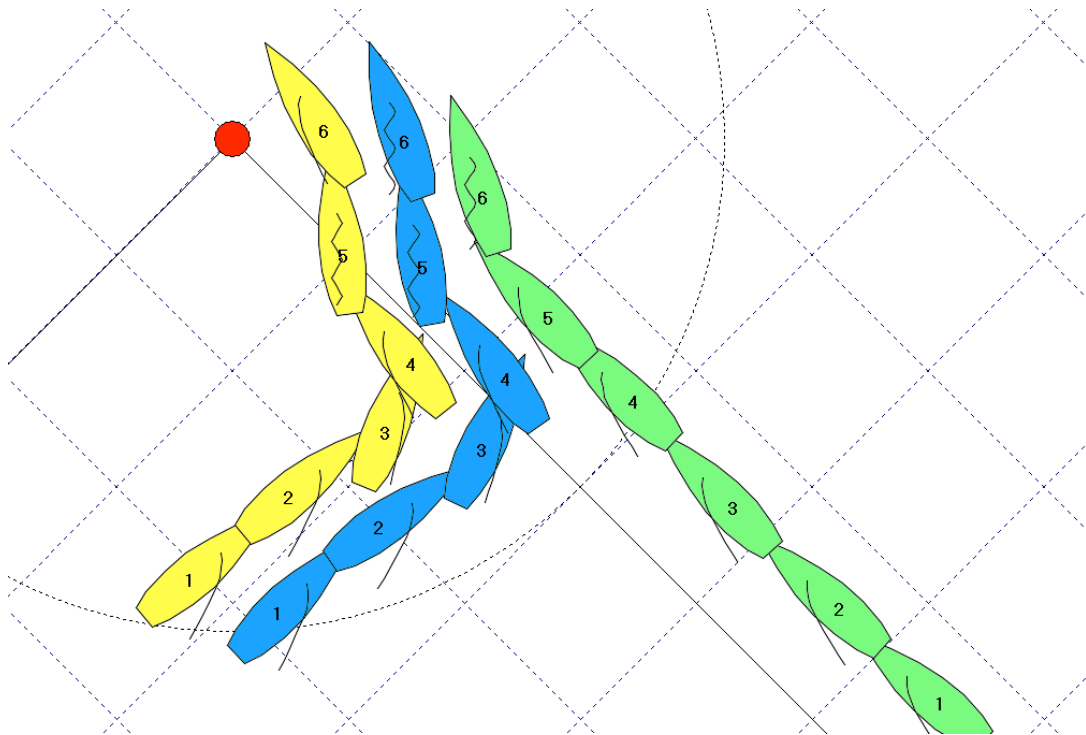


### **B 017**

#### **Q&A 2010-020**

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#### Situation:



Shortly after position 2, Yellow decides she can tack and fetch the mark. Blue initially believes she can cross in front of Green so she does not hail for room to tack. However, as soon as Yellow luffs to tack, Blue immediately luffs and tacks so that the two boats tack simultaneously. Upon completion of their tacks, there is room for one boat (not both) to pass between Green and the mark.

After the tack is completed Yellow luffs to round the mark and Blue luffs to give Yellow mark-room. Green has to luff above close-hauled to avoid Blue. Green protests Blue and Blue protests Yellow.

#### Question 1:

What should the decision be?

Answer 1:

Penalize Blue for breaking rule 18.3(a).

Green was required to keep clear of Blue from the moment Blue completed her tack. Green kept clear, and broke no rule.

Yellow was required by rule 18.3(a) not to cause Green to sail above close-hauled to avoid her. When Green sailed above close-hauled, it was to avoid Blue, not to avoid Yellow. Yellow did not break rule 18.3(a).

Blue was required to keep clear of Yellow once Yellow completed her tack. Blue kept clear and did not break rule 11.

In addition Blue was required by rule 18.3(a) not to cause Green to sail above close-hauled to avoid her. Blue broke that rule. Blue cannot be exonerated under rule 64.1(c), because she was neither compelled to break a rule, nor did Yellow break any rule.

Question 2:

Would the answer to Question 1 be different if there is not even room for one boat to pass between Green and the mark when the two boats complete their tacks?

Answer 2:

No. If after the tack Yellow is able to luff and fetch the mark and Blue is able to luff and keep clear of Yellow, and Green, although sailing a course to pass close to the mark, is able to luff and keep clear of Blue, the answer will be the same.

In either case, if Blue were not there, Yellow would break rule 18.3(a) if she caused Green to sail above close-hauled to avoid her.