



AC35 Umpire Call 10

Rule 44 PENALTIES GIVEN BY UMPIRES

Question 1

Are there any limitations on the courses sailed by penalized and non-penalized yachts on leg 1?

Answer 1

Other than the rules of Part 2, rule 44.3(d) only limits the course that the penalized yacht can sail. However, rule 44.3(b) allows the umpires to signal a penalty is completed if they are certain a penalized yacht is reducing her VMG / VMC but the loss (getting behind the other yacht) is not been incurred as intended.

Question 2

Yacht A is OCS and bears away to a course that is clearly reducing her VMC to Mark 1. Yacht B also bears away to a course that is similar to, or lower than, Yacht A. What actions may the umpires take?

Answer 2

When the umpires are certain that, despite reducing her VMC to take her penalty, the loss of distance is not being incurred due to the actions of the other yacht, they may signal that the penalty is completed.

Note: If Yacht B is sailing to windward of Yacht A and on a course aiming below Mark 1, it will be difficult for the umpires to be certain that the loss of distance of Yacht A is not being incurred as intended.

Question 3

Further to Question 2, Yacht B overlaps to leeward and luffs Yacht A to head to wind and then changes course towards to Mark 1. What should the call be?

Answer 3

Other than signalling the penalty complete (as per answer 1), the umpires will take no further action. If a yacht Y flags then the umpires will consider the incident regarding the Part 2 rules.