

the overtaking vessel a crossing vessel within the meaning of these Rules, or relieve her of the duty of keeping clear of the overtaken vessel until she is finally past and clear.

As by day the overtaking vessel cannot always know with certainty whether she is forward or abaft this direction from the other vessel, she should, if in doubt, assume that she is an overtaking vessel and keep out of the way.

ARTICLE 25. In narrow channels every steam vessel shall, when it is safe and practicable, keep to that side of the fair-way or mid channel which lies on the starboard side of such vessel.

ARTICLE 26. Sailing vessels under way shall keep out of the way of sailing vessels or boats fishing with nets, or lines, or trawls. This Rule shall not give to any vessel or boat engaged in fishing the right of obstructing a fairway used by vessels other than fishing-vessels or boats.

ARTICLE 27. In obeying and construing these Rules, due regard shall be had to all dangers of navigation and collision, and to any special circumstances which may render a departure from the above Rules necessary in order to avoid immediate danger.

#### *Sound Signals for Vessels in Sight of one Another.*

ARTICLE 28. The words "short blast" used in this Article shall mean a blast of about one second's duration.

When vessels are in sight of one another, a steam vessel under way, in taking any course authorized or required by these Rules, shall indicate that course by the following signals on her whistle or siren, viz. :—

One short blast to mean, "I am directing my course to starboard."

Two short blasts to mean, "I am directing my course to port."

Three short blasts to mean, "My engines are going full speed astern."

#### *No Vessel under any circumstances to neglect proper Precautions.*

ARTICLE 29. Nothing in these Rules shall exonerate any vessel, or the owner, or master, or crew thereof, from the consequences of any neglect to carry lights or signals, or of any neglect to keep a proper look-out, or of the neglect of any precaution which may be required by the ordinary practice of seamen, or by the special circumstances of the case.

#### *Reservation of Rules for Harbours and Inland Navigation.*

ARTICLE 30. Nothing in these Rules shall interfere with the operation of a special rule, duly made by local authority, relative to the navigation of any harbour, river, or inland waters.

#### *Distress Signals.*

ARTICLE 31. When a vessel is in distress and requires assistance from other vessels or from the shore, the following shall be the signals to be used or displayed by her, either together or separately, viz. :—

In the daytime—

1. A gun or other explosive signal fired at intervals of about a minute;

2. The International Code signal of distress indicated by N C;

3. The distant signal, consisting of a square flag, having either above or below it a ball or anything resembling a ball;

4. A continuous sounding with any fog-signal apparatus.

At night—

1. A gun or other explosive signal fired at intervals of about a minute;

2. Flames on the vessel (as from a burning tar-barrel, oil-barrel, &c.);

3. Rockets or shells, throwing stars of any colour or description, fired one at a time, at short intervals;

4. A continuous sounding with any fog-signal apparatus.

#### SCHEDULE II.

*List of countries to which the regulations contained in Schedule I. apply, subject to the limitations and conditions stated in the Order and the Schedule.*

Argentine Republic.	Italy.
Austria-Hungary.	Japan.
Belgium.	Mexico.
Brazil.	Netherlands.
Bulgaria.	Norway.
Chile.	Peru.
China.	Portugal.
Costa Rica.	Roumania.
Denmark.	Russia.
Ecuador.	Siam.
Egypt.	Spain.
France.	Sweden.
Germany.	Turkey.
Greece.	United States.
Guatemala.	Venezuela.

#### SCHEDULE III.

*Orders in Council Revoked.*

Date.	Subject.
14th August, 1879	Approving new regulations for British vessels, and applying them to the vessels of certain foreign countries.
27th November, 1880	Applying the regulations of 1879 to the vessels of certain other foreign countries.
9th September, 1884	Applying the regulations of 1884 to French vessels.
30th December, 1884	Applying the same regulations to the vessels of certain other foreign countries.
19th May, 1885 ..	Applying the same regulations to the vessels of certain other foreign countries.
9th July, 1885 ..	Applying the same regulations to Turkish vessels.
17th September, 1885	Applying the same regulations to Chilean vessels.
18th August, 1892	Approving regulations as to the lights of British steam pilot vessels.
27th November, 1896	Approving new regulations for British ships.
7th July, 1897 ..	Directing that the Order of 1892 shall be construed as referring to the regulations of 1896.
7th July, 1897 ..	Applying the regulations of 1896 to the vessels of certain foreign countries.
4th April, 1906 ..	Approving new regulations for British fishing vessels.