The Racing Rules of Sailing

The Call Book for Team Racing, New TR Call M10

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To comply with ISAF Regulations 28.3.1, 28.3.2, 28.3.4 and 28.3.7

Proposal

TR CALL M10

Rule 2       Fair sailing
Rule D1.1(d) Changes to the Rules of Part 2 — Room to Tack
Rule D2.3     Penalties Initiated by Umpires

Question 1

Rule D1.1(d) requires clear and repeated arm signals, in addition to hails. If there is an arm signal but no hail from Y, what action should the umpires take

a) if B protests?
b) on their own initiative?

Answer 1

a) When the umpires are certain that no hail was made, then the signal for room to tack has not been made. (The umpires may be certain there was no hail if they have had no difficulty hearing other calls from a similar position.) For the purpose of the rules of Part 2 they should act as if there has been no signal.

b) The umpires may decide that Y has broken rule D2.3(g) and penalize her. They could also, in an extreme or repeated case, initiate a hearing under rule 2, Fair Sailing.

Question 2

If there is a hail but no arm signal, is the answer the same?

Answer 2

Yes.

Current Position

TR Rapid Response Call 2013.02 as above.
Reasons

Rule D1.1(d) requires hand signals in addition to a hail for room to tack 'when rule 20 applies'. One interpretation of this rule is that a 'hail' with either a hand signal but no audible hail or an audible hail but no hand signal breaks rule 20.1; another interpretation is that if the requirements for a hail and hand signal are not both met, no hail was made. The proposed call resolve this ambiguity in favor of the second interpretation.