

DECISION

Protest

Request No.: 11

Event: 2022 Rolex Big Boat Series Race Number: 7
Hearing Schedule: 2022-09-18 14:45

PARTIES AND WITNESSES

Request No.: 11: J/105 - One Design - USA 116 - Arbitrage - Bruce Stone Nicole Breault

J/105 - One Design - USA 135 - J Tripper - Eric Raff

VALIDITY

Objection to Jury: No

Within Time Limit: Within Time Limit

Incident Identified: Yes

Proper Hail: Protest hailed

Red Flag Displayed: Yes

Decision: Request Valid

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. Hearing was scheduled and posted on the notice board for 14:45 and commenced at 14:51.
2. Text messages and emails were sent to the parties to notify them to the scheduled hearing.
3. No representatives of 135 were in attendance at the beginning of the hearing, and the hearing commenced in accordance with RRS 63.3(b).
4. Bruce Stone represented Arbitrage
5. Eric Raff represented J Tripper
6. The hearing was heard with a panel of three members in accordance with RRS N1.4(b).

FACTS FOUND

1. 5 seconds before the start of Race 7 in the J105 fleet
2. 15-20 knots of wind with moderate chop.
3. 116 approaching the start on starboard 3-5 boatlengths to leeward of the RC signal boat.
4. 135 was approximately 1 boatlength to leeward, slightly ahead of 116 and moving more slowly
5. 135 luffed head to wind
6. 135 passed head to wind as their jib backwinded.
7. When it became clear that 135 was not keeping clear, 116 luffed
8. The bow of 135 collided with 116 on the port side near midships
9. Damage to 116 included a hole in the gelcoat where the deck meets the hull and damage to the plastic toe rail.
10. 116 completed Race 7, finishing 4th.
11. No injuries resulted from the collision
12. 135 promptly completed a turn including a tack and a gybe.

Diagram: Diagram not endorsed

CONCLUSIONS AND RULES THAT APPLY

Rules: 10, 14

1. 135 on port failed to keep clear of 116 on starboard, and broke RRS 10
2. 135 did not avoid contact with 116 when it was reasonably possible. 135 broke RRS 14.
3. It was not reasonably possible for 116, the right-of-way boat to avoid contact with 135 when it was clear that 135 was not keeping clear. 116 did not break RRS 14.
4. The damage is not considered serious under RRS 44.1 therefore the appropriate penalty was taken.

DECISION**Date & Time:** 2022-09-18 15:15 PDT

Protest upheld, no further penalty.

PROTEST COMMITTEE**Chaired By:** Michael Turner (CAN)**Committee Members:** Elias Gonzalez (MEX), Danielle Lawson (USA)**Printed:** 18 Sep 15:35