

CONTINUING OBSTRUCTION

An *obstruction* is a *continuing obstruction* when the boat with the shortest hull referred to in the rule using the term will pass alongside it for at least three of her hull lengths. However, the following are not a *continuing obstruction*: a vessel under way, a boat *racing*, or a race committee vessel that is also a *mark*.

A “continuing obstruction” is an obstruction that boats will be sailing along-side for more than a brief moment. For instance, a shoreline or breakwater that boats will be sailing along is a “continuing obstruction,” whereas a moored boat or race committee boat that gets sailed by in just a few seconds is not a “continuing obstruction.” The test for whether an obstruction is a “continuing obstruction” is whether the shortest of the boats in the incident will be passing the obstruction for at least three of her hull lengths. Note that a vessel under way, including a boat *racing*, is never a “continuing obstruction.” Similarly, a race committee vessel that is also a *mark* is not a “continuing obstruction.”