

ISAF Racing Rules Question and Answer Service



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Situation

A fleet race starts and on the first run there is a luffing match between L and W. Both boats protest, and there is contact with no damage or injury. After the race it is discovered that W was OCS.

Question

Is it open to W to allege that she and L were not on the same leg, and that when L initiated a luffing match L was not only sailing above her proper course, she was also breaking rule 23.2 because she was interfering with W?

Answer

Both L and W are on the same leg. While W may not have started correctly, and may subsequently be scored OCS, she continues to sail the race with full rights and obligations under the rules.

Nothing in the rules would prevent W from making any allegation against L, but the protest committee would be bound by the rules and as both boats are on the same leg, rule 23.2 does not apply.