

## World Sailing Racing Rules Question and Answer Service

**L 009**

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Question to clarify the meaning of 'connected' in SCULL 2 in the Interpretations of rule 42.

### Situation

A dinghy, above close-hauled on starboard tack and almost stationary at the starting line, changes her course clockwise by repeated and forceful movement of the helm. Before she reaches port tack close-hauled course, she stops moving the helm. After a three-second pause, she starts changing her course anticlockwise by repeated and forceful movement of the helm. She never changes course to below close-hauled.

### Question 1

Is the latter anti-clockwise sculling 'connected' to the previous clockwise sculling in the meaning of SCULL 2?

### Answer 1

Yes. This is a clear example of connected sculling, as the latter anti-clockwise sculling offsets the first clockwise sculling action. This is a prohibited action under SCULL 2 of the Interpretations and breaks rule 42.2(d).

### Question 2

Are there circumstances where the second (offsetting) sculling could be considered 'disconnected' from the first sculling? Would it for example be a matter of the time between the actions or some other conditions?

### Answer 2

If the second (offsetting) sculling is the only reason why the boat is able to turn back towards the position she came from, then the sculling breaks rule 42.2(d) irrespective of how much time it has been between the first and the second sculling. If however she filled her mainsail, and once under way she was able to sail and steer the boat, then any further sculling would be considered a new action and not a connected one.