Racing Rules of Sailing

New MR Call E11

A submission from the Chairman of Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To introduce a new MR Call based on Rapid Response Call 2017-001, To comply with World Sailing Regulations 28.3.1, 28.3.2, 28.3.4 and 28.3.7.

Proposal

MR Call E11

Rule 11 On the Same Tack, Overlapped
Rule 18.3(b) Tacking or Gybing (C2.9)
Rule 21 Exoneration
Definitions Mark-Room (C2.2) and Proper Course

Question 1

Yellow and Blue approach the windward mark on opposite tacks with Yellow on starboard. Yellow keeps on sailing on starboard beyond her proper course to round the mark before she passes head to wind. Yellow then bears away on her proper course to round the mark and Blue has to luff to give mark-room to Yellow. There is a Y-flag. What should the call be?

Diagram of sailing

Answer 1

Display the green and white flag.
Yellow broke rule 18.3(b) when she sailed farther from the mark than needed to sail her proper course, however she did not affect Blue's course during the time rule 18.3(b) applied. Once Yellow passed head to wind rule 18.3(b) no longer applied. Therefore, she is not penalized for that breach.
After Yellow passed head to wind at position 2, rule 18.3(b) no longer applied. By luffing up behind Yellow, Blue gave Yellow mark-room. No rules are broken.

**Question 2**

The situation starts as in Question 1, but after Yellow passes head to wind, Blue sails in between Yellow and the mark. When Yellow bears away to round the mark on her proper course there is contact between the boats. There is a Y-flag. What should the call be?

**Answer 2**

Penalize Blue.

Yellow was entitled to mark-room under rule 18.2(a)(1) and was sailing her proper course to round the mark. Therefore, she is exonerated under rule 21 for her breach of rule 11. Blue failed to give Yellow mark-room as required by rule 18.2(a)(1).

Yellow broke rule 18.3(b) before she passed head to wind, but is not penalized for that breach (see Answer 1).

**Current Position**

Rapid Response Match Racing Call 2017.001 as above.

**Reasons**

To further clarify the new definition Mark-Room in Appendix C, and the application of rule C2.9 (18.3(b)).