

RULE 19.2 — GIVING ROOM AT AN OBSTRUCTION

- (a) A right-of-way boat may choose to pass an *obstruction* on her port or starboard side. If a right-of-way boat changes course when choosing on which side to pass the *obstruction*, she shall give the other boat *room to keep clear*.

“Which boat gets to choose which side of the obstruction the boats will pass on?”



Before one of the boats needs to commit to passing on one side or the other, the rules of Section A and B apply and the right-of-way boat can sail where she pleases, subject to rules 16 (Changing Course) and 17 (On the Same Tack; Proper Course) and 19.2(a). Rule 19.2(a) reminds of this by saying “A *right-of-way boat may choose to pass an obstruction on her port or starboard side.*” So, approaching an *obstruction*, the right-of-way boat (*leeward* boat or *starboard-tack* boat) gets to choose on which side she wants to pass the *obstruction*, and the other boat(s) must *keep clear*.



“OK, so when does the outside boat have to begin giving room to the inside boat?”