Racing Rules of Sailing

The Call Book for Team Racing – Reject TR Rapid Response Call 2011.01

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

Reject TR Rapid Response Call 2011.01.

Current Position

TR RAPID RESPONSE CALL 2011.01

Rule 18 Mark-Room

Question

X on starboard tack enters the zone of the finishing mark clear ahead of A. X is sailing a course that will leave about half a boat length between her and the mark.

After entering the zone X slows down without changing course, and A becomes overlapped to leeward of her. X then bears away to pass close to the mark and there is no longer room for A to finish between X and the mark. A bears away and protests. What should the call be?
Answer

When X enters the zone her course is high of the mark and she is not sailing to the mark within the space allowed by the definition Mark-Room. When X bears away after she becomes windward boat, she is sailing to the mark. X breaks rule 11, but is exonerated under rule 18.5(a). No penalty.

A complies with rule 18.2(b) by giving mark-room to X. If A is unable to respond when X bears away to sail to the mark, A breaks rule 18.2(b). Penalise A.

However, if X bears away so that her course will not pass on the required side of the mark, she is no longer sailing to the mark and she is not entitled to exoneration. Penalise X for breaking rule 11.

As soon as X finishes, rule D1.1(d) applies and she can no longer act to interfere with A. She must trim in to a close-hauled course and clear the finishing line.

Reason

This call is submitted under the Regulation. The new definition Mark-Room corrects the omission in the 2009 definition of passing marks and gates and the call is therefore no longer needed.