

MIDDLE HARBOUR YACHT CLUB

Protest Hearing Onya vs Haz2B

Hearing at the Middle Harbour Yacht Club on 16th December 2015 at 1715 hrs.

Event: MHYC Twilight Race 10 on 10 Dec 2015

Onya represented by: Glenn Hammond

Haz2B represented by: Harry Brigden

VALIDITY

The protest form was lodged by email on the morning following the race. Given the circumstances of the incident and the hospitalisation of one of the crew, the PC has determined that the protest is valid in accordance with RRS 61.1(a)(4) as there had been a collision between the yachts causing damage that was obvious to both parties.

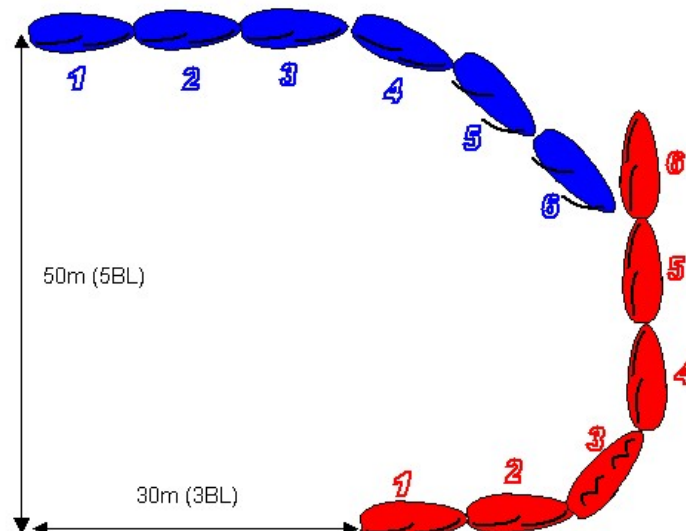
FACTS FOUND

1. Onya a Sydney 36 sailing in Division 1, Haz2B a Jarken 10.5 sailing in Division 5.
2. Wind NE @ 10 - 12 kts
3. Onya and Haz2B both close hauled on port tack
4. Onya @ 7 kts (1BL in 3.1s) and Haz2B @ 5.5 kts (1BL in 3.7s)
5. Onya 30m (3BL) ahead and 50m (5BL) to leeward of Haz2B
6. Onya tacked and immediately called starboard
7. On observing Onya's tack and as she loosened sails to bear away Haz2B advanced by at least 1 BL
8. Haz2B bore away very hard to pass behind Onya but the steering chain broke causing Haz2B to round up and collide with Onya
9. The collision resulted in damage to both boats and injury to Onya crew requiring hospitalisation
10. Both boats retired, Haz2B provided some assistance to Onya
11. Haz2B stated that on returning to shore the steering chain was found to be in good condition but that 2 of the links had snapped.

CONCLUSION

1. After Onya started to tack Haz2B would have covered the remaining distance to Onya's new course in less than 10s.
2. By tacking at such close quarters and speed Onya required Haz2B to respond in an un-seamanlike way to avoid a collision that the steering failed.
3. After tacking Onya had the opportunity to pass behind Haz2B but by holding her course did not give Haz2B sufficient opportunity to keep clear

DIAGRAM



RULES APPLICABLE

RRS 10; RRS 15

DECISION

Onya is scored DSQ in Race 10.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Tucker", followed by a period.

Steve Tucker

Protest Committee Mike Gallagher, Steve Tucker, Jenna Walters