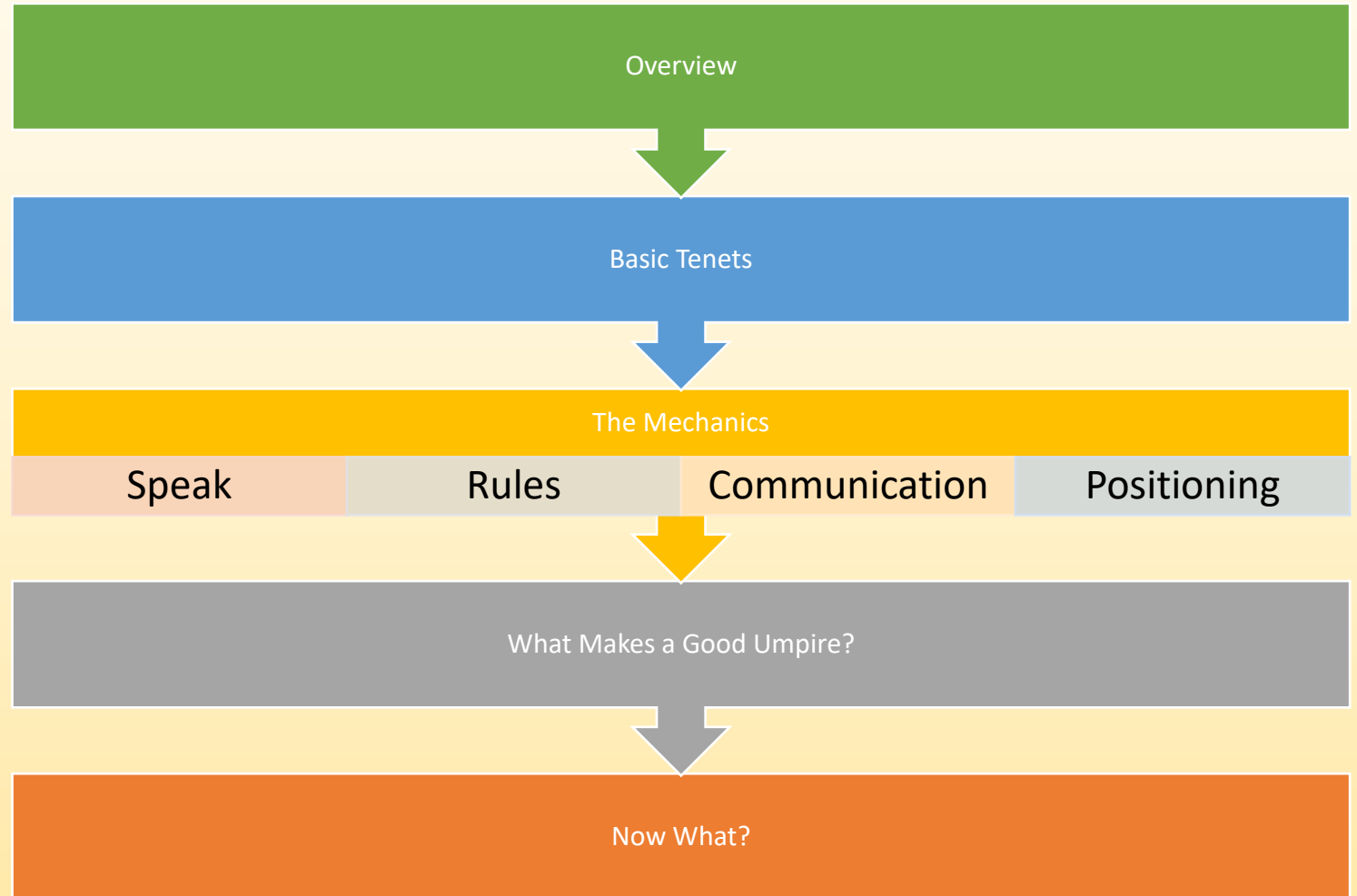


So, You Might Be Interested in Umpiring

A Crash Course



OUTLINE



OVERVIEW



- Difference between Umpires & Judges
 - Judges
 - Observing & enforcing rule 42
 - Umpires
 - Enforcing Part 2, RRS 42, RRS 28, RRS 31 on the water
- What disciplines are using umpires?
 - Match Racing
 - Team Racing
 - Fleet Racing!
- Why?
 - Keep the game on the water
 - In disciplines using rules as a weapon – level playing field
 - Fleet – avoid the protest room
- **Makes the sport more enjoyable**



BASIC TENETS

- Last Point of Certainty
- Be where you need to be
- You WILL miss things
- Make a decision



THE MECHANICS

How do we do what we do?



- Umpire Team
- Umpire Speak
- Communications
- Positioning



THE MECHANICS

Umpire Team



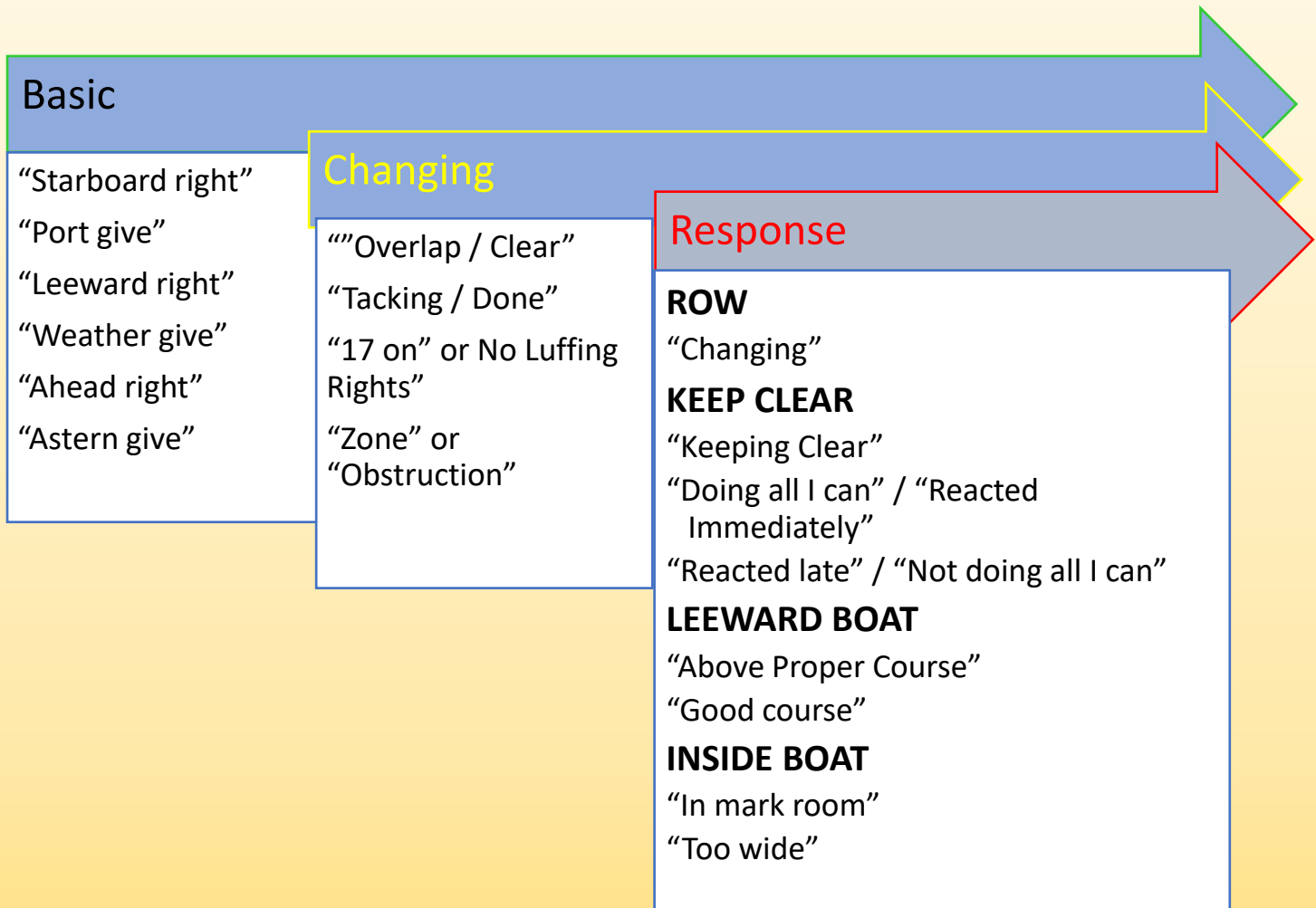
- **Team of two**
 - Driver
 - “Doer”
- **Driver**
 - Follows 1 boat
 - Responsible for being in the right place
- **Doer**
 - Other boat/boats
 - Flags
 - Whistle
 - Radio



THE MECHANICS

Umpire Speak

- Decision-Oriented Conversation



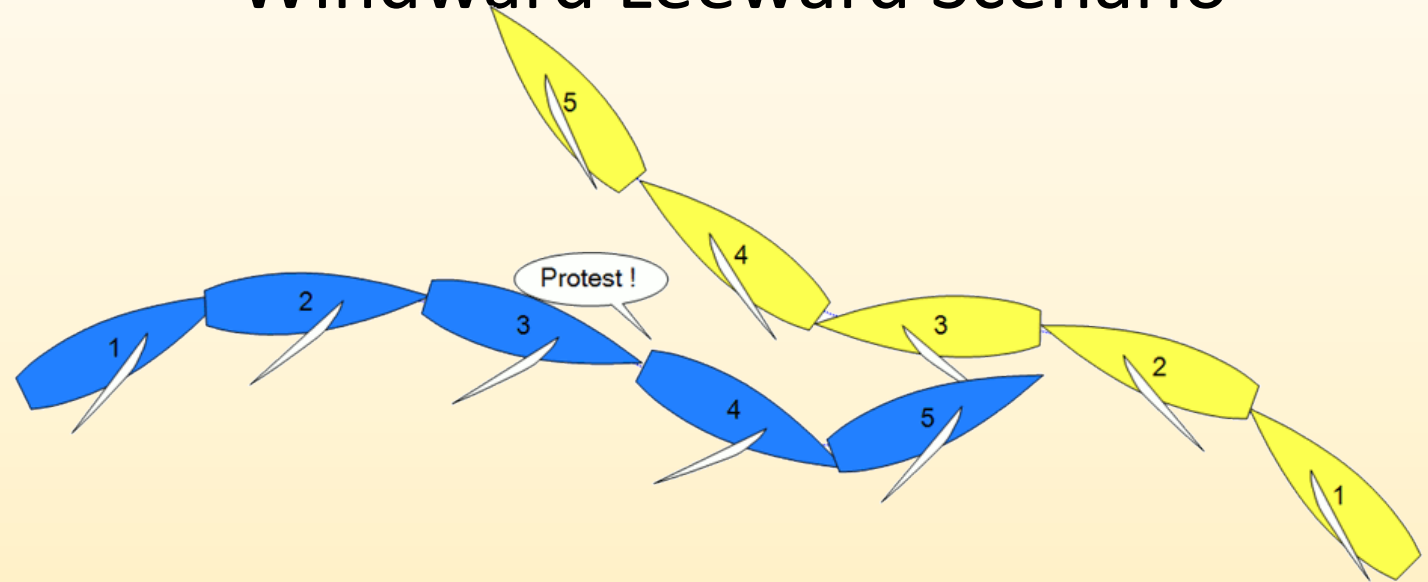
Slide Courtesy: Peter Wilson



THE MECHANICS

Umpire Speak Example

• Windward Leeward Scenario



Driver Umpire - **Yellow**

- Starboard right
- Bearing away
- Bearing away
- On me
- Penalty Yellow

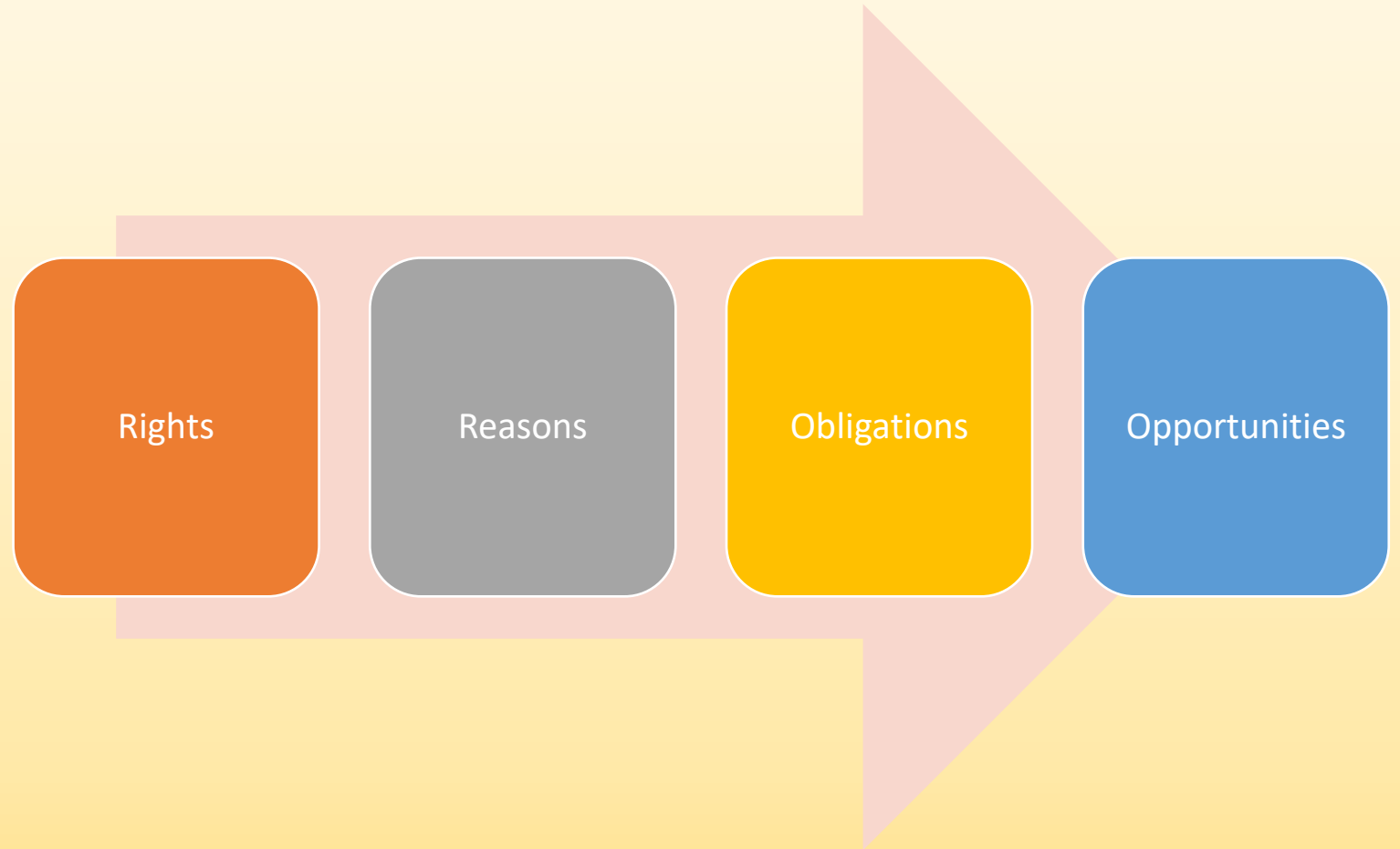
Second Umpire - **Blue**

- Port give
- Ducking – 16.2 on
- Altered Immediately
- Blue Protest – red Flag
- **Agree** – you broke 16.2



THE MECHANICS

Decision Making



Slide Courtesy: Peter Wilson



THE MECHANICS

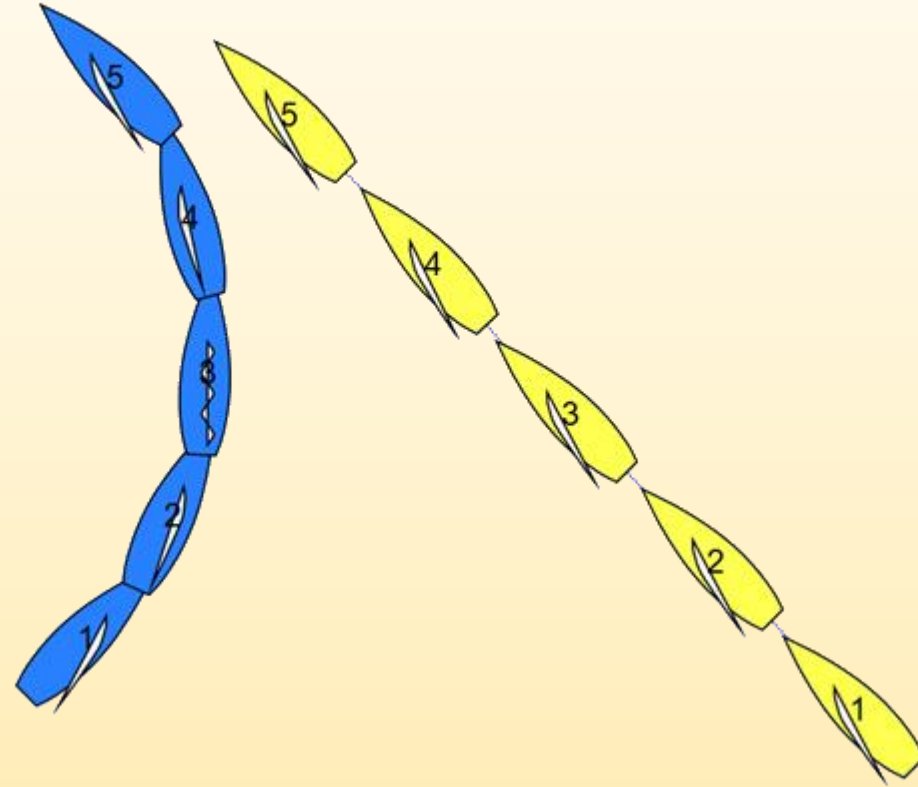
Decision Making

- **Rights:** Refer to who has, or does not have, the right of way
 - 'I am right' (shortened to **'right'**) or
 - 'I am keep clear (or give way)' (shortened to **'give'**).
- **Reasons:** Why a boat has right of way, or is keep clear
 - starboard, leeward, ahead, **right**
 - port, windward, astern, tacking, taking a penalty, **give**
- **Obligations:** What a boat must do
 - must keep clear
 - must give room
 - must not sail above a proper course
 - must not interfere with a boat on another leg, etc.
- **Opportunities:** to improve position or to comply with an obligation
 - can luff
 - can sail above proper course
 - can tack and keep clear
 - can cross clear ahead



THE MECHANICS

Rights
Reasons
Obligations
Opportunities



- **Blue:** “Port give...luffing...tacking...done...leeward right...instant overlap...I can luff”
- **Yellow:** “Starboard right...holding...holding...windward give...Agree...I must keep clear”

Slide Courtesy: Peter Wilson



THE MECHANICS

Transitions are key

- **When the boat's status changes the rules change**
 - Tacking
 - Close-hauled
 - Passing Head-to-Wind
 - Mark-room given
 - Leaving the Zone
 - Gybing
 - Overlap/Clear
 - Zone clear/Zone Overlapped



THE MECHANICS

Communication

BASICS

- *Conversation should be short, simple, and to the point.* If one umpire states a position ('Penalty to XXX'), the other umpire responds:

I agree

I do not agree

I did not see

- *Make clear signals and use your whistle like you mean it.*
- Point at, and use eye contact with, a penalized boat.
- Got someone else's call?
 - Raise an arm and point at your chest if you have the call.
 - *Point at the another umpire to have that other umpire make the call. Get a 'thumbs up' response*
 - Also use your radio to communicate with others.
- If you see an incident but no protest – say 'Incident closed'.

Slide Courtesy: Peter Wilson



THE MECHANICS

Positioning

- Team Race Positioning – 2 boats

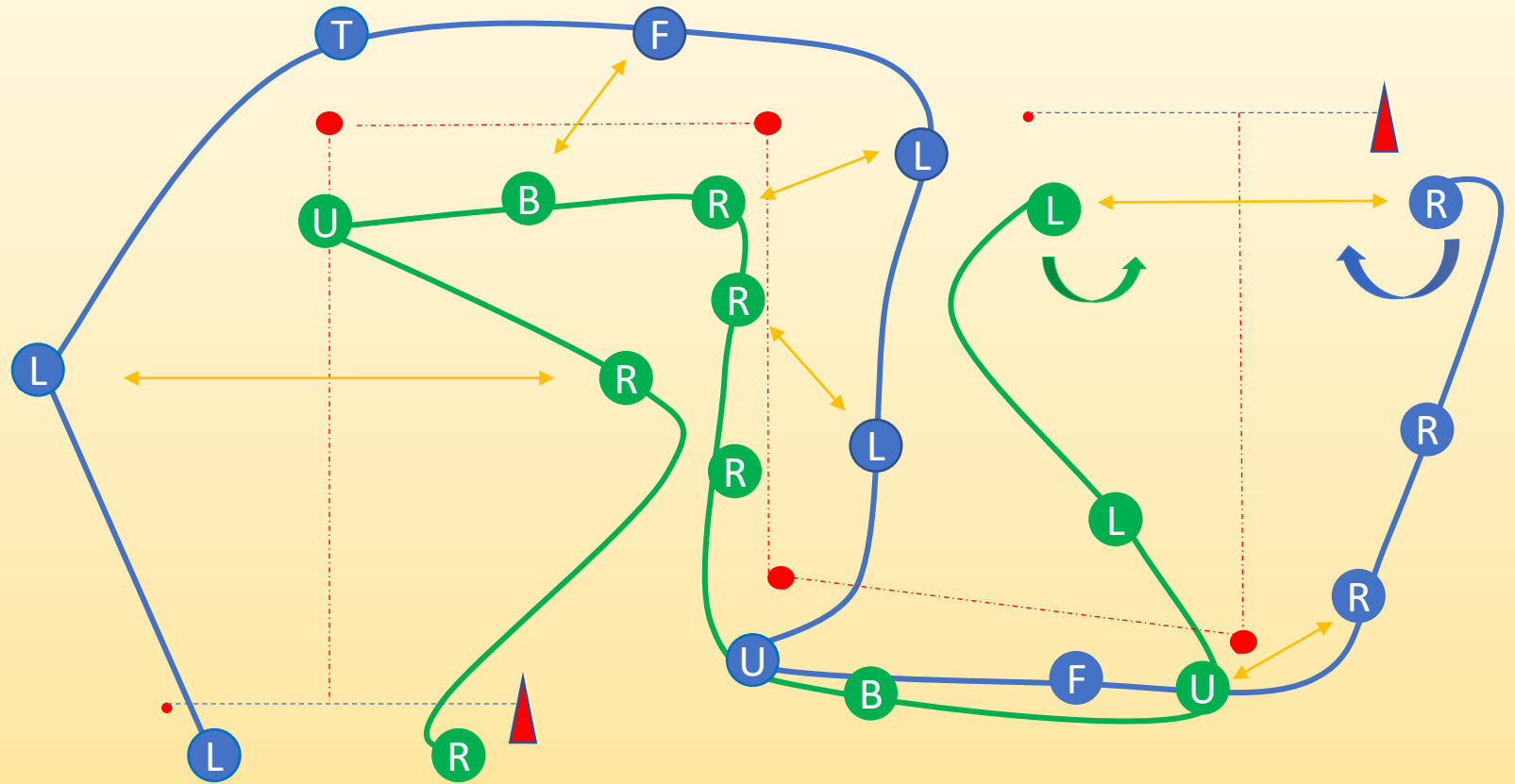


Diagram Courtesy: Peter Wilson



THE MECHANICS

Positioning

- Match Race Positioning

VIDEO example

Video Courtesy: Bill Simon



VIDEO example



WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE A GOOD UMPIRE?

- Objective
- Excellent rules Knowledge
- Decisive
- Small boat driving skills
- Racing knowledge
- Consistent
- Responsive
- Humble – admit mistakes



WHAT NOW?

How do I get to try this game?

- Read and Understand the Call Book
- Start small – work local events
 - High School Team Race
 - College Team Race and Match Race
- US Sailing seminars
- Talk with Area Umpire
- Oakcliff

Shameless Plug:

EYC running MR Clinic and Umpire Seminar – April 29 – May 1

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