

Racing Rules of Sailing

New MR Call K5

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To create a new Match Racing Call based on an existing Rapid Response Call as required by World Sailing Regulations.

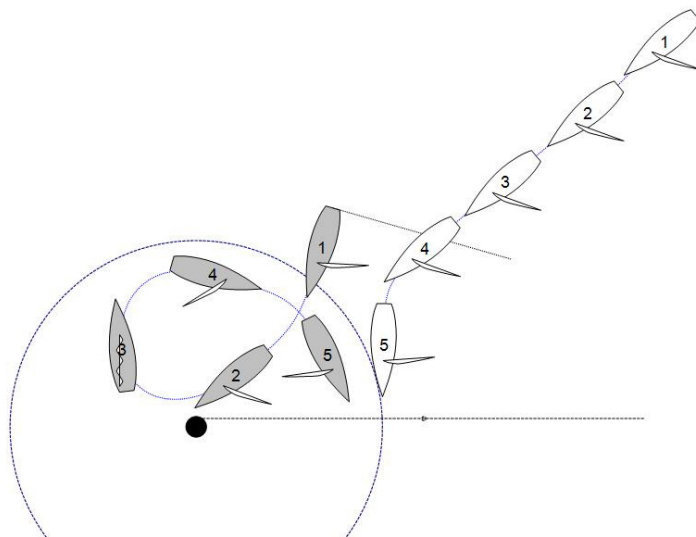
Proposal

MR CALL K5

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|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Rule 18.2(a)(1) | Sailing the Course |
| Rule 21 | Exoneration |
| Rule C2.2 | Definition Mark-Room |

Question 1

Blue, with an outstanding penalty, is clear ahead when she reaches the zone of the finishing mark. Blue luffs, tacks and bears away to a downwind course on port tack at position 4. After position 4, Blue sails at an angle that the umpires agree is her proper course. After position 4 Yellow (on starboard) bears away to avoid Blue and displays a Y-flag. What should the call be?



Answer 1

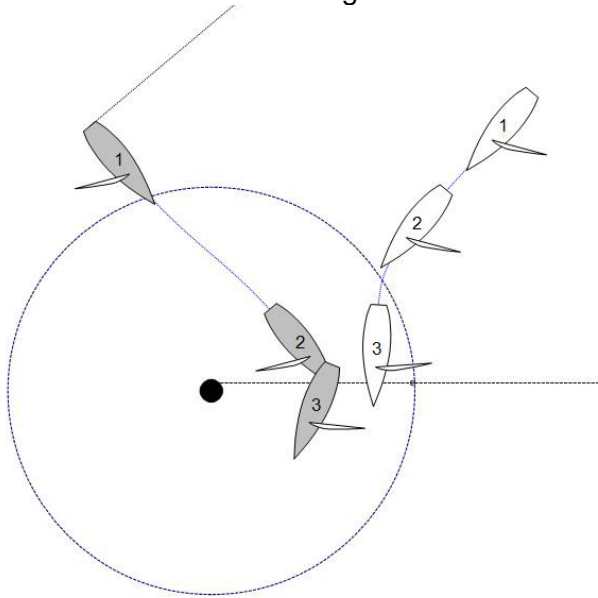
Display the green and white flag.

Blue is entitled to mark-room. Mark-room for Blue is to sail her proper course to pass the mark (rule 18.2(a)(1)). While Blue's course to take her penalty is not a proper course (rule C2.2), once Blue has taken her penalty, she is entitled to sail her proper course from that point until she has finished. Blue breaks rule 10, but is exonerated under rule 21.

Question 2

Blue on port and Yellow on starboard are sailing towards the finishing line. When Blue reaches the zone of the finishing mark, she is the inside, overlapped boat.

At position 2, Blue is certain that she has crossed the finishing line and she bears away and gybes to a course to sail close to, but not hitting, the finishing mark. At the same time Yellow bears away to avoid contact with Blue. There is a Y-flag. What should the call be?

**Answer 2**

Display the green and white flag.

Blue is entitled to mark-room. Mark-room for Blue is to sail her proper course to pass the mark (rule 18.2(a)(1)). Once Blue has finished she no longer has a proper course, but she has not yet passed the mark. Therefore, the space Blue is entitled to after finishing is simply the space she needs to pass between Yellow and the mark from the time she has finished. By bearing away and gybing from position 2, Blue is not sailing farther from the mark than what she is entitled to.

Current Position

Rapid Response Match Racing TEST Call 2016.001

Reasons

1. To highlight a difference in the new Match Racing rules in Appendix C. The definition Mark-Room is significantly different from previously and therefore, this new call is needed.
2. The call provides an interpretation to a situation that is not clearly covered in the rules.
3. The Definition Proper Course remains unchanged for match racing and therefore, when a boat has finished – it no longer has a proper course. Hence some have argued that the keep-

clear boat entitled to mark-room would no longer be subject to exoneration under rule 21 from the moment she finishes (even though still racing).

4. This call introduces the same 'transition' as provided elsewhere in the rules, namely that the boat does not need to anticipate that the situation changes. If the boat, when the situation does change, takes action to keep-clear and only sails within the space needed space while still passing the mark, the boat is still sailing within mark-room and will be exonerated under 21 if it breaks a rule of Section A.
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