

Tactical Excellence

The background is a stylized, low-poly illustration of a sunset or sunrise. The sky is composed of various shades of yellow, orange, and light purple, with large, angular shapes representing clouds or sunbeams. A bright sun is visible on the horizon, casting a glow. In the foreground, there is a dark silhouette of a coastline with several sailboats on the water. The overall aesthetic is modern and artistic.

Today:

- 3 key components to calling tactics
 - Strategy
 - Tactics
 - Critical evaluation points
- Examples
 - Everything go to plan (more or less)
 - Strategy proved incorrect

SCENARIO 1.

GO -Right

KIND OF DAY:
GEO RIGHTY
FLAT WATER
ON RIGHT



Lift

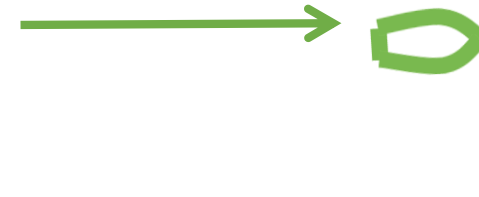
PRE WARNING:
STRATEGY

“PLAN IS TO
GO RIGHT”



WARNING:
START TACTICS

“START NEAR
BOAT, TACK”



PLAN B:



“TACKING
EVEN IF
TIGHT LANE”



Strategy Output

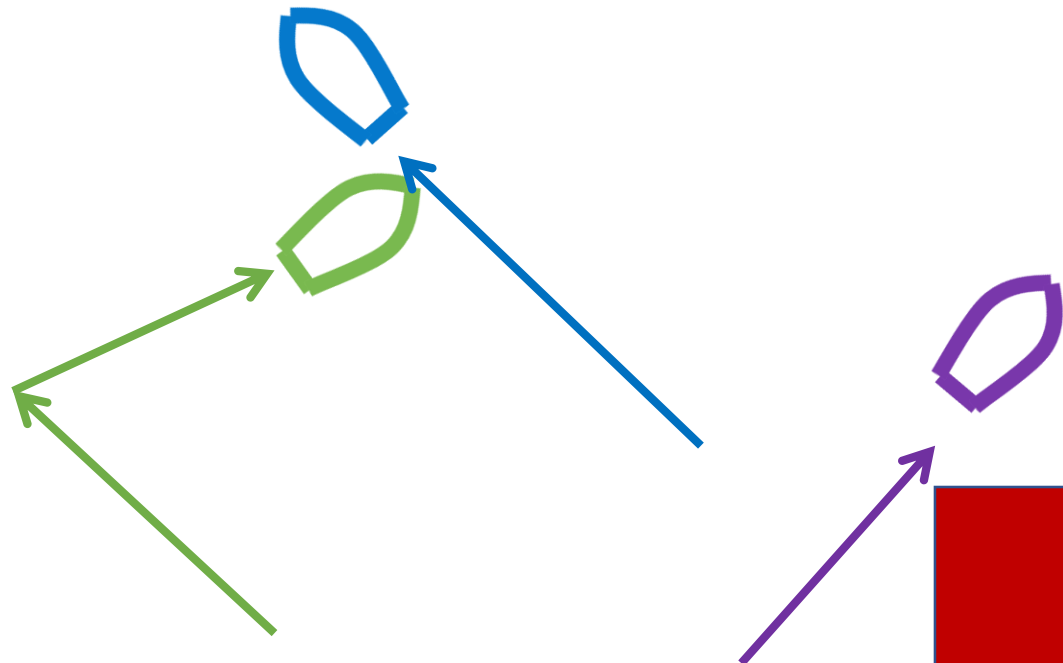
- Middle
 - Shifts
 - Long tack
 - Play fleet
- Edge
 - Inside (lead back)
 - Outside (send it!)

EXECUTE

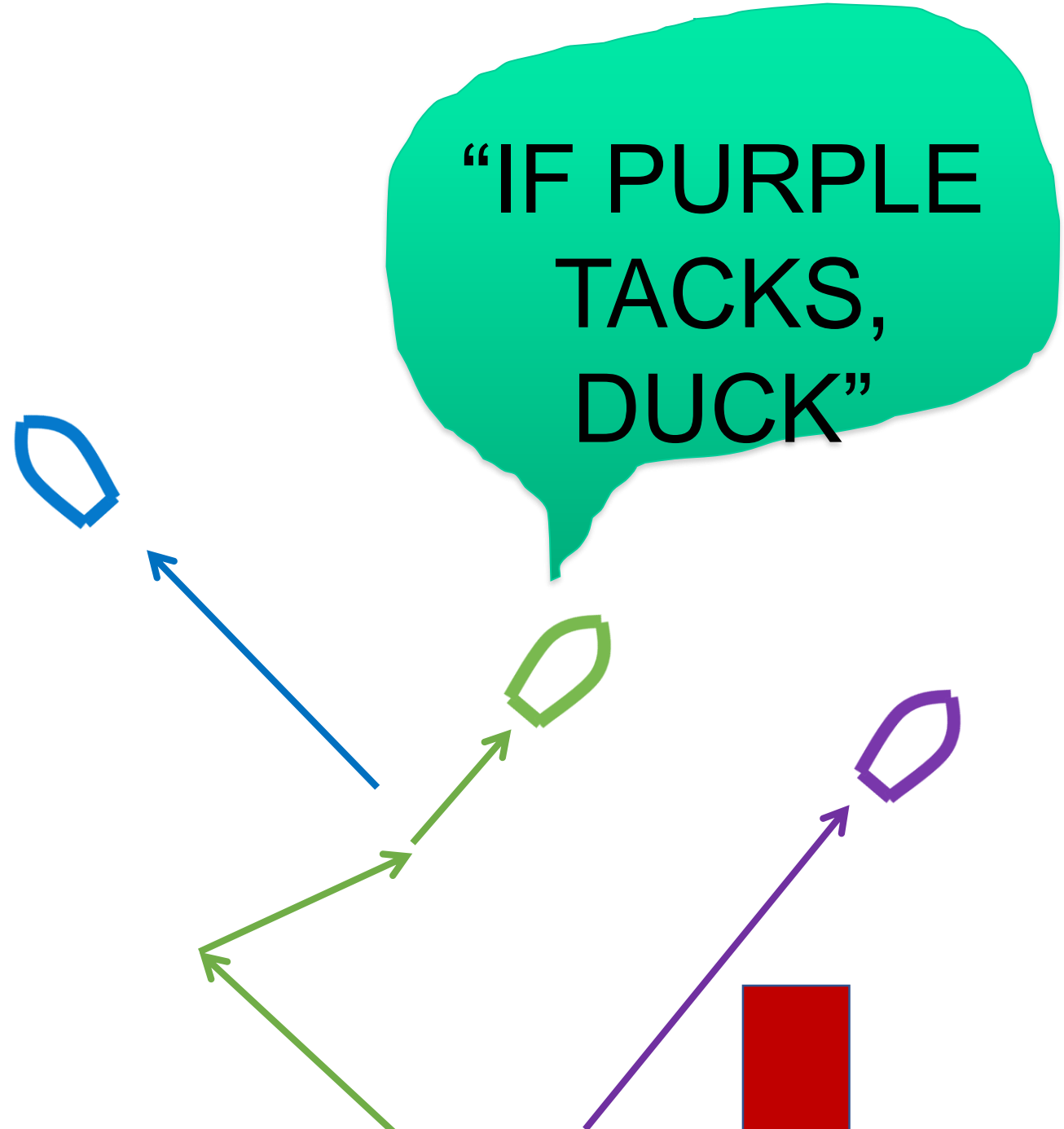
“TACK, DUCK
BLUE”



EXECUTE



NEW SITUATION:
IF -THEN



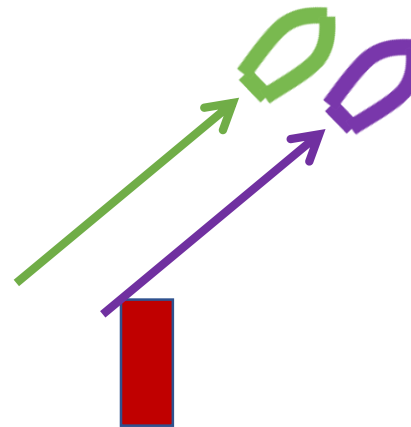
Tactics

“If –Then” Tactics

- “When Purple is tacks, they will be a starboard problem”
- “**If** Purple tacks...
- ...**Then** Duck”
- “We want to go right, so no matter what, stay on port”

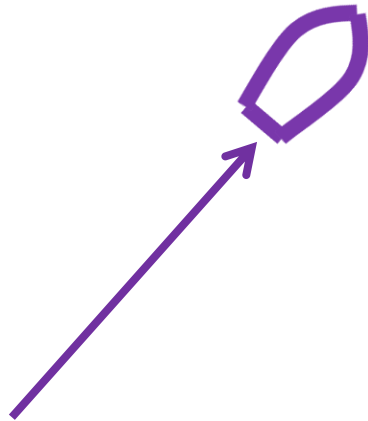
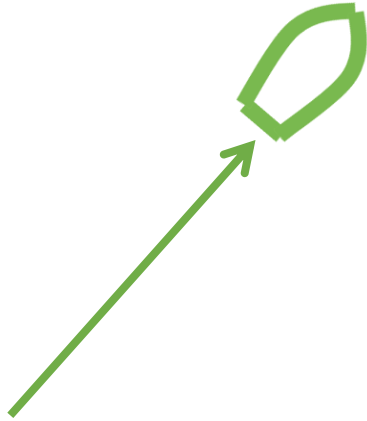
20%:
RE-EVALUATE PLAN

“PLAN IS
STILL TO GO
RIGHT”



IF – THEN
RESTATE

“IF PURPLE
TACKS,
DUCK”



Critical Decision Points

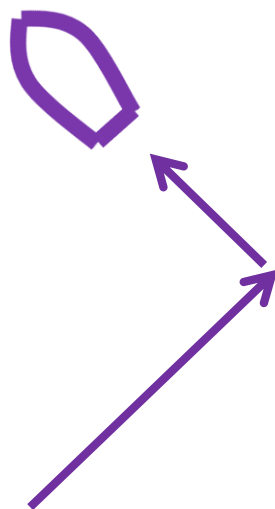
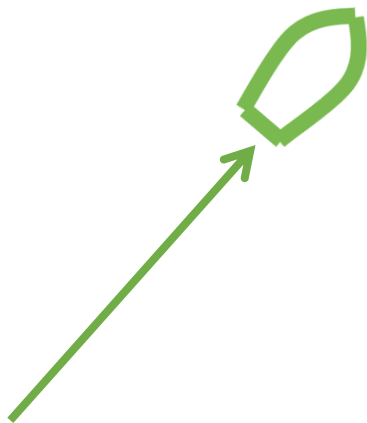
- Times to re-evaluate plan
 - Half dozen key moments
- So rest of time can focus on going fast
 - While executing your plan
 - And managing traffic
- Going fast makes tactician look smart

Critical Decision Points Upwind

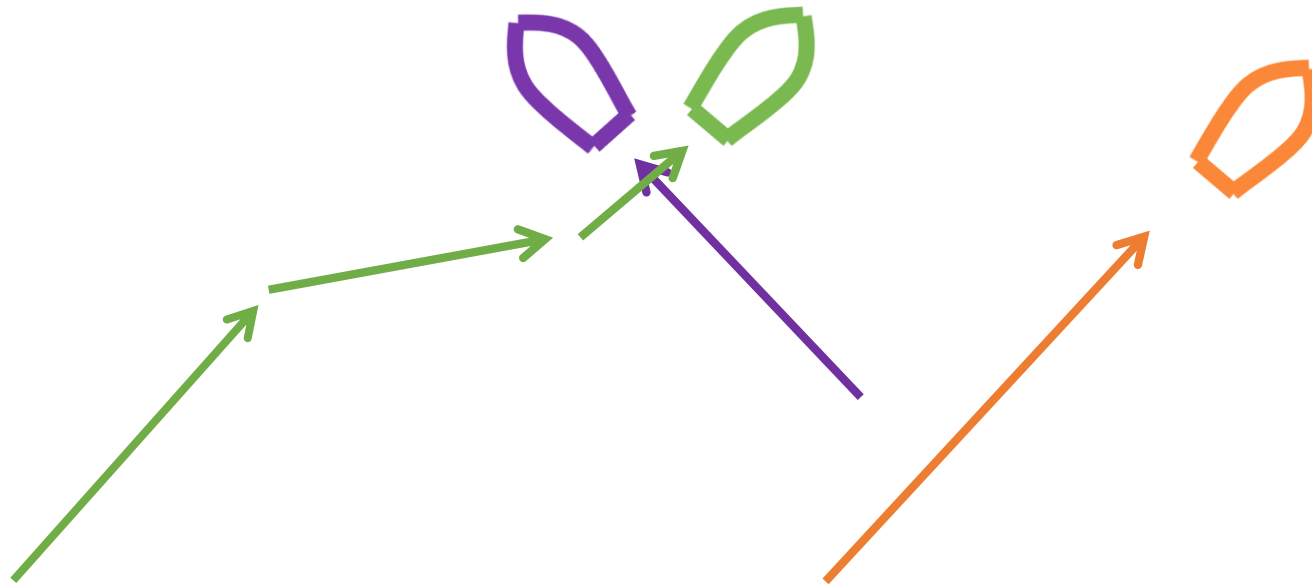
WHEN/ WHERE	DECISION	NOTES
Before sequence	Race Strategy	Plan and some detail of how to implement it
~4 min before start	Where starting, first move & plan B	How you get on the correct tack to implement Strategy
20%	Re-evaluate Strategy	If strategy working then keep implementing, if not make a new one
Approaching Layline	Tack early of lay, or go all the way?	Combo of importance of going all the way, and traffic management
90% to windward Mark	Strategy for the run. Straight or gybe set?	Last chance to assess the run before hit traffic at the mark
95% to windward Mark	Chess moves of entering and exiting windward mark	Set up to exit offset on chosen gybe

TRAFFIC:
DUCK

“PURPLE
TACKED,
DUCK”

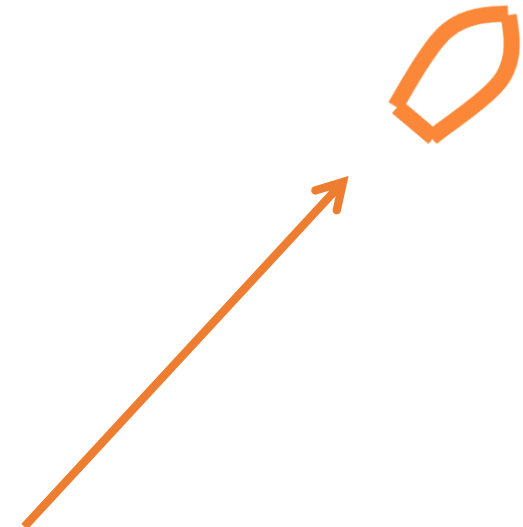
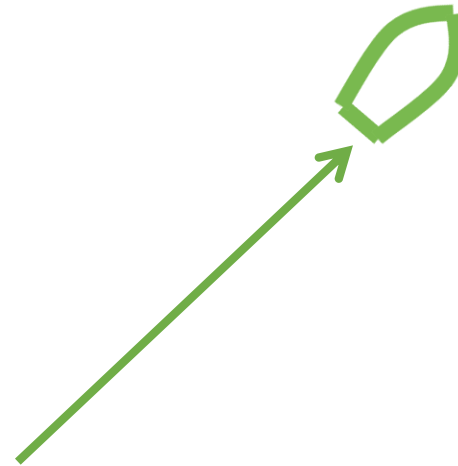


EXECUTE



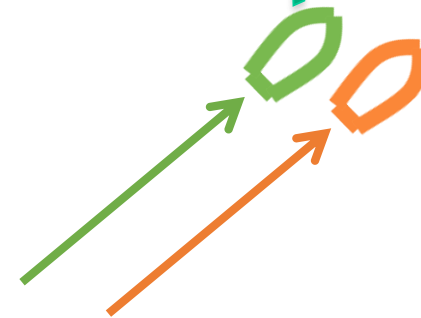
DUCK CREATES NEW
IF -THEN

“IF ORANGE
TACKS,
DUCK”



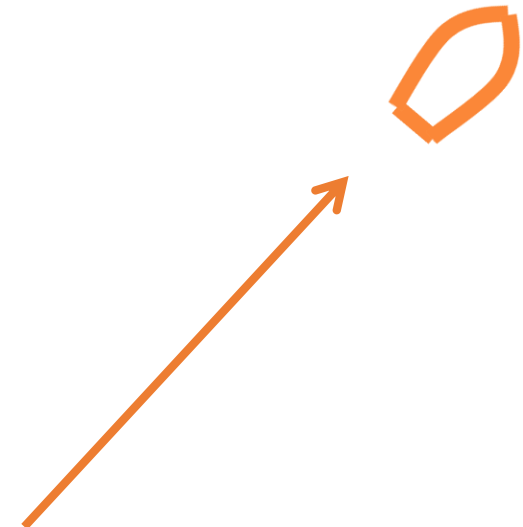
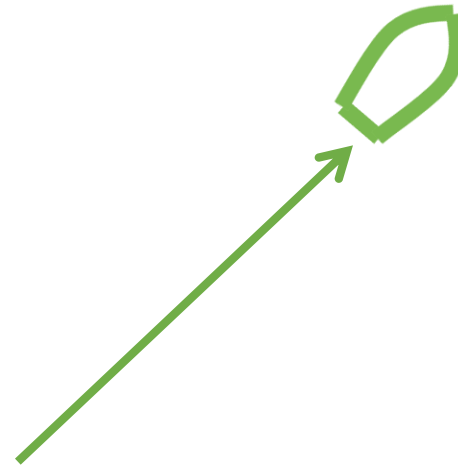
NEAR LAYLINE:
TACK EARLY?
OR SEND IT?

“LAYLINE
CROWDED,
LEADING
BACK”



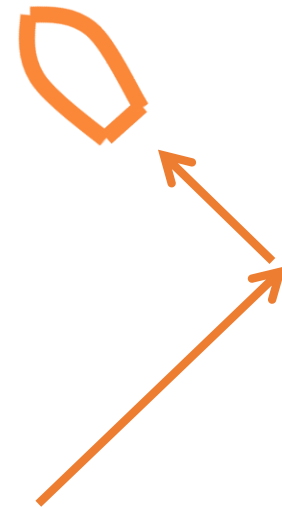
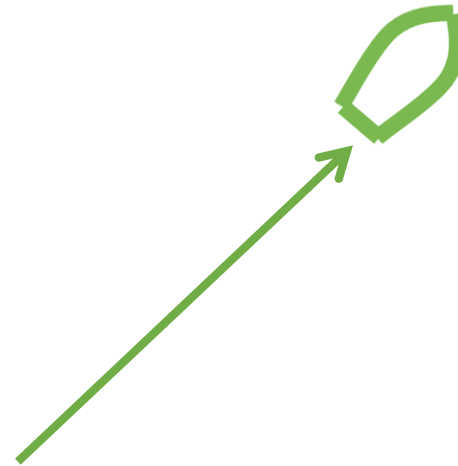
UPDATE:
IF -THEN

“IF ORANGE
TACKS,
TACK”

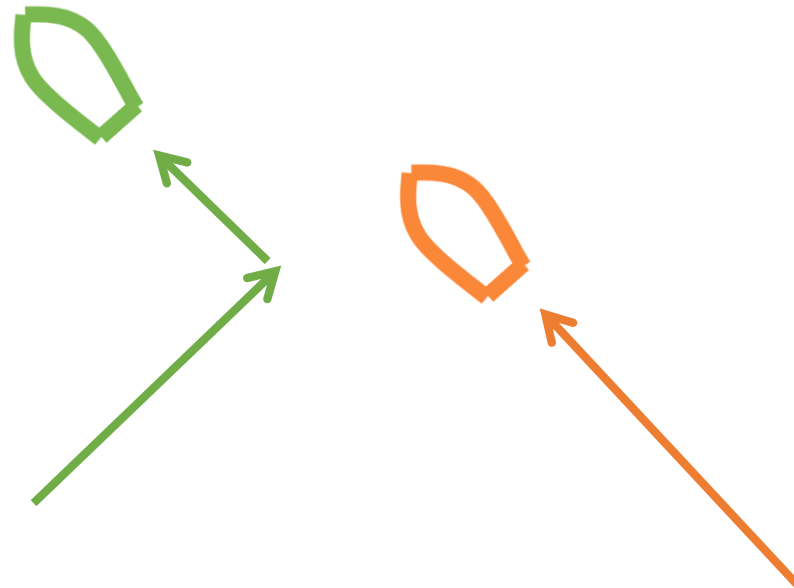


ORANGE TACKS

“ORANGE
TACKED,
TACK”



EXECUTE



Tactics

Change Tacks + Modifier

MOVE	DETAIL	NOTES
"Tack"	"In a good spot"	No urgency, driver chooses fast spot
"Tack"	"NOW"	Urgent, tack immediately, no discussion
"Tack"	"In 3,2, 1, Tack"	Tack into a specific spot
"Lee-bow"	"sail # 773"	Handoff to the driver
"Tack"	"In a lane"	Handoff to the driver to find a spot
"Double Tack"		Tack back before up to speed

*"Tack" interchangeable with "Gybe"

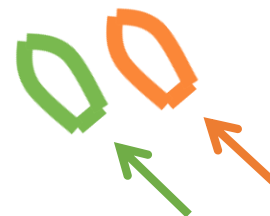
Tactics

Continue + Modifier (Modes)

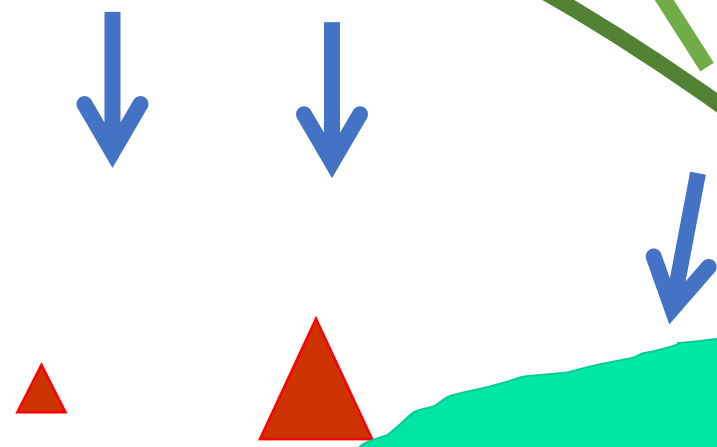
MOVE	DETAIL	NOTES
"Cross if you can"	"Otherwise Tack"	Not worth a big duck. Hand final call over to driver.
"Cross if you can"	"Otherwise Duck"	Stay on tack even if need a big duck.
"VMG mode"		Default, but it's not bad to verbalize
"Height mode"		Hold a tight lane, to fetch a mark, or pinch to puff
"Foot mode"		Low to get nose out from bad air, or to the next header
"Wave them through"	"And duck"	Don't want to get tacked on by a crossing port tacker.
"Reach through"	"Then foot"	From above bad close lee-bow. Pop through wind shadow

UPDATE:
IF -THEN

“NO
TRAFFIC
SAIL FAST”



90%:
PLAN RUN



“GYBE SET
FOR GEO
HEADER”



95%:
MARK ROUNDING
TACTICS



EXPECT UPDATES IN
HEAVY TRAFFIC



"ORANGE
TACKED,
TACK
NORMAL"

Phraseology

- Clear
- Short
- Same every time
- Avoid negatives
 - I know, I should have said “Say the action you want”

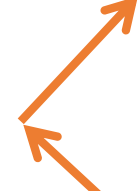
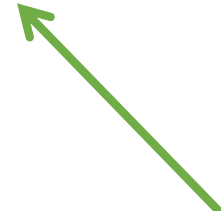
AVOID THE WORD 'NO'
SOUNDS LIKE "GO"

I JUST HERE
"DUCK"

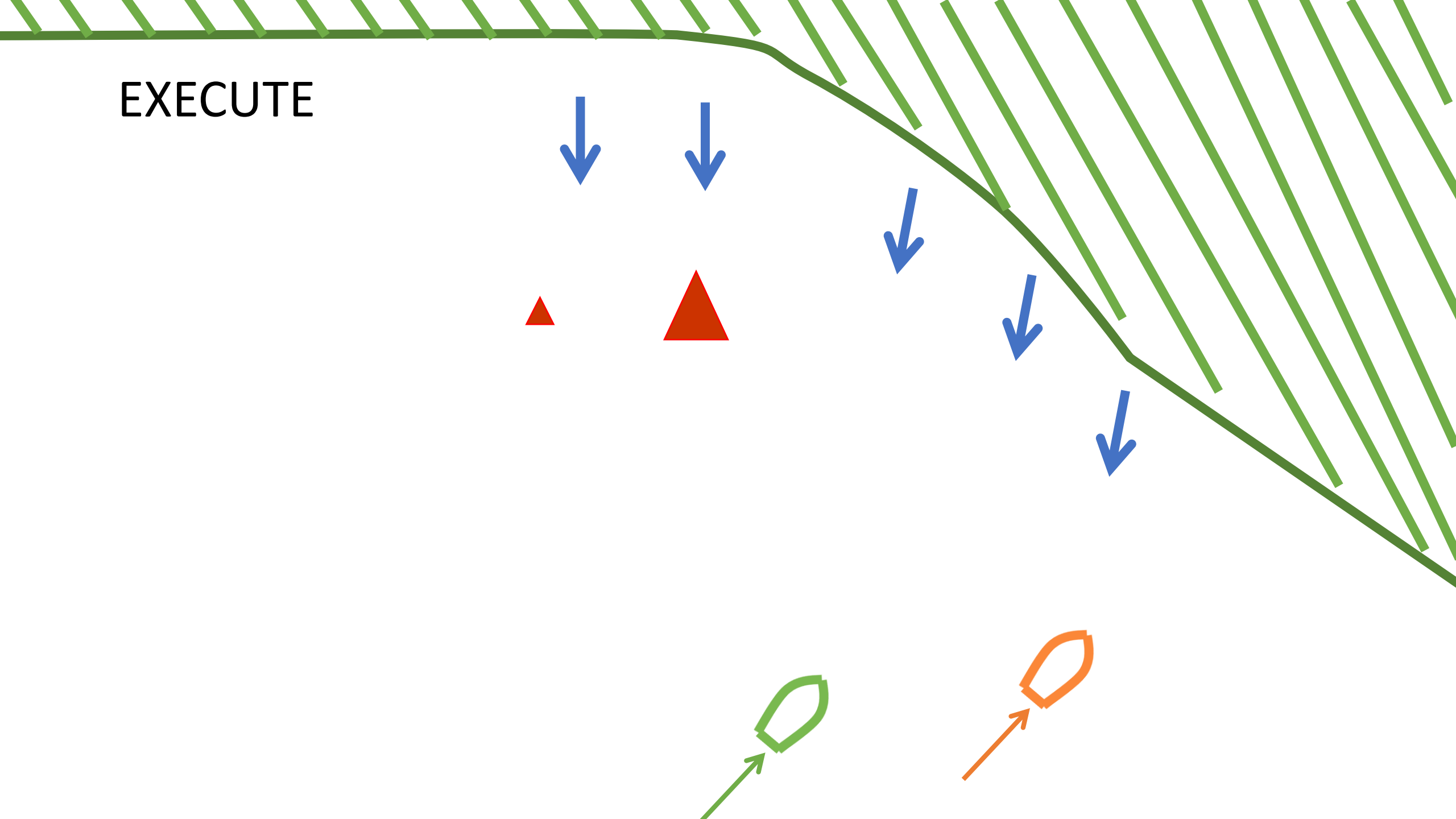
"NO DUCK"



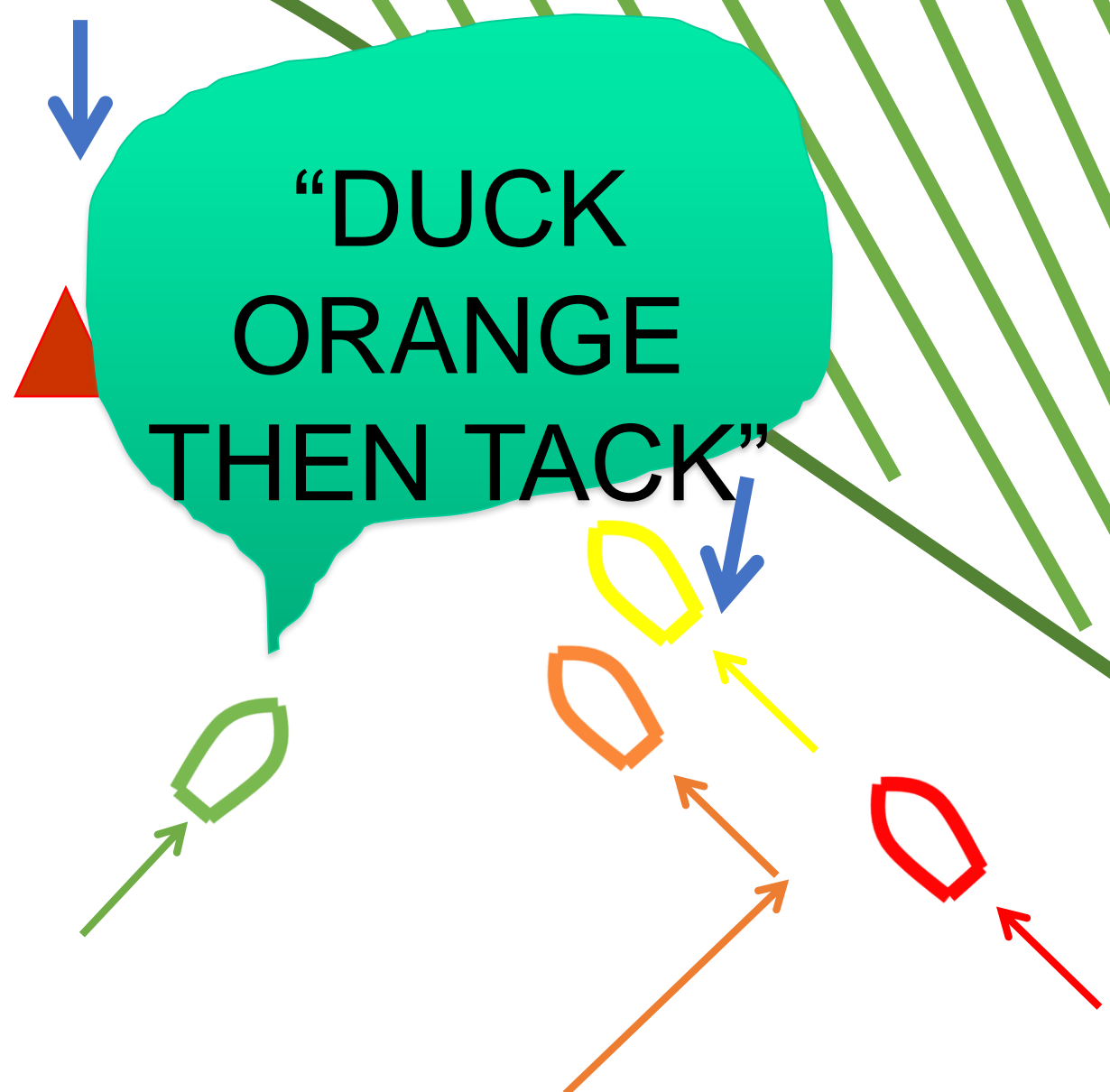
SAY WHAT YOU WANT
NOT WHAT YOU DON'T WANT



EXECUTE



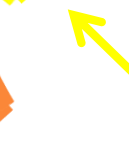
TACTICIAN
PAINTS THE PICTURE



HANDOFF
TO DRIVER
FOR BUSIEST TRAFFIC



“YOU PICK
THE SPOT,
ITS YOURS”



IT IS TIME FOR THE **SOCIAL MEDIA MINUTE**

Please take 60-seconds and post one takeaway, picture or thought from this session on a social media platform of your choice and tag

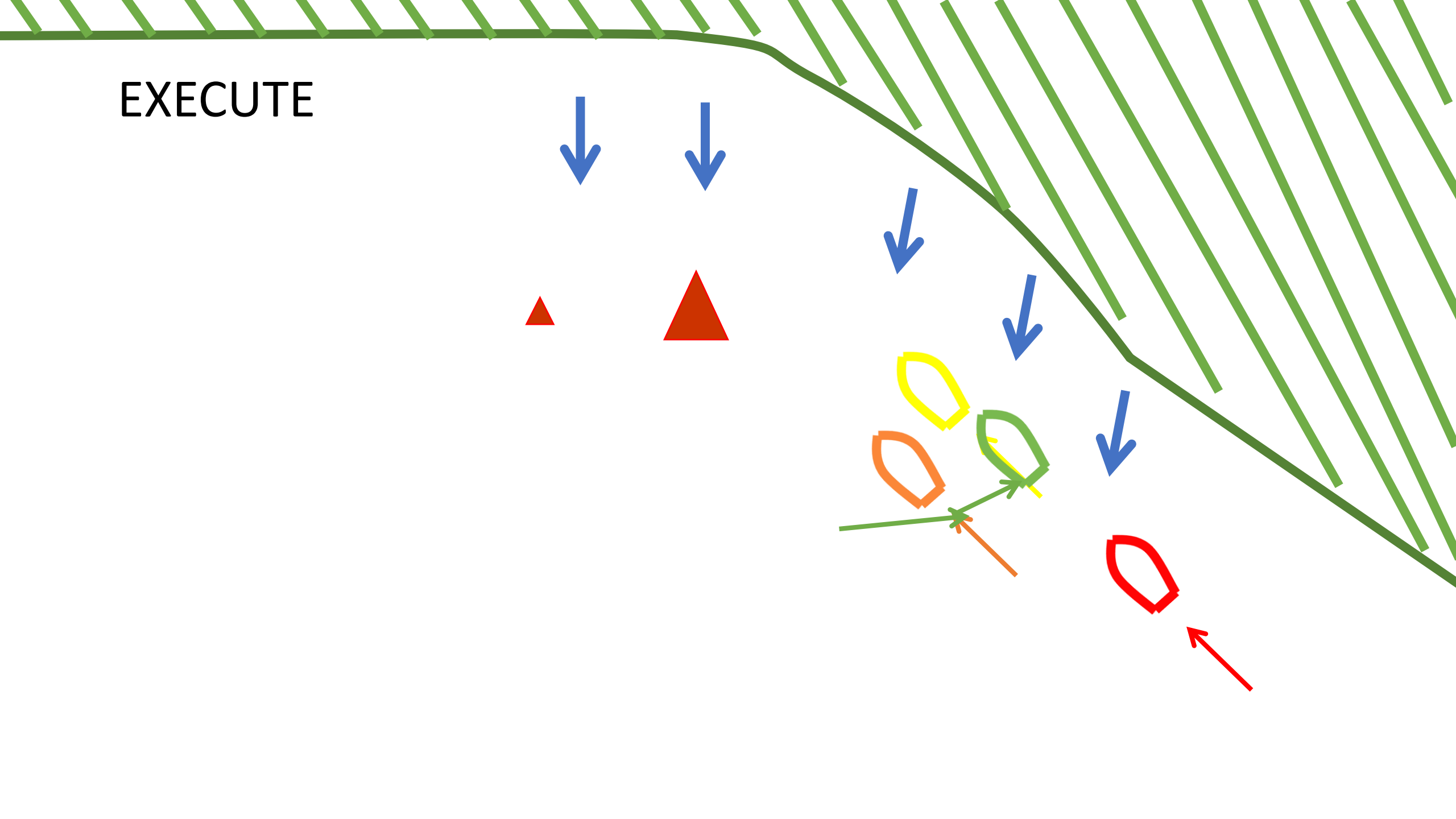
@USSailing

@(presenter)

#SailingLeadership

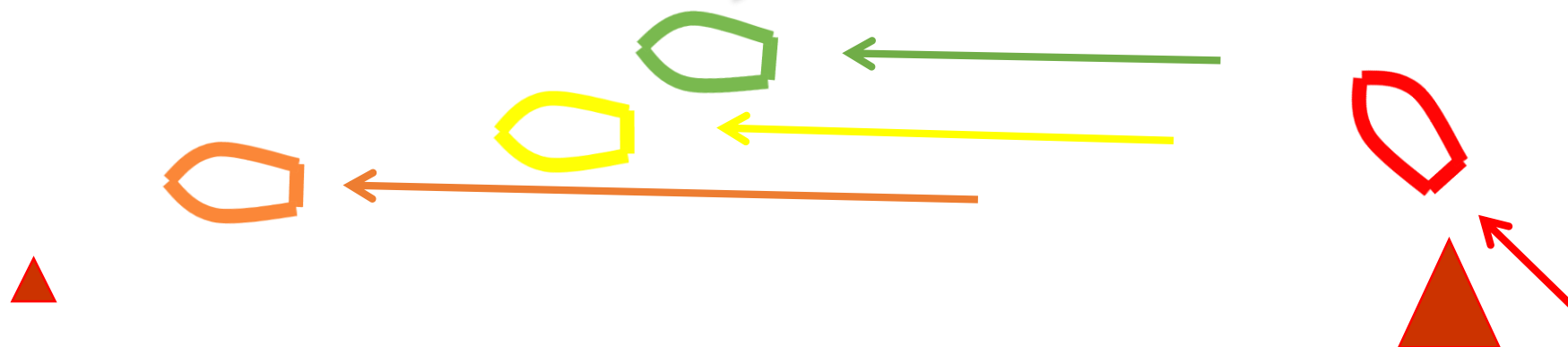


EXECUTE

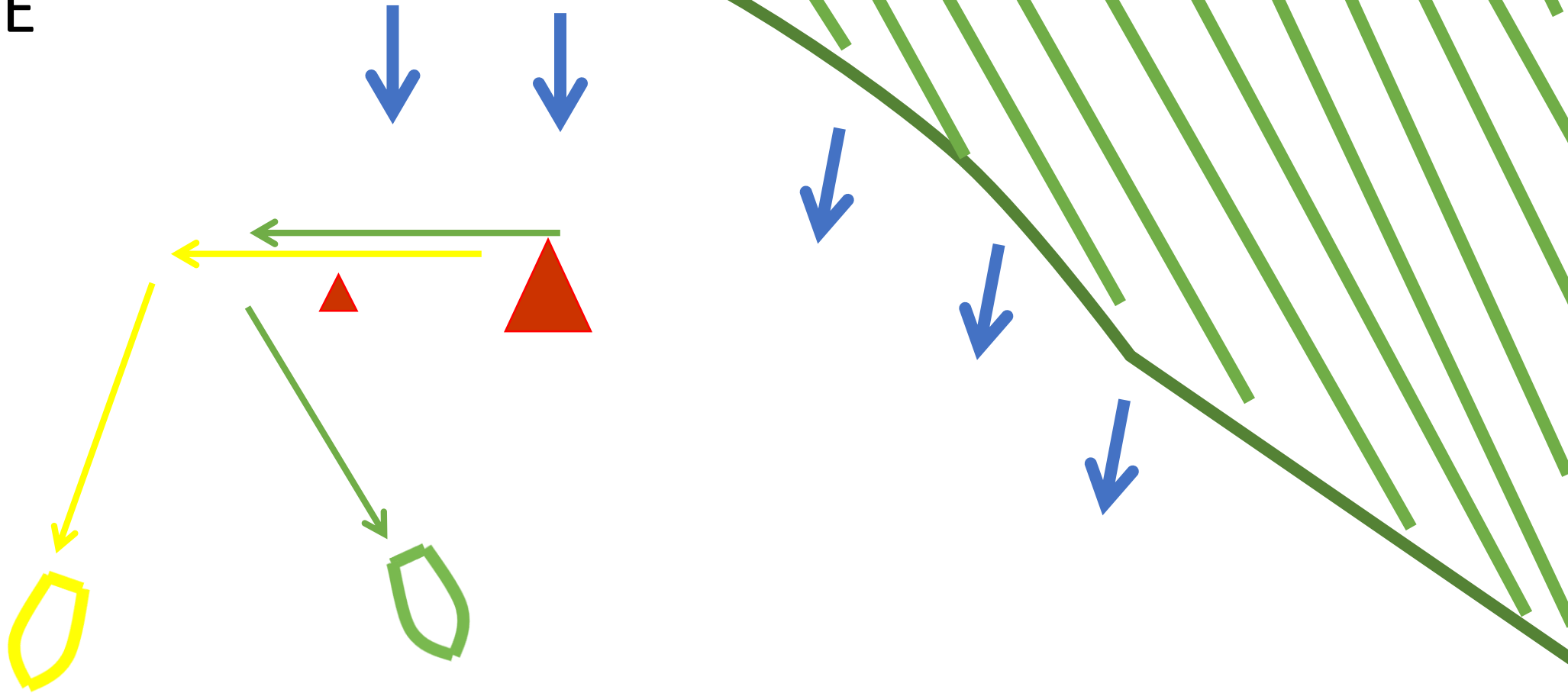


KEEP YOUR STRATEGY
PARAMOUNT
FOR ALL MOVES

“SLOW TO
UNHOOK
YELLOW SO
CAN GYBE”



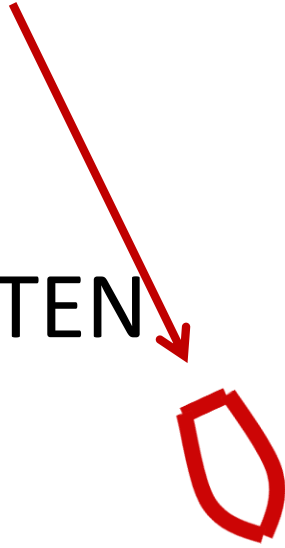
EXECUTE



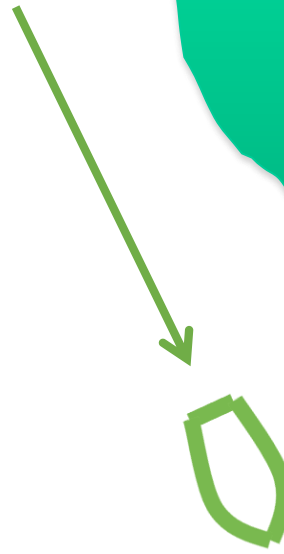
Critical Decision Points Downwind

WHEN/ WHERE	DECISION	NOTES
Halfway to gate layline	Re-evaluate Strategy	If working then keep implementing, if not make new strategy
Approaching gate layline	Gybe early, or go all the way?	Combo of importance of going all the way, and traffic management
80% to gate	Strategy for the next beat, which tack to take first, choose gate	Decided earlier than upwind, need extra time if need to cross to other gate
95% to gate	Chess moves of entering and exiting the leeward gate	Include the option to switch gates if situation presents itself

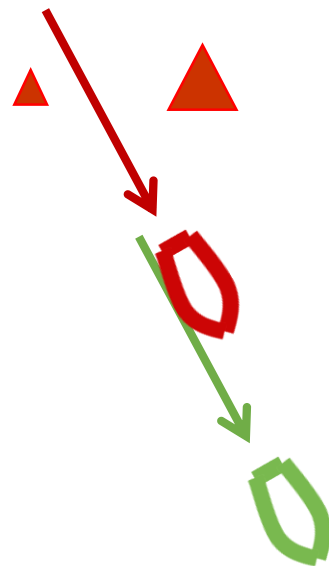
IF THEN:
DOWNWIND OFTEN
ABOUT MODES



“IF RED
GOES UP,
MATCH
THEIR
ANGLE”



25%
STRATEGY



“LOOKING
GOOD, KEEP
GOING”



IF THEN:
UPDATE

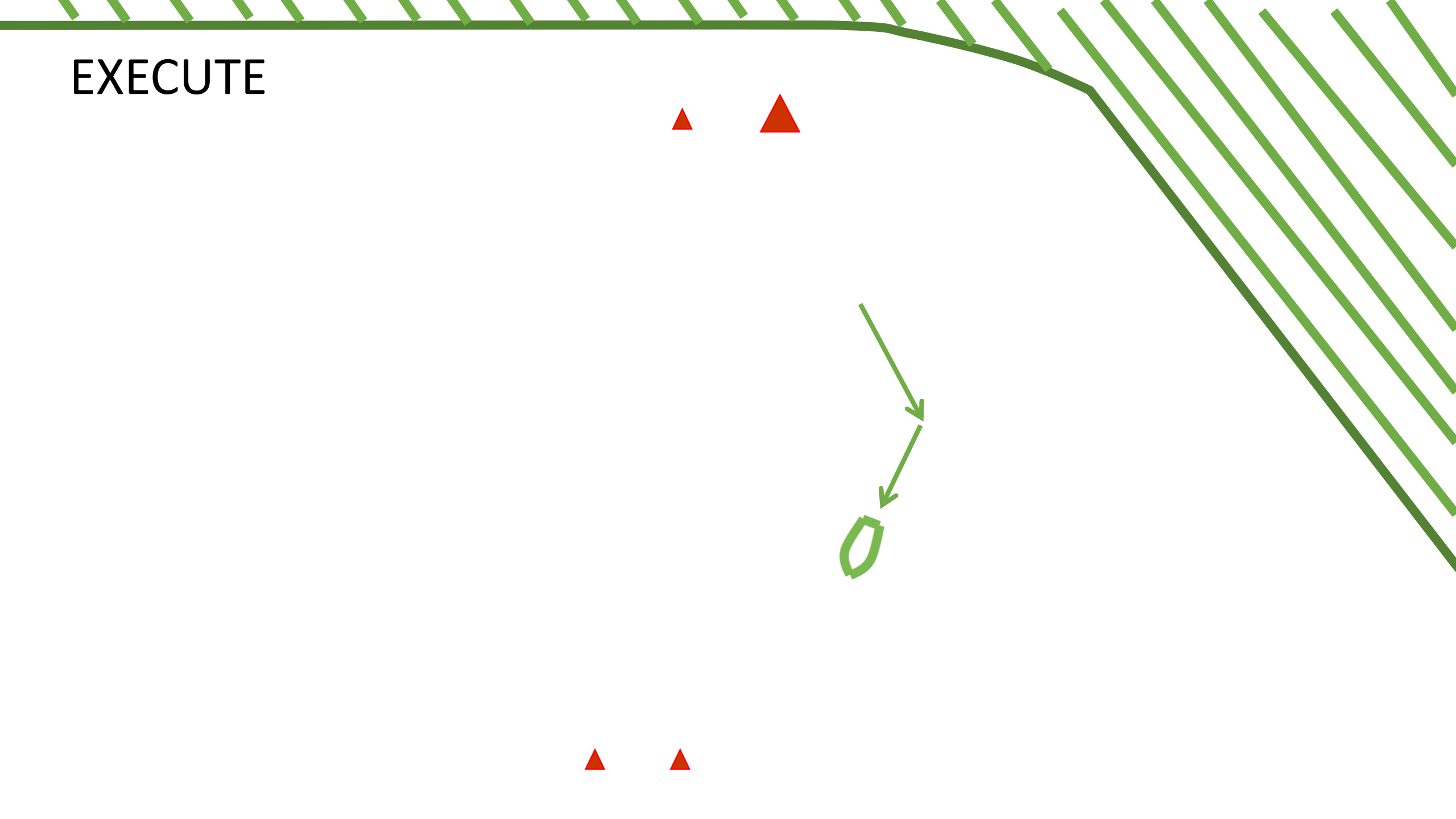


NEAR LAY TACTICS AND STRATEGY



“LOW
TRAFFIC,
GOING ALL
THE WAY”

EXECUTE



80%

UPWIND STRATEGY



80%

FOLLOWED BY
GATE TACTICS

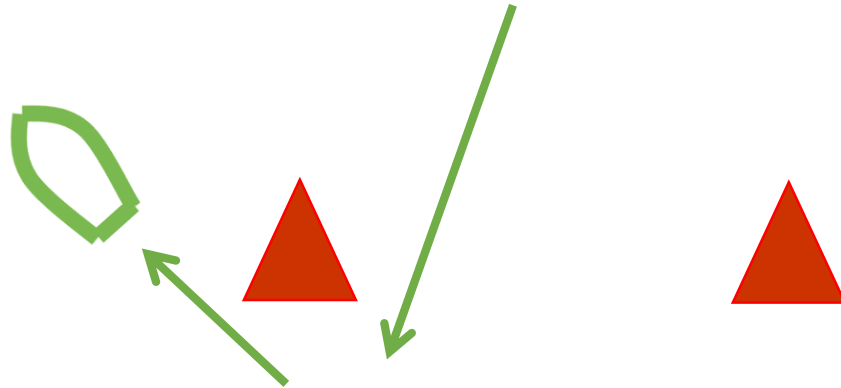


"RIGHT TURN" LANGUAGE
FIXES PROBLEM OF
"COURSE LEFT GATE"
VS
"RIGHT GATE LOOKING
DOWNWIND"
AND IT'S AN ACTION

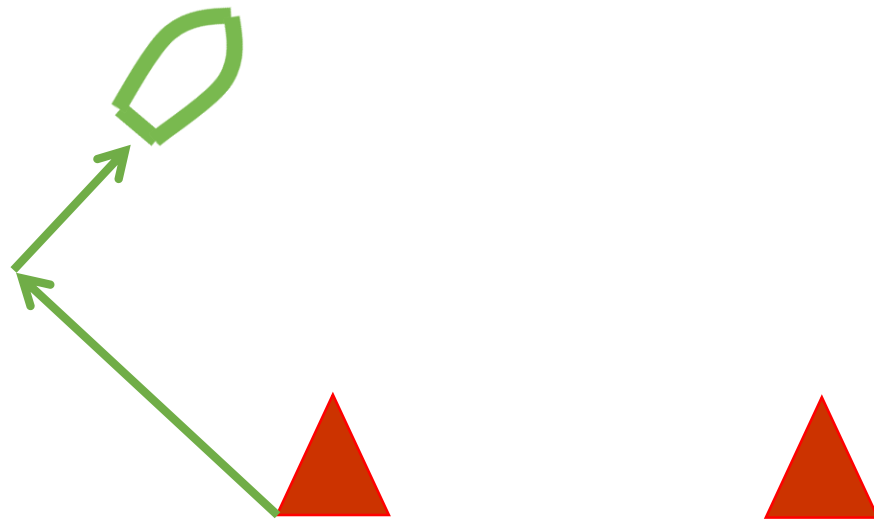


EXECUTE

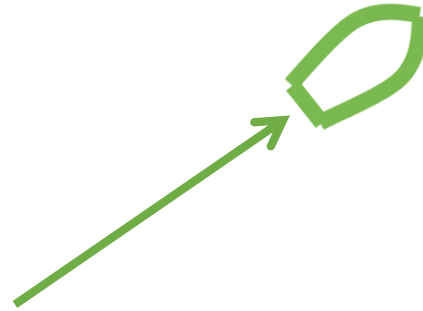
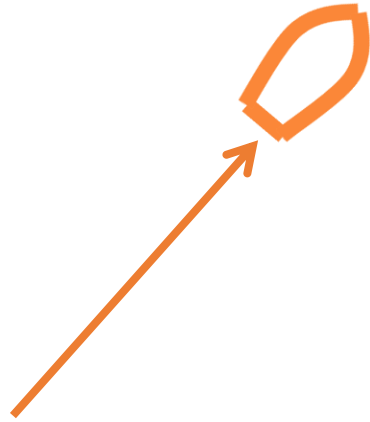
“EXIT HIGH
SO CAN
TACK”



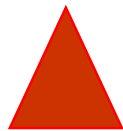
EXECUTE



TACTICAL
MODE CALL



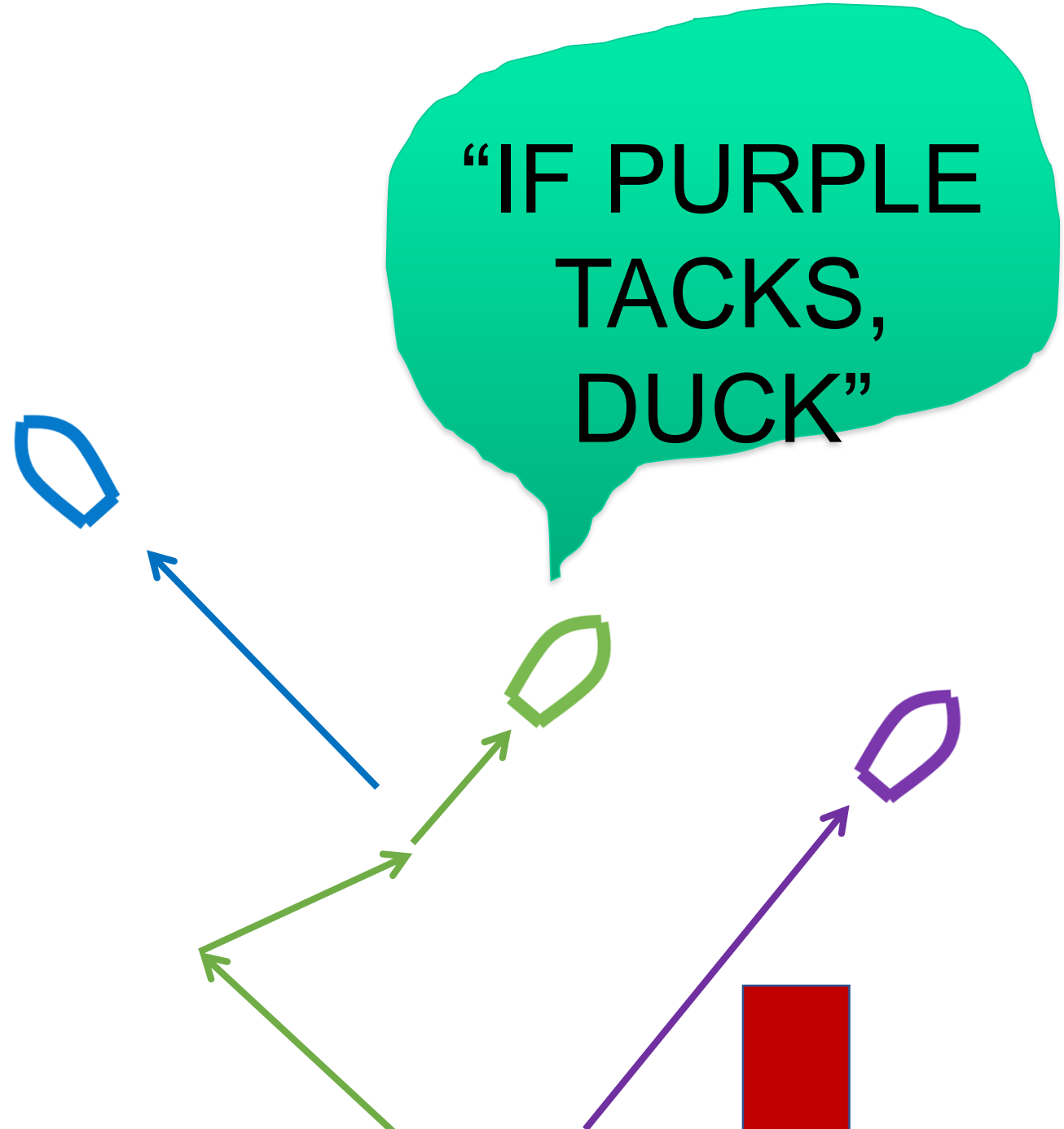
“FOOT MODE,
ORANGE
ABOVE”



SCENARIO 2.
GO –RIGHT STRATEGY
WRONG: LEFT FILLS IN

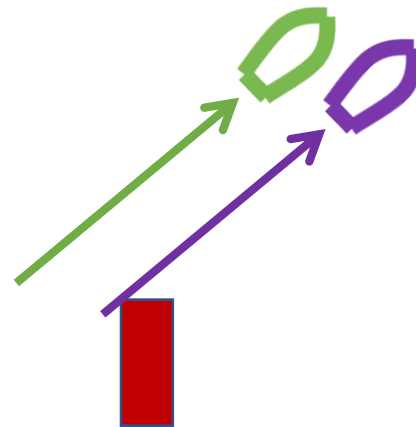
GOOD START,
EXECUTING PLAN
TO GO RIGHT
NICE!

GROUNDHOG DAY
-SO FAR



20%:
RE-EVALUATE PLAN

“?IF PURPLE
TACKS,
DUCK?”



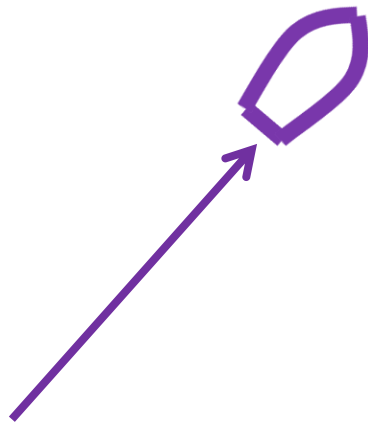
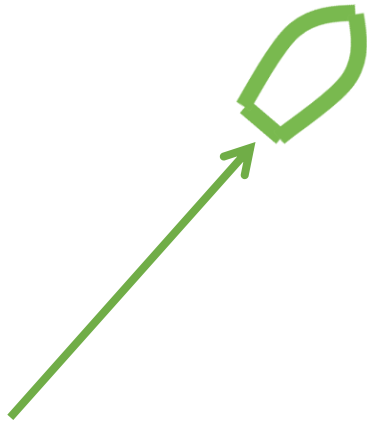
Tactician Need Help

Time for a Discussion

- Helm, “You don’t sound so sure”
- Tactician, “Yeah, it looks kind of light ahead”
- Helm, “How do the boats left look”
- Tactician, “They look in good pressure and in sizable lefty”
- And so on...

CHANGE OF
STRATEGY:
NEW CALL

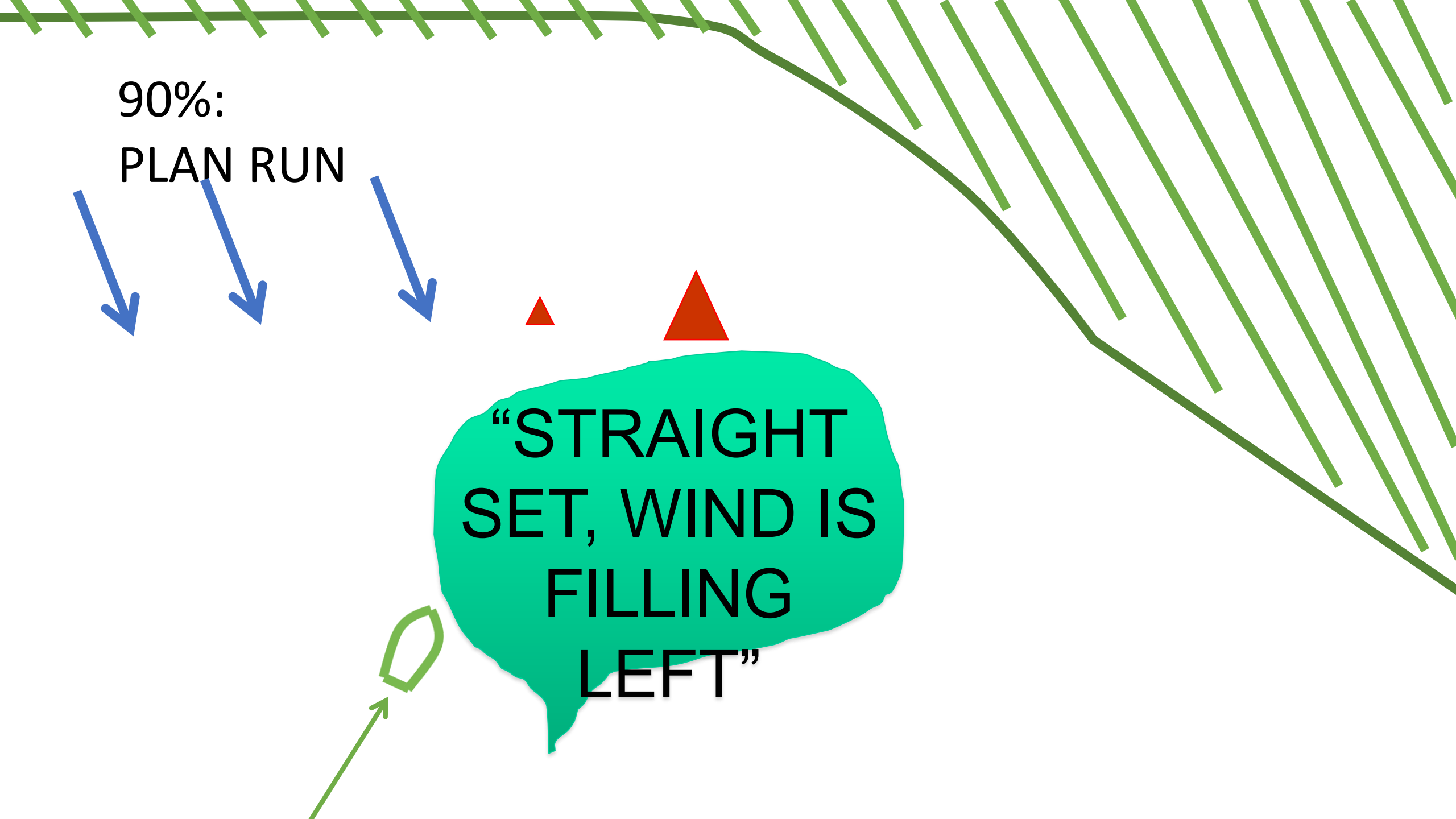
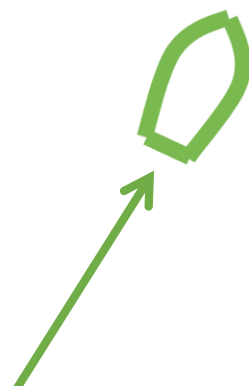
“TACK, WE
ARE GOING
LEFT”



90%:
PLAN RUN



“STRAIGHT
SET, WIND IS
FILLING
LEFT”



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Your Opinion Matters

Please open the **Sailing Leadership Forum app**
and complete the **session survey** found in the
menu bar.

Thank you for attending this session

