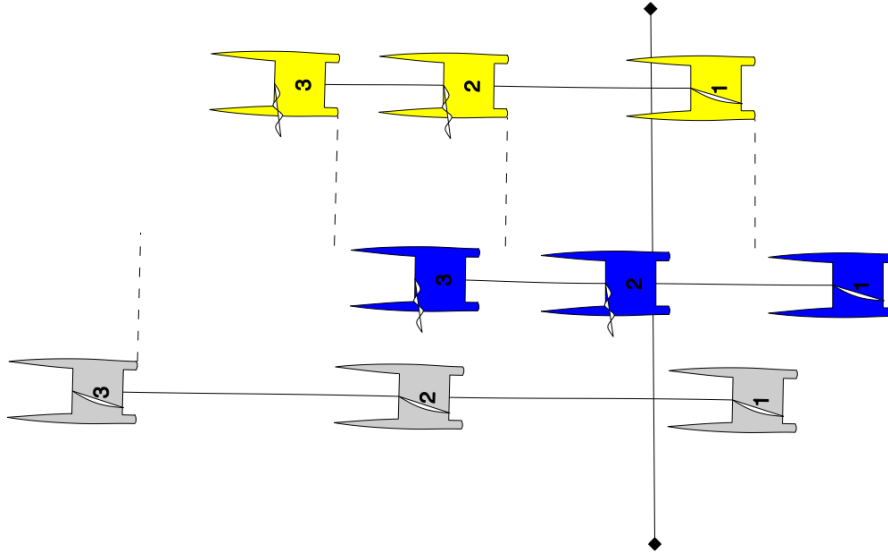


## Umpire Question and Answer #6

### Question:



In a fleet race:

Blue got a pre-start penalty for a Part 2 breach against Yellow. Yellow is OCS. Grey started correctly and is the last yacht that has started correctly within 4 seconds of the starting signal and without a penalty.

Yellow is required to act immediately to reduce her VMG / VMC until she is 2 hull-lengths behind Grey.

How will the umpires determine that Blue's penalty is completed? Is Blue required to sail 2 hull-lengths behind Yellow?

### Answer:

If after starting, Blue sails 2 hull-lengths behind Yellow, her penalty is complete.

However, if it is clear to the umpires that Blue is reducing her VMG / VMC and Yellow is slowing due to being OCS, Blue's penalty is not being incurred as intended. In accordance with rule 44.3(b), the umpires will calculate when they believe the loss of distance has been sufficient and shall signal that the penalty is completed via the RO Comms. In this situation, they may choose to use Grey as a reference point.