

World Sailing Racing Rules Question and Answer Service

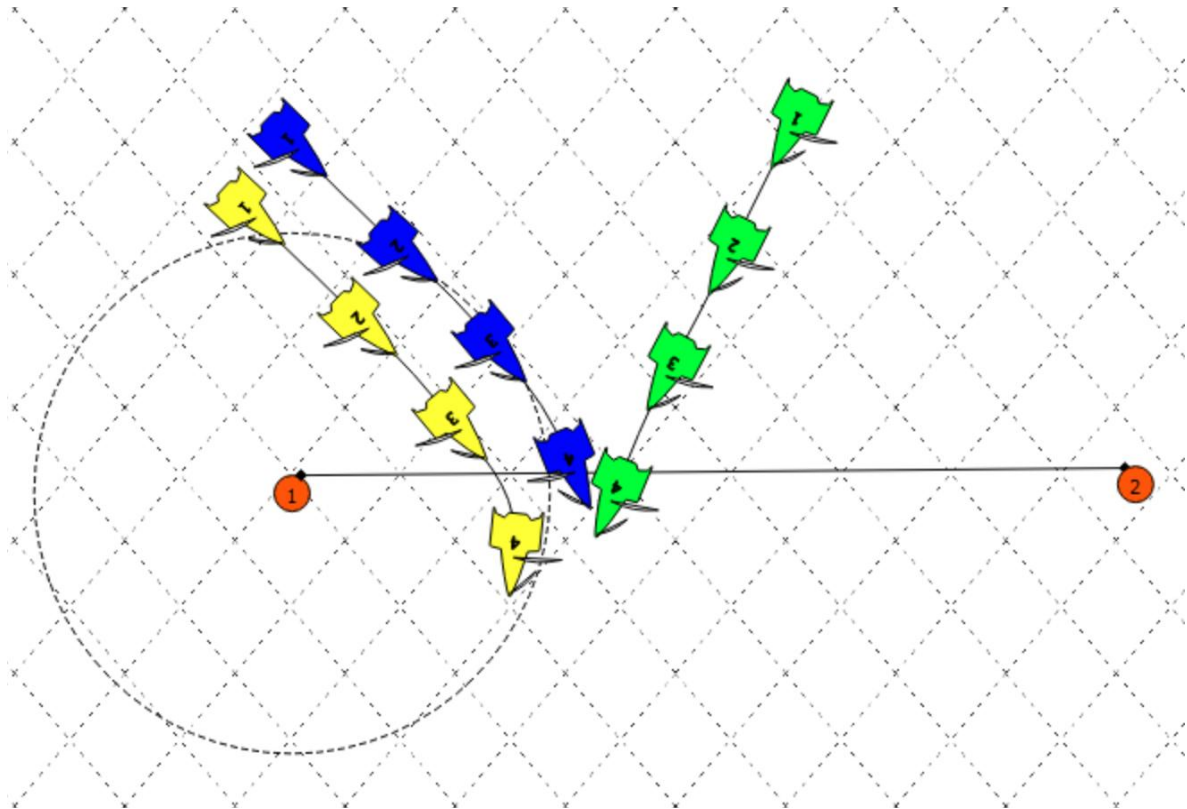
Q&A 2022.005

11 April 2022

Three boats situation on a downwind finish

Situation

49ers are finishing between the marks. In position 4, while Blue is still in the zone, there is contact without damage or injury between Blue and Green.



Question 1

Is Blue exonerated for breaking rules 10 and 14?

Answer 1

Yes.

Yellow was overlapped inside Blue and Green when Yellow entered the zone and Green is an obstruction to Blue and Yellow.

- If the protest committee finds that Yellow was sailing within the mark-room she is entitled to between positions 3 and 4, rule 18 applies and rule 19 does not. See rule 19.1(b). Blue is sailing within the mark-room she is entitled to, therefore she is exonerated from breaking rule 10 under rule 43.1(b).
- If the protest committee finds that mark-room has been given to Yellow, rule 18 no longer applies and rule 19 does. Blue is entitled to room between Yellow and Green and is compelled to break rule 10 by Yellow who broke rule 19.2, therefore she is exonerated under rule 43.1(b)

There was no damage or injury caused by the contact, therefore Blue, entitled to mark room from Green or to room from Yellow, is exonerated from breaking rule 14 under rule 43.1(c).

Question 2

If the answer to the previous question is no, which course should Blue sail to be considered as sailing within the mark-room she is entitled, if she is so?

Answer 2

Not applicable.

See answer 1.

Question 3

Did Yellow or Green break any rule?

Answer 3

It depends.

See answer 1.

Question 4

Would the answers be the same, if instead of finishing, boats are sailing through a gate and the next course to be sailed is a beat?

Answer 4

Yes.