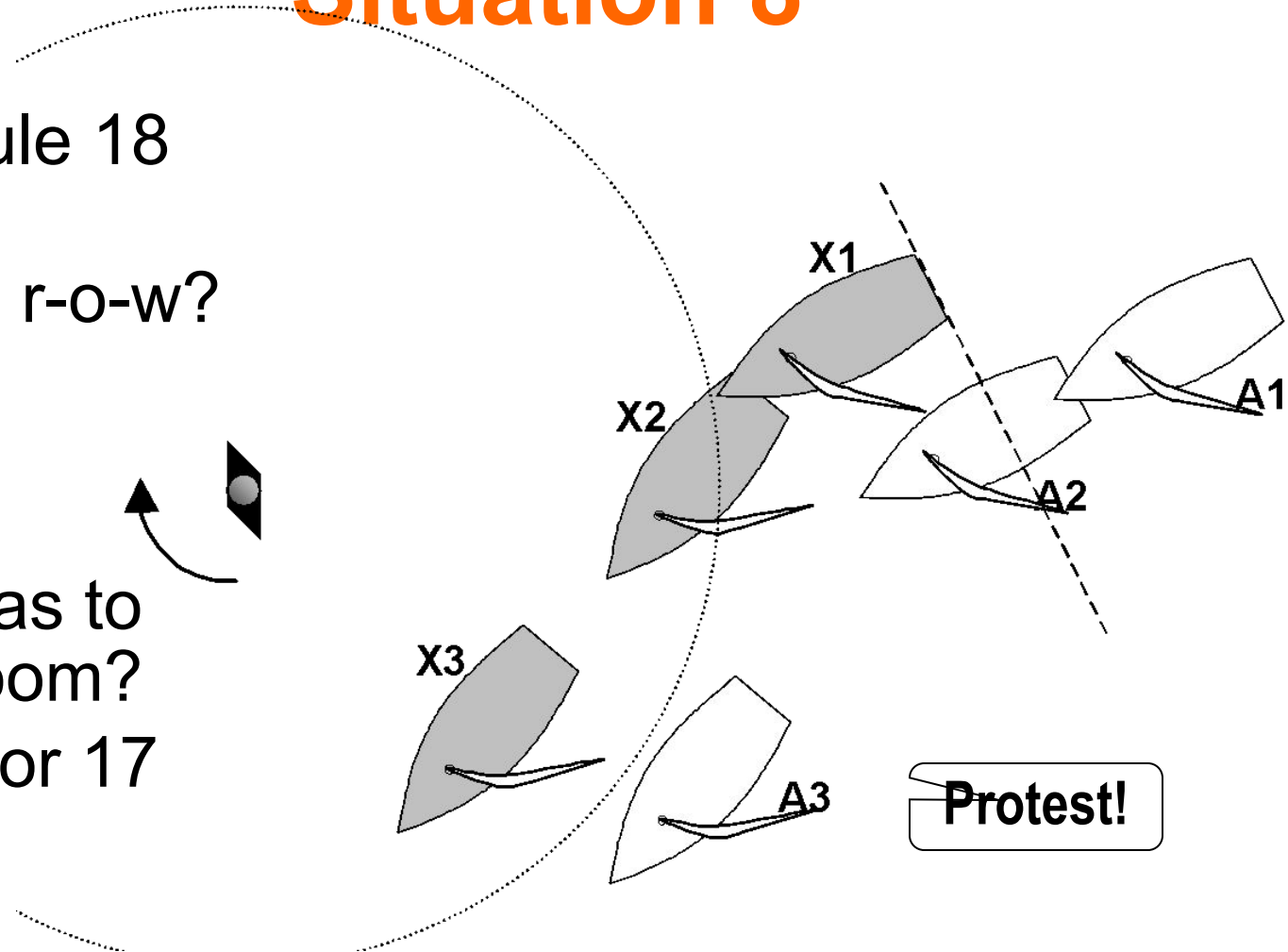- Which boat has to give rule18 room?
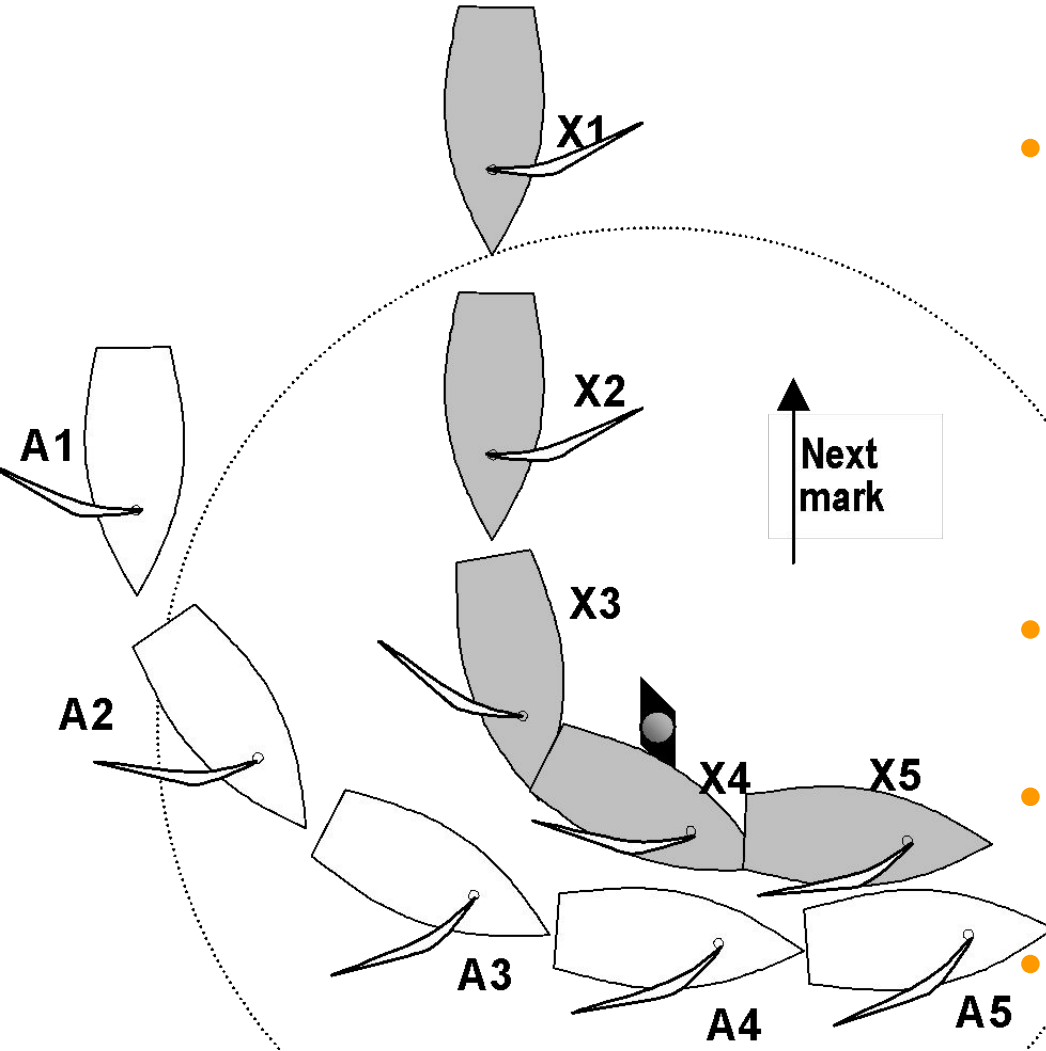- Does rule 16 or 17 apply?
- Decision:

Situation 7

B1 B2 B3 B4

X1 X2 X3 B5

A1 A2 X4

A3 X5

A4

A5

Proper course
to next mark

- When does rule 18 apply?
- Which boat is r-o-w (A v X)?
  - pos'n 1
  - pos'n 2
  - pos'n 3
  - pos'n 4
  - pos'n 5
- Which boat has to give rule18 room?

- Does rule 16 or 17 apply?
- Decision:

Situation 8

- When does rule 18 apply?
- Which boat is r-o-w?
  - pos'n 1
  - pos'n 2
  - pos'n 3
- Which boat has to give rule18 room?
- Does rule 16 or 17 apply?
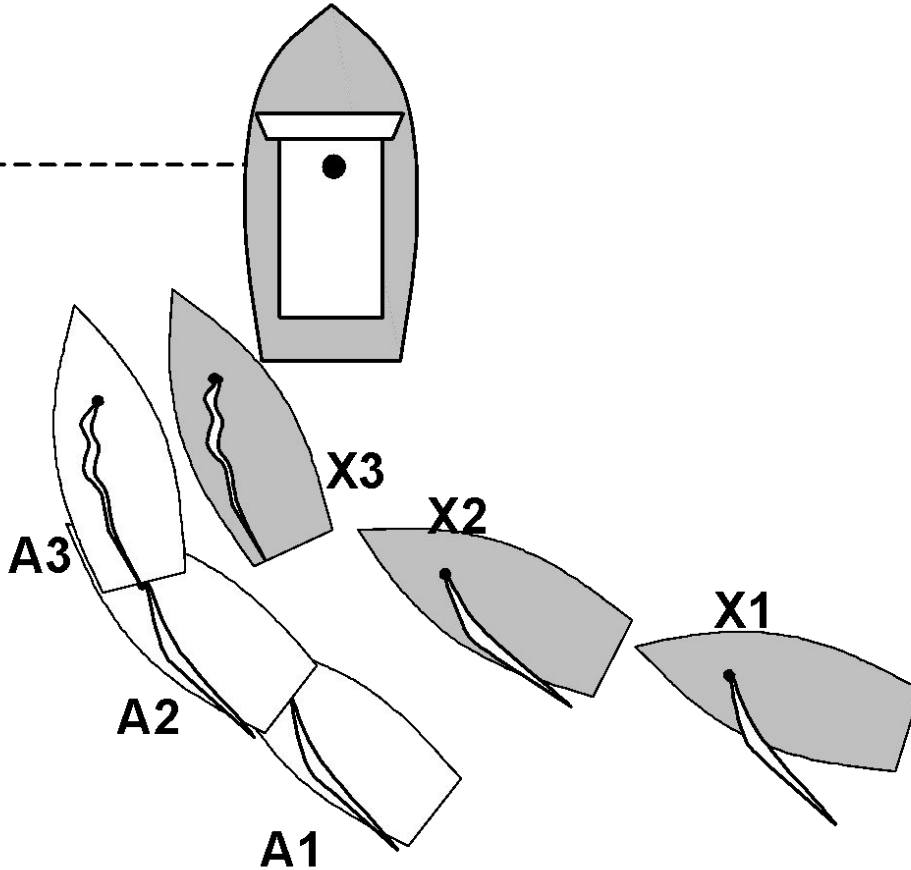- Decision:

X1

X2

X3

A1

A2

A3

Protest!

Situation 9

- When does rule 18 apply?
- Which boat is r-o-w?
  - pos'n 1
  - pos'n 2
  - pos'n 3
  - pos'n 4
  - pos'n 5
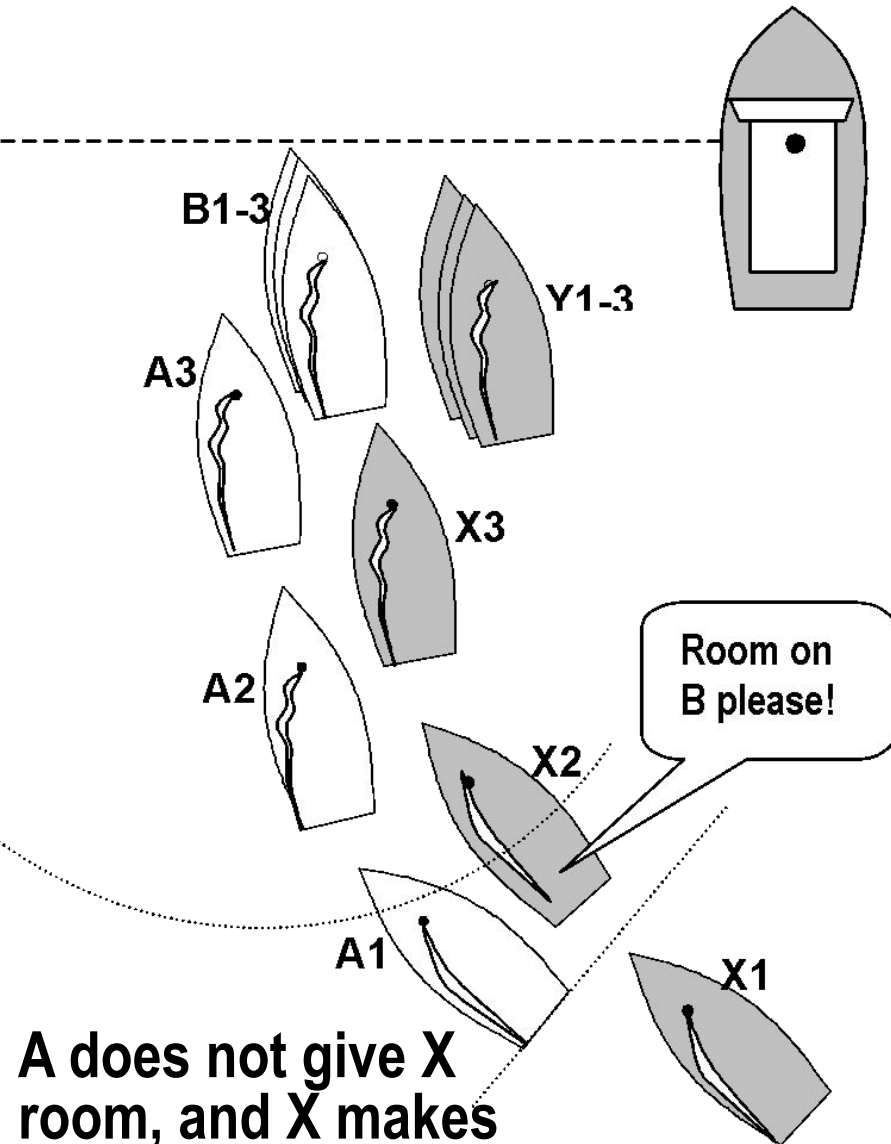- Which boat has to give rule18 room?
- Does rule 16 or 17 apply?
- Decision:

X1

X2

X3

X4

X5

A1

A2

A3

A4

A5

Next mark

Situation 11

- When does rule 18 apply?
- Which boat is r-o-w?
  - pos'n 1
  - pos'n 2
  - pos'n 3
- Which boat has to give rule18 room?
- Does rule 16 or 17 apply?
- Decision:

X3

X2

A3

X1

A2

A1

Boats are approaching the line to start

Situation 12

- When does rule 18 apply?
- Which boat is r-o-w?
  - pos'n 1
  - pos'n 2
  - pos'n 3
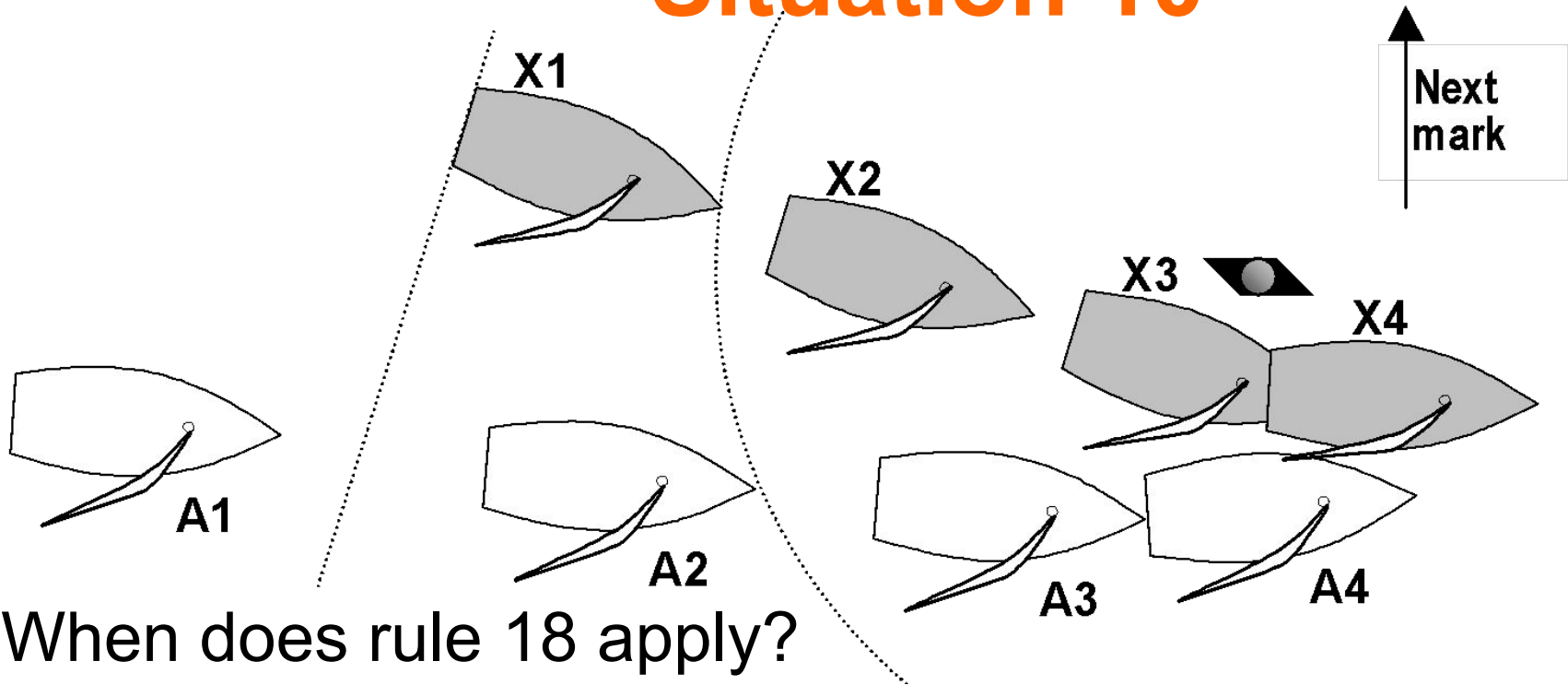- Which boat has to give rule18 room?
- Does rule 16 or 17 apply?
- Decision:

A does not give X room, and X makes contact with B's stern

Guidelines for Deciding Situations

- The following situations are quite tricky - choose situations to suit audience standard

- The situations are shown diagramatically only …

- … therefore the information is incomplete & your decision may depend on other data (eg wind strength, type of boat) that you would ascertain at the hearing

- While rule 14 may apply, do not include rule 14 in your consideration
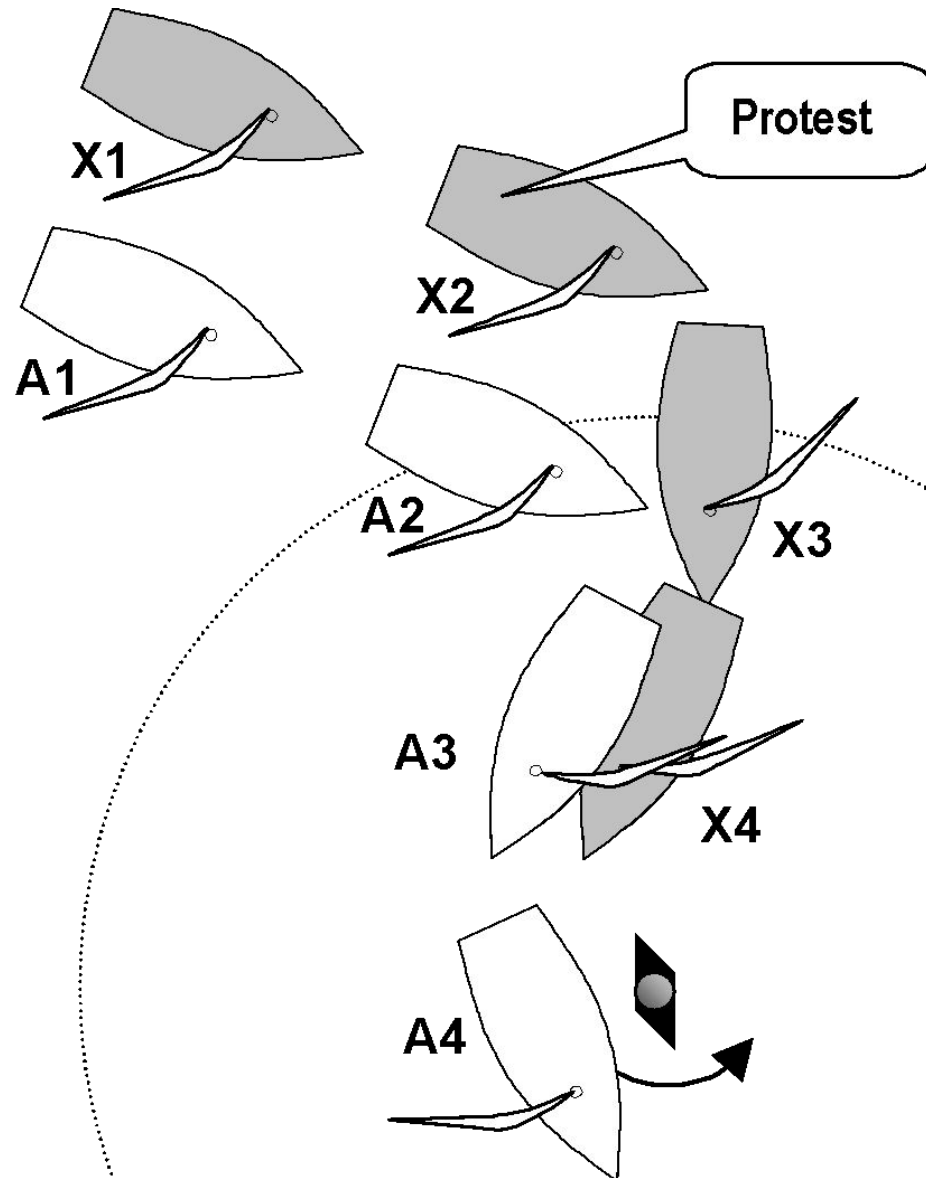
- "New math" - it's not the answer that counts!

  (after Tom Lehrer)

Situation 10

- When does rule 18 apply?
- Which boat is r-o-w (A v X)?
  - pos'n 1
  - pos'n 2
  - pos'n 3
  - pos'n 4
- Which boat has to give rule18 room?
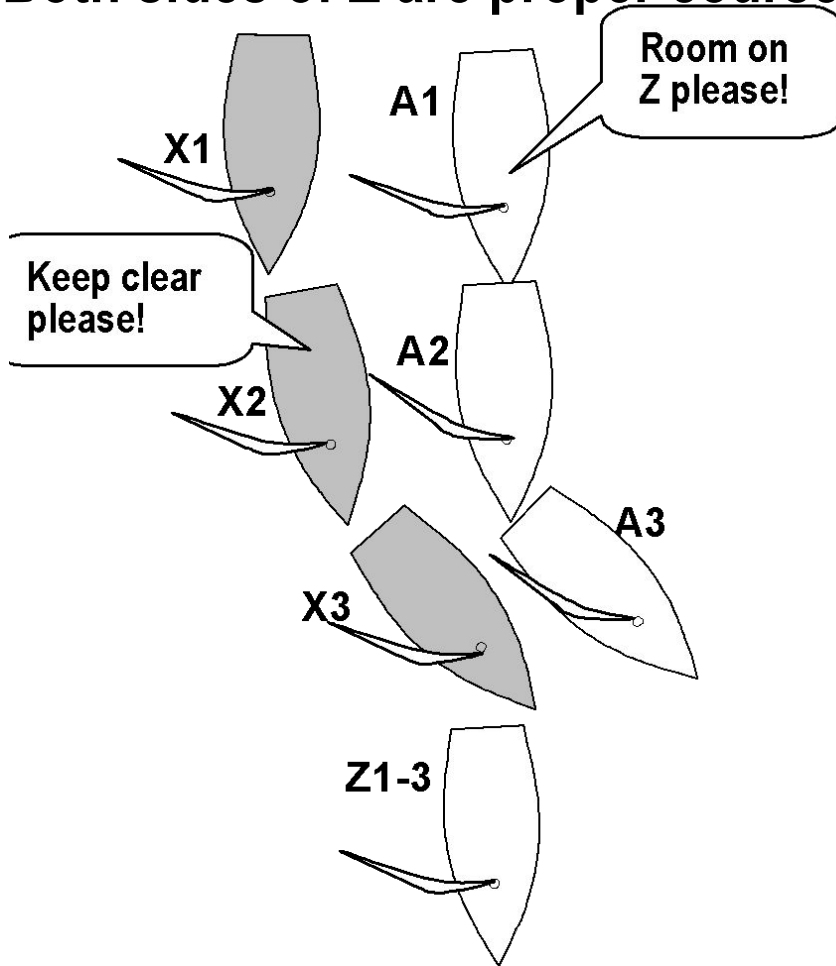- Does rule 16 or 17 apply?
- Decision:

Situation 14

- When does rule 18 apply?
- Which boat is r-o-w?
  - pos'n 1
  - pos'n 2
  - pos'n 3
  - pos'n 4
- Which boat has to give rule18 room?
- Does rule 16 or 17 apply?
- Decision:

Situation 13(a)

Both sides of Z are proper courses for X

Room on Z please!
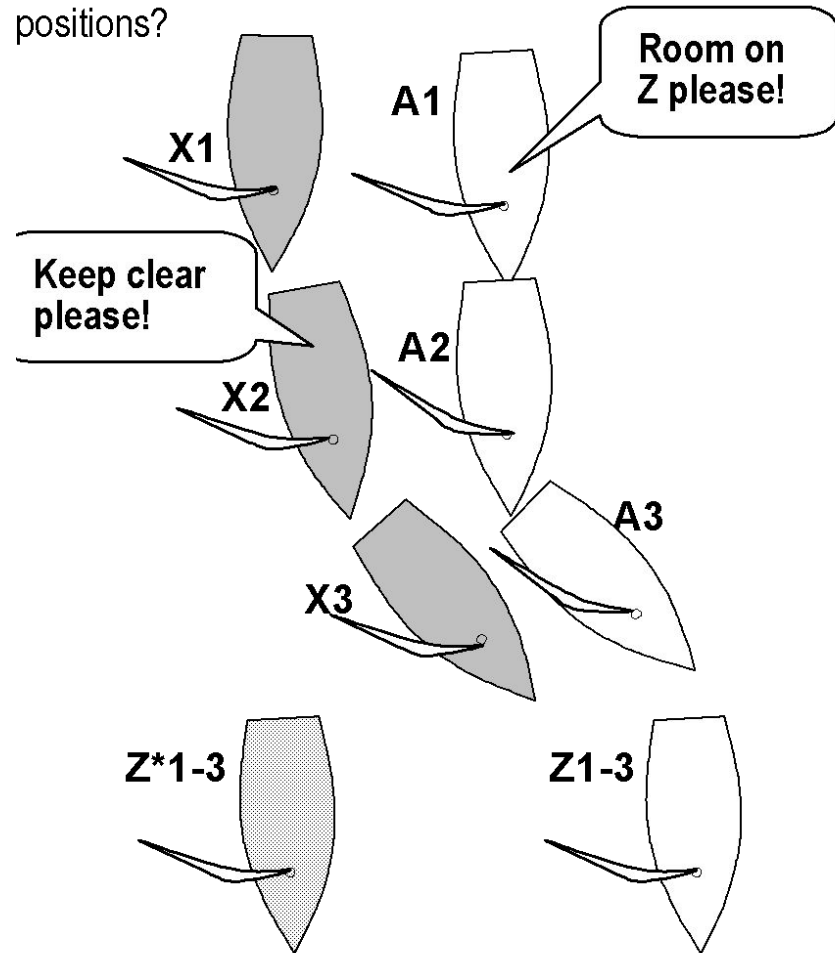
Keep clear please!

X1, A1, X2, A2, X3, A3, Z1-3

- When does rule 18 apply?
- Which boat (A v X) is r-o-w?
  - pos'n 1
  - pos'n 2
  - pos'n 3
- Which boat has to give rule18 room?
- Does rule 16 or 17 apply?
- Decision:

Z is moving forward slowly - for simplicity the diagram shows relative positions of A and X with respect to Z at 1, 2 and 3
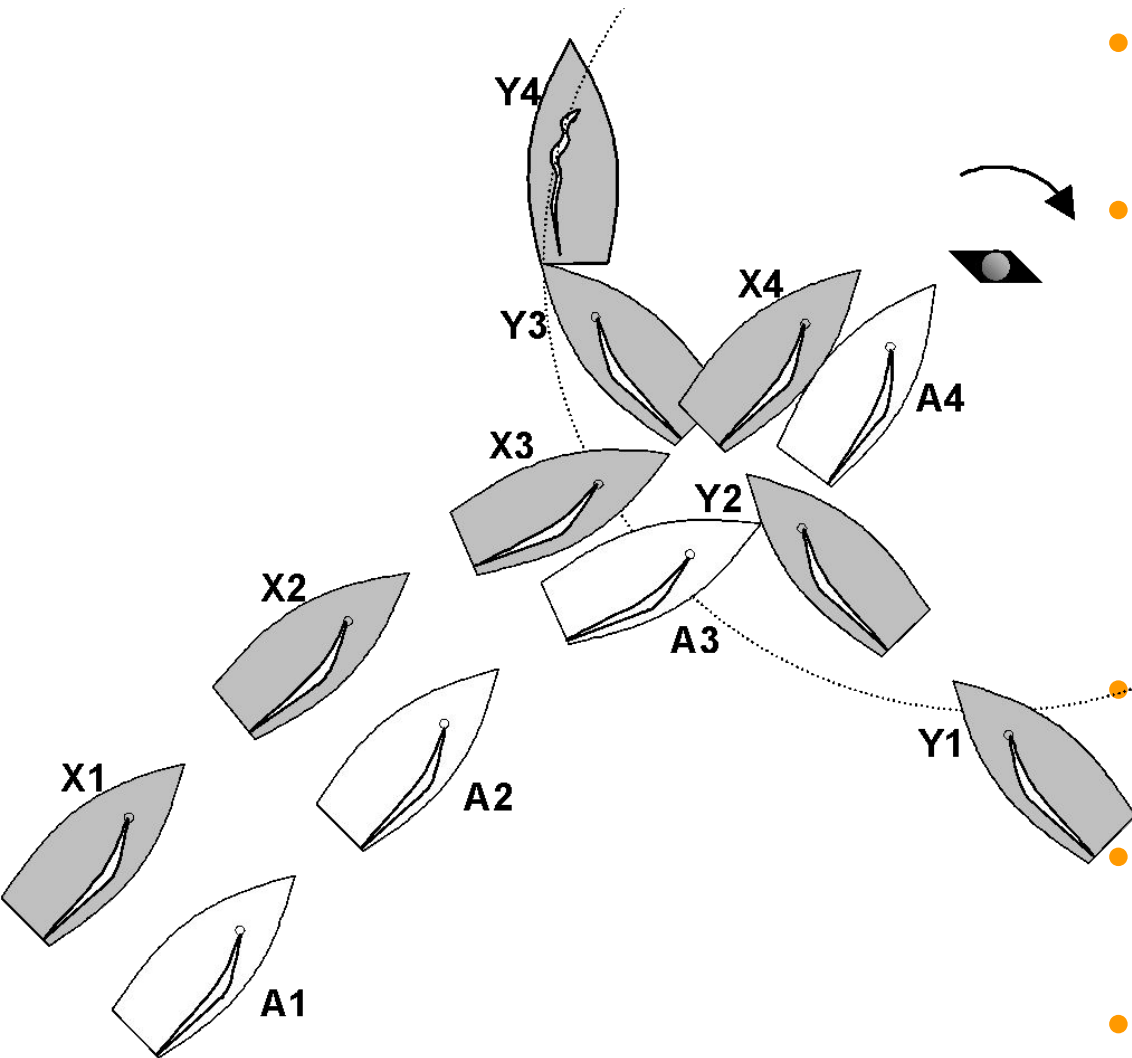
Situation 15(13 b & c)

Does the answer change if Z is in either of these positions?

Room on Z please!

A1

X1

Keep clear please!

X2

A2

A3

X3

Z*1-3

Z1-3

- When does rule 18 apply?
- Which boat (A v X) is r-o-w?
  - pos'n 1
  - pos'n 2
  - pos'n 3
- Which boat has to give rule18 room?
- Does rule 16 or 17 apply?
- Decision:

Z is moving forward slowly - for simplicity the diagram shows relative positions at 1, 2 and 3

Situation 16

- When does rule 18 apply?
- Which boat (A v X) is r-o-w?
  - pos'n 1
  - pos'n 2
  - pos'n 3
  - pos'n 4
- Which boat has to give rule18 room?
- Does rule 16 or 17 apply?
- Decision: