



## Prevention of Collision at Sea – More Power to You!

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As you can tell, I have been using these cold and dreary months to dig deeper into the Rules which govern our behavior on the creeks, bays and the open sea. As Ishmael said in *Moby Dick*, “Whenever it is a damp, drizzly November in my soul, then I account it high time to get to sea as soon as I can.”

Since it is damp and drizzly, let’s labor on and await the spring...And as you’ve noticed, these articles have focused largely on powered vessels, as do the COLREGs themselves. But what about those vessels that are powered by the most ancient of power sources—wind and human muscle? Read on, sailor.

### Rule 25 – What Does It Say?

It covers sail boats and “vessels under oars.” With respect to sail boats, the Rules look to find a way to telegraph to you that the vessel you are closing on at night is underway, but not a power boat...How...? Well, it is lighted like a power save one feature. It has no mast light! Sail boats are required, like powered vessels, to have side lights (red and green)

and a stern light, but no mast light.

If she is under 20 meters (remember the 3x + 10 percent rule of thumb), she may exhibit an all-around light at the top of her mast—white shining astern, red and green abeam and ahead, port and starboard. The light itself shall (must!) conform to the exact degree specifications we talked about with respect to Rule 21 (see “Lights! Camera! Action,” SSP, February 6, 2008)—remember those “jet wings” we talked about...

What if you come upon a vessel at night which is exhibiting the side-light-stern-light configuration of a sail boat but also, high above, you see two lights—red over green? Under Rule 25 (c), a sail boat may also exhibit the red-over-green configuration at the top of her mast to make her easier to see—“red over green, I’m sailing tonight and want to be seen!” BTW, she cannot do it in conjunction with the all-around light we described above, regardless of her size. Under Rule 25 (d), a sail boat under 7 meters (~23 feet) “may” exhibit the lights configuration of her larger cousins but, if she isn’t fitted with them, she “shall have

ready at hand an electric torch [a flash light, Bunky] or lighted lantern showing a white light which shall be exhibited in sufficient time to avoid collision.” Often, the sailor will shine the light on the sail as it creates a larger palette.

### Row, Row, Row Your Boat...

What about rowing—which includes kayaks that are now, due to their growing popularity, among the highest sources of accidents and death at sea (or “at bay” or “at creek,” as it were). The Rule for (wo)man-powered vessels—of any size—is just like 25 (d) for sail boats—she “may” exhibit the lights configuration of her wind-powered cousins but, if she isn’t fitted with them, she “shall have ready at hand an electric torch or lighted lantern showing a white light which shall be exhibited in sufficient time to avoid collision.” How many kayakers out there have a flash light under their decks? Or life jackets on them? The stats on those that don’t are getting deadlier and deadlier by the year...Don’t be a statistic!

Lest we forget our new emphasis on Shapes, are sailing vessels

required to display a Shape and when? Yes, there is a Shape for sailing vessels—it is called the “cone, apex-downward.” It looks (or is supposed to look) like an ice-cream cone. It is to be exhibited forward “where it can best be seen.” And when is it to be displayed? When the sails are up—and the engine is on...in short, she has to declare that “I am just a funny looking power-boat right now” and be expected to act accordingly—and be treated accordingly. (Just remember that there are no “100-0” accidents out there. She is still unable to respond as quickly and sharply as a powered vessel since her sails give her considerable “windage.”)

BTW, sailing vessels under 12 meters (~26 feet) “may” exhibit the Shape but are not required to.

BTW, if you are interested in being part of USCG Forces, email me at [JoinUSCGAux2008@aol.com](mailto:JoinUSCGAux2008@aol.com) or go direct to MaryJo Cruickshank, who is in charge of new members matters, at [FSO-PS@emcg.us](mailto:FSO-PS@emcg.us) and we will help you “get in this thing...”

## Joan's View

story and photos by Joan Travan

## Tony Lo Bianco and BAHC

This year the Brookhaven Arts and Humanities Council is privileged to have illustrious actor Tony Lo Bianco in their Sunrise/Sunset series.

The idea for S/S was created by Arts council president Rosemarie Schmidt. “We are so excited to have such a brilliant actor participate in our 2008 Sunrise/Sunset series,” she said.

Brooklyn has been the breeding ground for many a good thing in American society and Tony Lo



Ryan Alverado, student, - Aileen Jacobson, *Newsday* media writer, - Tony LoBianco, special guest - Jeffrey Sanzel, executive artistic director Theater Three, - Brent Erlandson, Theater Three actor/assistant director, - Alyssa Coreciari, student

Bianco is one of them. He attributes his pursuit of a career in acting to his speech and drama teacher in high school who encouraged him to further his career in acting. When he was in Golden Gloves his teacher attended his fights. “This Brooklyn kid rough and tough,” said Lo Bianco, “did Cyrano de Bergerac representing Brooklyn in the city finals and came in second.”

Born in New York, Mr. Lo Bianco played stickball as an 8-year-old on

the streets of Brooklyn and grew up in an Italian family; his father drove a taxi cab and worked 12 hours a day. “He had such a joy for living.” The actor affectionately described his mother as passionate, who worried about everything.

The career of this actor is distinguished as much by its depth and variety as by the skills and gifts that he brings to his performances in films, television movies and on stage. Tony Lo Bianco has worked with some of

the best actors and directors in theater, television and films.

“Acting is the only place where you get to do life over,” he said. “If you’re going into acting for the money or fame—don’t!”

Mr. Lo Bianco’s advice: “The young have to understand history, see all the old black and white movies. When you see a black and white film—all the colors you could possibly want are in those films. Also, actor means stage actor, that’s where you get to work on your skills. Everything an actor or director does had to have meaning. You are an artist creating.”

For information, call 451-9070.



Christopher Gamboni, Cinematographer and BAHC President, Rosemarie Schmidt



Filmed at Theater Three, Main Street, Port Jefferson Village