

Racing Rules of Sailing

Team Racing Call L4

A submission from the Royal Yachting Association

Proposal

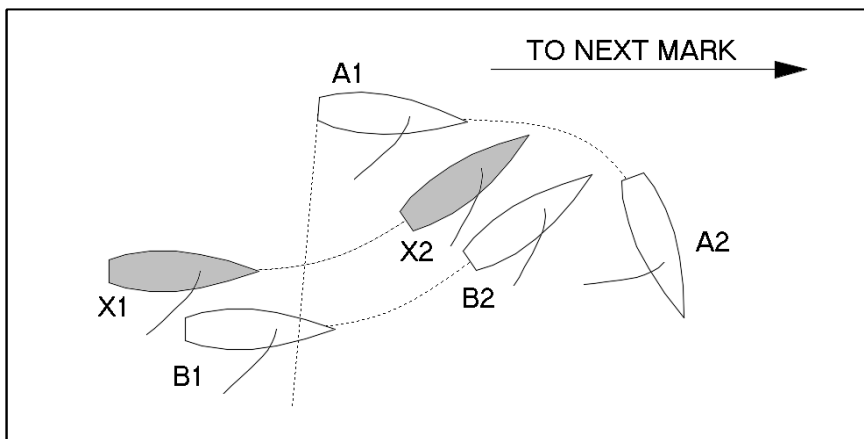
Delete existing team racing call L4 and replace with the following

CALL L4

Rule 11 **On the Same Tack, Overlapped**
Rule 17 **On the Same Tack; Proper Course**
Rule D1.2(a) **Rules between Team-Mates**
Definitions **Proper Course**

Question 1

A is sailing to get clear in order to take a penalty. B is overlapped to leeward of both A and X and subject to rule 17 for both overlaps. B and X are both sailing proper courses and B will make contact with A if she maintains her course. B luffs when she is two lengths from A and as a result B and X pass astern of A. X keeps clear of B and protests. What should the call be?



Answer 1

Penalize A. A is overlapped to windward of B and is required to keep clear of her. As B has to luff to avoid A, A fails to keep clear and breaks rule 11.

Although the incident is between A and B, which are boats on the same team, it also involves X. It is only because A breaks rule 11 that B's proper course is to luff to avoid her and this luff directly affects X. If A was keeping clear of B, B's luff would break rule 17. Therefore rule D1.2(a) does not apply and A is penalized.

Question 2

The circumstances in question 1 are the same, except that rule 17 does not apply between B and X, and applies only between A and B. What should the call be?

Answer 2

No Penalty. With reference to her overlap with X, B has right of way and is not restricted by rule 17; therefore the umpires cannot assume that B's change of course is caused by the proximity of A. Although rule 17 applies between B and A, B complies with the rule as, when she luffs, she promptly sails astern of A.

When a boat changes course to avoid another boat on her team, if she only does so because the other boat is breaking a rule and as a direct result a boat on another team must change course, the incident is not solely between boats on the same team and rule D1.2(a) does not apply.

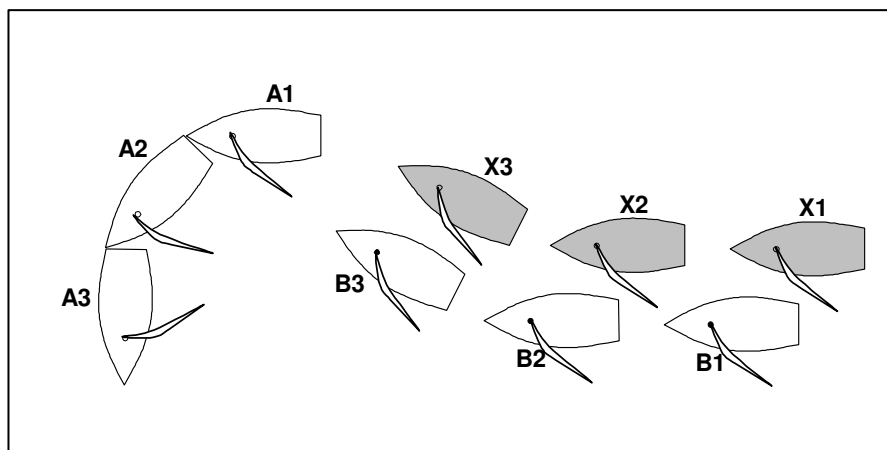
Current Position:

CALL L4

Rule 17	On the Same Tack; Proper Course
Rule 21.2	Taking a Penalty
Definitions	Obstruction
Definitions	Proper Course

Question 1

A is ahead of B and X, and is taking a penalty. B and X, both sailing proper courses, are overlapped, and B may sail above her proper course. B and A will make contact if B maintains her course. B luffs X when they are three lengths from A, and as a result B and X pass astern of A. X protests. What should the call be?



Answer 1

No penalty.
B is entitled to luff and sail above her proper course.

Question 2

If the circumstances are the same except that B does not have luffing rights, what should the call be?

Answer 2

A is a keep clear boat and not an obstruction to B nor X. B is not entitled to sail above her proper course. However, in the absence of X, B would still have luffed, so she does not break rule 17 by luffing. No penalty.

Reason

The revised call includes an improved diagram and clarifies the application of rule 17 on the overlap between B and X. The call also clarifies that rule D1.2(a) does not apply when one of the team mate boats breaks a rule and, as a direct result, a boat on another team must alter course.