

**RULE 15****Action by Stand-on vessel**

- (a) Where one of the two vessels is to keep out of the way, the other shall keep her course and speed.
- (b) When, from any cause, the vessel required to keep her course and speed finds herself so close that collision cannot be avoided by the action of the giving-way vessel alone, she shall take such action as will best aid to avoid collision.

**RULE 16****Responsibilities between vessels**

Except where Rules 8 and 11 otherwise require:

- (a) A power-driven vessel underway shall keep out of the way of:
  - (i) a vessel restricted in her ability to manoeuvre; and
  - (ii) a sailing vessel.
- (b) A sailing vessel underway shall keep out of the way of a vessel restricted in her ability to manoeuvre.
- (c) A seaplane on the water shall, in general, keep well clear of all vessels and avoid impeding their navigation. In circumstances, however, where risk of collision exists, she shall comply with the Rules of this Part.

**PART C—LIGHTS AND SHAPES****RULE 17****Application**

- (a) Rules in this Part shall be complied with in all weathers.
- (b) The Rules concerning lights shall be complied with from sunset to sunrise, and during such times no other lights shall be exhibited, except such lights as cannot be mistaken for the lights specified in these Rules or do not impair their visibility or distinctive character, or do not interfere with the keeping of a proper look-out.
- (c) The lights prescribed by these Rules shall, if carried, also be exhibited from sunrise to sunset in restricted visibility and may be exhibited in all other circumstances when it is deemed necessary.
- (d) The Rules concerning shapes shall be complied with by day.
- (e) The lights and shapes specified in these Rules shall comply with the provisions of Annex I to these Regulations.

**RULE 18****Definitions**

- (a) 'Masthead light' means a white light placed over the fore and aft centreline of the vessel showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 225 degrees and so fixed as to show the light from right ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft the beam on either side of the vessel.
- (b) 'Sidelights' means a green light on the starboard side and a red light on the port side each showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 112.5 degrees and so fixed as to show the light from right ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft the beam on its respective side. In a vessel of less than 20 metres in length the sidelights may be combined in one lantern carried on the fore and aft centreline of the vessel.
- (c) 'Sternlight' means a white light placed as nearly as practicable at the stern showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 135 degrees and so fixed as to show the light 67.5 degrees from right aft on each side of the vessel.

6      *Section 17*

- (d) 'All round light' means a light showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 360 degrees.
- (e) 'Flashing light' means a light flashing at regular intervals at a frequency of 120 flashes or more per minute.

**RULE 19**

**Visibility of Lights**

The lights prescribed in these Rules shall have an intensity so as, on a dark night with a clear atmosphere, to be visible at the following minimum ranges:

- (a) In vessels of 12 metres or more in length:
  - a masthead light, 3 miles;
  - a sidelight, 2 miles;
  - a sternlight, 2 miles; and
  - a white, red, green or yellow all-round light, 2 miles.
- (b) In vessels of less than 12 metres in length:
  - a masthead light, 2 miles;
  - a sidelight, 1 mile;
  - a sternlight, 1 mile; and
  - a white, red, green or yellow all-round light, 1 mile.

**RULE 20**

**Power-driven vessels underway**

- (a) A power-driven vessel underway shall exhibit:
  - (i) a masthead light forward;
  - (ii) sidelights; and
  - (iii) a sternlight.
- (b) An air-cushion vessel when operating in the non-displacement mode shall, in addition to the lights prescribed in paragraph (a) of this Rule, exhibit an all-round flashing yellow light.
- (c)
  - (i) A power-driven vessel of less than 12 metres in length may in lieu of the lights prescribed in paragraph (a) of this Rule exhibit an all-round white light and sidelights;
  - (ii) a power-driven vessel of less than 7 metres in length whose maximum speed does not exceed 7 knots may in lieu of the lights prescribed in paragraph (a) of this Rule exhibit an all-round white light and shall, if practicable, also exhibit sidelights;
  - (iii) the masthead light or all-round white light on a power-driven vessel of less than 12 metres in length may be displaced from the fore and aft centreline of the vessel if centreline fitting is not practicable, provided that the sidelights are combined in one lantern which shall be carried on the fore and aft centreline of the vessel or located as nearly as practicable in the same fore and aft line as the masthead light or the all-round white light.
- (d) When a power-driven vessel is underway, a searchlight may be used from a position where it will not obscure the sidelights, but it shall be shut off, or screened off, on approaching or being approached by another vessel, in sufficient time to prevent inconvenience to that vessel.

**RULE 21**

**Towing and pushing**

- (a) A power-driven vessel when towing shall exhibit:
  - (i) instead of the light prescribed in Rule 20 (a) (i), or 20 (c), two masthead lights forward in a vertical line;
  - (ii) sidelights; and
  - (iii) a sternlight.

- (b) When a pushing vessel and a vessel being pushed ahead are rigidly connected in a composite unit they shall be regarded as a power-driven vessel and exhibit the lights prescribed in Rule 20.
- (c) A power-driven vessel when pushing ahead or towing alongside, except in the case of a composite unit, shall exhibit:
  - (i) instead of the light prescribed in Rule 20 (a) (i), two masthead lights forward in a vertical line;
  - (ii) sidelights; and
  - (iii) a sternlight.
- (d) A vessel or object being towed shall exhibit:
  - (i) sidelights; and
  - (ii) a sternlight.
- (e) Provided that any number of vessels being towed alongside or pushed in a group shall be lighted as one vessel
  - (i) a vessel being pushed ahead, not being part of a composite unit, shall exhibit at the forward end, sidelights; or
  - (ii) a vessel being towed alongside shall exhibit a sternlight and at the forward end, sidelights.
- (f) Where from any sufficient cause it is impracticable for a vessel not normally engaged in towing operations to display the lights prescribed in paragraphs (a) or (c) of this Rule, such vessel shall not be required to exhibit those lights when engaged in towing another vessel in distress or otherwise in need of assistance. All possible measures shall be taken to indicate the nature of the relationship between the towing vessel and the vessel being towed.

#### RULE 22

##### **Sailing vessels underway and vessel under oars**

- (a) A sailing vessel underway shall exhibit:
  - (i) sidelights; and
  - (ii) a sternlight.
- (b) In a sailing vessel of less than 20 metres in length the lights prescribed in paragraph (a) of this rule may be combined in one lantern carried at or near the top of the mast where it can best be seen.
- (c) A sailing vessel less than 7 metres in length or a vessel under oars shall, if practicable, exhibit the lights prescribed in paragraph (a) or (b) but if she does not, she shall have ready at hand an electric torch or lighted lantern showing a white light which shall be exhibited in sufficient time to prevent collision.

#### RULE 23

##### **Ferries and Punts**

Every ferry or punt which is crossing a fairway by means of ropes or cables shall, between the hours of sunset and sunrise, show an all round red light at each end of the ferry or punt in a horizontal line at a height of not less than 3 metres above the deck and visible all round the horizon. It shall also show, at the appropriate end of the ferry, an all round green light not less than one metre vertically above the red light to indicate the direction in which the ferry is heading. Such lights are to be visible at a distance of at least 1 mile. A ferry may also use a floodlight or searchlight provided this does not obscure the lights mentioned herein.

#### RULE 24

##### **Vessels restricted in their ability to manoeuvre**

- (a) A vessel restricted in her ability to manoeuvre shall exhibit:
  - (i) three all-round lights in a vertical line where they can be best seen. The highest and lowest of these lights shall be red and the middle light shall be white;
  - (ii) three shapes in a vertical line where they can best be seen. The highest and lowest of these shapes shall be balls and the middle one a diamond;