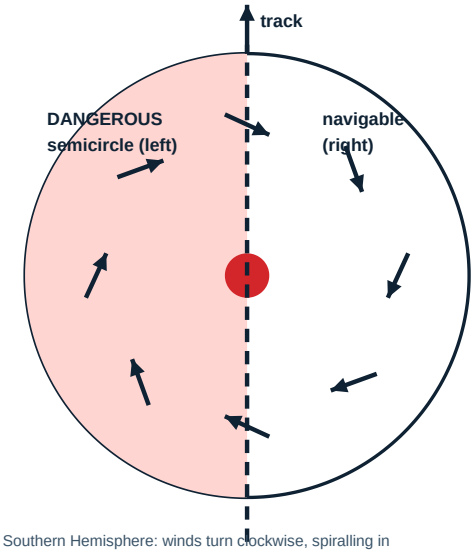
ZULU MARINER DATA CARD

18 SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE WEATHER

Lows turn clockwise down here. Cyclones from November to April.

TROPICAL CYCLONE: WHERE AM I?



Southern Hemisphere: winds turn clockwise, spiralling in

Wind **backs** (anticlockwise)	dangerous semicircle: wind on the **port bow**, best speed away
Wind **veers** (clockwise)	navigable semicircle: wind on the **port quarter**, run
Wind steady, pressure falling	you are in the path: wind on the port quarter, into the navigable side

Southern Hemisphere. In the north it is all the other way round.

BUYS BALLOT'S LAW (SOUTH)

Back to the wind, the low is on your right

Slightly behind you. Keep it in sight on your right and you know which way the system lies.

BAROMETER TENDENCY (3 HOURS)

Steady	under 0.1 hPa
Slowly	0.1 to 1.5
Rising or falling	1.6 to 3.5
Quickly	3.6 to 6
Very rapidly	over 6

> *Long foretold, long last. Short notice, soon past.*
> *A fall of 3 hPa or more in 3 hours: strong wind coming.*
> *In the tropics, any fall outside the daily cycle is a warning.*

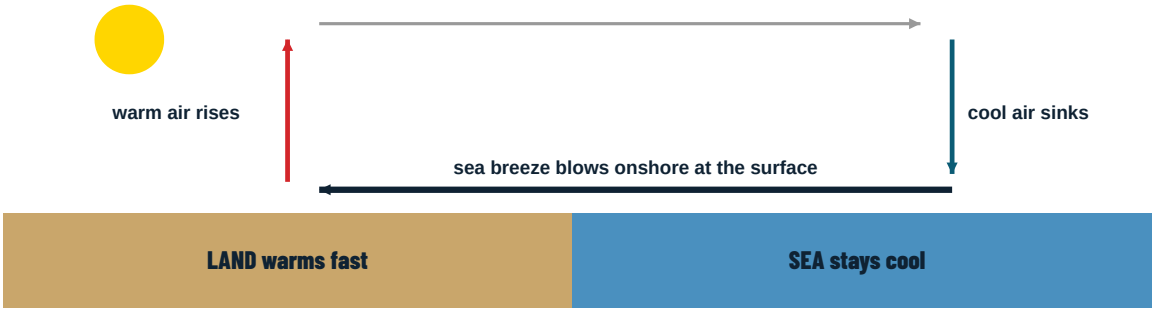
CYCLONE CATEGORIES (BOM)

1	gusts under 125 km/h
2	125 to 164 km/h
3	165 to 224 km/h
4	225 to 279 km/h
5	over 279 km/h

SIGNS AT SEA

- Long swell from an unusual direction, sometimes days ahead.
- Cirrus thickening from one direction; a red or copper sky.
- Barometer falling outside its usual twice-daily swing (about 3 hPa in the tropics).
- Sea breeze: onshore in the afternoon, strongest around 3 pm, fades at dusk.

WHY THE AFTERNOON SEA BREEZE COMES IN



It builds from late morning, peaks mid-afternoon and dies at dusk. At night a lighter land breeze can blow offshore.

Study aid only. Not for navigation.
Check the current official rules. Card 18 · v1.7 · © Nautical Bridge