

DECISION

Protest

Request No.: 03

Event: 2022 Rolex Big Boat Series Race Number: 1
Hearing Schedule: 2022-09-15 18:00

PARTIES AND WITNESSES

Request No.: 03: J/105 - One Design - USA 261 - Unbridled - Rob Mock/ Theresa Brandner

J/105 - One Design - USA 85 - Russian Roulette - William Woodruff

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

Protestee was not present at the start of the hearing. Hearing started under RRS 63.3(b). The protestee arrived during the middle of the hearing. The hearing was restarted.

Hearing held under N1.4(b)

FACTS FOUND

Wind of 12-15 knots with no waves. After rounding the windward mark for the first time 261 and 85 were sailing downwind on starboard tack. 261 coming from clear astern established an overlap to leeward of 85. The distance between the boats was one metre. 85 bore away. 261 bore away in order to try to avoid a collision. 85 gybed onto port. There was contact between the spinnaker pole of 261 and the pushpit of 85. As a result of the collision the spinnaker of 261 was torn and the casing of her pole was cracked. The transom of 85 also sustained damage. 261 sailed on without a spinnaker for about half of the downwind leg and was passed by several boats, before finally deploying a spare spinnaker. 85 retired from the race.

Diagram: Diagram not endorsed

CONCLUSIONS AND RULES THAT APPLY

Rules: 10, 11, 14, 44.1(b), 62.1(b)

85 failed to keep clear of 261 overlapped to leeward of her, breaking RRS 11. After gybing, 85 also failed to keep clear of 261 on starboard tack, breaking RRS 10. 85 broke RRS 14 by failing to avoid contact. It wasn't reasonably possible for 261 to avoid contact once it became clear 85 wasn't keeping clear and therefore she didn't break RRS 14. As 85 retired from the race, she took a valid penalty under RRS 44.1(b) and will not be penalised further. The finishing position of 261 was made significantly worse through no fault of her own because of the damage caused by the action of 85, therefore she is entitled to redress under RRS 62.1(b).

DECISION

Date & Time: 2022-09-15 19:40 PDT

Redress given to 261. In race 1, she is to be scored points equal to the average of all her other races excluding the last day of the series.

PROTEST COMMITTEE

Chaired By: Grant Baldwin (USA)

Committee Members: Francisco Jauregui (MEX), Xinzhu Gu (CHN)