Racing Rules of Sailing

MR Call L10

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective
Correcting rule references.

Proposal
Change last paragraph of the Answer.

MR CALL L10

Rule 16.1 Giving Room
Rule 19 Room to Pass an Obstruction
Rule 21(a) Penalties and Exoneration

Question
Yellow and Blue, overlapped on port tack, are approaching an obstruction which can be passed on either side.

Blue is sailing to pass to leeward of the obstruction, but from Position 2 Blue luffs quickly to pass to windward of the obstruction. Yellow responds immediately, but is unable to keep clear of Blue. There is contact between them. Both boats protest. What should the call be?

Answer
Penalise Blue.

When Blue changes course to pass to windward of the obstruction she must give Yellow room to keep clear under rule 16.1. Blue fails to do so and breaks rule 16.1.

As a result of Blue breaking rule 16.1, Yellow is compelled to break rules 11 and 19.2(b). Yellow is therefore exonerated under rules 21(a) for her breach of rule 11 by rule 21(a) because she was sailing within the room she was entitled to under rule 16.1, and for her breach of rule 19.2(b) under rule 64.1(a) because she was compelled to break that rule by Blue's breach of rule 16.1.
When a right of way boat on a course to pass on one side of an obstruction changes course to pass on the other side, she must comply with any applicable rules of Section A or B.

Current Position
As above

Reasons
1. The call should correctly refer to the applicable rule regarding exoneration.
2. The answer is expanded to explain the different exonerations.