Racing Rules of Sailing

The Call Book for Match Racing - New Call UMP 49

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

CALL UMP 49

Rule 11 On The Same Tack Overlapped  
Rule 16 Changing Course  
Rule 14 Avoiding Contact

Question

Blue the windward boat bears away hard to pass behind Yellow. Yellow luffs shortly after Blue begins to bear away. Blue keeps clear in position 2. In Position 3 both boats are passing each other's windward side. There is contact between the boats. Both boats Y-flag. What should the call be?

Answer

Penalize Blue as the keep-clear boat unless Yellow breaks rule 16.1 by changing course without giving Blue room to keep clear.

In CALL GEN 1 the umpires assume that the state of a boat or its relationship with another has not changed until they are certain that it has changed. The umpires cannot be certain which is the right-of-way boat in position 3. Their last point of certainty was that Yellow was the right-of-way boat.

Current Position

Rapid Response Match Racing Call 2010.005 – as above.
Reason

To provide a clear interpretation of a situation that happens in match racing and that does not have a clear answer under the rules and therefore has been called inconsistently.