

ISAF Racing Rules Question and Answer Service



Q&A 2009-010

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Situation

In order to avoid contact with another boat or a mark, Yellow is forced to the wrong side of the mark when Blue fails to give her room to round or pass it. Yellow then continues on the next leg without returning and passing the mark on its required side.

Question

Can the protest committee conclude that this was a consequence of Blue breaking the rule requiring her to give room to Yellow, and exonerate Yellow under rule 64.1(c) for her breach of rule 28.1?

Answer

No.

A boat cannot be exonerated under rule 64.1(c) unless she was compelled to break the rule as a consequence of another boat breaking a rule. In this case, although Blue broke a rule when she did not give Yellow room at the mark, she did not compel Yellow to break any rule. Yellow could have passed the mark on its required side any time after the incident. Yellow did not break rule 28.1 until she finished.'

All published answers are based upon the 2009-2012 Racing Rules of Sailing